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JUSTICE MINISTER ALI SABRY DECRIES BACHELET'S REPORT

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SPECTRE OF TAMIL HATE POLITICS MARCHING AGAIN AS GANDHIAN NON-VIOLENCE

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"BRIT GOVT HINDERS ESTABLISHING TRUTH IN SRI LANKA"

"There is ample evidence in the despatches of UK Defence attache that the Sri Lanka Government at the time and its Security Forces did not have a policy to kill Tamil civilians. Indeed they went out of their way to rescue them with considerable success despite danger and losses to themselves, Hon. President of the All Party Parliamentary British-Sri Lanka group Lord Naseby has written to UN Human Rights Commissioner Michelle Bachelet responding to her highly critical report on Sri Lanka titled, "Promoting reconciliation, accountability and human rights in Sri Lanka."

The report was tabled at the 46th Human Rights Council Sessions, currently being held in Geneva. Lord Naseby has written...

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DIVERSE VIEWS ON PCoI REPORT

SIX-MEMBER COMMITTEE REPORT ON MARCH 15



By Uditha Kumarasinghe

Minister of Tourism Prasanna Ranatunga said since various people express divergent views on the final report submitted by the Presidential Commission of Inquiry (PCoI) that probed the Easter Sunday attacks, President Gotabaya Rajapaksa has appointed a six-member ministerial Committee with a wide-ranging mandate to carefully study it and make its recommendations.

The ministerial committee under the chairmanship of Minister Chamal Rajapaksa has already met on two occasions and discussed the recommendations of the PCoI report.

As instructed by the President, the Committee will submit its report to the Cabinet on March 15, the Minister told the *Sunday Observer* yesterday. Minister Ranatunga who is also a member of the

Committee said they will have to study the reports submitted by the PCoI, the Special Parliamentary Select Committee (SPSC) that probed the Easter Sunday attacks and the Parliamentary Sectorial Oversight Committee on National Security (PSOCNS).

After studying these three Committee reports, we will submit a comprehensive report to the President on the steps that need to be taken in this regard. "I think this would be vital to initiate proper action against the perpetrators".

He said the PCoI report con-

tains 500 pages while the other two reports submitted by the SPSC and the PSOCNS also contained a large number of pages.

However, as instructed by the President, we are trying our best to submit our committee report on March 15.

Responding to claims by certain sections that while the report recommended criminal proceedings against former President Maithripala Sirisena and ex-senior Government officials, it had ignored the true culprits of the Easter Sunday attacks.

SEE PAGE 2

CORE GROUP RESOLUTION ON LANKA

UN SHOULD THINK RATIONALLY - Ali Sabry

By Uditha Kumarasinghe

Commenting on the United Nations (UN) Core Group attempt to hand over a Resolution against Sri Lanka at the 46th session of the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC), Justice and Prison Reforms Minister Ali Sabry (PC) said he is sure that they would think rationally about it and engage with the Government before they take some harsh or unnecessary decisions which will harm the ground situation in the country.

"Foreign Minister Dinesh Gunawardena along with a team of eminent...

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President Gotabaya Rajapaksa placing the Sacred Relics Casket on the caparisoned elephant at the commencement of the Navam Maha perahera of the Gangaramaya temple, Colombo on Friday night. Ven. Dr. Kirinde Assaji Thera of the Gangaramaya temple and Opposition Leader Sajith Premadasa look on. Pic: Hirantha Gunathilaka

SPECIAL CENTRES FOR COVID-19 INFECTED STUDENTS

GCE (OL) exam begins tomorrow



The GCE Ordinary Level examination 2020 will begin tomorrow in keeping with Covid-19 health guidelines, a spokesman for the Education Ministry said. The examination will be held from March 1 - 10.

At least two special examination centres will be set up in each district as a precaution-

ary measure to accommodate Covid-19 infected candidates. The number of such centres has been increased in the Colombo district due to...

SEE PAGE 2

ASSAULT ON LAW STUDENT

Produce the police officers involved - BASL

In a letter addressed to the Inspector General of Police, President of the Bar Association of Sri Lanka Kalinga Indatissa PC urged the police to produce the officers involved in the assault of a young law student as suspects with immediate effect. Migara Gunaratne, a final year law student, was assaulted by the officers



Kalinga said adding there is an increase in such incidents in the recent past.

SEE PAGE 2

of the SIU of the Peliyagoda police on Thursday (25).

"This issue cannot be concluded with a disciplinary inquiry or an interdiction. The action of the police is highly deplorable,"

NEARLY 1,000 KILOGRAMS OF DRUGS SEIZED

Over 61,550 arrested in 2020 narco busts

OVERSEAS HUNT LAUNCHED FOR LANKAN CRIME BARONS

By Leon Berenger

At least 61,550 people were arrested for narcotic related offences last year, a senior most police official said.

He added that almost 1,000 kilograms of heroin and other synthetic drugs were also seized during this period.

Intelligence reports received

from around the country said a large scarcity of the widely used heroin drug forced addicts to opt for cheaper purchases of synthetic substances to maintain their habit.

In a related development, the police had obtained Interpol Red Notices against 24 Sri Lankan drug traffickers who are in hiding overseas. The bulk of the Sri Lankan drug barons are...

SEE PAGE 2

Lady Gaga's dogs found safe after armed robbery



LOS ANGELES, Feb. 27. (BBC) - Lady Gaga's two stolen French bulldogs have been found safe and handed over to the police, according to officials.

The two dogs, stolen in an armed robbery, have been 'reunited' with the singer's representatives, police said.

Lady Gaga's dog walker, Ryan Fischer, was shot by two men who abducted the dogs in Hollywood, Los Angeles, on Wednesday.

He is in hospital and his family

said on Friday that he was expected to make a full recovery.

Details of how the dogs were recovered are unclear. The Associated Press said a woman had brought them to the Olympic Community Police Station in LA and the singer's representatives had confirmed they were hers. The woman appeared to be "uninvolved and unassociated" with the robbery, a police spokesman said.

Lady Gaga had offered USD 500,000 for their safe return but it

is not clear if the reward has been claimed.

The star - whose real name is Stefani Germanotta - is currently in Rome working on a new Ridley Scott film, Gucci. In her first public reaction to the attack, Gaga tweeted on Friday: "My heart is sick."

"I am praying my family will be whole again with an act of kindness. I will pay \$500,000 for their safe return." And in another Twitter post, the singer wrote: "I continue to love you Ryan Fischer..."

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Guidelines for cremation, burial of Covid-19 victims to be discussed next week

- Director General of Health

BY AANYA WIPULASENA

The Government reversed its decision to cremate bodies of all Covid-19 victims to let communities to allow burials under special circumstances.

The Gazette notification that was issued on Thursday (25), stated that the words 'Cremation of Corpse' of the Quarantine and Prevention of Diseases Ordinance will be substituted to 'Cremation or burials of the corpse'.

In addition, words 'shall be cremated' will be substituted by 'may be cremated or buried'. In the case of cremation, 'the corpse of such person shall be cremated'.

The Director General of Health told the media that guidelines of new cremation and burial of Covid-19 deceased will be discussed during a special meeting of which decisions are to be announced next week.

The decision came shortly after the visit by Pakistani Premier Imran Khan who also took to twitter to welcome the decision.

"I thank the Sri Lankan leadership and welcome the Sri Lankan Government's official notification permitting the option to bury Covid-19 deceased," he tweeted.

During his two-day official visit to Sri Lanka, Khan held meetings with leaders of the Muslim community where the contentious issue of cremation of Covid deaths had also surfaced. His visit was marked with a demonstration where the protesters carried a coffin to signify the gravity of the matter.

"We are happy about the decision. We sincerely hope that this will be the end of it," Vice President of the Muslim Council of Sri Lanka and the first petitioner against forced cremation, Hilmy Ahamed said, adding that he hopes the Government would stay firm on its decision.

Muslims, as a tradition, bury their deceased facing Mecca. The Government's decision to initially cremate all dead bodies of Covid-19 victims caused an uproar as a result. Among other communities who bury their dead include Christians and some sections of the Buddhists in Sri Lanka. Due to the special health precautions, the final rites of the Buddhists and



WHO's recommendation of cremating or burying a person who succumbed to Covid-19

People who died of Covid-19 can be buried or cremated according to local standards and family preferences.

- National and local regulations may determine how the remains should be handled and disposed.
- Family and friends may view the body after it has been prepared for burial in accordance with local customs. They should not touch the body and should perform hand hygiene after viewing.
- Family and friends should also follow local guidelines regarding the number of people that can attend a viewing or burial and local mask requirements.

- Those tasked with placing the body in the grave, on the funeral pyre should wear gloves and wash their hands with soap and water after the removal of the gloves once the burial is complete.
- A body in a bag or coffin can be treated in accordance with local customs and standards.
- If a body is to be buried or cremated without a casket or body bag, use surgical or waterproof rubber gloves to place the body in the grave or the funeral pyre and perform hand hygiene afterwards.
- The number of people conducting the burial or cremation should be kept at a minimum.

other faiths were also curtailed. Yet the intensity of protests by the Muslim community overshadowed the others' concerns.

The World Health Organization has said that there was no risk when burying a Covid-19 body. "The dignity of the dead, their cultural and religious traditions and their families should be respected and protected throughout," it stated.

The United Nations in a letter also urged the Government to revisit its decision to cremate Covid-19 victims' bodies. UN Resident Coordinator in Sri Lanka Hanaa Singer said that the ban of burials was not supported by scientific evidence. "The common assumption that people who died of a communicable disease should be

cremated to prevent spread is not supported by evidence. Instead, cremation is a matter of cultural choice and available resources," her letter read.

"I am following with encouragement recent media reports that the current prohibition of burials of Covid-19 victims in Sri Lanka could be revisited shortly," she stated in the letter.

The issue created divided opinions among the members of the Government. Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa, making a statement in Parliament last month stated that the Government was open to allow burial of Covid-19 deaths, a decision endorsed by State Minister of Covid Disease Prevention Dr.Sudharshani Fernando.

Converting rooftops into power generators

AgStar invests in renewable energy

Agriculture is on the rise as the focus shifts to self-sufficiency in the era of Covid-19. In an industry entrenched with some of the country's oldest brand names a new-age visionary is emerging as a path-finder for farmers. AgStar, a public company with a history of two decades is taking on several centuries as it embraces farmers as their 'one-stop' agent of prosperity.

From record-setting seeds and fertilizer that double farmer yields to agri technology that's on the cutting-edge, AgStar is coming to the aid of farmers with export channels for tea, vegetables and fruits, as well as, a state-of-the-art storage facility that will complete a 360° supply chain solution for the industry. But if there was one example of AgStar's unwavering commitment to sustainable development it's in the company's forays into renewable energy.

AgStar is investing in generating clean energy as roofs of factories and outposts are rapidly converted into generating solar power. With an initial target of 3.3MW, the company is already supplying 1.3MWs to the national grid.

In a long list of agricultural heavy-weights, AgStar is already ranked 3rd in size and our model of transformation makes us the name to watch. Yes, we are unafraid to challenge the status quo and transcend traditional boundaries as we infuse futuristic solutions into traditional agriculture. Our investments in renewable energy is an indication of our commitment to creating shared value that will redefine Sri Lanka's future, says Mr. Pasad Weerasekera, Managing Director of AgStar PLC.

AgStar revolves around five dynamic solutions that make it a 360° offering for farmers. They

are seeds, fertilizer, crop-care, agri-technology and international market – combining, from seed to market, to provide farmers an all-in-one portfolio of expertise and products that's designed for a phenomenal increase of yield, capture best markets and at the same time guide farmers into sustainable practices.

What our farmers need badly is not just ad-hoc products but a push to the cutting-edge. That involves know-how, better products and on-field direction to multiply their yields while safeguarding the soil, their richest asset. So as you'd see, we don't merely operate as a trading organization but are building on concerns and values that are shared. That's exactly why we lead by example with an ambitious commitment to renewable energy, says Mr. Ashan Ratwatte, Director New Business Development.

There's fertile ground for growth on our rooftops!

Even as we turn it on in agricultural fields across the country, we don't even spare our rooftops in helping create a sustainable future for all. That's why we are investing in renewable energy with a commitment to producing 3.3MW of clean energy which marks our contribution to minimizing carbon pollution and of course, climate change that gravely affects our farmers.

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Covid jab for elders in high risk areas

The Health Ministry has decided to administer Covid vaccines to people who are 30 years and above in selected areas, with immediate effect, Government Information Department sources said on Friday.

People belonging to the relevant age group in Grama Niladhari Divisions that are at high risk for novel coronavirus infection in the Colombo and Gampaha Districts will receive the vaccine, the sources said.

All Directors of Health Services in the Western Province, Regional Directors of Health Services in the Colombo and Gampaha districts and Chief Medical Officers of the Colombo Municipal Council (CMC) have been directed to identify the high-risk areas to proceed with the inoculation program.

The Director-General of Health Services has given instructions to work in coordination with the Epidemiology Unit to implement the vaccination program for people aged 30 years and above in the identified areas.

Officers in charge of the vaccination centres in the selected high-risk Grama Niladhari Divisions have been instructed to ensure that only the people belonging to the area are vaccinated.

Covid-19 infections registered in Sri Lanka crossed 82,000 as 247 more persons were tested positive on Friday.

Some 82,180 Covid-19 cases have been confirmed in the country as of Friday night. Recoveries from the virus rose to 77,625 with over 660 being discharged from hospitals.



However, 4,296 active cases are still under medical care at selected hospitals and treatment centres across the island.

Sri Lanka's death toll due to the virus stands at 459.



People being vaccinated against Covid-19



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“Sri Lanka has introduced in major sectors”



“Sri Lanka has currently embarked on introducing a scientific approach and technological advancements in major economic sectors such as Information and Communication Technology, agriculture, plantations, and fisheries. We are more than happy to collaborate with other member countries in sharing our best practices in these sectors,” said President Gotabaya Rajapaksa at the 15th Governing Council meeting of the Non-aligned and Other Developing Countries for Science and Technology on Wednesday.

Excerpts of the President’s speech:
“This Centre, as I am made to understand, has so far progressed through various interventions including promotion of mutually beneficial collaboration among member countries and establishing links with national and regional science and technology centres for scientific advancement.

“Indeed, technology provides answers to many of the challenges that are taking place in this dynamic world.

“The current Covid-19 pandemic and the development of different types of vaccines in record time with adequate clinical trials is a living example to show the important role that could be played by science and technology in human life.

“It is well-known that we face major challenges in introducing new technologies due to high capital investment. Similarly, there is heavy competition developing countries have to face. As a result, our own inventions do not progress much.

“My government, therefore, has established a separate Ministry for Technology under my purview to introduce new technologies in all feasible sectors enabling us to increase our market share in the global economy. Exchanging technologies, through a centre of this nature would be a strategic approach to minimise our capital investment in introducing new technologies.

“Sri Lanka has currently embarked on introducing a scientific approach and technological advancements in major economic sectors such as Information and Communication Technology, agriculture, plantations, and fisheries.

“We are more than happy to collaborate with other member countries in sharing our best practices in these sectors. It is important that local and indigenous technologies are integrated with high-end technologies. Sri Lanka has a proud history of indigenous and traditional technologies that are environmentally friendly.

“The entire world is now moving towards developing strategies and plans to overcome the adverse impact caused by Covid-19. Sri Lanka is no exception. Fortunately, Sri Lanka has a strong health system to handle pandemics and we also observe that the recent pandemic has presented a greater opportunity for the Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) sector, especially to showcase the abilities of researchers, scientists and inventors in meeting immediate needs of health sector.

“I propose that the NAM S & T centre expands its scope to accommodate new thinking in line with current requirements of member countries.

“I would also like to make a special request to all delegates to consider deliberating how best we can collaborate in reaching our sustainable development goals within this pandemic situation.

“Finally, realising the mandate of the NAM S & T Centre is our collective responsibility, and it is incumbent upon us to continue the operation of this inter-governmental mechanism and I assure you that Sri Lanka is committed to collaborate in all aspects that are mutually beneficial. I wish all success to the 15th Governing Council Meeting.”

Justice Minister...

Continued from page 4

If there is any particular concern rather than statements, we will definitely address that. We need to protect MP Ranjan Ramanayake. Actually, we must protect all our prisoners. It has not been made known as to why they are saying so. I am the Justice Minister and even the Prison Reforms comes under my supervision at the Cabinet level. If there is any real concern, we can address it.

Q: The Government attempts to promote the concept of “One country, one law”. Will the Government be able to turn this into a reality?

A: Of course, we need to have a discussion on that as to what actually we need. I am for it and we are putting those things in place. Conceptually, we must identify what it is and we are doing that. We can do that and it is not a problem.



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Feature

People's issues will not be swept under the carpet

— President Gotabaya Rajapaksa

Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan paid a two-day official visit to Sri Lanka on February 23-24 on the invitation of Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa. It was clearly evident that the Pakistan Premier's visit would help further strengthen Pakistan-Sri Lanka relations and enhance mutual cooperation in diverse fields.

Prime Minister Khan was accompanied by a high-level delegation, comprising Ministers and senior government officials. This was the first visit by the Pakistan Prime Minister to Sri Lanka since the formation of the new Governments in both the countries, clearly reflecting the warmth and goodwill between the Governments and peoples of the two countries.

Premier Khan received a warm ceremonial welcome from Premier Rajapaksa and the Cabinet of Ministers.

Bilateral meeting

The bilateral meeting between the Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan and President Gotabaya Rajapaksa took place at the Presidential Secretariat on February 24. Both leaders engaged in a lengthy discussion on improving bilateral relations.

The two leaders exchanged views on sharing technical knowhow to promote agriculture in both countries. The President and the Pakistani Prime Minister also paid attention to the steps that need to be taken to promote trade and expansion of investment opportunities.

The Pakistan Premier also met his Sri Lankan counterpart Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa at Temple Trees on Tuesday (February 23). Premier Rajapaksa during the bilateral discussion said Pakistan Prime Minister's visit symbolises his and the Pakistani Government's deep affinity with the people of Sri Lanka.

Premier Rajapaksa said, "You are the first foreign Head of Government to visit Sri Lanka after I assumed office as the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka after the General Elections last year. On my invitation, you have chosen to visit Sri Lanka with great friendship, despite great challenges, including Covid-19 risks. I admire your courage and the great leadership that is evident in crucial decisions you have taken at times of crises."

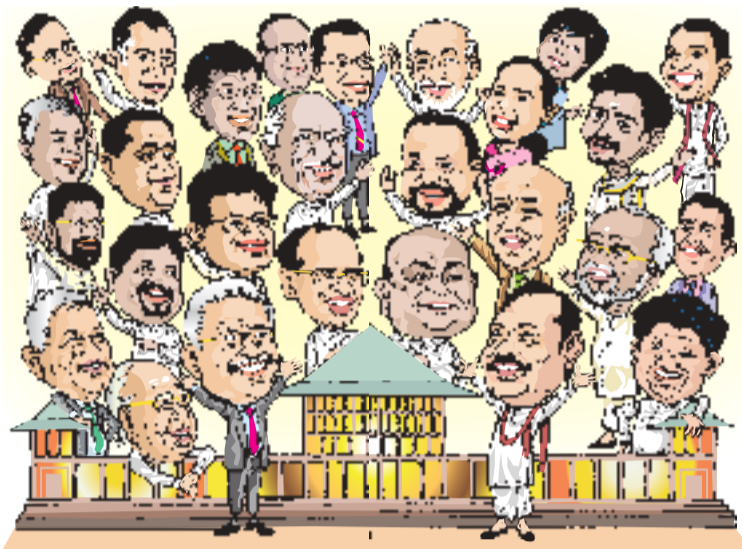
Prime Minister Rajapaksa said the Sri Lankan and Pakistani Governments have a people-centric governance agenda which strives towards empowering grassroots level communities and the underprivileged.

Fifteen Members of Parliament representing the Muslim community called on Pakistan Premier Khan in Colombo on Wednesday (February 24). Pakistan Prime Minister during his meeting with Muslim Parliamentarians had expressed confidence Sri Lankan leaders will work to improve inter-communal harmony.

Sri Lanka Muslim Congress (SLMC) Leader Rauff Hakeem following the meeting had tweeted that the discussion was "pleasant and fruitful". Prime Minister Imran Khan also called on Opposition Leader Sajith Premadasa in Colombo on Wednesday. The Opposition Leader expressed the gratitude of his party to Premier Khan for his visit to Sri Lanka. He conveyed good wishes for the progress and prosperity of Pakistan under PM Khan's leadership.

Life in danger

Opposition Leader Sajith Premadasa who visited Angunakolapelessa Prison to meet SJB Parliamentarian Ranjan Ramanayake, said his life is in danger and the Government should



University of Politics

By Prof. Backbencher

IT IS IMPORTANT THAT OFFICIALS GO TO THE GRASSROOTS TO SEE THE REAL SITUATION, WHEN PROVIDING LONG-TERM SOLUTIONS TO MANY RURAL PROBLEMS, INCLUDING LAND ISSUES. SOME PEOPLE MISINTERPRET POLICY DECISIONS THAT ARE TAKEN FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PEOPLE — PRESIDENT

take responsibility if anything happens to him.

Following the meeting with Ramanayake, the Opposition Leader told the media that Ramanayake was a public figure who was against the drug menace and now he has been imprisoned with inmates who were suspected of drug peddling. This puts his life in a dangerous situation.

Premadasa said, "SLPP MP Premalal Jayasekera is attending Parliament. It is sad to see how Jayasekera and Ramanayake, who were elected to Parliament by the public, are being treated in different ways. The Speaker should be fair and treat all the MPs in the same way without being biased against a particular political party."

He said Ramanayake should be transferred to a prison in the Colombo area for his safety.

Speaker Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena also responded to the demand by the Opposition Leader and other Opposition lawmakers in Parliament to allow MP Ramanayake who was convicted and sentenced to four years imprisonment for contempt of court, to attend the Parliament.

The Speaker said as MP 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. He also said that no appeal against the judgement has been filed before the Supreme Court, but only a motion. He added, however, the Opposition which should take the matter before Court is debating it in Parliament.

PCoI report

Final report of the Presidential Commission of Inquiry (PCoI) which investigated the Easter Sunday terror attacks was released to the media on February 23, revealing a long list of accusations against those it holds responsible for the attack through acts of negligence.

However, bearing a large share of the blame for the attacks, former President Maithripala Sirisena was accused by the PCoI for knowingly leaving the country without appointing an Acting Defence Minister, despite being aware of foreign intelligence warnings



beforehand. A score of former senior officials including the former Defence Secretary Hemasiri Fernando, former IGP Pujith Jayasundara and former heads of national and state intelligence services are also among the accused.

However, the Sri Lanka Freedom Party (SLFP), a coalition partner of the Government has decided to reject the final report of the PCoI which investigated the 2019 Easter Sunday attacks.

The Executive Committee of the SLFP which met on Thursday (February 25) at the party headquarters had taken the decision to reject the report of the PCoI appointed by the former President and SLFP leader Maithripala Sirisena. The SLFP said the report was incomplete and not compatible with the Commission's mandate and the SLFP Executive Committee had no other option but to reject it.

Six-member Committee

Responding to the concerns raised by the Opposition lawmakers on the appointment of yet another Committee, the President's Media Division (PMD) said the six-member Committee appointed by President Gotabaya Rajapaksa to study the report of the PCoI into the April 21, 2019, Easter Sunday attacks, was selected considering factors such as their political maturity, experience and high level of knowledge in various fields.

The PMD in a statement said the Committee has been entrusted with a wide-ranging mandate. It said, "Identifying the overall process including the measures that need to be taken by various agencies and authorities such as Parliament, Judiciary, Attorney

General's Department, Security Forces, State Intelligence services and implementing recommendations as stipulated by PCoI to avert recurrence of a national catastrophe of such magnitude is the prime responsibility of the Committee. These recommendations cannot be successfully implemented by any entity single-handedly."

Waste of resources

Foreign Minister Dinesh Gunawardena addressing the 46th session of the UNHRC in Geneva on February 23 appealed to all member states of the UNHRC to reject any resolution against Sri Lanka, saying that despite Sri Lanka keeping its pledges made before the HRC a year ago and the spirit of cooperation in engagement with the HRC and its mechanism, it is regrettable that elements working against Sri Lanka intend to table another country-specific resolution based on the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

Minister Gunawardena said the High Commissioner's Report on Sri Lanka which the Government of Sri Lanka rejects, has unjustifiably broadened its scope and mandate further, incorporating many issues of governance and matters that are essentially domestic in any self-respecting, sovereign country.

The Minister said the extent to which the resources and time of the UNHRC has been used on Sri Lanka is unwarranted adding that it carries a discouraging message to the sovereign states of the global South.

The Minister said the unprecedented decision by the former ad-

PREMADASA SAID RAMANAYAKE SHOULD BE TRANSFERRED TO A PRISON IN THE COLOMBO AREA FOR HIS SAFETY



Report tabled

The final report of the PCoI into the Easter Sunday attacks was tabled in Parliament on Thursday (February 25) Minister Gunawardena was responding to a request by Chief Opposition Whip Lakshman Kiriella demanding that a three-day debate be held on the issue.

Speaker Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena said that the matter will be discussed at the Parliamentary Business Committee meeting and a decision will be taken to hold a debate. The Prime Minister reminded the Speaker to hold a debate on this report and that a debate would be held accordingly, Minister Gunawardena said.

Sirisena reappointed

The Executive Committee of the Sri Lanka Freedom Party which met on Thursday (February 25) had decided to re-appoint former President Maithripala Sirisena as the Chairman of the party.

The Executive Committee also approved the reappointment of State Minister Dayasiri Jayasekera as the General Secretary of the party.

Minister Nimal Siripala de Silva, Minister Mahinda Amaraweera and Prof. Rohana Lakshman Piyadasa were appointed as Senior Vice Presidents.

UNP Balamandala meetings

The UNP Balamandala meetings of Karandeniya, Bentara-Elpitiya, Ambalangoda and Balapitiya in the Galle district were held under the patronage of Party Chairman Vajira Abeywardena.

During the meetings, Abeywardena briefed the party supporters on the future programs of the UNP. As a significant gesture, the UNP and those who left the party had also participated in these meetings.

Abeywardena said the UNP is a party which has launched its programs targeting to capture power in the future adding that however, it would not act to cater to the interests of the factions led by various individuals. He said the country would collapse in the future due to poor economic management.

He said it was international conspiracies which prevented Ranil Wickremesinghe coming to power and not because of the people. Former State Minister Palitha Thewarapperuma said he also decided to attend the Balamandala meetings as he has the confidence that UNP Chairman Vajira Abeywardena, is a leader who will never leave the party.

Thewarapperuma said they could witness how those who were loyal and pledged to make any sacrifice on behalf of the UNP left the party a couple of weeks later. However, Vajira Abeywardena never acted to create divisions within the party or leave it. Therefore, I have full confidence in him.

"Don't insult Speaker"

Leader of the House Foreign Minister Dinesh Gunawardena called upon Opposition Leader Sajith Premadasa not to insult the Speaker by levelling allegations against him. The Minister was referring to the Opposition Leader's claim in Parliament on Tuesday (February 23) that the Speaker "ran away" from the Chair without answering Opposition's queries.

Minister Gunawardena said, "Do not level allegations against the Speaker and insult him without knowing the facts. All of us have been invited today to participate in the meeting of the Sri Lanka-Pakistan Parliamentary Friendship Association.

"The Speaker had to leave the Chamber because he had 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?," he said.

Trade Unionists meet UNP leader

Several trade union leaders not aligned with the UNP had met UNP Leader Ranil Wickremesinghe at the party headquarters, Sirikotha recently to discuss the current political situation in the country. During the meeting, trade union leaders had pledged their fullest support to Wickremesinghe towards any attempts being made to "rescue the country from the current downfall". UNP Chairman Vajira Abeywardena had told the trade union leaders that steps will be taken to further strengthen the party restructuring process while disciplinary action will be taken against those who acted against the party.

Leader of the House Dinesh Gunawardena told Parliament that the final report of the PCoI into the Easter Sunday attacks will be taken up for debate as decided at the next Committee on Parliamentary Business meeting.

MINISTER DINESH GUNAWARDENA SAID THE EXTENT TO WHICH THE RESOURCES AND TIME OF THE UNHRC HAS BEEN USED ON SRI LANKA IS UNWARRANTED. IT CARRIES A DISCOURAGING MESSAGE TO THE SOVEREIGN STATES OF THE GLOBAL SOUTH

Robber gang held after three weeks

TRINCOMALEE: Seven persons who used a boat for a sea crossing and later robbed a jewellery store on land in Trincomalee were apprehended nearly three weeks after the daring heist. The group had raided the store on February 8 and got away with jewellery valued at around Rs. 3.8 million, according to police. The group had arrived at their target in a boat along the Trincomalee - Koneswaram sea and fled in the same vessel after the robbery. Police recovered a hand grenade, a foreign-made firearm and six rounds of ammunition from the possession of the group.

They said the main suspect identified as a 38-year-old resident of Trincomalee is the brother of a notorious criminal known as 'Ice Manju', currently absconding after committing various crimes in Trincomalee.

Hollywood scene enacted in Wattala

WATTALA: In what appeared to be a scene from a Hollywood gangster movie an attempt to lure an underworld operative was botched after the suspect was able to give the slip to the police and escape.

The suspect known as Athurugiriya Navy Ruwan' abandoned his car and fled after personnel from the Special Task Force (STF) attempted to corner him at a location in Wattala shortly after dusk on Thursday. The drama began after three persons including two women were nabbed with a small quantity of heroin at Ganemulla earlier in the day.

The police persuaded the three persons to act as decoys and seek a purchase of heroin from the supplier. The suspect agreed and he was told to arrive at a certain location where the STF personnel were waiting in ambush.

However, the suspect, noticing something was not right made a hasty retreat on nearing the meeting point. This led to a heated vehicle chase and the suspect's car was subsequently found abandoned at the end of a by-road in Meegahawatta. The police found a hand grenade in the car but there were no drugs in the vehicle.

30-year-old man opts for easy way out

KOLLUPITIYA: A 30-year-old son of a leading businessman plunged to his death from the 10th floor of a private hospital in Kollupitiya during the early hours of Friday. Police and hospital officials said the victim had arrived at the hospital the previous day with a female accomplice to be treated for a common sleep disorder.

Doctors advised the victim's friend to be vigilant on the patient's disorder but a short while later he entered a washroom and jumped out from the window.

Ayurveda doctor on the mat

TRINCOMALEE: An Ayurveda doctor was among two persons arrested along with a cache of explosives at Kinniya in Trincomalee. Police seized 37 sticks of dynamite and 372-feet long detonator cords from the suspects.

The other suspect was identified as a fisherman.

Investigators believe the stock of explosives was to be used for dynamite fishing which is banned in the country.

Dynamite fishing which is outlawed since it causes extensive damage to marine life is known to be rampant in the Trincomalee region.

Six Nigerians among eight held in bank scam

MOUNT LAVINIA: A group of eight persons that included six Nigerians and a local couple were arrested in connection with an online banking scam where they defrauded Rs. 1.7million from unsuspecting account holders.

The group convincingly told each victim that they had won an online lottery and to collect the prize they would have to deposit a sum of money to a certain account number. The group had used various foreign and local mobile SIM cards in their operation to avoid detection. Following a detailed investigation by intelligence sleuths attached to the Kelaniya Police Division the group was tracked down to a safe house in Mount Lavinia earlier this week.

Police recovered two computers, 79 SIM of various countries and stocks of paper used for the printing of local and foreign currencies.



BY LEON BERENGER

Body count ticks on in road fatalities

POLICE HQ: At least 25 persons died in road accidents from the start of this week and the bulk of the victims were motorcyclists, according to police.

Around 15 motorcyclists were

among the fatalities while the others were pedestrians and passengers and the majority of the accidents were reported from the outstations. Police attributed the accidents to reckless driving and excessive speed and called upon all road users to follow the motor traffic guidelines to avoid more deaths and injuries to persons.

Artificial reef off Galle coast to boost marine life



Scrapped buses loaded aboard the Sayura



'Sayura' being loaded with scrapped buses and fishing vessels. Pix: Anuradha Priyadharshana, Karadeniya Group

BY PRIYAN DE SILVA

The Ministry of Fisheries with the assistance of the Sri Lanka Navy dumped a considerable quantity of scrapped buses and fishing vessels into the sea three kilometres off the coast of Galle yesterday to improve the breeding of marine life.

State Minister of Ornament

tal Fish, Inland Fish and Prawn Farming, Fishery Harbour Development, Multi day Fishing Activities and Fish Exports Kanchana Wijesekera who was at the Galle harbour yesterday morning said that artificial reefs had been established off the Northern Coast a few weeks ago and the operation in Galle was the second phase of the project. The project was ben-

eficial in many ways because the scrap and debris that cluttered most fishery harbours and vehicle graveyards of the Transport Board and Railway would act as breeding grounds for marine life.

Wijesekera added that in addition to the breeding of marine life the reefs will be a boon to tourism and also prevent illegal bottom trawling.

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A challenge for Global South

According to reports from Geneva, more countries will defend Sri Lanka at the virtual 46th session of the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC), whose Chief Michelle Bachelet had earlier presented a biased and inaccurate report on Sri Lanka, based mostly on unverified bits of information circulated by sections of the Tamil Diaspora and some Western nations.

Among this chorus of voices is China, which is significantly a veto-power wielding Permanent Member of the UN Security Council. Chinese Permanent Representative in Geneva Ambassador Chen Xu has extended China's strong support to Sri Lanka in his official statement in the Interactive Dialogue on the OHCHR (Office of the High Commissioner on Human Rights) Report on Sri Lanka during the 46th Session of the Human Rights Council.

"It is the consistent stand of China to oppose politicisation and double standards on human rights, as well as using human rights as an excuse in interfering in other countries' internal affairs. We are concerned about the clear lack of impartiality shown in the OHCHR's report to this session on Sri Lanka and express our regret over the failure of the OHCHR to use the authoritative information provided by the Sri Lankan government."

As China has clearly stated, the so-called 'preventive intervention' and the proposed targeted sanctions contained in the OHCHR's report amount to clear interference in the internal affairs of Sri Lanka and exceed the mandate of the OHCHR. The same sentiments had been expressed by Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi in a telephone conversation with Foreign Minister Dinesh Gunawardena, who had earlier rejected the OHCHR Report outright.

Minister Gunawardena has rightly pointed out that Bachelet's report on Sri Lanka is rife with factual inaccuracies that appear to equate atrocities committed by the LTTE, a terrorist organisation proscribed internationally, with legitimate action taken by the Government to safeguard the territorial integrity of the country and the right to life of people of all communities.

More countries have now realised that in dealing with home grown and international terrorism, they too may be liable for persecution by mechanisms such as the UNHRC and the International Criminal Court (ICC). Ironically, both these organisations have come in for heavy flak from certain Western countries themselves over attempts to file charges against their Security Forces personnel engaged in operations against terrorist organisations. There cannot however, be two sets of laws for Western countries and developing countries.

This is why these words of Minister Gunawardena are spot on: "The call for asset freezes, travel bans, references to the ICC and the exercise of universal jurisdiction by individual States, based on evidence that has been denied access to and retained by the High Commissioner's Office with some of it unreleased for 30 years, particularly in relation to a country such as Sri Lanka which has consistently and constructively engaged with the UN and its mechanisms, points to a distinct and eminent danger which the international community as a whole need to take note of." Indeed, all countries in the Global South trying to eliminate terrorism and extremism from their soil face the danger of being hauled before these organisations for no fault of their own.

It is also pertinent to note that some of the countries in the Core Group on Sri Lanka could have been propelled to act against Sri Lanka due to domestic electoral compulsions. It is no secret that the Tamil Diaspora forms a substantial part of the electors in these countries, which has compelled certain politicians in these countries to appease their sentiments purely for electoral gains. Paradoxically, many of the younger members of the Tamil Diaspora who lead demonstrations against Sri Lanka have never even been to Sri Lanka and have no knowledge of the actual ground situation in the North or the rest of the country. Once the pandemic is over, Sri Lankan authorities should initiate a dialogue with these sections and invite some of them over to see for themselves the ground situation. It is a well-known fact that Northerners in Sri Lanka want to live in peace with the other communities instead of hallucinating about a separate state.

In fact, accountability and reconciliation must be domestic processes sans foreign interference. Sri Lanka has noted that the High Commissioner's Report has incorporated many issues of governance and matters that are essentially domestic for any self-respecting, sovereign country.

This is in complete violation of Article 2 (7) of the Charter of the UN that states: "Nothing contained in the present Charter shall authorise the United Nations to intervene in matters which are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any State...". The trajectory that has emerged with regard to the recommendations and conclusions unfortunately reflects the preconceived, politicised and prejudicial agenda which certain Western elements have relentlessly pursued against Sri Lanka after 2009. These recommendations are based on ill-founded allegations that have no factual basis at all.

Sri Lanka has always expressed its commitment to accountability and reconciliation and by withdrawing from Resolution 30/1 and other Resolutions co-sponsored by the previous Government, the present Government has shown the world that it does not need any foreign 'supervision' or involvement in domestic processes. Sri Lanka has a strong and independent Judiciary and other investigative mechanisms that have on many occasions prosecuted members of the Forces and Police for alleged human rights violations.

The Government is now reviewing the recommendations of several Commissions that have previously handled accountability, reconciliation and reparation issues to take further action. The international community should extend its assistance to Sri Lanka for the success of these endeavours.

Race no longer at the centre of our concerns as a nation

by
Rajpal Abeynayake



A country does not judge itself by one metric alone — that of its inter-ethnic relations. Take Malaysia for instance.

By the modern day ideal, the deal that the Malaysian Chinese may be getting in Malaysia could be rather 'raw'. The Chinese who own and run most of the small businesses that are the dynamo of growth in that country, are not permitted in terms of the Bumiputra laws that favour the Malays, to own land.

We all know the ethnic convulsions that led to the northern Ireland uprising — though now quelled, in the U.K. But that doesn't mean that all is well and that the different ethnicities are functioning as one happy and harmonious unit. In Scotland, there has already been a referendum to secede from the union, and the key Scottish parties are asking for another one because they are unsatisfied with the first.

These standoffs and these separate situations have not, however, defined any of these nations and their politics, or their general image on the world stage.

Even Singapore 'began' with an ugly, rather acrimonious country-wide ethnic riot between the Chinese and the ethnic Malay Singaporeans in 1964. Two months later, there was an even bigger riot that erupted after an attack on a Chinese trishaw driver.

Today, the country has come a long way from this initial conflagration. It is seen as a nation that respects ethnic diversity.

But it doesn't quite respect ethnic diversity in the 'ideal' way — at least not by the metric that we Sri Lankans have often judged ourselves by, and let us be judged by others. In the city state of Singapore, the Constitution recognises the special status of the ethnic Malays who are referred to as the 'indigenous people of Singapore.'

The Malays feel that they are lagging behind the Chinese in terms of social mobility and were compelled to form self-help groups to identify and cater to Malay concerns.

Decade

But in none of these countries is there any proclivity to define the State in terms of its inter-ethnic relations. There are various states of disagreements between diverse ethnic groups, in Britain, in Singapore and in Malaysia. But these countries progressed despite these differences, and have never made these disparities central to their political discourse.

That's the way it should be. In Sri Lanka, we see efforts among some opinion makers and elite to make inter-ethnic relations the central discourse once more, after the end of the battle against terrorism more than a decade ago.

Despite these people's best efforts, it seems the country is past that stage. People from all communities are focussed more on economic progress, than they are on petty differences. That's not to say that there are no disparities, no differences and no points of contention between



IT'S A SIGN THAT PEOPLE ARE COLLECTIVELY IN A MOOD TO MOVE ON, GET AHEAD WITH THEIR LIVES AND WITH THE TASK OF MAKING THE COUNTRY A BETTER PLACE FOR THEM, AND THE FUTURE GENERATIONS. ENTIRE SWATHES OF THE OPINION MAKING ELITE, HOWEVER, SEEM TO BE DISQUIETED BY THIS PALPABLE SHIFT IN PRIORITIES

the different groups that make up our social fabric. If Singapore still has some sticking points, despite its developed nation status, it shouldn't come as a surprise that we have our fair share of points of contention between the different communities as well.

But it bears repetition that the issue of the Scottish referendum or the possible departure of Scotland from the union, definitely does not occupy the central position in the cultural or media discourse of the UK. Malaysians do not dwell on the constitutionalised advantages that accrue to the Malay community due to the Bumiputra policy that grants the Malays enormous advantage over the minority Chinese that still predominantly run business, research and development in Malaysia.

That being the case, should we tear our hair over similar matters— perceived disparities notwithstanding? Yes, the situation may not be ideal. But, the problem in this country has been that there are elements so ready and willing to inject the issues of ethnic divisions into the daily discourse.

Ethnic

That was the pattern in the entirety of the nineties and the first decade of the new millennium. But then the hostilities ended in 2009, and gradually the discourse shifted to the issues of development, environment and party politics as opposed to ethnic politics.

It's a sign that people are collectively in a mood to move on, get ahead with their lives and with the task of making the country a better place for them, and the future generations.

Entire swathes of the opinion making

ally, the emergence from the wartime milieu has brought them to a place where they don't care who is trying to divide them, because they are focussed elsewhere, on more tangible matters such as housing, education and upward mobility in general.

Beyond

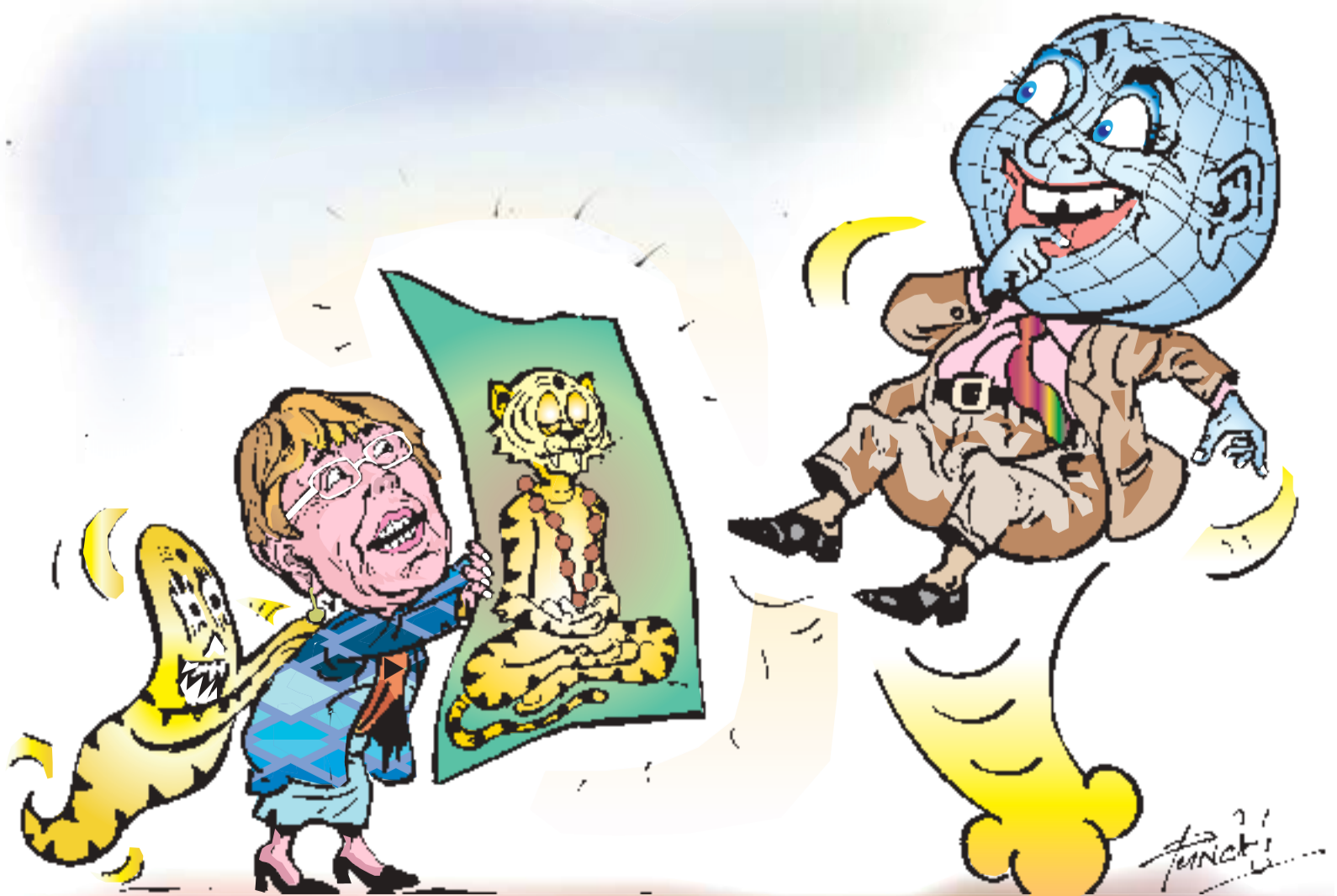
Can highly organised events such as the P2P march that took place recently, change any of these dynamics? Not when the pendulum has swung so far that there is no grassroots level resonance toward such activity.

In Singapore, English is the lingua franca. All education is in the English medium. But in Malaysia, education is in the three recognised languages of State, Malay, Tamil and Mandarin. Despite these obvious differences in approach, both countries see no need to place ethnicity at the centre of the public discourse. It's because ethnic issues are the last things on people's minds.

In Malaysia there are more discontents than in Singapore for instance, but they rarely if ever spill over to the political arena, or hog the discourse in society at large. Yes, some political parties in Malaysia may be organised slightly more on ethnic lines than others — and though that's a fact of life, society never gets polarised on account of those tendencies.

It's the surest sign that society has moved beyond the stage of tearing each other apart on account of the differences that do exist, and cannot be wished away anytime soon.

In this country, perhaps Archbishop Malcolm Cardinal Ranjith is the embodiment of where we are at the moment. The Cardinal has said on more than one occasion that this is a Buddhist country but he is the fiercest when it comes to matters of having the truth revealed about the Easter Sunday attacks. The Cardinal did not harbour any grievances over the primacy of Buddhism in the county's culture. If he is above those petty squabbles about which religion is more 'important', so must be his flock. It's one of those sanguine signs that as a culture, we have moved beyond the discourse of the religious and ethnic divide.





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FEBRUARY 28, 2021

Religion enters the fray as cricket followers await the coming of a Deliverer

BY CALLISTUS DAVY

At a time when clergymen in Sri Lanka are either sucked into politics or willingly enter it, a Buddhist monk lodged a virtual protest by entering and exiting a field that analysts say is now unavoidable even for faith keepers given the extent to which the public has been frowning on widespread financial mismanagement and injustice in cricket.

The monk, Battaramulle Seelathana Thera, appeared from almost out of the blues to contest an election of office bearers who may become the so-called guardians of the country's most adored sport of cricket which is currently embroiled in a never ending saga of financial greed and power abuse.

"Billions of dollars are lost in corruption and fraud at Sri Lanka

Cricket. "They (club-elected officials) come and go spending millions in money. Join us all."

"The best sportsmen are among the clergy", said Seelathana Thera after submitting his nomination to contest the election on May 20 only to be disqualified a day later on technical grounds.

But cricket watchers said the Buddhist priest got what he wanted and that was to draw media at-

tention and add his opposition to the governance of the sport that some are too afraid to confront either through fear of repercussions or that it could be a waste of time. Seelathana Thera submitted his papers to contest the vice presidency supposedly nominated by a club named in honour of a Catholic saint, St. Anthony's Sports Club, in the country's north.

The monk's opposition to the chosen few running the affairs of cricket is also seen as nudging the clergy of other religions, particularly in Christian schools that have guided many sporting personalities to don the Sri Lankan colours in cricket, rugby and athletics.

"We Sri Lankans have a lot of faith in sport as it showcases our country to the world while it also teaches fair-play and human val-

ues like religion does," said Rizly Ilyas, who heads Sri Lanka Rugby.

The administration of cricket has currently been taken to court by former players and administrators calling for a Constitutional change ahead of the election in what is seen as a now-or-never stand against allegations of corruption at one of the richest money making public enterprises in the island.

Vaas goes to Parliament as cricket's latest casualty

BY CALLISTUS DAVY

Chaminda Vaas joined the list of ex-players to be forced out of national cricket coaching which has exposed a cruel and forbidden system that the powers that be are yet to address as the sport has been placed in the dock awaiting its fate or salvation.

Vaas and cricket have not only gone to parliament for debate but has shed light on a free-for-all set up at Sri Lanka Cricket (SLC) where nepotism and cronyism is the name of the game that has led to an unprecedented crash of the team.

The scenario could not have been explained any better than by Vaas himself who said in a public message that "justice will prevail" after he failed to secure a payment to condition the Sri Lanka team on a current tour of the West Indies that was outside the obligations of his contract as a fast bowling consultant.

"I made a humble request to SLC and they turned it down," Vaas said.

But his employer Sri Lanka Cricket went to the extent of branding Vaas an unreasonable rebel just hours before he and the players were to take wing to the Caribbean.

"Chaminda Vaas has resorted



Flashback to May 2019: Chaminda Vaas imparts fast bowling tips to two village boys, Steven Soosai (left) and MRM Rimzi at a private clinic in Colombo

to holding the administration, the cricketers and indeed the game to ransom by handing in his resignation at the eleventh hour, citing the administration's refusal to accede to an unjustifiable demand for an increased USD (US dollars) remuneration," SLC said in a media statement.

But a close aide of Vaas told the Sunday Observer that the amount requested by the former World Cup champion was only half the amount compared to what the head of SLC's coaching department Jerome Jayaratne is paid to accompany the team as manager.

He claimed SLC was losing its home grown coaches and experts by the plane loads, snapped up by rival nations with lucrative deals over the past 15 years as the country looked for foreign expertise with little or no success while paying much more.

Vaas found a voice in parliament when an Opposition MP argued that the only Sri Lankan fast bowler to bend his back and claim over 400 Test scalps was ridiculed by SLC.

But SLC found a defence in Sports Minister Namal Rajapaksa who counter-argued saying that to accede to the request made by Vaas would only create a precedent where coaches and players will be influenced to demand additional payments as a condition to perform.

To cap it all Vaas found an unexpected promoter in a Buddhist priest, Battaramulla Seelathana Thera who accused SLC of squandering funds on foreigners.

"Why is so much of money being spent on foreign coaches when we have capable people like Chaminda Vaas. All the money goes out of the country," said Seelathana Thera after handing over his nomination papers to contest a vice presidency post at SLC which was subsequently rejected.

Antonian duo hit centuries

BY HAFIZ MARIKAR

The inter school cricket match between St. Anthony's College and Ispathana College ended in a draw at Katugastota yesterday.

Continuing from their overnight score of 20 for 1 the Antonians went on to score 423 for the loss of five wickets at the end of the second day as Mohamed Kamil made 157 with 11 hits to the fence while Chandimal Herath was unbeaten on 105 with nine fours.

Ispathana 191 (Tharusha Nethasara 82, Thinula Liyanage 65, Asitha Wanninayake 3 for 35)

St. Anthony's 423 for 5 (Mohamed Kamil 157, Chandimal Herath 105 not out, Tharindu Lamahewege 47, Asitha Wanninayake 40, Damith Bandara 27 not out)

Netball player tested positive

Former Sri Lanka netball captain Chaturangi Jayasuriya who is also in the current national pool has tested positive for coronavirus and is currently in quarantine.

Savini and Janali to clash in Women's final



Janali Manamperi

Savini Jayasuriya and Janali Manamperi set up a final showdown in the Women's Open Singles when they won their respective semi-finals on the penultimate day of the SSC Open Tennis Tournament, which continued at the SSC Courts at Maitland Place yesterday.

Savini defeated Tanya Doloswala in straight sets 6-1, 6-2 while Janali had the better of Denethya Dharmarathne even more convincingly 6-0, 6-0 in the semi-finals.

In the Men's Open Singles semi-finals Luca Knese beat Kiran Vairawanathan 6-2, 6-1 and Vibuda Wijebandara beat Sankha Athukorala 6-4, 0-6, 6-4.



Savini Jayasuriya

South Africa cricket looks for independent directors

Under its new Constitutional changes under an Interim Committee, Cricket South Africa has advertised for independent cricket directors without conflicts of interests which is exactly what a group of Petitioners to the Appeal Court in Sri Lanka has sought.

According to a news report, Cricket South Africa is seeking to form a board of skilled professional directors experienced in Human

Resources, Finance, Marketing, Public Relations, Media, IT, Strategic Thinking, Disciplined and Value Driven, Diversity Management Skills, Conflict Management and Resolution Skills, Decision Making Ability, High Level Integrity, Enterprise Management and Result Oriented Attitude among other requirements along with Social and Transformation Goals in a professional environment.

Ratnam footballers on show today for first time

BY ALTHAF NAWAZ

Ratnam will take on Blue Star while Blue Eagles will confront New Young in their pre-league inter club football encounters at the Sugathadasa Stadium today with the first match scheduled to kick-off at 5 pm.

Ratnam make their first appearance in this tournament after several months of isolation in Kotahena due to the second wave of the coronavirus and will now have an opportunity to gear up for the major

event which is the inaugural Super League scheduled to commence from mid-April.

As a pioneer club Ratnam possess young but highly skilled players in their ranks who are capable of turning tables in this competition. They will be led by EE Methan the Ivory Coast player who had donned their jersey for quite some time.

He will have the services of two more players from his country while another player from Japan is due to ar-

rive in Sri Lanka by mid next month.

Nevertheless Ratnam are pumped up for a belligerent performance to notch up their first win.

Their rivals Blue Star had a winning start to their tournament when they defeated their home town team Red Star in the curtain raiser ten days ago. They are another side with some top players who were recruited particularly for this tournament.

In the second game under lights at 8 pm Blue Eagles will confront New Young after suffering their first

defeat (2-0) at the hands of Colombo Football Club last week.

As a team Blue Eagles have a well-balanced unit and with the progress of the tournament they are likely to fall into winning ways. Their rivals New Young from Wennappuwa managed to force a 1-1 draw against Sea Hawks in their tournament opener.

The team from Wennappuwa has come a long way in this game and have contracted several top local and foreign players and a keenly contested match is expected.

First Class Honours for ex-Royal captain



Former Royal College cricket captain in 2015 and Observer-Mobitel Most Popular Schoolboy Cricketer of the Year 2014 (Platinum Winner) Harith Samarasinghe graduated with a First Class Honours Degree in Mechatronics Engineering at the General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University convocation last Tuesday at the BMICH presided over by President Gotabaya Rajapaksa. Here Harith Samarasinghe, son of former Navy Commander Thisara Samarasinghe, receiving his honours from the Chancellor of the KDU, General J Silva. The Vice Chancellor of the KDU Major General Milinda Peiris is also in the picture

Dharmasoka, Devananda tie for trophy

Dharmasoka College and Sri Devananda College were declared joint champions when they ended their final encounter in a thrilling tie in the WCD Boteju Challenge Trophy cricket tournament played at the UC ground last week.

Dharmasoka scored 243 for nine wickets in 50 overs as Randul Samarahewa top scored with 85. In their turn Devananda also

scored 243 runs for nine wickets at the end of 50 overs as Hirusha Akash top scored with 78.

The tournament was organized by Balapitiya Youth SC and many school teams from the region participated.

Sasindu de Silva of Sri Devananda was adjudged the best batsman of the tournament while Randul Samarahewa of Dharmasoka won the best batsman's award at the final.

Kaveesh Lakpahan of Sri Devananda was the best bowler and Hasitha Rajapakse of Dharmasoka bagged the best fielder's award.

SCORES:

Dharmasoka: 243/9 in 50 overs (Randul Samarahewa 85, Chamidu Tharaka 35, Lohan de Soysa 32, Hasitha Rajapakse 20, Sahan Sankalpa 20, Lasindu Lakshan 3/33, Kaveesha Kalpana 3/63)

Sri Devananda: 243/9 in 50 overs (Hirusha Akash 78, Sasindu de Silva 52, Kanchana de Livera 42, Kaveesha Kalpana 34, Lohan de Soysa 4/41)



Randul Samarahewa of Dharmasoka receiving the best batsman's award from the chief guest (Pic by Wimal Karunathilaka)



The Dialog Enterprise Rotary Metro Par 3 Golf Classic will be held on March 13 at the RCGC course with over 150 players in action. The presentation of the sponsorship cheque to the Rotary Club was held on Wednesday at the RCGC club where Ruwan Gunasena (left, president Rotary Club) received the sponsorship from Ramanan David Senior GM of Dialog (Pic by Jagath Niroshana)

Living with Covid-19



Life amid Covid-19

By
Sarath Wijesinghe



"It is going to disappear one day. It is like a miracle it will disappear" repeated Donald Trump former President of the United States of America

Let the above be our wishful thinking though living with Covid-19 is frightening and disturbing. But since we are compelled to live with it the challenge is ours and depends on how we react and fight the virus, following guidelines and medical advice. We are not experts to advise on any form of treatment or invisible forces to combat the virus. The news we receive are uncertain with no credible or scientific sources, leaving us in the dark. Whether the injections are effective will be decided in the future but it appears that UK is slowing down a bit.

No slowdown is yet shown in many rich countries after immunisation of the vaccine. There is no guarantee on the success of the vaccine and the side-effects. Progress is slow and every innovation has side effects and time is needed to test them. Rich countries have given the vaccinations to a majority while many poor nations have not been given the treatment at all. As this is a worldwide pandemic the solution too should be applied worldwide.

For example, Sri Lanka's immediate neighbour India is densely populated and the close association with fishermen, - smuggling, drug trafficking and involved in the import-export trade are mediums of close contact and transmission between cross - border countries.

The Japanese way of prevention is strict adherence to the rules while Britain is engaged in educating their citizens on social distancing and adherence to rules. Despite the best NHS system, supposed to be the best in the world the death toll in the UK is increasing day by day with some reduction due to the vaccine. China, Taiwan and North Korea are extremely strict but some Western countries have a liberal attitude. All in all unless the entire globe acts as one unit the danger would spread faster than expected increasing the death toll and spreading the disease.

Abide by health guidelines

The Sri Lankan situation is unique though unsatisfactory due to indiscipline in the society acting in defiance of the regulations. The information and statistics received vary on a daily basis worldwide with uncertainty. We are trying to live with this menace and the best and easy way to meet the challenge is to be clean and abide by the directions given by the experts. Sri Lanka started well and if continued would have been one of the best success stories in the world. Some sections of society defy the most dedicated health sector advice. Now the situation has become worse and the pandemic appears to be fast spreading.

This is the time to turn to technology and digitalisation to combat the unseen but powerful enemy successfully. Technology today allows people to connect with anyone, anywhere in the world from almost any device. This has automatically changed people's work facilitating 24/7 collaborations with colleagues who are disposed across time zones, coun-

tries and continents. We must forge all available energies to build new avenues and different paths. The whole world is in danger. The poor are the worst hit and left alone with no vaccine or assistance while the West is full of excesses which is the reality, based on the success of the fittest based on Charles Darwin's theory, survival of the fittest.

The USA, the richest and the most powerful, is one of the worst hit. Often when you think you are at the end of something you do not realise that you are at the beginning of something else which may be exceptionally good. Let us wish to belong to this category. Let us be the beginning of a new successful post Corona world of our own. May the next year bring an end to the pandemic and the beginning of a normal lifestyle.

We have gone through worse situations before and it is inevitable that humans will emerge victorious, with the power they possess of imagination, innovation and determination. We must protect and save the environment we live in for our own good and the existence of Mother Earth. Covid-19 and the environment are interconnected as food pattern and the way of life has direct relevance to the menace we are confronted with.

There are many theories on the origin and source of the pandemic that started presumably in Wuhan, China and spread paralyzing the entire world with the threat to continue and cause further destructions, and there is no possibility that it will end any time soon. Preventive measures were prepared for the community worldwide with little variations to be followed by citizens of all ages.

The preventive measures are as simple as follows: (1) Wash hands frequently and thoroughly (2) Avoid touching mouth, nose and eyes (3) Cover mouth when you cough or sneeze with elbow or with tissues (4) Dispose used tissue into a closed bin and wash hands or sanitise (5) Avoid crowded places (6) Practise physical distancing and maintain at least 1 m distance (7) Routinely disinfect surfaces (8) Stay at home if you do not feel well (8) If you have symptoms of fever, cough or difficulty in breathing consult a doctor.

In short it is mooted to live with nature and be clean, in an environment friendly atmosphere consuming healthy food preferably devoid of meat or fish obtained from worldwide food chains and consuming junk including poisonous beverages, especially the young. This is what 'Ayurveda' medicine too has taught us Asians for over 5,000 years and we have not come across pandemics or diseases such as cancer in our history. It is simple and effective to adhere to these rules.

Transform disaster to success

This pandemic has magnified every inequality in our society, such as, racism, gender inequality, and poverty. The citizen should transform disaster into success and opportunity by adopting to new challenges and circumstances with the help of people friendly innovations on livelihood, environment, employment, medicine, education and generally the way of life in pre-Covid-19 times.

This pandemic may give rise to stronger societies out of necessity and livelihood whereby families and neigh-

hours will be closer and inter dependent on each other which may lead to new ventures in trade and business. Once secluded and confined in houses for long periods the friendship, relationship and neighbourhood bonds are bound to enhance and lead to developments and new thinking as groups. It will strengthen family ties and cooperation in all areas including joint livelihoods. This is the period of innovations such as in Israel where every other person is an innovator converted to a start-up company owner and SME for the development of the nation.

The youth in Sri Lanka today are innovative and computer literate with IT knowledge and computer centres at every junction with basic IT facilities available for payment of utility bills and data for the children for online education. The transport system has been changed with fewer public transport and cheaper three wheeler services, thereby preventing congestion on the roads.

Working from home and flexible office hours have strengthened family ties with less household expenditure. It has increased the resilience to crisis, ensuring sustainable developments. Digital transformation and setting of new digital platforms are inevitable adaptations that have resulted in drastic changes in the economy with a strong political will by the governance also out of compulsion and circumstances.

Education, a badly hit area

Education is a widely hit area in Sri Lanka where the students, parents and the school managements have bounced back successfully despite school closures and interrupted transport systems. Sri Lankan parents have resolved to invest on children's education for a better future for them and the nation which is a good move. Parents with difficulties invested on expensive data, giving their personal smartphones to the children for their e-education.

E-education is booming in private schools as expected. There were news reports that children in village areas climbed water tanks for Wi-Fi which is a sorry affair and an encouraging news on their capability to adaptation with determination. This is an opportunity to improve e-education and to link with international players through the Ministry of Education and our University system, especially, the Moratuwa University should lead the process. Education should be linked with e-education, e-business, and e-news and information based on advanced IT with ICTA.



The newly set up Technology State Ministries tend to attend seminars and meetings without getting into business and it is time the Minister of Education gives them specific instructions. The nation should rise above all in education and assist all other groups to emerge during the pandemic.

Road discipline and behaviour

The number of accidents is on the rise in Sri Lanka compared to deaths due to Covid-19 and Dengue that we successfully minimised. Road accidents are mainly due to indiscipline and loss of effective control by the governance that has failed to curtail accidents. Relating to the environment sector many youth had fallen victim to ruthless sand transporters in heavy trucks who have taken the law unto their hands with political patronage, linked to environmental destruction. In fact accidents should be on the decline due to less vehicular movements. However, greedy politicians eat into forests and sand on river banks according to the helpless Minister of Environment. Covid-19 is a by-product of the mismanagement of environment and it is the duty of the citizen to exert pressure on perpetrators destroying the environment that we have saved for millions of years.

Trade, employment and Commerce

The economy is bound to set back due to inactivity in all sectors and working from home with the loss of billions

THE ECONOMY IS BOUND TO SET BACK DUE TO INACTIVITY IN ALL SECTORS AND WORKING FROM HOME WITH THE LOSS OF BILLIONS OF RUPEES IN ALL SECTORS WORLDWIDE. SRI LANKA FEELS IT MORE DUE TO LESS RESERVES WHILE THE PINCH IS BEARABLE TO UK, USA, JAPAN AND EU WITH THEIR FOOD AND FUND RESERVES AND ASSISTANCE FROM INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS.



of rupees in all sectors worldwide. Sri Lanka feels it more due to less reserves while the pinch is bearable to UK, USA, Japan and EU with their food and fund reserves and assistance from International Organisations. Although there are improvements in the agriculture sector, employment, commerce and trade including exports have decreased. Sri Lankans have been brave and resilient to challenges by bouncing back after the tsunami that hit Sri Lanka and many countries. We won the Tsunami over and winning Covid-19 is certain! Let us raise our nation to be a world power such as Israel during the difficult period.

Covid-19 cremation or burial

During the ancient period, the Muslims who arrived in Ceylon obtained permission from the kings and lived in Sri Lanka for thousands of years as traders and friends having married Sri Lankan women with the freedom to practise their religion. They did not come as invaders - like some other ethnic groups did. Islam is a rigid religion unlike Buddhism, which is a philosophy and a religion with lots of freedom as free thinkers. Many Muslims became mild due to the association of Buddhists and bhikkhus while some became rigid due to fundamentalists' influence of Middle East contacts.

Sri Lankans are friendly and work together in international and inter-governmental Muslim groups, helping each other in international issues fighting together against rich and powerful groups. Covid-19 deaths are comparatively less and we should and could have taken all the precautions as guided by the committee, and as Prime Minister, Mahinda Rajapaksa, an experienced politician, supposed to be the most senior politician in Asia, indicated his views with few words in Parliament. We are in an internationalised world community and it is appropriate to adjust ourselves to the views of the international brotherhood which has an adverse effect on Geneva deliberation for no reasonable reason.

Be safe, be smart and be kind - DG, WHO

The virus will mutilate and live on with variants with permanent changes unless we outsmart the virus. The Israelis are the best innovators and best partners in this process to combat the virus. Variants will thrive in poor countries in the way they live with lack of necessary facilities.

The detection of variants in labora-

tories before they occur will fast spread, which shows the need for sharing of knowledge and international network in combating the menace. Every country must have budgetary requirements and or diversion of other funds for this important venture which is an investment for the future. Monitoring and organising the population to be vigilant and collection of data are important. It is not possible to keep countries in isolation or lockdown too long which could be disastrous.

Way forward to be free from Covid-19

As former President Donald Trump said the miracle will reach mankind as this affects the entire world. As the Director General of WHO stated we have to be smart, kind and safe. Are we? Very unlikely. If we are clean and follow the Ayurveda advice to go through the cleaning process there is no way that the virus would spread.

If we live with nature protecting Mother Earth, she will look after her children. It is time to change for the good or face the danger. Mankind went through many similar disasters of larger magnitude and escaped but the time factor is the issue despite the advancement of technology and science. We should expect the worst and start adapting to modern technology with new platforms and devices, as well as be innovative, for success.

We must have a global program and approach and not a national approach as it is a worldwide pandemic spreading fast so that the world has to act as one. There could be climatic changes and mass destruction of deforestation and release of mass scale garbage to the environment which will have an adverse effect of Covid-19 spread. World leaders must get together and exert a collective approach to face the menace with the scientists and the NGOs headed by the United Nations. This is a matter that cannot be resolved in isolation and therefore sharing of knowledge, experience and data is essential.

The IMF may think of keeping developments aside for a while and start helping members of the world family to get over the most difficult threat. Small is powerful and we will be victorious if we follow the adage that "you are your own saviour and no one else". (The Buddha) Therefore, follow the simple rules to the last word and be safe, smart and kind. May everybody be healthy and happy. Sarth7@hotmail.co.uk

The writer is a President's Counsel, former Ambassador to UAE and Israel and President, Ambassadors' Forum

St. Stephen's Church, Marawila stands tall

By
Gwen Herat



His resurrection in stained glass above the altar confirms his presence every minute of the day to eternity. The feel of his presence is experienced by his disciples who are willing to spend time spiritually, whether day or night. Jesus is there as He prayed. He lives in every heart.

Consecrated in 1870 and handed over to the Diocese of Colombo by then Bishop Cloughton, and known as St. Stephen's Church of the Chilaw District long before being demarcated to Marawila by the then government of Ceylon, this quaint church with its imposing dome atop is one of the oldest churches in the country.

This beautiful little abode of Jesus, stands tall and strong in spirituality. Not a church of resplendent glory but a calm recall of Lord Jesus. It has much to do with the great vision, for the church remains as a glow over Marawila and may help us find hints of the world that speaks of hope through heaven and great things to be achieved.

Thus, the Church of St. Stephen's came into existence, the construction of which was a challenge at that time. People then had not built large buildings in less privileged Asian countries such as Ceylon, or around the world. They built the church on the basis of the idea as a church for God in heaven.

Originally, the syntheses probably had to be by a third element, but when put together, it made sense.

The symbol of Christ's resurrection and victory, surviving and emphasising the Gospel when read from the pulpit and heard, the glory of God becomes more tangible.

Nestled among the lush greenery, ascending towards the eastern sky at dawn, is this magnificent but small abode of God.

St. Stephen's Church stands upright even though for a small Anglican community in Chilaw.

Down the years, the church has



nurtured among its simple community, an Archdeacon from the clergy; intellectuals and professionals; the first Sri Lankan (Ceylon) Envoy to the United Nations, a Foreign Minister, doctors, lawyers, those from the Corporate sector; a postgraduate from Oxford University, authors as well as housemaids to sustain their loved ones.

Together, they have lived and worshipped like one family which is the strength of the church upon the resonate voice of God on man.

Jesus Christ, the Shepherd

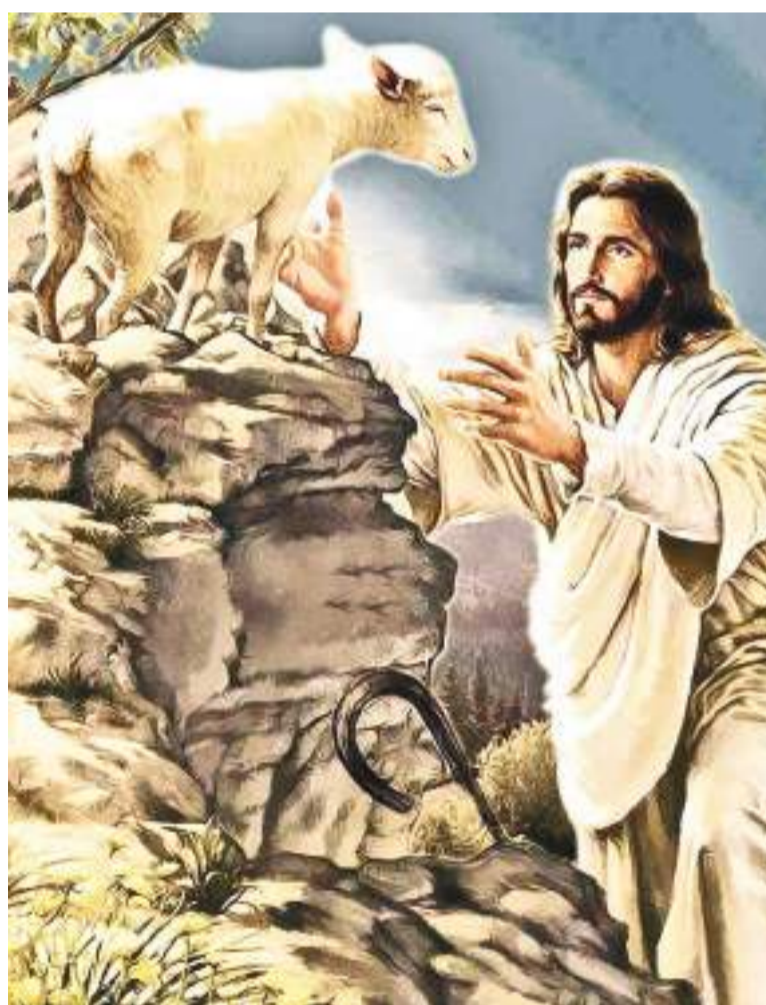
As one enters the church, it is the figure of Jesus that comes in contact at eye-level on stained glass done in myriads of colour, meticulously put together as homage to the gentle Shepherd who carries the staff in his left hand. It is great art work considering the time it was created over a century ago and still sits well. Here, Jesus gives the impression of the Risen Lord. Either way, Jesus protects us all, his chosen flock.

The font

Primary and original, the fountain-head for baptismal, the font is as old as the church itself. Erected in fine timber with the baptismal well inlaid deep in transparent crystal of a green hue with no cracks or damage whatsoever, holds the holy water for Christian babies as their lives are dedicated to God by their parents. It is a spiritual journey as the years move on and as they grow up in the spirit of God.

The cemetery

In the graveyard the spirits of the deceased rest in peace under the



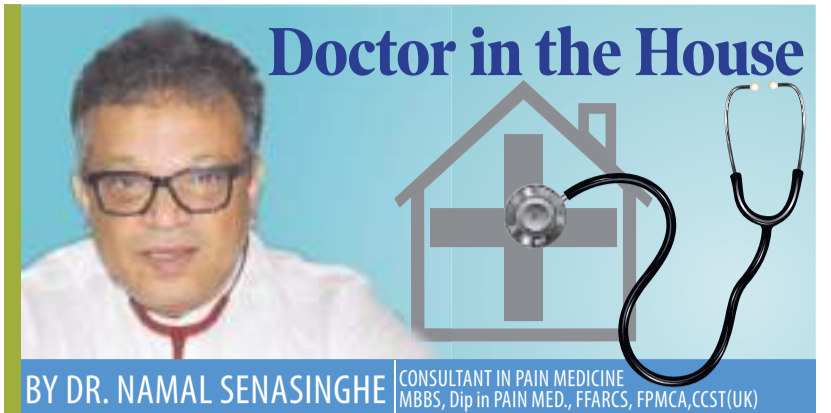
watchful eyes of angels built in marble that guard the graves. Some of them hold generations in their family vaults. A few of the marble statues are classic with clear-cut features and worth a colossal sum as they are priceless today.

No one dare steal them because they are protected by the unseen hand as Jesus abides over them.

The vicar of St. Stephen's Church is Rev. Fr. Harold Paul.



AS ONE ENTERS THE CHURCH, IT IS THE FIGURE OF JESUS THAT COMES IN CONTACT AT EYE-LEVEL ON STAINED GLASS DONE IN MYRIADS OF COLOUR, METICULOUSLY PUT TOGETHER AS HOMAGE TO THE GENTLE SHEPHERD WHO CARRIES THE STAFF IN HIS LEFT HAND. IT IS GREAT ART WORK CONSIDERING THE TIME IT WAS CREATED OVER A CENTURY AGO AND STILL SITS WELL. HERE, JESUS GIVES THE IMPRESSION OF THE RISEN LORD. EITHER WAY, JESUS PROTECTS US ALL, HIS CHOSEN FLOCK



BY DR. NAMAL SENASINGHE CONSULTANT IN PAIN MEDICINE
MBBS, Dip in PAIN MED., FFARCS, FPMCA, CCST(UK)

Neuralgia as a pain condition

Neuralgias occur due to altered sensations in the nerves.

It may be due to

- Ageing
- Damage to nerves
- Diabetes
- Multiple sclerosis
- Infections such as Shingles
- Cancer

There are three main types of neuralgia
Post Herpetic Neuralgia (PHN)
Trigeminal Neuralgia
Glossopharyngeal Neuralgia

POST HERPETIC NEURALGIA

HERPES ZOSTER INFECTION



This is caused by the virus which causes chicken pox (Varicella Zoster). Following a chicken pox infection the virus can stay dormant (inactive) in a ganglion of a nerve in the human body. These viruses can get activated at times i.e. in old age, immune deficiency situations and during infections after a long time. The virus starts multiplying and spreads along a nerve. As a result the infection is limited to a distribution of a nerve and you don't get blisters all over the body but along a nerve root. Infection is called Herpes Zoster and the pain arising from that is called post herpetic neuralgia. The commonest areas of infection are the trunk and the face. Following the infection extreme pain along the nerve can be a feature. Not all will develop pain, but those who develop pain can be very unfortunate as it could last forever in some cases. I have developed herpes zoster in my 20s but was lucky enough not to develop post herpetic neuralgia.

TRIGEMINAL NEURALGIA

This is due to an increased sensitivity in one of the branches of the Trigeminal nerve. Trigeminal nerve is the 5th cranial nerve arising from the brain supplying the face. There are three branches of the nerve.

Ophthalmic, Maxillary and Mandibular. The pain can be excruciating. It can be suicidal.

Pain is increased with exposure to the cold and the wind. Treatment is challenging. Commonly the pain is caused by pressure exerted on the nerve from a blood vessel.

GLOSSOPHARYNGEAL NEURALGIA

This is uncommon. Symptoms are pain in the throat and neck.



Trigeminal nerves distribution. Yellow is the area supplied by the Ophthalmic branch, Pink is the area supplied by the Maxillary branch and blue is the area supplied by the Mandibular branch. All branches arise from the Trigeminal nerve.

DIAGNOSIS

By history and examination.
Treatment of Neuralgia
Better control of blood sugar in diabetics
Physical therapy
Nerve blocks such as Intercostal nerve blocks in PHN and Trigeminal ganglion block in Trigeminal neuralgia.
Surgery as in Trigeminal neuralgia
Medications
A variety of medications are available including topical applications for PHN such as Lidocaine patches and Capsaicin ointment.
Antidepressants - Amitriptyline, Nortriptyline, Dothiepin
Antiepileptics Pregabalin, Carbamazepine, Gabapentin
Simple and Strong analgesics

There is no cure for neuralgia. Medications and interventions can help the pain. It can settle down with time.

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Country boy Upul Tharanga calls it a day

BY DHAMMIKA RATNAWEERA

Upul Tharanga announced his retirement from international cricket after a near 15-year career at the highest level saying he had no regrets for moving out.

"I believe it is time for me to



Upul Tharanga: Time to move on

bid farewell to my international career after over 15 years of giving the game my all," the 36 year old left hander said in a statement on Twitter.

He further stated: "I leave behind a road travelled with fond memories and great friendships. I am thankful to Sri Lanka Cricket for always having faith and the trust vested in me. I am grateful to the many cricket loving fans, friends and my family for standing by me during my highest of highs and even at my lowest points in my career."

A product of Dharmasoka College Ambalangoda, Tharanga showed his abilities from a young age and played in the Premier league for Singha SC at the age of 15.

He however signalled his arrival during the Under 19 world Cup in 2004 when he cracked 117 against South Africa and then 61 in 42 balls against India.

He played for NCC and captained the side while his big break came in 2005 when he was selected to the Sri Lanka ODI squad, a year after the Asian tsunami took a heavy toll on his family home in Ambalangoda.

He made a superb hundred against England at Lord's on a tour in 2006 as Sri Lanka won the ODI series 5-0.

In that same series he put on a record opening stand of 286 in 32 overs with Sanath Jayasuriya. Some of Tharanga's other feats were 133 against Zimbabwe and 102 against England in the quarter finals of the 2011 World Cup.

Tharanga also played 31 Tests scoring 1754 runs but his best performances were in ODIs as he aggregated 6951 runs from 235 matches with 15 centuries and a career-best 174 against India.

Over 550 Sri Lankans die as Qatar prepares for World Cup

More than 6,500 migrant workers have died in Qatar amid the nation's preparation to host the 2022 World Cup, The Guardian reports.

The report cites government data from the home nations of migrant workers, including India, Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka. The data have been compiled since Qatar was awarded the World Cup in 2010, working out to an average of 12 deaths per week, according to the report.

FIFA awarded the World Cup to Qatar despite widespread concerns over human rights violations and treatment of migrant workers. Amnesty International has since documented conditions of workers being "exploited" and "subjected to forced labor."

"They can't change jobs, they can't leave the country, and they often wait months to get paid," a report from the human rights organization states.

According to The Guardian, 2,711 workers from India, 1,641 from Nepal, 1,018 from Bangladesh, 824 from Pakistan and 557 from Sri Lanka have died working in Qatar since 2010. The Guardian estimates that the actual death toll of migrant workers is "considerably higher" since the data it cites is limited to the listed countries.

The nation with a population of less than 3 million is depending on 2 million migrant workers to man its labor force. The Philippines and Kenya are among other nations to send migrant workers to Qatar, according to the report.

The listed causes of death include electrocution, blunt injuries



Workers at a construction site of a World Cup venue in Qatar

due to a fall from height and suicide. Most of the deaths are listed as "natural" while citing heart or respiratory failure, according to the report.

Daytime temperatures in Qatar can approach 120 degrees during the summer.

Normally played in the summer, Qatar's World Cup will be held in November and December because of the oppressive heat.

Nick McGeehan of labor rights

organization FairSquare Projects told The Guardian that World Cup construction accounts for much of the death toll.

"A very significant proportion of the migrant workers who have died since 2011 were only in the country because Qatar won the right to host the World Cup," he said.

Qatar has built or is building seven new stadiums in addition to significant infrastructure upgrades,

including roadways, hotels and an airport in preparation to host the World Cup. The opening and closing matches will be held at Lusail Iconic Stadium in Lusail, a city being built from the ground up ahead of the World Cup.

Qatar's government didn't dispute The Guardian's findings and characterized the death toll as "expected" in a statement to publication. (yahoo sports)

Beach volleyball players protest against body-covering attire

Germany's beach volleyball stars Karla Borger and Julia Sude have said they will boycott a tournament in Qatar next month because it was "the only country" where players were forbidden from wearing bikinis on court.

"We are there to do our job, but we are being prevented from wearing our work clothes," Borger told radio station Deutschlandfunk on Sunday.

"This is really the only coun-

try and the only tournament where a government tells us how to do our job -- we are criticising that."

The Qatar volleyball association reacted to the news by explaining they were "committed to ensuring that all athletes are made to feel welcome and comfortable at next month's event."

They said all athletes were free to compete in their international uniforms.

"We would like to make clear that we are not making any demand on what athletes should wear at the event," a statement insisted.

Qatar is hosting the upcoming FIVB World Tour event but strict rules about on-court clothing have led to world championships silver medalist Borger and her doubles partner Sude shunning the event.

The tournament in March is

the first time that Doha has hosted a women's World Tour event, though the city has been a regular fixture on the men's tour for seven years.

Yet female players have been asked to wear shirts and long trousers rather than the usual bikinis, a rule which the world beach volleyball federation FIVB claims is "out of respect for the culture and traditions of the host country".(AFP)



Karla Borger competing for Germany in the 2016 Olympics in Rio

Ex-England rugby star arrested for 'drug driving'

Former England rugby star Sam Burgess was arrested for traffic offences and possible drug use in Australia on Monday in his latest run-in with authorities, local media reported.

Burgess, 32, was reportedly pulled over by police while driving down a highway about 100 kilometres (60 miles) southwest of Sydney and given a roadside drug test, which he allegedly failed.

Police would only say they stopped a 32-year-old man in the area and took him to a local police station where he was given a second drug test and then arrested for driving without a license in an unregistered car.

Results of the second drug test are pending, they said in a statement.

Police would not confirm the identity of the man, citing privacy rules, but an official noted they would not normally put out a press release con-



Sam Burgess

cerning a traffic violation if it did not concern a "person of interest".

The man was released and ordered to appear in court on May 4, police said.

Burgess, a former dual rugby international, is currently on a two-year good behaviour bond after being convicted early this month of intimidating the father of his ex-wife during a confrontation in October 2019.

India showcases latest spin sensation

India unveiled the latest spin hero from its production line when Axar Patel claimed 11 wickets in the lightning fast two-day Test win over England.

The 27-year-old started off his cricket life as a fast bowler and only got his place in this crucial series because of an injury to star spinner Ravindra Jadeja.

Captain Virat Kohli said England may have been "relieved" when Jadeja was injured.

"But then this guy comes in. Bowls it quicker and from a bigger height as well. It is a tribute to his hard work, his accuracy," said Kohli. "It is impossible to sweep him, impossible to defend him all day. If the wicket gives him anything he is just a lethal bowler."

While England's batsmen may have been poor, Patel played the central role in bowling them out for 112 and 81 in the day-night third Test in Ahmedabad.

The batsmen expected the ball to turn on the devilish track, but it kept

going straight -- 28 of the wickets to fall went to spinners and 21 were straight balls. Patel even put Ravichandran Ashwin in the shade, even though the senior spinner's seven wickets took him past 400 in Tests.

"My strength is always about bowling wicket-to-wicket," Patel said after being named man of the match.

"It's about playing on the mindset of the batsmen. Strangle them for runs and then get them make the mistakes. Bowling more and more dot balls is my strength."



Axar Patel talks with Virat Kohli

Tiger Woods lucky to be alive

LOMITA, Calif. — Shortly after 7 a.m. on Tuesday morning, a Los Angeles County sheriff's deputy arrived at the scene of a one-car rollover crash on a notoriously treacherous stretch of road near Rancho Palos Verdes.

Deputy Carlos Gonzalez approached the overturned SUV and found the driver "lucid and calm" despite being trapped inside the mangled vehicle.

"What's your name?" Gonzalez asked.

"Tiger," the man responded.

Tiger Woods is "very fortunate to come out of this alive," Gonzalez said Tuesday afternoon at a news conference outside the sheriff's office in Lomita. Los Angeles County Fire Department personnel had to use tools to extricate Woods from the vehicle through the windshield.

Woods was transported to Harbor-UCLA Medical Center with injuries to both legs that were described as serious but "non-life-threatening."

By late Tuesday night, his team said in a statement that he was "awake, responsive and recovering at the

hospital" after undergoing a "long surgical procedure on his lower right leg and ankle."

As part of the official statement on Woods' Twitter account, Dr. Anish Mahajan, the hospital's interim CEO, said that the golfer suffered "comminuted open fractures" affecting both the tibia and fibula bones in his right leg. That suggests the bones were broken into more than two pieces and had broken through the skin.

Mahajan said Woods had a rod placed in his tibia and screws and

pins inserted into his foot and ankle during surgery to stabilize them. Damage to the muscle and soft-tissue of the leg also required "a surgical release of the covering of the muscles to relieve pressure due to swelling."

LA County Sheriff Alex Villanueva indicated there was "no evidence of impairment" when observing Woods at the scene. Officers saw no signs that Woods was under the influence of narcotics or pain medicine, according to Villanueva, nor did they smell alcohol on his breath. (Yahoo sports)



Tiger Woods

BUSINESS

business.suo@lakehouse.lk

FEBRUARY 28, 2021



PAGE 26 DEALING WITH LIARS IN THE WORKPLACE

PAGE 27 THE CHANGE CHALLENGE


PAGE 29 TEACHING AND TRAINING SALES STAFF

PAGE 29 DECIDING WHAT SHARES TO BUY

SLS 1531 : 2016

"GUIDELINES FOR HAIR AND BEAUTY INDUSTRY"

The guidelines in this Standard are applicable to hair and beauty care entities performing activities/ treatments related to beautification and management of its system to ensure health and safety of the customers in these pandemic times.



Sri Lanka Standards Institution
011-2694981
dmp@slsi.lk www.slsi.lk

BIZ SNIPPETS

Sethsiripaya Stage III: Construction work commences

Sethsiripaya Stage III, the third phase of the Government's administration hub in Battaramulla, is a 25-storey modern office building with a floor area of over 1.3 million square feet — making it the largest public sector building and the largest office complex in the country.

The new complex will bring ministries, public corporations, departments, and government offices that were scattered around the city to a centralised location, which will reduce traffic congestion, streamline access to services for the public, and provide much-needed office space for government and semi-government institutions.



SLT among '10 Most Admired Companies'

Sri Lanka Telecom PLC (SLT) has been recognised 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 organisations 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), Group CEO of SLT.



SDB bank opts for paperless processes

SDB bank has introduced paperless processes. This follows the bank's implementation of a lean, e-signature system for customer loan agreements last year.

SDB bank's paperless customer onboarding effort will replace its current customer onboarding process which is fully paper-based.

The use of digital technology in this key process across the bank's 94 branches island-wide promises a host of benefits to their personal customer base, proudly covering people belonging to all walks of life with small-scale entrepreneurial and personal finance needs.



SWAP DEAL WITH CHINA TO BE FINALISED SOON - CABRAAL

Debt repayment will be through non-debt foreign inflows

Sri Lanka plans to repay International Sovereign Bonds (ISB) amounting to around USD 14 billion or 17 percent of the debt repayment through non-debt foreign inflows such as exports and not through access to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for funding, State Minister of Finance Ajith Nivard Cabraal told the media during a briefing on the current status of debt repayment.

Allaying fears and countering claims that the country is in a major debt crisis, Cabraal said the country has already repaid USD 1 billion of the USD 15 ISBs and is in a comfortable position to repay the remaining debts without having recourse to foreign borrowings. "Sri Lanka has never

defaulted even one cent for the past 70 years and would never in the future," Cabraal said, adding that recourse to borrowing will only aggravate the country's debt burden and would plunge the country further into the economic abyss.

He said as of now the total ISBs outstanding is USD 14 billion, which is only 16.7 percent of Sri Lanka's total debt. None of the other creditors who hold 83.3 percent of Sri Lanka's debt seem to show any sign of concern or stress about its repayment ability.

He said a task force has been set up by Basil Rajapaksa to help boost foreign inflows with the help of the Central Bank. "Non-debt inflows will help restore economic stability. Cur-



tailing imports on non-essential goods helped the country in the repayment of debts," the Minister said, adding that there would be foreign inflows of around USD 32 billion this year and about USD 2-3 billion more each year thereafter.

"We are working on the USD 1.5 billion swap arrangement with China and hopefully complete it within a couple of weeks," Cabraal said.

"We have to re-pay only around USD 1.0 to 1.5 billion each year until 2029 in its ISB amortisations for the next eight years," Cabraal said.

However, rating agencies downgraded the country's sovereign ratings reflecting the low debt repayment ability.

The Opposition has been harping on the need for the country to seek IMF assistance to get over the foreign reserves shortage adding that in this background, will the authorities default on a payment of around USD 1.0 to 1.5 billion per annum and risk its entire economy and impeccable credit history. Central Bank Governor Prof. W.D. Lakshman said Sri Lanka will be a debt-free... **TO PAGE 28**

Weak currency, rise in oil prices to burden economy - Analysts

The economy could face severe pressure as global commodity prices including oil are again on an upward trajectory following the gradual recovery of economic activities across the globe.

Oil prices jumped by over \$1 early last week reaching the mid USD 60 levels per barrel. Crude oil in the OPEC Basket touched USD 62 while Brent moved up to USD 66.

According to global reports this was due to slow US output after a deep freeze in Texas shut crude production last week.

The weak currency will increase the oil import bills as the Rupee continues to hover in the mid 190 levels.

Brent crude was up \$1.06, or 1.6%, at \$65.30 a barrel by 0204 GMT, after earlier hitting a high of \$66.38. US crude rose 81 cents, or 1.4%, to \$62.51 a barrel, after... **TO PAGE 28**



Sugar production has been revived enabling the country to stem the drain of foreign exchange spent on imports each year. The increased extent of cultivation and new technology has helped boost production. Here farmers harvest sugarcane in a plantation belonging to Lanka Sugar Company. Insert: The Sevanagala sugar factory.



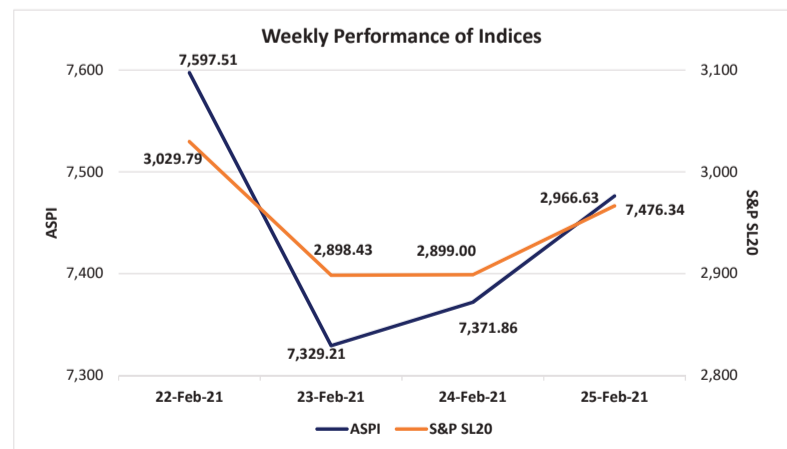
Lanka Sugar Company posts Rs 1,200 m net profit in 2020

Sets up crop and farmer insurance schemes

Lanka Sugar Company which operates the Pelwatte and Sevanagala sugar factories recorded Rs.1,200 million net profit last year from a net loss of

Rs.1,310 million in the previous year which is the highest profit earned by the company for the last 35 years, Lanka Sugar Company Chairman Janaka Nimalachandra told the *Sunday Observer Business*.

He said the growth in earnings was a major achievement for the company which had been loss-making in the past. "It was the visionary leadership of the new management, commitment of the staff and the team spirit that led... **TO PAGE 28**



No issue whatsoever in repaying debt

Forex inflows to be around \$ 32 b this year - Cabraal

The economy will generate Forex Inflows of around USD 32 billion this year and possibly about USD 2-3 billion more than that amount, each year thereafter, said State Minister of Finance Ajith Nivard Cabraal.

He said as of now (February 2021), the total ISBs outstanding is USD 14 billion, which is only 16.7 percent of Sri Lanka's total debt. None of the other creditors who hold 83.3 percent of Sri Lanka's debt seem to show any sign of concern or stress



about its repayment ability. "We have to re-pay only around USD 1.0 to 1.5 billion each year until 2029 in its ISB amortisations for the next eight

years," Cabraal said, adding that in this background, will the authorities default on a payment of around USD 1.0 to 1.5 billion per annum and risk its entire economy and impeccable credit history.

Meanwhile Central Bank Governor Prof. W.D. Lakshman at a media briefing last week said the country has maintained an unblemished record in debt repayment and it will continue to maintain this status contrary to the... **TO PAGE 28**

German Supply Chain Law

Supplier respect for business and human rights, key for sourcing

Sri Lankan exporters could face a tough path ahead as Germany plans to introduce a new law where importers will be under obligation to continuously verify that their suppliers respect United Nation Guiding Principles (UNGPs) of business and human rights.

Violations would be sanctioned with penalties up to 10% of the importer's annual turnover and exclusion from public tenders up to three years. A joint inter-ministerial draft law is to be presented mid next month to the German parliament. The Supply Chain Law will make

Germany companies legally responsible for human rights and environmental issues throughout their global supply chains. The move was immediately welcomed by the European Centre for Constitutional and Human Rights which said the proposed new law was urgently... **TO PAGE 28**

EXCHANGE RATES					
Feb 22 - Feb 26	US Dollar \$	Euro €	Japanese yen ¥	Pound sterling £	Chinese Yuan ¥
Monday	197.53	239.82	1.8750	277.36	30.783
Tuesday	195.93	238.78	1.8678	276.03	30.556
Wednesday	196.40	239.03	1.8628	278.36	30.598
Thursday	196.62	239.63	1.8579	272.41	30.689
Friday	-	-	-	-	-

Business

Dealing with liars in the workplace



BIZ TALK with Kishu Gomes

With the cut throat competition compounded by Covid-19 and the economic downturn and its consequences, survival has become even harder forcing people to resort to unsustainable - unethical acts.

People lie when they don't have solutions. Your leaders and employees lie too, and it's costing businesses an enormous amount of money. Most of your stakeholders lie too as a natural tendency and a survival tactic.

What can you do to protect your business by putting in place measures to ensure that employees do not have to lie and if and when they lie they are exposed? Lets focus on employees this time.

Employees lie for many reasons; to cover up for their poor performance or lapses, to mask behavioural misalignment, to overcome internal competition and for petty advantages such as winning the boss over.

There's a pretty good probability that you have someone on your staff who will try to use lying and deception to demonstrate that his or her performance is superlative.

These people are often masters at manipulation, as most likely they may

have been honing their skills since childhood. You need to make sure you are looking at actual performance and not what is coming out of someone's mouth in terms of claims. Sometimes bad things happen in business.

Mistakes happen. They've happened in all businesses in the past and will happen in all businesses in the future. What you want, though, is to know when mistakes happen, so that you can fix them.

When you punish people for mistakes or for informing you about these mistakes, their inclination is to lie about things and hide them from you. Sometimes this works out and they are able to fix whatever happened on their own, but sometimes the problem gets worse.

Little white lies keep things calm and pleasant, but do too many of them and people stop believing you. When they stop believing you, they'll stop seeing the reason to be honest with you. You'll lose their trust and your own ability to sort out the truth.

Body language

It's useful to have some knowledge on how to spot a liar; however, the old adage that a little knowledge can be a dangerous thing is certainly applicable here. While it's fun and useful to know the warning signs, it's also important to realize that it's easy to make mistakes.

The science of 'lie spotting' is a good weapon for trained law enforcement personnel and psychologists, but it can be a dangerous tool in the hands of amateurs. Lie spotting comes with experience, instinct and power of observation.

Watching and understanding the inherent behaviour of each individual in different situations for a reasonable period of time will help acquire



and build this skill to be accurate at most times. Developing the ability to read and interpret the body language of people is a talent most good leaders need.

As a leader you need to be fair and a good listener and provide space for flexibility and have more patience. Not doing so will attract its own negative repercussions.

Create a culture of honesty

Fairness in the workplace is the

top prerequisite for creating a good place to work. In addition you need honesty, respect, fair wages, appreciation, recognition for work well done, clear job descriptions and lack of favoritism, to name a few.

In short, if you create a culture of caring, your employees are more likely to respond truthfully, and in kind. While managers and business owners sometimes need to push people to give their best for the success of the

business, research shows that people resort to lying when they're stretched beyond the limit.

Setting unrealistic goals and impossibly high standards, continuously demanding faster and better results, setting constant deadlines and expecting unreasonable work hours can overwhelm people and force them to lie about their work in order to avoid problems and protect their jobs.

You need to make sure you are looking at actual performance and not what is coming out of someone's mouth in terms of claims. Sometimes bad things happen in business

If this is your style of leadership, know the perils that come with it. But the commitment to the job and loyalty to the organization are the least expectations from a performer and there is no excuse for non-delivery of performance at the agreed level. Some employees lie as a habit and we all have experience with such individuals.

Remember that, as a leader, you are always in a glass house. People get their cues from you. Guard against espousing values that you don't honour, every day, in every action. For example, don't say, "Customers come first," then treat customers poorly when you're having a bad day. Everything counts when you are a leader.

Honesty is often not given the credit it deserves among employees. An honest employee's credibility and integrity speaks for itself, allowing that person increased opportunities, and greater flexibility within the business, since the honest employee has proven his or herself.

Even if it seems as though lying will make life easier - especially in a situation where punishment could be a risk, or where a customer is upset - it will more frequently only make things more complicated. If you an employee remove lying from your system completely from your list of dependencies and be determined to depend on your ability to deliver if you are serious about accelerated career progress.

DFCC Bank among top 20 employers of CIMA members

DFCC Bank partnered for the third consecutive year with CIMA Sri Lanka as a Gold corporate partner this year too.

The Bank was also recognised again as one of the top 20 employers of CIMA members in Sri Lanka, ranking fourth. In keeping with the new normal, the award ceremony was held through a virtual platform this year, uniting CIMA Sri Lanka members despite the Covid-19 pandemic. CEO DFCC Bank Lakshman Silva said, "DFCC Bank is proud to have been once again recognized as a Top Employer for CIMA qualification holders.

DFCC Bank has had a long and fruitful association with CIMA Sri Lanka and we believe the qualification is critically aligned to the real and emerging needs of the marketplace. These awards are a testament of our commitment towards offering the best services to our valued customers. We look forward to strengthening our bonds with CIMA Sri Lanka and will continue to recognise and recruit



From left: Senior Vice President Human Resources, DFCC Bank, Sonali Jayasinghe, Director and CEO, DFCC Bank, Lakshman Silva and Vice President Marketing and Sustainability DFCC Bank Nilmini Gunaratne, with the memento.

CIMA qualified candidates to our talent pool." The Bank provides CIMA-qualified staff with the opportunity to obtain full or partial reimbursement of their annual membership fee. In addition, staff following CIMA and other professional educational courses,

degree programmes, MBAs and so on, have the option of obtaining full or partial financial assistance from DFCC Bank.

A memento was presented to Director and CEO DFCC Bank, Lakshman Silva by CIMA representatives.

SLT-Mobitel launches SD-WAN services for enterprise customers

SLT-Mobitel, a leader in MPLS services for enterprise and government customers, in collaboration with Cisco and Millennium I.T. E.S.P. (Pvt) Ltd (MillenniumIT ESP), has launched its new managed SD-WAN services to accelerate digitisation of enterprise and government customers in Sri Lanka.

Sri Lanka Telecom (SLT) will offer Cisco SD-WAN's full functionality including intelligent dynamic routing, optimised cloud connectivity, and visibility into applications and performance to its enterprise customers in Sri Lanka.

This collaboration brings together Cisco's intent-based networking solutions, SLT's connectivity solutions and MillenniumIT ESP's systems integration capabilities to quickly develop and deploy multiple managed services efficiently and cost-effectively across Sri Lanka. SLT will handle the deployment and operation of enterprise WAN Service combined with its underlay connectivity options with MPLS and Internet connectivity, enabling them to offer its enterprise customers a host of differentiated services in a seamless, reliable and secure manner.

As Sri Lankan businesses embrace digital transformation, many are looking at managed service providers to simplify running their IT operations, specifically around provisioning, managing and troubleshooting services. Recognizing the need and the general transition of applications to the cloud, SLT collaborated with Cisco and MillenniumIT ESP to offer SD-WAN. With this innovative leap forward, company's business customers can have their managed services turned up quickly, managed securely



from both captive and the cloud, and modified easily using software-defined networking technology. Focusing on the concept of "grow more, pay less", SD-WAN offers the simplicity of management, better visibility, enhanced application experience, optimized cloud connectivity, and a more secure WAN for accessing multiple cloud applications. SD-WAN natively integrates Cisco's security stack to provide threat protection that is consistently maintained across branch offices and multiple clouds without compromising performance. In addition, it also provides many last mile options and island wide Outside Plant Maintenance Centers (OPMC) and Service Level Agreement (SLA) to ensure maximum customer priorities.

CEO, SLT, Kiththi Perera said, "We chose Cisco due to their excellence and leadership in the routing arena for more than 30 years. SD-WAN capable routers include Cisco IOS SD XE that run on the ISR series routers. Cisco's networking solutions, along with SLT's connectivity options, makes SD-WAN the most comprehensive solution. "With the true separation of the SD-

WAN Layers of Control, Management, Orchestration, and Transport, Cisco and SLT will deliver the best user experience, securely across any cloud, as a fully managed service. SLT also plans to expand the SD WAN to global customers in near future," he said. Director and CEO, MillenniumIT ESP, Shevan Goonetilleke said, "MillenniumIT ESP is proud to partner SLT to provide customers with simple and cost effective Cisco SD-WAN capabilities that would enable enterprises to realise their digital vision faster. This is a significant milestone for SLT which will enable the company to provide competitive and bleeding-edge communication solutions to its customers." Managing Director, Commercial Sales, Cisco India and SAARC, Sudhir Nayar said, "As Sri Lankan businesses move their workloads to multiple clouds, they require fast, highly secure access to applications hosted anywhere. Together, we can help Sri Lanka Telecom offer new managed SD-WAN services to Sri Lankan businesses. It can continue to expand high-quality network services for the Sri Lankan market."

Multilac Care and SLINTEC unveil antibacterial spray to fight Coronavirus

Multilac Care and the Sri Lanka Institute of Nanotechnology (SLINTEC) launched an antiviral and antibacterial spray recently.

Surfaces sprayed with Novid antiviral and antibacterial spray have been tested to reveal that the coating can kill 99% of harmful microbes including the Coronavirus. It has been tested and certified by the Virology Research Services Labs in London, UK, a company spokesman said.

Director and CEO of Multilac Care, Mizha Mizver Ismail said, "We have been working with SLINTEC to develop an effective solution in proactively fighting the Coronavirus. Novid antiviral and antibacterial spray is the out-

come of our collaboration and it has proved to be highly effective against the Coronavirus with the anti-viral technology used in its manufacturing process." SLINTEC Chief of Research and Innovation, Dr. Azeez Mubarak said, "Innovation has always been a key factor in economic growth of successful nations. But to translate research results to economic returns, active collaboration between R&D institutes and industry is a must. And Novid, the result of a fruitful partnership between SLINTEC and Multilac care is a prime example in this regard."

To get the maximum benefit from the spray and for easy application, users need to ensure that the surface is



COO of SLINTEC, Heminda Jayaweera (on left) with Director and CEO of Multilac Care, Mizha Mizver Ismail.

clean and dry, and shake well before spraying. Users are also advised to follow health guidelines as the Novid spray alone will not assure 100% protection from Covid-19.

DIMO wins four awards

Great Place to Work awards ceremony

DIMO was recognised as one of the Great Places To Work (GPTW) in Sri Lanka, for the eighth consecutive year at the GPTW awards ceremony held at the Hilton Colombo recently.

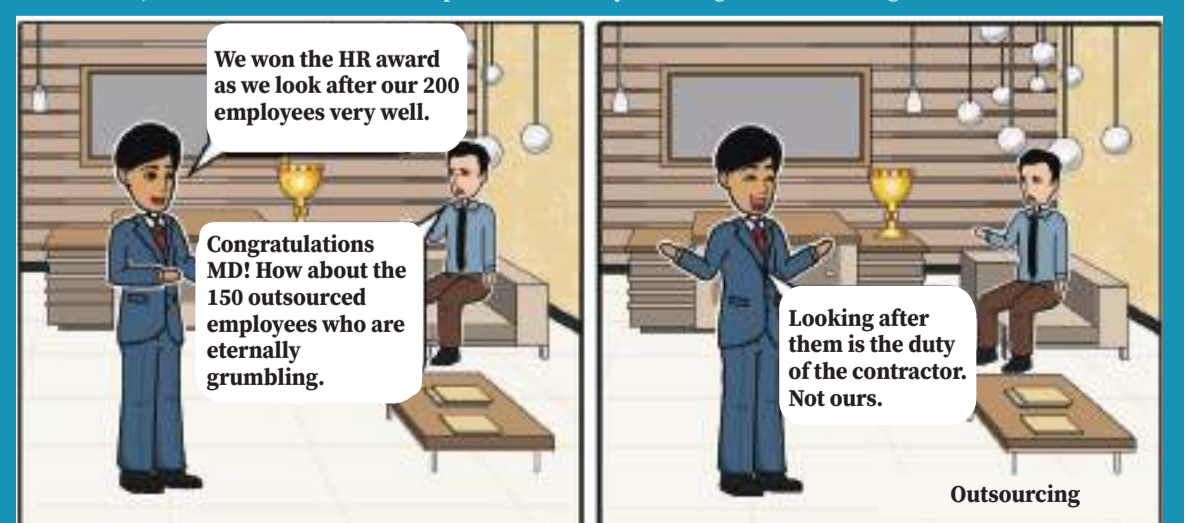
Similar to previous years, DIMO won four awards including the "Best Workplaces in Sri Lanka 2020" and "Excellence in People Initiatives - Inspiring" awards, together with Gold Awards for "Best PLC to work for in Sri Lanka 2020" and "Best Workplace in Extra Large Enterprise

Category in Sri Lanka 2020". Chairman and Managing Director of DIMO, Ranjith Pandithage said, "While igniting and driving a high-performing workplace culture, The leadership team and I have had bright eyes towards addressing every aspect of our people's lives. "We have always fuelled our people to give their best, and we have also ensured that the organisation gives back the best for them through exponential growth and exposure, both personally and professionally.

We have practiced this in order to stay true to our EVP: Making Work Enjoyable & Rewarding and to truly differentiate DIMO's Employer Brand. "Therefore, to be continuously recognised for eight years in a row for our conscious efforts is certainly an affirmation to the success of the DIMO Tribe and the guidance we have given them over the years. With every crown we keep collecting year on year, DIMO's way of life just keeps getting better and remains a cut above the rest," he said.

Everyone knows HR

Outsourcing converts organisational fixed cost to a variable cost which helps overcome income fluctuations. However, outsourced staff in the same premises feel they are being discriminated against.



By Janaka Kumarasinghe

Business

MAS 'Ocean strainer' technology to be open source

"Success of Dehiwela floating trash trap inspires call for collaboration"



Since its installation in August 2020, the pilot 'Ocean Strainer' trash trap has prevented over 30,000 kg of waste from reaching the ocean through the Dehiwela canal mouth.

Inspired by the success of its 'Ocean Strainer' floating trash trap, a pilot project launched in the Dehiwela Canal last year, MAS Holdings will make the 'Ocean Strainer' technology available to interested parties, to replicate and scale up the solution.

The pilot project initiated by MAS included installing the 'Ocean Strainer' trash trap in the Dehiwela canal in August 2020. This initial trash trap was designed by MAS engineers, incorporating technical advice from the Marine Environment Protection Authority (MEPA) on customising the design to suit local marine environment conditions. The trash trap acts as a floating barrier, trapping plastic waste before it can reach the ocean.

Chief Executive Officer of MAS Kreedha and MAS Apparel Board Member, Sarinda Unamboowe said, "We were really encouraged by the interest this pilot generated, and the impact that we created with just one 'Ocean Strainer' trash trap. In five months, we collected over 30,000 kilograms of waste just from the Dehiwela canal, and had many interested parties reach out to us to find out how they can get involved in this project. That's when we realised that this is not a journey that we have to undertake alone. Collaboration is the key to creating scalable, impactful change and that is why we are sharing the technology we have developed with others who are interested in replicating this model to address the marine plastic issue at its source."

Head of Sustainable Business at MAS Holdings, Sid Amalean said, "As a company, we really believe in the power of open innovation and collaboration in problem solving. We want to enable other corporates, NGOs, institutions, clubs, societies, and even individuals, to be a part of the solution to a problem that is very much caused by human behaviour. As a first phase of this journey, we have a group of companies, including Coca-Cola Beverages Sri Lanka, Heineken Lanka, Hemas Holdings, and Unilever Sri Lanka, who have expressed interest in expanding this project, and we are excited to have found like-minded parties who want to extend this project to other locations."

The pilot project initiated by MAS was carried out with the support of the Marine Environment Protection Authority (MEPA), the Western Provincial Council, the Sri Lanka Land Reclamation and Development Corporation (SLLRDC), the Dehiwela-Mount Lavinia municipality and the Environmental Police.

MAS hopes that the successful expansion of this project will inspire other parties to join the cause in order to achieve further scale and impact in reducing the amount of plastic waste reaching the ocean through rivers and canals across Sri Lanka. Those who are inter-

ested in replicating the 'Ocean Strainer' trash trap in their own locales could contact MAS Sustainable Business team on OceanStrainer@masholdings.com.

MASSIVE VEHICLES AUCTION SALE

12th of March
MIHILAKA MEDURA, BAUDDHALOKA MAWATHA, COLOMBO 07
BMICH

On View - **08th to 11th March 2021**
Between 9.00 am - 5.00 pm (Vehicles cannot be inspected on the day of Auction)

NO. 162, MAIN STREET, AMBALANTHOTA - KAVINDU 0475118080
NO. 42/5, GOTHAIUWA GAMSABHA RD, GOTHAIUWA - MAHESH 0773493535
NO. 260, GRANDPASS RD, COLOMBO 14 - HASITHA 0767951865
NO. 98/1, AVISSAWELLA RD, MAHABUTHGAMUWA, WELLAMPITTA JAYANTHA - 0773242324
NEAR THE PEOPLE'S BANK, WURIA MARATHA, MATHUGAMA - PRANODA 0775634245
NO 472 F, MALAWA, KURUVITA - ISHANKA 0772752097

(Please refer the Daily News On 05th of March 2021 For the Full List Of Vehicles)

14th of March
GALWETIYAYA ROAD, SAMPATH WATTA, DAMBULLA
HOTEL GOLDEN RAY

On View - **09th to 13th March 2021**
(Including salvage Cabs)

ETHABENDIWEWA ROAD, THALAKRIPAGAMA, DAMBULLA - CHAMINDA 0965118181
NO 223, KANDY ROAD, AMPARA - SAMANTHA 063-5760880/881
NO 363, MANNAR ROAD, VEPPANNULAM, VAVUNIYA - THIMOTHY 0764582329
NO. 151 A, KEPPETIPOLA ROAD, BADULLA - LAHIRU 0554549948

(Please refer the Daily News On 08th of March 2021 For the Full List Of Vehicles)

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Head Office & Showroom: 24, Therothana Road, Kandy. Tel: 081 2227085 Fax: 081 2224371 Email: schokman@samerawickreme.lk Website: www.samerawickreme.com

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SPECIAL NOTICE TO GENERAL PUBLIC

DON'T TRAP YOURSELF IN A PYRAMID

SAVE YOUR HARD EARNED MONEY

The Central Bank has observed that there is a growing tendency of collecting money from the general public through illegal means by promoting prohibited schemes in various places of the country and through the internet.

WHAT IS A PROHIBITED SCHEME?

A prohibited scheme is defined as a scheme under which a person makes a payment to get the right to recruit others into the same scheme for which he receives an income. The new recruits also make payments to get the right to further recruit others and in return receive an income for such recruitments. As a result, a hierarchy of participants resembling a pyramid is formed over time with the introduction of new and larger levels of participants to the scheme. Therefore these schemes are also called pyramid schemes. The salient feature of a pyramid scheme is that a large majority of participants are joining at the bottom levels of the schemes and inevitably lose the money they paid.

Schemes which have above characteristics are prohibited in Sri Lanka. Transactions related to such schemes have been specified as offences punishable under the Banking Act, the Prevention of Money Laundering Act and the Foreign Exchange Act.

PUNISHMENTS

Any person who directly or indirectly initiates, offers, promotes, advertises, conducts, finances, manages or directs a prohibited scheme shall be guilty of an offence and on conviction will be liable to pay a large sum of money as a fine and/or a term of imprisonment/ rigorous imprisonment for a period of 3 to 5 years.

The Central Bank of Sri Lanka cautions you to beware of prohibited schemes and request the general public not to join these prohibited schemes.

Do not be fooled by the tempting promises made by prohibited schemes

Department of Resolution and Enforcement
Central Bank of Sri Lanka

☎ +94 11 2477262 📠 +94 11 2477748 @ dred@cbsl.lk

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இலங்கை மத்திய வங்கி
CENTRAL BANK OF SRI LANKA

Pronto stepping into a face lifted branch in Kurunegala!

The pioneers in local courier industry, Pronto Lanka (Pvt.) Ltd. ceremonially opened its modernized Kurunegala Branch at 125/1, Negombo Road, Kurunegala on 3rd of February 2021 at the auspicious time.

General Manager of Pronto Lanka, Nalin Munasinghe and the Mayor of Kurunegala Municipal Council, Thushara Sanjeeva officially declared the opening of the modernized Pronto branch at Kurunegala in the presence of distinguished invitees, including the officials from the corporate sector.

Pronto Lanka, as one of the core members of Transnational Company (Pvt) Ltd., Singapore, is the main service provider for the banking sector, leading government regulatory bodies and financial institutions in Sri Lanka.

As the largest and the most experienced domestic courier service in Sri Lanka with a legacy of more than 3 decades, they focus on serving the nation by enhancing their resources to provide services to the mass market and e-commerce sector with more advanced technology driven solutions and being the most sought-after courier in the country.

Pronto Lanka has expanded its branch



Seated L to R : Piyal Pushpakumara - Manager- Human Resource, Vajira Kulathunga - Assistant General Manager- Human Resource, Nalin Munasinghe - General Manager, Sanjeeva Warnakulasuriya - Assistant General Manager- Operations, Roshan Pieris - Manager - Operations, Roshan Perera - Manager - Business Development
Standing L to R : Kelum Liyanaarachchi - Assistant Manager- Southern Region, Gehan Perera - Assistant Manager- Western Region, Menura Wanigasuriya - Assistant Manager- North & East Region, Sisira Sebhela - Assistant Manager- Central Region, Shyaminda Herath - Branch Head- Kurunegala



network to over 52 locations island wide. Its services and operational systems are tailor made, which could cater to the varying needs of its customers around the clock (24- hrs) while speed, security, reliability and accountability are considered paramount in its services afforded to every customer.

The company aims to strengthen and widen its branch network, thereby reaching out to the

mass markets via expanded channels. The relocated, spacious branch would enable Pronto Lanka clients as well as potential clients in and around Kurunegala to have easy access to its services.

The company intends to create a value chain for prospective customers starting with the 'Pronto bundle of services'.

Commenting on the opening General

Manager of Pronto Lanka, Nalin Munasinghe stated;

"We are delighted to open our modernized Pronto branch in Kurunegala which is capable of becoming an important commercial, economic, trade and investment hub of Sri Lanka. This city has been changed drastically with the development of several major private and government institutions. The opening of

this modernized branch will facilitate our valuable customers with island wide service as well as expanded logistic service offering an unparalleled customer experience to the corporate, small and medium enterprises and individual customers. Our dedicated staff in the branch will provide our valued customers expert advises on their courier needs.

We keep improving to serve you better!"

Advertorial

Fitch rates Cargills Bank AA- (lka) with Stable outlook



Through our hard work and honest, straightforward business style, we have garnered the respect of the public and built confidence amongst all business sectors. "Our main priority is to support the primary sectors of the Sri Lankan economy, with a strong focus on the agricultural sector and SMEs. This ties into our overall goal of becoming the most inclusive bank in Sri Lanka, while leveraging the support and resources available to us through the Cargills Group

ecosystem. Achieving success and ensuring the best services possible has been exceedingly challenging in the post-COVID environment. "Thus, we are proud that with the support of our parent Cargills Group, we have received a rating of AA- (lka) with a Stable outlook from such a well-respected entity as Fitch Ratings Sri Lanka. We will continue to work to become the best and most inclusive bank in Sri Lanka," he said.

The Bank has also embraced the Central Bank's vision of a cashless society, being the first Financial Institution to issue and acquire LankaQR transactions in Sri Lanka, and facilitates technology-based payment solutions in Sri Lanka. Cargills Bank also enabled the acceptance of LankaQR payments at selected Cargills Food City outlets, making Cargills Food City the first supermarket in the country to accept LankaQR payments.

Fitch Ratings Sri Lanka has recently revised Cargills Bank's National Long-Term Rating to AA- (lka) with a Stable outlook, from A+ (lka) with a Stable outlook. The Rating revision is following the recalibration of the agency's Sri Lankan national rating scale following Fitch's downgrade of the sovereign rating on 27 November 2020. The revision of the National Rating of Cargills Bank stems from the change in rating of its parent CT Holdings due to the recalibration of the national rating scale. This revision now places Cargills Bank on the same level as Sri Lanka's leading and well-established banks. Managing Director/CEO of Cargills Bank, SenarathBandara, said, "At just six, we are a young bank. But by banking on the human spirit, we have made great strides in our short history.

Bank of Ceylon among "Top Ten Most Admired Companies"



The International Chamber of Commerce Sri Lanka (ICCSL), the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA) with the Daily FT has named the Bank of Ceylon (BOC) as one of the "Top Ten Most Admired Companies in Sri Lanka 2020". The Bank was conferred this title for the second consecutive year for its excellence in the field of Banking and Finance in Sri Lanka and for its contribution to the overall economic growth of the country.

The Bank's Chief Financial Officer Russel Fonseka received the award from the chief guest General Shavendra Silva. Chairman, Kanchana Ratwatte said, "In times of adversity such as the Covid-19 pandemic, the financial and operational strength of the Bank of Ceylon has been a significant strength to maintain an uninterrupted banking service. "We have always looked at sustainable growth," he said.

Pan Asia Bank posts Rs 2 b PAT



Chairman G. A. R. D. Prasanna

CEO Nimal Tillekeratne

Pan Asia Banking Corporation PLC reported the best-ever annual financial results during the year ended December 31, 2020 to report a Pre-Tax Profit of Rs. 2.84 billion and a Post-Tax Profit of Rs. 2.05 billion after recording impressive growth rates of 23% and 17%, demonstrating resilience amidst challenging macroeconomic conditions. The Bank's Operating Profit Before Taxes on Financial Services increased by 4%, reflecting excellence in core banking performance and the success of cost containment measures, despite the bank's fee-based income declining sharply due to reduced business volumes resulting from disruptions caused by Covid-19 pandemic and waiver of fees and charges mandated by the regulator.

(EPS) for the year rose to Rs. 4.63 in 2020 from Rs. 3.96 in 2019. The Bank's Net Asset Value per Share increased by 16% during the year to reach Rs. 34.79 as at December 31, 2020. Total impairment charges for the year increased by 40% to record Rs. 1,596 million in 2020 compared to Rs.1,136 million in 2019. The Bank's growth in both profit before income tax and profit for the period was also supported by the low financial services tax regime that prevailed throughout the year 2020. Meanwhile, the Bank continued to

compute income tax and deferred tax liabilities at the rate of 28% as the proposed new rate of 24% is yet to be legislated. The Bank's net interest margins improved from 4.36% to 4.41% during the year.

The Bank's Pre-Tax Return on Assets also improved to 1.70% in 2020 from 1.52% in 2019. Meanwhile, the Bank's Post-Tax Return on Assets also improved to 1.23% in 2020 from 1.15% in 2019. Further the Bank reported a healthy Return on Equity ratio of 14.36% during the year under review (FY 2020) which stands among the industry best. The Bank brought down its total operating expenses by Rs. 289 Mn in 2020 compared to the previous year. The Bank's total asset base stood at Rs. 176.94 billion as at December 31, 2020.

Union Assurance opens branch in Kollupitiya



Union Assurance, opened a branch at St. Michael's Road, Kollupitiya last week. The branch is equipped with modern and state-of-the-art working spaces and collaboration rooms in a vibrant atmosphere. Jude Gomes, Chief Executive Officer of Union Assurance and the senior management team were present.

S-lon and NAITA to promote plumbing as a career



At the signing of the MoU (from left): State Minister of Skills Development, Vocational Education, Research and Innovation, Dr. Seetha Arambepola, Chairman of NAITA, TharangaNalinGamiath and Group Director of Capital Maharaja Group, S.C. Weerasekera.

S-lon Lanka (Pvt) Ltd, signed an MoU with the National Apprentice and Industrial Training Authority (NAITA) recently by extending their partnership for three more years to grant professional training and qualifications for plumbers of S-lon Plumber's Club (over 7,000 active members) to progress in their career. The objectives of the club include providing education on modern techniques and technology, inspiring innovation, ensuring occupational safety and instilling a sense of pride among plumbers by awarding them with certifications such as National Trade Test (NTT) & National Vocational Qualifications (NVQ) which are recognized nationally and globally, resulting in a better and a professional service to the end-consumer. Through this initiative, so far over 2000 plumbers have received vocational qualifications.

Group Director of Capital Maharaja Group said, "With the country returning to normalcy, we hope to continue with our Plumber Club regional programs taking knowledge and expertise to every corner of Sri Lanka. NAITA has been a great partner in this mission."

Keells products provides savings for customers



Providing customers more savings with access to lower priced, good quality products, was the main drive behind introducing the Keells own label range. The range of Keells products are priced at 10% lesser than comparable products of regular brands and are of good quality. These prices are valid every day and not for a promotional period thus providing customers a significant saving every day. They are priced competitively due to the minimum marketing and distribution costs incurred as they are products marketed by Keells

itself. At the moment, the range has grown to include over 350 products in attractive packaging that is easily identifiable as Keells. The range of Keells own label products covers majority of household needs and consists of essentials such as rice, pulses, eggs, oil, tea, coffee, spices, curry mixes, sauce, jam to a range of biscuits and to household items which include dishwasher liquid, detergents, paper products and cleaners. Offering customers healthy and nutritious product choices at reasonable prices is important to Keells, and a 'Free From' category where lactose-free soy ice cream has been introduced.

Aban Pestonjee among Most Admired Leaders in Sri Lanka



Mrs. Aban Pestonjee, Chairperson and Founder of Abans Group of Companies, was bestowed the honour of being one of the most admired leaders of Sri Lanka at the Most Admired Companies Awards held at the BMICH recently. The third edition of this event was organised by the International Chamber of Commerce Sri Lanka (ICCSL), the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA) and the Daily FT, and is recognised as the only one of its kind in Sri Lanka. The Most Admired Companies Awards cater especially to companies that are a cut above the rest, based on their financial performance and other vital aspects such as creating an ethical and sustainable working environment for all employees, customers, investors and the local communities. These laurels were conferred in

light of Pestonjee's inspiring entrepreneurial journey from commencing her business as a modest corner

store at Galle Road, Bambalapitiya in 1968, to the massive expansion into a renowned conglomerate spanning several industry sectors. Sparking from the fierce desire to make easier the daily lives of homemakers such as herself, Mrs. Pestonjee set forth upon her goal by purchasing home appliances at auctions and then reselling them with a trusted guarantee, which emerged as the core of her business. When Sri Lanka converted into an open economy in 1978, Mrs. Pestonjee began writing regularly to large British companies that distributed popular global home and kitchen appliance brands. Despite facing many setbacks, her determination and persistence gained the trust and confidence of Electrolux, which became the first international brand to team up with Abans to enter the Sri Lankan market.

AIA Insurance fetes top performers First ever digital convention



The top performers (from left): K. D. Maddrakini Thakshila, Nilantha Senarathna Bandara, P. V. Rajitha Priyasanarath and Channa Dunusinghe.

AIA Insurance held its first ever digital Annual Sales Convention, to celebrate and recognise the company's top performers in 2019. It was held on the theme "Awaken the Superhero in You". Over 2,660 Wealth Planners from across the island convened in a digitally glamorous celebration. The winners were recognised for their commitment and dedication to going above and beyond their call of duty in serving AIA's customers and emerging on top of their game. The highlight of the evening was the four awards given to recognise the best performers of 2019. This year's winner of the 'Best Wealth Planner Award' was Ms. K. D. Maddrakini Thakshila of the Moratuwa Area Development Office (ADO). Ms. U. A. M. Sanjeevani Somarathna from the Kandy Main Distribution Unit and S. P. S. Rodrigo from the Colombo Metro Distribution Unit were the first and second runners-up. The 'Best Wealth Planners' Manager Award' was won by N. W. Nilantha Senarathna Bandara of Kegalle Region 2. Ms. S. S. Priyantha Dias of

the Moratuwa Area Development Office was the first Runner-up while M. D. Thuraj Aponso of Colombo Region 5 was the second runner-up. B. P. V. Rajitha Priyasanarath of the Moratuwa Area Development Office was recognised as the Best Tier 3 Head, with G. H. C. Dileepa Ameerendra of the Tissamaharama Area Development Office and Y. G. G. B. Yatihammana of the Mawanel-la Area Development Office coming in as first and second runner-up. The 'Best Distribution Unit Head' was Channa Dunusinghe of Kegalle Region 2, while Heman Kumara of Moratuwa Region 1 and Ms. Indunil Amarasinghe of Colombo Region 2 were first and second runners-up. Ms. V. A. R. S. Chandrika Perera of the Maharagama Distribution Unit won the 'Best Upcoming Wealth Planner' Award (female) while K. G. A. Bandara Kahawaththa of the Polonnaruwa Main Distribution Unit won the same in the male category. The Award for 'Best Upcoming Wealth Planners' Managers' was won by Pushpa Weerasinghe from the Gampola Distribution Unit (female) and R. Duminda Jayasingha of the Ratnapura Distribution Unit (male).

Oppo to introduce flash charging for everyone



The smart device company Oppo marks a new era in mobile charging technology, as it launched its flash charging project at the Mobile World Congress, Shanghai (MWCs). Based around Oppo's pioneering VOOC flash charging, it sees visionary organisations license the Oppo technology to help bring faster charging to every area of consumers' lives. These new partners include FAW-Volkswagen, Anker and NXP Semiconductors - leaders in their respective fields of automobiles, portable charging, and chip manufacture. Between them, their products reach consumers in three settings where they often need to charge their devices: their homes, their cars and out in public spaces. Each partner will work with proprietary technical designs developed by Oppo, which has applied for more than 2,950 flash charging patents worldwide, with over 1,400 already granted. Adler Feng, Senior Director of Intellectual Property at Oppo, told MWCs, "The Flash Initiative reflects Oppo's belief in human-centric technologies that make a difference in people's everyday lives. And thanks to our new partners, our proprietary technologies can reach more people than ever before. This is a vital step in

freeing consumers to use their devices however they want, no matter what they need to do or where in the world they are." Brand Director at Anker Innovations China, Cynthia Tan said, "Our users have always been the top priority at Anker."

Features

Psychiatric stigma of British forces during WW11

By
Nirosha
Rajapakse



Edgar Jones, a professor in the history of medicine and psychiatry at the Institute of King's College, London said Lack of Moral Fibre (LMF) which is considered as an administrative term rather than a psychiatric diagnosis was befittingly introduced in April 1940, as a mode of response to an escalating number of psychiatric casualties in the early operations of the British coastal and bomber commands during the Second World War.

Prof. Jones said that some high ranking Royal Air Force (RAF) officers decided to impose intense penalties on the parties concerned which lost the trust and confidence of their operational commanders especially at a time when there was a threat of invasion and a dearth of aircrew.

As a common deterrent upheld by the notion of anxiety being contagious, those who were suspected to have contracted LMF were directed to assessment centres where they faced shame due to the loss of their ranks and official privileges.

Thereafter, vindicating themselves was impossible for the aircrew which was adjudicated to have demonstrated LMF; and a considerable number of British servicemen were discharged from service. The differentiation of cases from psychiatric diagnoses in the form of flying stress,

aviator's neurasthenia or aeroneurosis was done with the designing of the label 'LMF'. During this period those affected by these disorders were similar to the shell shock experienced by soldiers during the First World War and thus paved the way for the affected parties to attract an enormous degree of public sympathy whereby they were even made eligible for the entitlement of a war pension in which the British authorities were not interested. The common reasons for LMF and shell shock were the same.

Royal Navy

The Royal Navy (RN) was considered the strongest navy in the world at the onset of the Second World War and their naval bases were available around the world. The pilots in the RN Fleet air arm who shunned flying were unofficially labelled LMF, unless there was a defensible and logical medical reason.

A high degree of flexibility in their management was made available by the non-availability of a formal procedure, whereas some were given transfers to base jobs where they continued wearing their flying badges.

Although the British Army (BA) stood as a small volunteer and professional army during early 1939, it was reported that towards the latter part of the Second World War it comprised nearly three million troopers.

In contrast it was reported that the BA eliminated the LMF system despite the fact that it experienced a large number of psychiatric battle casualties. Also the dearth of man-



power in the BA compelled them to receive treatment and return to duty. But during the initial stage of the Western Desert campaign, 'Eighth Army' doctors had unofficially accepted the LMF label.

LMF

To avoid humiliating the then British government, historians John McCarthy and Allen D. English made a suggestion not to take the LMF label into consideration in 1945.



Although such a suggestion may have been considered a formal policy, the term LMF had already found its roots within the RAF culture.

The term 'LMF' had been used even during peace time until the 1960s as a form of clarification, describing the reasons for the failure of the training of the aircrew. Eventually, with the introduction of new psychiatric terms, the term LMF became obsolete.

Britain had to experience the threat of being invaded as the LMF policy was introduced in March 1940.

Also the danger of 'fifth column activities' was exaggerated while it was reported that there was a shortage of aircrew and aircraft. LMF could be considered as the Second World War's antithesis to the First World War's shell shock.

LMF is an operational term introduced by senior commanders whose basic concern was the efficacious conduct of the war, whereas shell shock is a form of diagnosis taken into account by the doctors to classify a novel post combat syndrome. Timidity was associated with LMF, and the right to financial reimbursement denied. Following the First World War, it was difficult for Britain to afford a so-called epidemic pension which was brought out by shell shock. Sometimes the heroic men who were fatigued by the stress of combat were defamed and discredited by LMF.

British senior military officers recommended during the First World War that shell shock should be "eliminated from official nomenclature". Similarly, during the Second World War, the extent and dominance of LMF was moderately undermined.

Prof. Jones said the unloved system of LMF could be legitimised only at a war, staged for national survival and when the trained aircrew were classed enough.



AS A COMMON DETERRENT UPHELD BY THE NOTION OF ANXIETY BEING CONTAGIOUS, THOSE WHO WERE SUSPECTED TO HAVE CONTRACTED LMF WERE DIRECTED TO ASSESSMENT CENTRES WHERE THEY FACED SHAME DUE TO THE LOSS OF THEIR RANKS AND OFFICIAL PRIVILEGES

International Women's Day: A day to celebrate the world's changemakers



BY METHLINI HEWAGE

"What's the greatest lesson a woman should learn? That since day one, she's already had everything she needs within herself. It's the world that convinced her she did not." —Rupi Kaur, Poet

Women are the backbone of any and every society. They are the core of the human race, for without them, we would cease to exist. However, since ancient times, the importance of women and the power within them has been vastly underestimated and neglected. The "You cannot and will not" attitude that has been hurled at women, generation after generation has resulted in these titans of the society to lose faith in themselves, their abilities and settle for the life that the rest of society unjustly decides they are worthy of.

International Women's Day, celebrated annually on March 8 is a global day to celebrate the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women all over the world. On this day, groups of people come together to celebrate women's achievements and collectively raise their voices against discrimination and issues faced by women and fight for equality. International Women's Day (IWD) has been observed since the 1900s when the oppression of women and the inequalities they faced with regard to matters such as the right to vote, promoted women to start raising their voice against the unfair social norms. In 1908, 15,000 women marched through New York City demanding shorter hours, better pay and voting rights, setting an example for oppressed women in the world to stand up for what they deserve and are entitled to.

On March 19, 1911, International Women's Day was honoured for the first time in Austria, Denmark, Germany and Switzerland. More than one million women and men attended IWD rallies campaigning for women's rights to work, vote, be trained, to hold public office and end discrimination. Later, between the years 1913 and 1914, extensive discussions led to the agreement to mark International Women's Day annually on March 8, and this day has remained the global date for International Women's Day ever since. Keeping with the tradition, this year people all over the world will celebrate International Women's Day on March 8 under the campaign theme, 'Choose to Challenge' since, 'a challenged world is an alert world and from challenge comes change', is the message expected to be propagated within society.

"We all fight over what the label 'feminism' means, but for me it's about empowerment. It's not about being more powerful than men - it's about having equal rights with protection, support, justice. It's about very basic things. It's not a badge like a fashion item."—Annie Lennox, Singer and political activist.

'Feminism' is a term popular in today's society yet widely misconstrued. What most fail to understand is that, the fight for equality, justice and freedom from oppressive social stigma, for women is one that does not and should not include oppression of another gender and it should not create anger and hatred towards another gender. If the fight for equality for women and the annihilation of detrimental social stigma against women, comes with an ironic cost of teaching people to blame



one another and create more hatred, anger and segregation, the futility of the fight would outgrow its benefits. Contrary to an opinion held by many, 'Feminist' is not an exclusive title for women who fight for their equality. Any person who believes in and/or fights for equality and social justice for women and stands up or speaks out against injustice against them, earns the title of a true feminist. A true feminist does not need to belittle, blame or oppress another to make a change, a true feminist makes a change by realising, understanding and believing in the unique power and strength that all women possess.

When considering the amount of power possessed by women and their undeniable potential to make a favourable change in today's chaotic society, the theme, 'Women in Leadership: Achieving an Equal Future in a Covid-19 World' is one that is globally applicable. The horrific pandemic threw the entire world into a dark frenzy of loss and sorrow. Millions lost their lives and their loved ones. Derailing nations' economies and plunging the global economy into darkness, the pandemic robbed many people of their livelihoods, forcing them into the confinements of their homes while deprivation was rampant. These circumstances, coupled with the necessary lockdown and quarantine orders, caused domestic violence to sky rocket, mostly victimising women, yet again. Although it was not simple to control the situation and uplift a nation's society amid the chaos of Covid-19, many female leaders around the world, impressively proved to the rest of us, that it was not impossible. The prompt and proactive measures taken and the rules and regulations implemented by leaders of nations such as Germany's Angela Merkel, New Zealand's Jacinda Arden, Denmark's Mette Frederiksen, Taiwan's Tsai Ing-wen and Finland's Sanna Marin clearly prove that more women in positions of power, might just be what the world needs right now. Let this International Women's Day be a reminder that, recognition, respect and celebration of the obvious and incontestable eminence of women and their potential to be leaders and changemakers, is what we as a society can do to help and uplift ourselves and each other. Irrespective of gender, age, religion or culture we must all be determined to take action by raising our voices against and choosing to challenge gender inequality, gender discrimination and gender-based violence that continue to victimise and oppress women around the world.

Only by doing so will we achieve the greatness we hope to achieve for the current and future generations of the world. So as the saying goes, "Here's to strong women: May we know them. May we be them. May we raise them."



The glory of the Kalutara Bodhi

BY ISURU THAMBAWITA

The city of Kalutara unlike other urbanised cities is redolent of the ancient Buddhist Sinhala culture. It is because of the most sacred Kalutara Bodhi encircled with the gold fence seemingly holding the sky with its massive branches and standing majestically in the upper terrace of the temple premises. Even the gentle breeze blowing through the branches of the "Bo" tree heals the hearts of people.

History

The Kalutara "Bo" tree is proven to be one of those 32 saplings of the Jaya Sri Maha Bodhi which was planted on the advice of Arahata Mahinda Thera during the reign of king Devanampiya Tissa. Back in 1052 AD, a Pandyan prince by the name of Wickrama Pandyan, said to have been the viceroy of Kalutara had planted a "Bo" tree at the Pahala Maluwa of the Kalutara Temple.

Influence of the Portuguese

The tragedy struck this Buddhist country after the invasion of the Portuguese. The lamp of the wisdom lit with the Buddhist teachings and the Sinhala culture blew out. The virtues instilled into the people's hearts began to vanish. Not the morality but the immorality began to engulf the city.

Considering the geographical location of the city, the Portuguese used the Bodhi premises for their military purposes.

Railway bridge

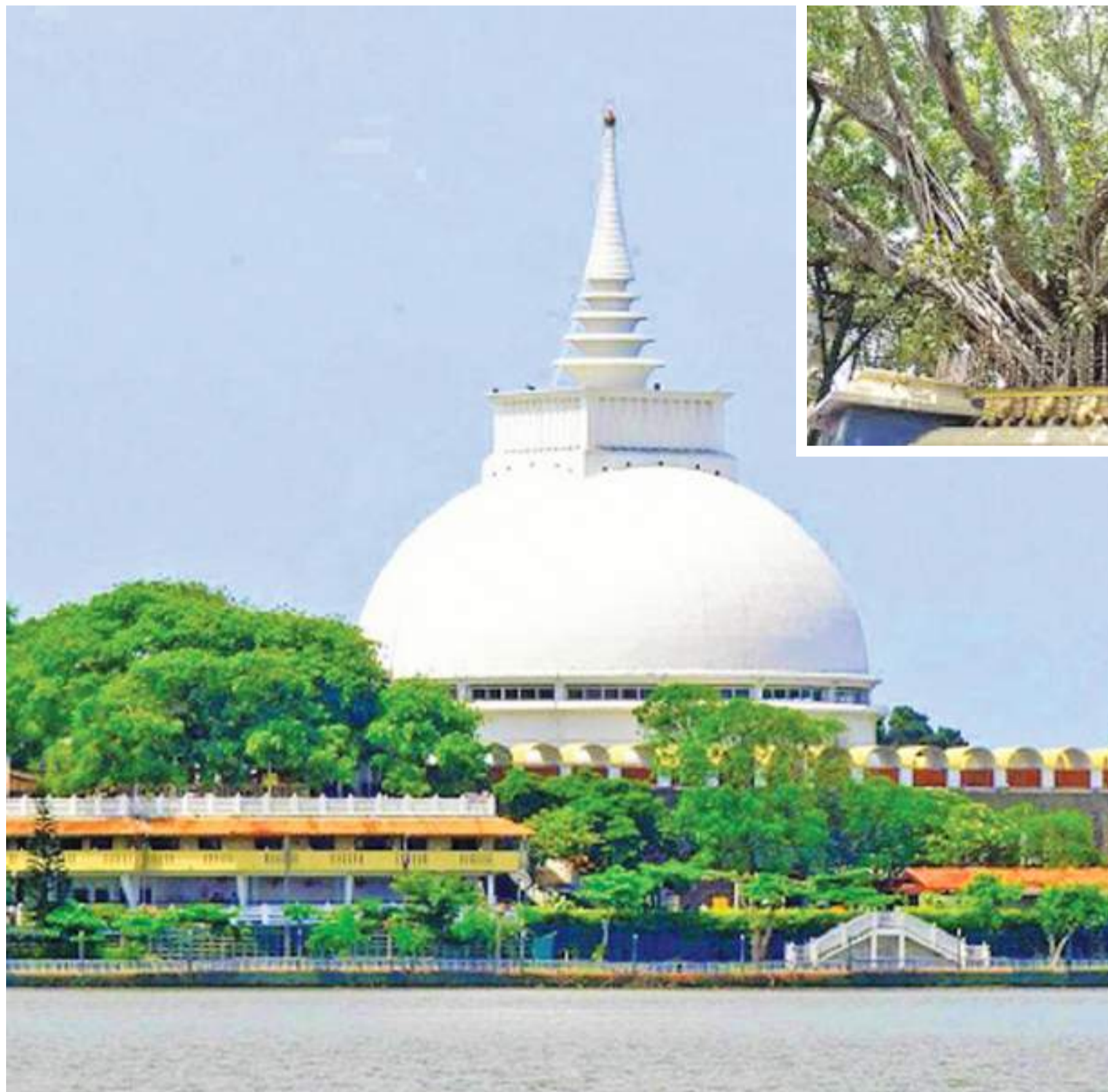
Bridging the Southern border and the Western border together, the British Government decided to construct the Kalutara railway bridge. The only obstruction they had was the "Bo" tree. As a result, they proposed to uproot the "Bo tree" and continue the construction of the bridge.

But later due to the protests led by a layman named Sandanayaka, the British Government decided to construct the bridge without harming even a leaf of the Bo tree. The history of the Kalutara bridge dates back to 1990s. What is more picturesque is that in the morning, anyone can catch the glimpse of "Sri Pada" veiled with the morning mist.

Another striking scenery is the Buddhist devotees attired in the immaculate white meditating in the lotus position around the Stupa. It is common to see even the foreigners meditating in the temple like the Buddhist devotees.

Sir Cyril De Zoysa

The relationship between the Kalutara Bodhi and Sir Cyril De Zoysa is inseparable. Born in Galle, Sir Cyril De



The Kalutara Chaitiya



The Kalutara Bodhi

AT NIGHT, THE TEMPLE ILLUMINATED WITH A MYRIAD OF TWINKLING LIGHTS SCATTERS THE LIGHT OF WISDOM THROUGHOUT THE CITY, PLANTING THE SEEDS OF GENEROSITY, DISCIPLINE AND LOVE IN THE HEARTS OF PEOPLE. THE MOON BEAMS BRIGHTEN THE REFLECTION OF THE ILLUMINATED LIGHTS ON THE STILL WATER OF THE "KALU GANGA" AS IF IN A SURREAL WORLD.

end of my days, Buddhism is my sole consolation, my happiness and my strength."

The glory of Kalutara

The city of Kalutara enriched with the natural beauty and blessed with the sacred Bodhi Tree has overflowed with the aroma of the burning joss-sticks and the Buddhist sermons.

At night, the temple illuminated with a myriad of twinkling lights scatters the light of wisdom throughout the city, planting the seeds of generosity, discipline and love in the hearts of people. The moon beams brighten the reflection of the illuminated lights on the still water of the "Kalu Ganga" as if in a surreal world. All we hope is "May the glory of the Kalutara Bodhi shine forth blissfully forever."

Zoysa dedicated himself to protect the dispensation of Buddhism. After having received his primary education at S Thomas' College and Richmond College, Sir Cyril entered the law college.

Winding back the clock of his childhood, it is said that his father had to travel in a hired-buggy cart because he could not afford the expense of buying a new buggy cart. But later with the little money Sir Cyril earned, he

purchased a brand-new buggy cart for his father. This is only a glimpse of his childhood.

No one might have thought that the day on which the Kalutara Bodhi flourishes would dawn. But miraculously Sir Cyril De Zoysa had to come to Kalutara and saw the Kalutara Bodhi which had been isolated and degraded for a long time. Later, he set up a committee to protect the sacred place. From

that day, everyone pays homage to this most sacred Bodhi.

Righteous life

According to the Buddhist teaching, "The one who behaves in Dhamma is protected by Dhamma." It is clear that Sir Cyril De Zoysa is one of those who had believed in the Dhamma until his demise. Never in his life

had he neglected to observe the Buddhist rituals.

He started his day at 6.00 O' clock by paying homage to the Kalutara Bodhi. The last words he said will prove the Buddhist life he lived.

"Now I am free. The state of your wealth does not really matter. These are all illusions. I was born without any wealth. I will die just as I was born - without any wealth. As I reach the

Thich Nhat Hanh quotes, a manual for life

BY DAVID GERKEN

Thich Nhat Hanh is a 93-year-old Vietnamese Buddhist monk who has been one of the most influential spiritual leaders on earth for the past 50 years. Here's how far back he goes: Martin Luther King nominated him for the 1967 Nobel Peace Prize for his efforts to end the Vietnam War.

Beautiful

He is best known for his beautiful, simple teachings about mindfulness. In that vein, here are four quotes of his that will help you become a better, happier human being.

1. "The most precious gift we can offer anyone is our attention. When mindfulness embraces those we love, they will bloom like flowers."

That's it. Just be there. All of you. Listening. With no agenda. Just 100 percent present. With your spouse, your children, co-workers and friends.

Thich Nhat Hanh is right on the money here. Being present is the deepest gift we can bestow on anybody.

Eckhart Tolle, another spiritual teacher, says the same thing.

2. "To be beautiful means to be yourself. You don't need to be accepted by others. You need to accept yourself. When you are born a lotus flower, be a beautiful lotus flower, don't try to be a magnolia flower. If you crave acceptance and recognition and try to change yourself to fit what other people want you to be, you will suffer all your life. True happiness and true power lie in understanding yourself, accepting yourself, having confidence in yourself."

Don't fight yourself. Be yourself. Ralph Waldo Emerson expressed it in the most positive way: "Absolve you to yourself and you shall have the suffrage of the world."

There is, however, one vital point on this subject of self-acceptance TNH, Emerson



Thich Nhat Hanh Thera

and others would emphasise, which is this: For most people, it takes courage.

Example: If your father is a macho ex-Marine, it takes courage to follow your inner compass that's telling you to become a male ballet dancer.

Our families, our friends and society all pressure us to do what they think we should do. We have to summon the courage to say to all of them: "Sorry, but I'm the one living here. I know what's best for me. I need you to respect that."

Suffering

3. "The best way to take care of the future is to take care of the present moment."

The first quote was about presence being the best thing we can do for others. This quote is about how presence is the best thing we can do for ourselves.

So much suffering in the world is caused by our worrying about the future. What does

worrying do? It takes us out of the present moment and makes us feel miserable.

Worrying

We worry about the future and turn our backs on the present moment because we feel if we don't, our future will be bleak. Well, how about this for an idea? If you're worrying about having enough money to pay the rent, don't spend your moments worrying about it. Place your moment to moment attention on making enough money to pay the rent.

But again, there is this insidious feeling in so many of us that worries that if we don't worry things won't work out, as if worrying will pay dividends for us. It's crazy. It's not true.

"Be present and trust in life." Because it does take a leap of faith to just say to yourself. I'm going to give everything I have to the present moments of my life and let the chips fall where they may."

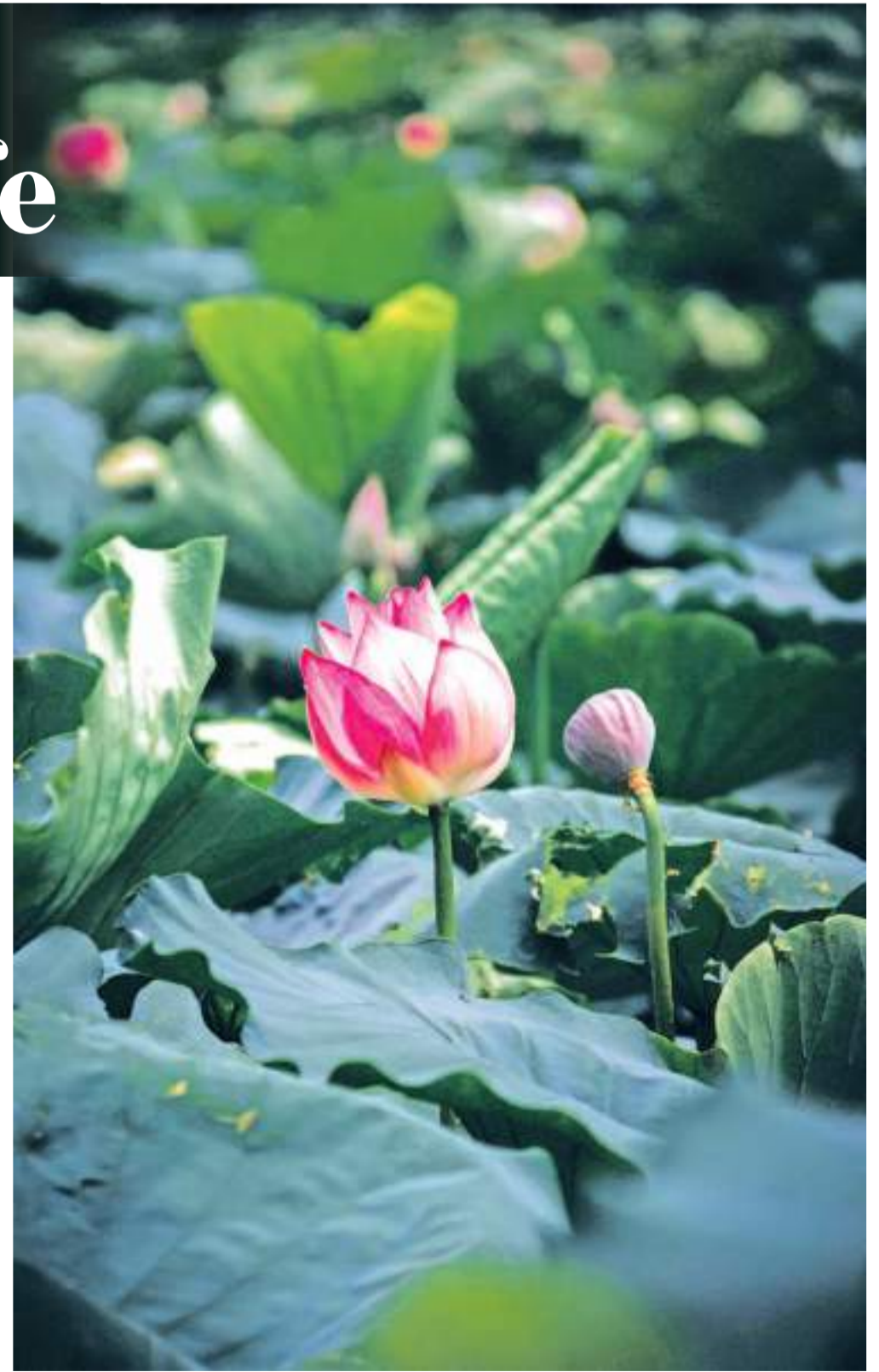
We just need the courage to toss the yoke of worrying by the wayside.

4. "Your breathing should flow gracefully, like a river, like a watersnake crossing the water and not like a chain of rugged mountains or the gallop of a horse. Each time we find ourselves dispersed and find it difficult to gain control of ourselves by different means, the method of watching the breath should always be used."

This one sums up the ultra-simple mindfulness technique for re-orienting ourselves after we've been knocked off track: We just come back to our breath.

How do you do it? Example: You're driving home after a tough day at work when the car behind you leans on the horn for five seconds because you didn't signal when you changed into their lane; a minute later, your teenage daughter calls and yells at you for not being home on time.

What do you do? At the next red light, you stop. Close your eyes. Find your breath. Start following it. Long, slow breaths. Just for a minute or so. When you open your eyes, you'll feel better and back on track.



Features



By
Dilshan Boange

An American drama movie released in 1939, written by Dalton Trumbo and directed by Ricardo Cortez, 'Heaven with a Barbed Wire Fence' is set in the time that shows how the Great Depression in the US had affected the dreams and aspirations of a young generation that sought a better life than what was handed to them.

A heart-warming story that shows how young Joe Riley played by screen icon Glenn Ford, charts his journey to his 20-acre ranch in Arizona which he has bought after having worked several years as a shop clerk in New York city and saving the money with much sacrifice. The journey is one that brings him to encounter an interesting group of people, getting into scrapes and escaping the authorities.

Option of hitchhiking

Having no money left to pay for transport to Arizona, Joe is left with only the option of hitchhiking. At a small diner along the way, Joe encounters Tony who is a drifter making do with what he finds along the way for sustenance. Tony tells Joe that he hops railway freight cars as his preferred means to get around the country while Joe says he prefers hitchhiking rides as best as he can. But outside the diner once he is ready to get back on the road, Joe gets the idea of trying to get to his next stop as a 'stowaway' on a supplies truck parked outside the diner.

This sudden change of strategy doesn't prove to be successful as the truck's driver who was also at the diner realises that the man who had just stepped out had done 'a vanishing act' and calls out to Joe to come out of the truck or face the threat of 'physical consequences'.

While stepping out, Joe steps on another person who had, until then been hiding as a stowaway on the truck! Joe and the teenage boy stowaway disembark from the truck. The stowaway Joe stepped on then turns out to be a girl dressed as a boy who is also in desperate circumstances. Joe



A HEART-WARMING STORY THAT SHOWS HOW YOUNG JOE RILEY PLAYED BY SCREEN ICON GLENN FORD, CHARTS HIS JOURNEY TO HIS 20-ACRE RANCH IN ARIZONA WHICH HE HAS BOUGHT AFTER HAVING WORKED SEVERAL YEARS AS A SHOP CLERK IN NEW YORK CITY AND SAVING THE MONEY WITH MUCH SACRIFICE. THE JOURNEY IS ONE THAT BRINGS HIM TO ENCOUNTER AN INTERESTING GROUP OF PEOPLE, GETTING INTO SCRAPES AND ESCAPING THE AUTHORITIES

refuses to allow the young girl named is Anita Santos who is from Spain, but half American from her mother's side, join him on his journey as he believes women bring trouble. However, fate has it that once Joe hops an empty freight car travelling in the direction he is going, Joe not only finds himself sharing the space with Tony whom he met at the diner but also

Anita who literally falls onto them as she climbs down into the freight car through its roof! What follows is a forging of a trio, which through the course of unexpected events soon turns into a 'quartet' as they are joined by a charming, articulate, good hearted and erudite hobo who is called 'the professor' known to Tony from his previous travels.

Whirlwind of change

Unfortunate circumstances force this quartet to make a 'pit stop' of sorts at a small town after Toney gets shot while stealing some food and is in need of medical attention. What results is a quick whirlwind of change in their lives that occurs first as a long lost romance is reborn for the professor and

subsequently a Russian styled marriage and wedding taking place in mere moments for Joe and Anita to escape serving a prison sentence when the local sheriff discovers Anita, who is on the list of illegal immigrants who had entered the US, who had been helped by Joe in her travel across state lines!

Following the exuberance of the evening, a new goal in life is realised

for the professor to end his days as a free man living as a drifter, while a divergence of paths happens to newly married Joe and Anita although an eventual convergence occurs to open a new path of togetherness. A heart-warming and delightful story 'Heaven with a Barbed Wire Fence' is a classic of Hollywood that can be enjoyed by the whole family.



Book review

REVIEWED BY MAULIA
SELVARAJAH

Winds and Waves of Desire (published by Punaivakam) is the first attempt at a fictional story written by VTGP Lingam, a Naval Marine Engineering Officer. The story is based on the relationships among various members of a close-knit family in Sri Lanka.

As the title suggests, it is about the positive and negative desires of each character in their lives and how they achieve them or fight to overcome them. Various desires are described in the book, such as lust and virtue. Kulan and Sabathira are both examples of characters that give into lust "...get drowned as a steel ball immerses in an ocean. Such is the dangerous tendency of carnal waves in human desire."

The argument proposed by the author for giving into such desires or fighting them is shown in a conversation between Sabathira and Kulan "...consciously I fall from grace and I am ashamed of..." Sabathira "...As long as natural urges are there amidst cultural and legal restrictions, there would be always errors and omissions of values of free exercises."

Exemplars

Packium is an example of a character that fought and withstood such desires and remained virtuous. "My mother had been one of the victims of such eventualities throughout but she weathered well the winds and vagaries of human desires". Kulan's wife Ranjitha is also another example of a character that fought the waves of desires that engulfed her husband.

Winds and Waves of Desire

She remained devoted to him despite his repeated relationships with other women throughout their marriage.

The author's writing style is unique; a combination of fictional story telling with factual information injected in many sentences.

While this is useful for the foreign reader and the third generation Tamils who are unaware of the daily life in Sri Lanka or of its history, at times this can interfere with the story. "It is also a sort of custom and tradition that the visitors to Colombo residents...carry a pot of curd...wrapped in banana leaves or banana tree sheaths which retain the contents cool and preserved.

These small gifts reflect the friendly concern...of the visitor to the visited." This paragraph says a lot about the warm-hearted traditions among Sri Lankans. Not only do the following three paragraphs express the importance of pottery and curd but a deeper held meaning of showing love and being considerate to thy neighbour is also taught.

In contrast, the author goes onto express the importance of free education following the introduction of the retired translator and his family of teenagers in chapter nine. While the facts presented are interesting to know, they do not go on to add to the story in anyway; a condensed paragraph would have sufficed. At times, factual information is injected into the story and written in a way that seems more rigid rather than entwined into the plot.

Entrhralling the reader

The pages that describe Rajan's journey in the train are written eloquently and make readers feel like

THE AUTHOR'S WRITING STYLE IS UNIQUE; A COMBINATION OF FICTIONAL STORY TELLING WITH FACTUAL INFORMATION INJECTED IN MANY SENTENCES. WHILE THIS IS USEFUL FOR THE FOREIGN READER AND THE THIRD GENERATION TAMILS WHO ARE UNAWARE OF THE DAILY LIFE IN SRI LANKA OR OF ITS HISTORY, AT TIMES THIS CAN INTERFERE WITH THE STORY

they too are on the train ride accompanying him and enjoying the view. The description of the countryside, arable fields and wildlife is a pleasure to read as well as the description of the events occurring on the platforms. It makes the reader wonder why the writer did not continue to use his adjectives throughout the book.

The author expresses his opinion on a range of topics that are close to his heart. The production and wastage of plastic in the world, the education system that makes a child compete for higher marks instead of more knowledge and the role and impact of agriculture in modern days are all examples of topics briefly mentioned.

Rajan is noted to reminiscence his youthful days as a time when each person tried to better himself and his neighbour. "The environment that existed then could condition us being harmless, care for and share with others around for peaceful and harmonious co-existences in society".

As nostalgic as this may be, it does not seem a true reflection of a time gone by. Rather this is a view of the past through rose-tinted glasses. The problems faced by Rajan (or the author) may be slightly different to those of current times, but many of the problems of the present times are those that were hidden or not dealt with from the past. Inequality, social

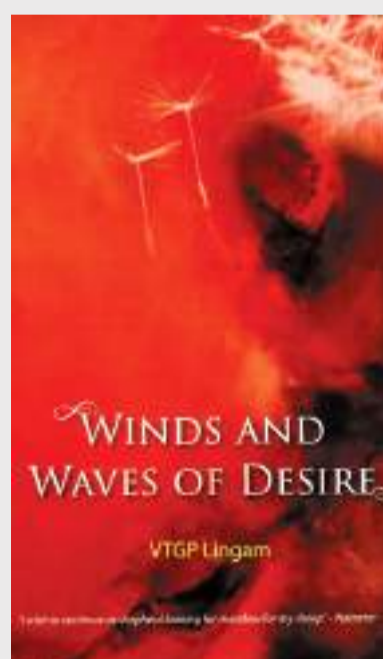
and economic problems, caste barriers and educational reforms were all problems of the past as they are of today. It is difficult to believe as a young reader that these did not exist. More likely they were never seen. Is it possible that due to the growth in technology and wider knowledge that people of today are more aware of such problems and increasingly vocal?

As a writer, it is important to keep true to the story and ensure there is no confusion to the reader on the plot. Characterisation is also key to ensuring a story is true and its characters are believable.

"...Malathi and I were made guardians by my late parents with the consent of the victim who shared and sacrificed her life for our family." When Rajan states this it gives the reader the impression that Mano's mother is dead, but towards the end of the book she is alive and well!

Indulgence

Similarly, Kulan throughout the book is made out to be a man who is obsessed with lust, had undergone many treatments to fight this desire and failed. Despite the advice from his family and well-wishers, he continues to pursue his desires. However, when he encounters Mano's mother, he explains how he failed to search for her on



woman this is simply folly. As virtuous as she may be, a woman no matter how much she may love or put up with her husbands' ridicules would not suggest let alone wish for such an ending.

Abrupt ending

The story is finished abruptly leaving the reader with questions and yearning for a better ending. The reader reaches the ending hoping that Mano and Kulan will unite. Instead Mano, as the ever-intelligent child, states that she simply knows who her true parents are and does not appear to be disheartened in anyway for the sudden knowledge. She simply seems to take this information and states it in factual terms as though mentioning the weather.

Would it not have been a more righteous way for Kulan to redeem himself from his waves of desire by confronting Mano and discussing her birth? Surely the questions she would have asked as a child would have made him realise his errors and help him learn, rather than meditation (something that the author stated he had tried in the past and failed at).

Overall, the story is a good attempt for a first-time story. The underlying moral is expressed throughout the plot and is understood by the reader. As with all first-time stories, there is plenty of improvement at hand to ensure that future writings are of a better standard.

the single wish of his late mother.

The pages of characterisation created by the author are diminished in these paragraphs. As a reader, this is questionable and not likely to be believed; a man who has been described close to a carnal craving creature does not follow orders or listen to the advice of others easily. It brings a question to the mind of the reader: If he listened to his mother and did not search for his former lover, why did he not listen to his mother and stop his lustful behaviour as well?

How likely is it that Ranjitha, a cancer stricken wife, who has already endured so much discomfort due to Kulan's disgraceful behaviour, can go onto suggest that he should marry his former lover upon her imminent death? As a reader and as a

Feature

The future of the past

The murals of the temple at Degaldoruwa reveal an interesting stage in the development of Kandyan art



The exterior view of the Degaldoruwa Raja Maha Vihara at Degaldoruwa

—Text & Pix by—
Mahil Wijesinghe

The much-famed Degaldoruwa Raja Maha Vihara accommodated in a cave containing well preserved Kandyan paintings is situated in the village of Degaldoruwa. It is half a kilometre along the Yakgahavita road which commences at the Sirmalwatta ambalama on the Kandy - Lewella road. The Vihara can be seen on the left of the road.

We reached the Degaldoruwa vihara at 10 in the morning following the tumultuous journey on the narrow roads in the outskirts of Levelle in the Dumbara valley in a three-wheeler that we had hired in Kandy 20 minutes ago.

The noise of the three-wheeler engine bounced back at us from the walls of the shuttered houses on either side of the road. Turning to a sandy road, at the end of it we saw the outline of a white building in the morning sunlight, with arched-doors and a tall belfry standing alongside the building - the entrance to one of Sri Lanka's finest examples of Kandyan murals, the Degaldoruwa Temple.

We removed our shoes and put them in the back of the three-wheeler and entered the temple compound and saw the white-washed structure through the foliage in the hillock. Waiting a few minutes in the office room, I met the Viharadhipathi and got permission to take photographs without using the flash directly on the murals.

Cave

This cave is an enlargement of a small cave that was found in the western slope of a rock 12.31 metres

(40 ft) in height. King Kirithi Sri Rajasingha while constructing the Vihara at Galmaduwa had lived in this cave and devoted his attention to improve it.

According to a reference in the *Degaldoruwa Sannasa* the placing of the eyes on the statues had been done in 1761. King Rajadhi Rajasingha, brother of Kirithi Sri Rajasingha who was a prince at that time was instrumental in this construction. Details of the construction are discussed in the *Sannasa*.

The Degaldoruwa vihara has been built into the base of a rock cave, which is cut into two chambers. The first is a drumming hall built with wooden columns, and a colourful *Makara Thorana*, (dragon arch) intricately carved out of wood stands at the entrance to the cave.

This has been a later addition by Migastenne Adikaram. In the cave is a large recumbent Buddha statue with two standing and seated Buddha statues on either side.

The ceiling of the rock and walls contain some fine pictorial compositions in the story of Sinhala art.

The murals at Degaldoruwa vihara are considered some of the finest examples of art belonging to the Kandyan kingdom. Religion is the theme of Kandyan murals and the method adopted is continuous narration of the subject for the education of the people. The murals date back to the 18th Century.

Jathaka stories

Jathaka stories such *Satthubhata*, *Sutasoma*, *Seelawa* and *Vessanthara* painted on the outer wall are among the best examples preserved in the Vihara. Of them scenes from the *Vessanthara Jathaka* are considered as the most outstanding creations.

The biggest and probably the most interesting mural in the rock ceiling is the one depicting the *Maara Yuddaya* (demons in battle).



The most striking features in this painting are the *Maara* with five faces leading the battle with elephants and the Maara warriors with guns and arrows in their hands.

Also impressive is the beautiful figure of the *Polomahikantawa* (earth woman) holding a painted pot just below the painting of the Buddha.

There is a large Buddha image in the Vihara. But the shrine has gained prominence due to numerous paintings of the Kandyan period which include the suppression of Maara. Devaragampola Silvat, a bhikkhu who is a renowned artist of the Kandyan period was responsible for the paintings.

Sharp lines have been drawn to obtain the contours in the paintings drawn in a predominantly red background.

Today, some paintings on the ceiling and walls of the main chamber are dilapidated and ruined.

Some have faded. However, a section of the ceiling murals seem to be well protected by the Department of Archaeology.

The Degaldoruwa rock cave temple is testimony to yet another treasure trove of the Kandyan kingdom. The murals are however, in a sad state. There is a dire need for institutes such as the Archaeology Department to step in and conserve the remains before all is lost.



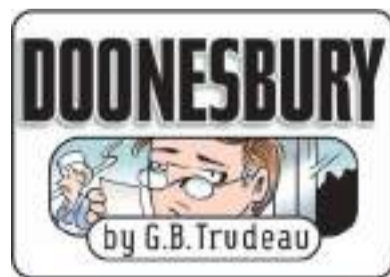
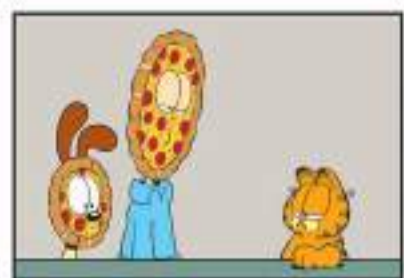
The murals at Degaldoruwa, some of the finest examples of the Kandyan period art



The Demons in battle



The Polomahikantawa (earth woman)





SLIIT IN GROUNDBREAKING INITIATIVE JOINS AWS... **PAGE 44**



UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY FOR WORLD-RECOGNIZED... **PAGE 46**



“EDUCATION SHOULD BE NOT FOR... **PAGE 47**



HOW JEFF BEZOS BUILT ONE OF THE WORLD'S... **PAGE 54**

Bristol Institute's 3rd successive intake for the MSc in Accounting and Finance opened

The MSc in Accounting and Finance from the University of the West of England, Bristol offered by Bristol Institute of business Management is a professionally oriented qualification which is consistently ranked highly in the major UK League tables.

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THE QUALIFICATION DESIGNED TO HELP GAIN THE SKILLS, KNOWLEDGE AND CONFIDENCE TO OPERATE EFFICIENTLY IN TODAY'S FAST PACED WORLD OF MULTINATIONAL COMPANIES AND GLOBAL FINANCIAL MARKETS, GIVES THE FINANCIAL AND BUSINESS SKILLS NEEDED TO BUILD A SUCCESSFUL CAREER IN ACCOUNTING

and developing insights to help Organisations effectively allocate resources and make better business decisions.

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backed by a distinguished faculty of lecturers consisting PhD Holders, researchers, highly experienced professionals and industry experts, who provide an intensive teaching and rich learning environment for the graduates.

Ceaselessly striving for excellence and with their dynamic leadership team, appropriate resources and incentives, a modern and suitable educational infrastructure in place, along with internship opportunities at leading blue-chip Companies, has ensured that Bristol Institute today is well placed as a leading educator to nurture the future finance talent in the country.

Offering easy payment schemes through reputed banks with which the institute has strong relationships and agreements, the next intake for the MSc Accounting and Finance degree from the University of the West of England, Bristol will commence in May 2021 with registrations currently open for the same. Further details can be obtained by logging on to www.bristolinstitute.edu.lk or by contacting them on 0777 907755 / 0772 646469



GCE (OL) Examination Results will be released by June - Minister of Education, Prof. G.L. Peiris

Minister of Education, Prof. G.L. Peiris said that the Ministry hopes to issue the results of the General Certificate of Education Examination to be held from 01st March to 10th March by June 2021 and plans are afoot to commence the Advanced Level classes of those children in July 2021. Minister Peiris said so while participating at a Press Conference held on 22.02.2021 at Nelum Mawatha.



Speaking further, the Minister said, "Our main aim is to see that the valuable young days of children are not wasted. We are ready to face any challenges that arises amid the Covid - 19 pandemic to make the children continue their education without any interruption. 622,305 candidates will sit the General Certificate of Education Ordinary Level Examination to be held from 01st March to 10th March 2021 in 4,513 examination centres. There are 423,746 candidates from schools and 198,606 private candidates and 542 co-ordination centres have also been established.

Further, two (02) special centres in each district have been established for the students contracted with Covid - 19 virus. As the number of centres in the Colombo district may become inadequate, special arrangements have also been made for the Colombo district. Plans have already been set to guarantee the health condition of the children after discuss-

ing with the school Principals, Public Health Inspectors and Regional Medical Officers of Health.

Already, the Admission Cards have been posted to all schools. If the private candidates have not received the admission cards by now, they may download them by accessing our website. For the first time our Government has taken such steps for the sake of children.

Further, by now the witnesses have been called and statements too have been recorded regarding Easter Sunday attack. That is not all what we expect from the Commission. It should go beyond that and find out who are responsible for this attack? Who organized

them? Who are those connected directly and indirectly? Who financed them? How have they collected the required equipment? It is very important to bring all these people before justice.

More than everything, it is important to see that such things do not take place again. This is important not only to the Catholics of this country but to all alike as it is a question regarding national security. His Eminence Malcolm Cardinal Ranjith did a great service soon after the attack. If His Eminence did not interfere at that moment there could have been a big calamity and a backlash. We not only lost more than 250 valuable lives, more than 500 people were injured. The presence and interference of His Eminence was very important at that moment to prevent further disaster. His interference calmed down the feelings of the people around Katuwapitiya. I wish to express my gratitude to His Eminence regarding this.

Although the Commission Report is received we have to discuss regarding this with His Eminence Malcolm Cardinal Ranjith. His opinion and proposals are very important to us. There may be some confusion on the part of the Government. We have to get into a dialogue with the Venerable Maha Sangha and other religious leaders to find out their opinion and thereafter take decisions as this is concerning our national security.



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First School Term of year 2021 ended on February 25

First stage of the First School Term for year 2021 of all government schools and government approved private schools ended on 25.02.2021.

As steps have been taken to conduct the General Certificate of Education (Ordinary Level) Examination of year 2020 under island-wide level from 01st March to 10th March 2021, the first stage of the school First term of 2021 for all government and government approved private schools ended on the 25th of February 2021. Accordingly, second stage of the first school term will commence on Monday, 15th March 2021.

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Sri Lankan education system needs reforms urgently

Dr. Sunil Jayantha Nawaratne,
Director General, National Institute of Education, Maharagama

BY SHIRAJIV SIRIMANE

While the whole world is moving upwards in technology and other areas, the Sri Lankan education system and teachers mindset still remains at primitive level and this hampers the education of school children to meet the demands of the modern world and it is also a hindrance to economic progress.

While the world moves from using the landline to Pager and to CDMA and to digital and then to advance smart phones Sri Lanka education reforms still have the mindset in the 'landline' age said Director General, National Institute of Education, Maharagama Dr. Sunil Jayantha Nawaratne.

He said that to implement future demand driven education reforms a major mindset change is needed from every one. "Firstly one must remember that for a student to be successful he or she does not have to enter the University. This mindset has to change and we have observed that the country is driven by enterprisers who have not stepped to universities."

Today some of the key players in the economic growth are in Sri Lankan Expatriate workers and people involved in the transport, food and Beverages construction, fisheries and similar sectors and 99% of them don't have a University level education.

"Technology and automation are radically changing the very nature of work and reshaping industry. Children in primary school today are likely to work in jobs that may not even exist right now. Developing its human capital to a new and higher level will be key for Sri Lanka to become an upper-middle-income economy."

Productive citizens

It's to meet these future human capital needs that *Sauvabhaya Dekma* - Vision document has paid great emphasis to education.

Its aim is to make Sri Lanka a Wonder of Asia with: Productive citizens, A Happy family, A disciplined society and A prosperous nation.

Dr. Nawaratne who was involved with youth development for many years taking the National Youth Service Council to its peak during the late 1990's said that a country sans a modern education format is like a car without a proper gear box.

He said that the Sri Lankan per capita income was around US\$ 89 in 1950 while Japan was \$ 90 while both Singapore and Malaysia were around \$ 30 mark. However in 2004 when Sri Lanka's per capita income crawled up to the \$ 1,000 mark both Singapore and Japan were over \$ 25,000 and in 2015 doubled their per capita income while Sri Lanka moved up to the US\$ 4,000 threshold while Malaysia passed the \$ 12,000 mark.

"I can boldly say that lack education silks was one of the main reasons for Sri Lanka to lag behind and this sad sinario cannot be repeated and this is why the government is keen of education reforms."

Education can help in National Development, help to achieve Sustainable Peace, reduce Regional disparity and most importantly help towards creating a 'Happy Family.'

Properly planned and well executed education reforms will help to convert youth to Entrepreneurs with Entrepreneurial Mind-set or employees with better management skills. Proper education will also create patriot citizens.

Take for example the transport and He said a simple example is that while there is a new trend that the students are made to talk and teacher listens, the vice versa is practiced in Sri Lanka.

He said they have drawn up 12 abilities for 21st Century skills that today's students need to succeed in their careers during the Information Age.

The twelve 21st Century skills are: 1. Critical thinking 2. Creativity 3. Collaboration 4. Communication 5. Information literacy 6. Media literacy 7. Technology literacy 8. Flexibility 9. Leadership 10. Initiative 11. Productivity 12. Social skills.

He said that these skills cannot be achieved only by the student but teacher's contribution and a mindset change is a must.

We have identified four skills (the four C's) and the first Learning skills where we look towards a teachers and student's mental mindset changing process required to adapt and improve upon a modern work environment.

Second key factor is Literacy skills (IMT) that focuses on how students can discern facts, publishing outlets, and the technology behind them. There's a strong focus on determining trustworthy sources and factual information to separate it from

the misinformation that floods the Internet.

The third is Life skills (FLIPS) that takes a look at intangible elements of a student's everyday life. These intangibles focus on both personal and professional qualities.

"Altogether, these categories cover all the needed 21st Century skills that contribute to a student's future career."

Smart education

He said that the traditional method of education is that the teacher speaks and the student listens and this has to be changed, the other way around. Teachers must listen to student ideas and skills and identify them and guide them. This is Smart education.

There are so many aspects of "school" where learners have not been given the opportunity to be active participants in their learning. Some learners, especially those that are concerned about extrinsic factors like grades, may not feel comfortable expressing their own opinions. Giving learner's voices encourages them to participate in learning, to own and drive their learning, and eventually to discover their purpose for learning.

Young people want to be heard. They have ideas and perspective on their lives and the world around them, and when their voice is incorporated in learning, good things happen.

Under the new education format the teacher takes on the role of advisor, providing feedback and any sup-



THERE ARE SO MANY ASPECTS OF "SCHOOL" WHERE LEARNERS HAVE NOT BEEN GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO BE ACTIVE PARTICIPANTS IN THEIR LEARNING. SOME LEARNERS, ESPECIALLY THOSE THAT ARE CONCERNED ABOUT EXTRINSIC FACTORS LIKE GRADES, MAY NOT FEEL COMFORTABLE EXPRESSING THEIR OWN OPINIONS. GIVING LEARNER'S VOICES ENCOURAGES THEM TO PARTICIPATE IN LEARNING, TO OWN AND DRIVE THEIR LEARNING, AND EVENTUALLY TO DISCOVER THEIR PURPOSE FOR LEARNING.



Deputy Director General, Faculty of Languages, Humanities and Social Sciences, National Institute of Education, Dr. Darshana Samaraweera

"TECHNOLOGY AND AUTOMATION ARE RADICALLY CHANGING THE VERY NATURE OF WORK AND RESHAPING INDUSTRY. CHILDREN IN PRIMARY SCHOOL TODAY ARE LIKELY TO WORK IN JOBS THAT MAY NOT EVEN EXIST RIGHT NOW. DEVELOPING ITS HUMAN CAPITAL TO A NEW AND HIGHER LEVEL WILL BE KEY FOR SRI LANKA TO BECOME AN UPPER-MIDDLE-INCOME ECONOMY."

port needed in finding connections and resources to meet goals around what each learner believes is their purpose for learning.

Teachers should guide them towards meeting the new job opportunities that emerge in the future taking into consideration that the world is moving towards the industrial revolution.

We want to make our education system even more student-centric, and sharpen our focus in holistic education—student-centred on values and character development. We could call this Student-Centric, Values-Driven education. Another way of putting it, value in our learners and learning values.

The new emerging job oriented areas will be in Artificial Intelligence, Robotics, Internet of Things, Autonomous Vehicles, Biotechnology, Nanotechnology, 3-D Printing, Material Science, Quantum Computing and Energy Storage.

The future needs youth with knowledge and higher order thinking skills; the ability to think logically, and to solve ill-defined problems by identifying and describing the problem, critically analyzing the information available or creating the knowledge required, framing and testing various hypotheses, formulating creative solutions, and taking action.

"We are now aligning our education system toward meeting these emerging demands."

"We are bringing greater choice and flexibility into education. New types of schools are being introduced to encourage those with special talents to go as far as they can. Existing schools have been provided with further autonomy and resources to develop their own distinct strengths and specific areas or niches of excellence."

"These could be either in a particular area of study or in co-curricular activities and character development. The different needs of students will thus be met through a wide range of school types and educational programs."

Strong friendships

"Our schools are striving to provide students with a holistic education, focused on both academic and non-academic areas. We want to give our students a broad range of experiences and help them make the most of their years together in school where they will interact with one another and form strong friendships for life."

"As they grow up, we want to provide them with the full opportunity to develop the skills and values that they will need for life. Besides judging our students' performance through examinations, we are also looking at other and broader measures of how well they do in other areas."

Parents also must remember that a student getting 90 plus marks out of 100 in an Exam is not the only success. Students may get 40 marks but have other hidden skills that should be nurtured and egged on by both parents and teachers.

"We must encourage our students to learn more actively and independently. We want to nurture a curiosity that goes beyond the formal curriculum, and a love for learning that stays with the student through life. Syllabuses will be trimmed without diluting students' preparedness for higher education. This will free up time for

our students to focus on core knowledge and skills, and to provide greater space for flexibility in carrying out school-based activities in the curriculum."

In a bid to start the new education process they have already commenced Teacher training towards achieving these goals and some teachers have already started training at the Center for education leadership development in Padukka and other centers and also on zoom and other online methods due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

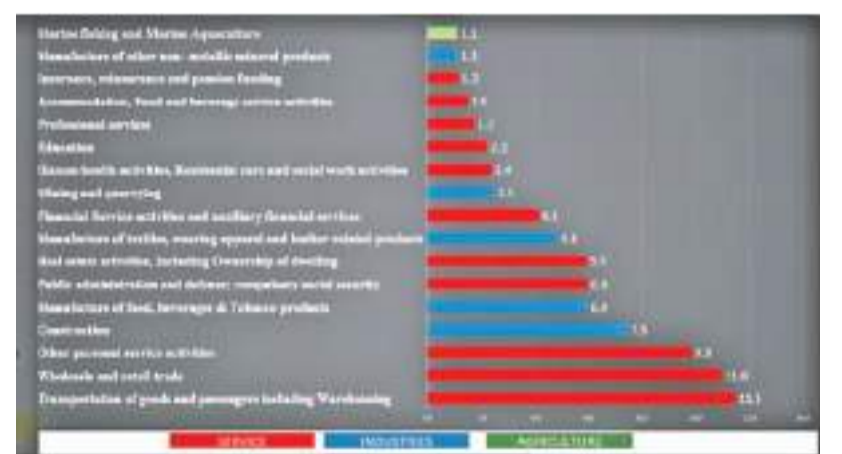
He however said that already there is some opposition to this education reform process by some unions since they want to be in their traditional corners not caring about the future of Sri Lanka.

"I must tell you that one of the key successes of the Singapore economy is their education and there was unity and vision and mission among our teachers to go ahead with reforms when they were announced.

"School leaders, union leaders, educators and researchers and policymakers and most importantly even parents agreed and this change of mindset and supportiveness has helped Singapore to be where they are today."

An Entrepreneur or a person with entrepreneurial mind-set is a person who is creative, innovative and think out-of-the box to resolve the problems and he or she takes risk to introduce the new ideas, processes, concepts, products and services to the local and global markets to provide more employment opportunities, reduce poverty and regional disparity. Our aim is to convert students into these kinds of future entrepreneurs."

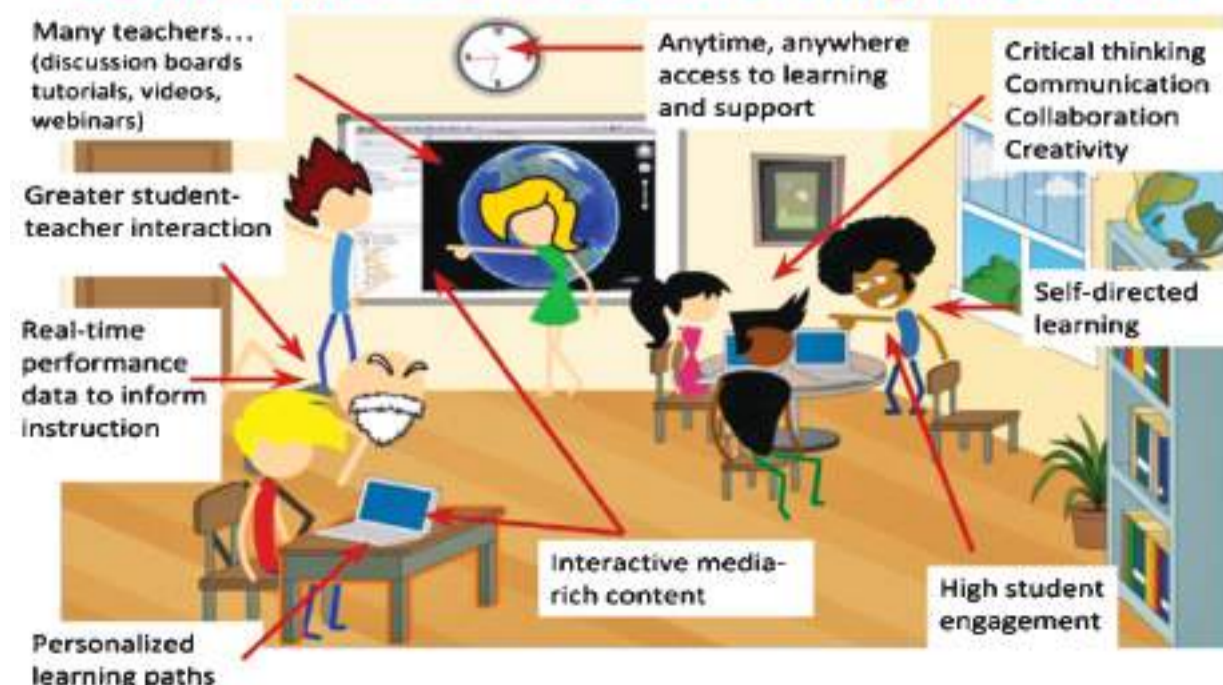
"Hence a proper education reforms in Sri Lanka too will certainly create a developed, peaceful nation with US\$12,000 or more Per Capita Income by 2035 by growing at an acetate of 10% per annum from 2022," he predicted.



Growth Comparison

Country	1950	2019	2004	Times
Sri Lanka	89	4,000	1051	11.8
Japan	90	48,000	29,732	330 Meiji Restoration
S'pore	30	64,000	26,705	890 Lee Kwan Yew
Malaysia	30	12,000	3,420	114 Dr. Mahathir Mohammad

Anatomy of a Blended Learning Classroom



Start your globally recognized UK Degree right after O'Levels at AMDT School of Creativity

AMDT School of Creativity - a globally recognized Creative School in Sri Lanka.

AMDT School of Creativity, being the pioneering institution for Creativity in Sri Lanka, offers undergraduate courses in some of the most popular Creative disciplines in the world. These courses are awarded by the UK's Falmouth University and Pearson (UK's most recognized awarding body).

UK's Falmouth University has been recognized as one of the top 50 Creative schools worldwide.

Students with O 'Level can choose from popular Creative degree-level qualifications ranging from Graphic Design, Animation & Visual Effects, Fashion Design, Interior Design, Creative Advertising, Photography, Creative Multimedia, to Web & App Development, (more courses updated at www.amdt.lk).

As Sri Lanka's pioneering Creative institution, AMDT School of Creativity has found this to be a reason for the existing recess of trainable qualified young blood in the Creative industries. Identifying the need to train the younger generation who are passionate about Creativity from the very start and expose them to their dreams by helping them step out to the

As most companies prioritize 'Degrees' over A'Levels when hiring new blood, AMDT's year zero combined with the industry exposure it provides will ensure that students are open to stable employment opportunities globally even before they complete their degrees. Guiding their students from the very basics of Creative thinking to the most advanced techniques and processes in the relevant field they choose, AMDT provides students with the opportunity to engage with real-world learning, solve problems, and work on projects that can shape up the future.

The opportunity to learn from the finest minds in the Creative industries - flexibly!

AMDT's teaching techniques focus on improving the practical application of Creative thinking in addition to its internationally recognized course content delivered by some of the finest minds working in today's Creative industries with numerous years of experience collaborating with many brands and projects. This makes learning very relevant to what's out there in real life. Students will be guided to develop talent, obtain skills, and build-up their personality to face their future careers



AMDT's fashion students showcase their work at the annual Fashion Show at AMDT's Festival of Creativity.



Students are trained by highly qualified Creative Industry professionals.

Through its presence in the Creative education sector in Sri Lanka for the past 15 years, AMDT School of Creativity has built its reputation in the Creative industry for shaping young talent to meet industry standards through modern strategic thinking and applying Creativity to solve real-world problems for people, communities, and brands.

The real problem - What stops youngsters from graduating early?

Most Sri Lankan students start their A 'Levels expecting to enter state university degree programmes. But as only a little percentage as 10% gain entrance, students who drop out either re-do their A 'Levels or join private degree programmes. This behaviour has been almost common and considered a practice in the local education system. Not forgetting the fact that students starting their degrees after A 'Levels graduate and typically start their career at the age of 24.

Creative industries and expose them to careers at a very early age, AMDT has transformed its popular 'Foundation Diploma in Art & Design' into a method where students start can now start studying their degree from their O'Levels. They will enter into the 'Year-Zero' (Year 0) which is the foundation year and further their studies respectively to Year 1, Year 2, and then Year 3 (final year).

The universal solution - 'Year Zero' - Save time and learn for the future careers

With its new offering of the 'Year Zero' concept, AMDT School of Creativity now allows students right after O'Levels to enroll for Falmouth University's Creative UK degrees. With this offering, students are now able to save a good 2-3 years of their time and focus on following their Creative dreams and building their skills and thinking process to become leaders in the Creative industry.



Field trips are a big part of AMDT's annual calendar.

Custom-Designed courses to bring out the best in every child

These courses are well planned and custom-designed to fit careers in different Creative disciplines; which is also a major reason why AMDT's students get hired by companies even before they graduate!

With a good focus on helping build their best portfolios of work through individual and group projects, AMDT's students get exposed to a competitive learning environment that prepares them to harness the best of their skills and abilities for future careers.

Students have submitted their work to international Creative festivals such as Cannes Lions, Spikes Asia, D&AD, and Animation film festivals, are some of them.

To learn more about AMDT School of Creativity, visit www.amdt.lk or call or WhatsApp 114-381-981. You can visit the premises at 317A, Galle Road, Colombo 04.

Start your Creative degree right after O'Levels at AMDT

Our courses are awarded by Falmouth University (a UK university that's recognized as one of the top 50 Creative schools worldwide) and Pearson (UK's most recognized awarding body).

Creative Career Courses:

- BA (Hons) Graphic Design
- BA (Hons) Animation & VFX
- BA (Hons) Fashion Design
- Interior Design
- Web & App Development
- Creative Multimedia
- Film
- Photography
- Creative Advertising

Call or WhatsApp
11 4381 981
hello@amdt.lk

www.amdt.lk
317 A, Galle Road,
Colombo 04.

AMDT School of Creativity is a place for everybody!

we believe that Creativity is not bound by culture, religion, or cast but by the commitment to explore, challenge, and experiment.

The best facilities to bring out the best in you

AMDT's studios and digital labs are equipped with the latest software technologies and facilities.

Get hired even before you graduate as you start working, you can switch to part-time classes.

Friendly learning environment designed to bring the best out of your Creative thoughts.

Taught by the finest minds in the Creative industries

with real-life briefs that focus on improving practical application of Creative thinking.

Class schedules are flexible: part-time and full-time

so that you can conveniently study without disconnecting from your work or family.



Advertorial

SLIIT in Groundbreaking Initiative Joins AWS Academy

EQUIPS STUDENTS WITH IN-DEMAND CLOUD COMPUTING SKILLS

Colombo: SLIIT announced another ground breaking initiative of its participation in AWS Academy, an Amazon Web Services (AWS) programme that provides Higher Education Institutions with a ready-to-teach cloud computing curriculum.

The AWS Academy curriculum is developed and maintained by AWS subject matter experts, ensuring that it reflects current services and up-to-date best practices. Courses are taught by AWS Academy-accredited educators who in AWS technology.

Beginning end-February, SLIIT will commence delivery of the AWS Academy Cloud Foundations Programme that will prepare students to pursue careers in the fast-growing cloud computing space and industry-recognized AWS Certified Cloud Practitioner Certification.

This introductory course provides students a detailed overview of cloud concepts, AWS core services, security, architecture, pricing and support. The duration of the course will be four months and delivered in class, online and/or hybrid.

Uditha Gamage, Director Development and Engineering Services, SLIIT said, "We are proud to make the AWS Academy curriculum available to our students. The rapid rise of cloud computing is creating a growing number of high-quality jobs at organizations around the world, and the technical skills that students develop



through this program will position them well for their careers today and in the future."

SLIIT understands the importance of building a talent pipeline of the next generation of professionals equipped with cloud skills.

The programmes will serve as a catalyst for students to be able to develop their knowledge and to pursue opportunities in careers in cloud computing. SLIIT as a premier institute recognized for teaching excellence is driving the

change in enabling technology-led growth in Sri Lanka.

Dr. Nuwan Kodagoda, Head, Department of Computer Science and Software Engineering, Faculty of Computing, SLIIT noted "The AWS Academy which will provide training to key cloud certifications which are well accepted in the Industry. This will help develop the next generation of cloud computing professionals. Our goal is to build a pipeline of AWS-trained professionals who can help drive innovation as cloud computing becomes the new normal".

For further information on the AWS Academy Programme offered at SLIIT, contact 077 330 0066 or email romi.f@slit.lk

Stay at the forefront of Digital Marketing | NUS BUSINESS SCHOOL'S DIGITAL MARKETING PROGRAMME

Why Should You Enrol for This Programme?

Consumer behaviours are constantly evolving, as are the marketing technologies and strategies Companies use to attract and connect with potential customers. In order to reach a wider audience and create long-lasting engagement, it's important for business leaders and other professionals to understand the effects of digital adoption and changes in consumption.

In NUS Business School's Digital Marketing: Strategies, Models and Frameworks programme, you will gain the skills and knowledge you need to bring agility to your organisation and transform the marketing strategies, processes and frameworks that are vital to growing your business and/or market share in a digitised world.

Is This Programme Right for Me?

If your role includes building a brand for your company, leveraging customer journey insights to drive better engagement, developing communication strategies for the digital age, or creating better solutions for clients based on the

Programme Details

- STARTS ON**
23 February 2021
- DURATION**
2 Months, Online
4-6 hours per week
- PROGRAMME FEES**
USD 1,400

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latest in digital marketing and analytics, you will benefit most from this programme:

- Sales and marketing professionals and managers
- Brand and communications directors and managers
- Consultants in business and marketing, global marketing, marketing and communications, marketing management, and public relations



Consumer-driven industries where digital marketing applications are critical, including banking and finance, healthcare, retail, IT products and services, advertising, healthcare, education, FMCG, and automotive

Flexible payment options starting from USD 588 available now. **APPLY NOW**

NUS Business School is collaborating with online education provider Emeritus to offer a portfolio of high-impact online programmes. Working with Emeritus

gives NUS Business School the advantage of broadening its access beyond their on-campus offerings in a collaborative and engaging format that stays true to the quality of NUS Business School. Emeritus' approach to learning is based on a cohort-based design to maximise peer-to-peer sharing and includes video lectures with world-class faculty and hands-on project-based learning.

EMERITUS Institute of Management | Committee for Private Education Registration Number 201510637C | Period: 29 March 2018 to 28 March 2022.

CA Sri Lanka's seminar on Personal Tax obligations attracts over 700 participants

In its standing as the change makers of the country's professional landscape, the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka (CA Sri Lanka) has been at the forefront in enhancing the knowledge and competence of finance and non-finance professionals. In fulfilling this important objective, CA Sri Lanka recently organised a public seminar on tax which received a massive response.

The online public seminar titled 'Awareness on Personal Tax Obligations' attracted over 725 participants who joined the free seminar conducted early this month.

The seminar was organised amid increasing concerns expressed by the public in relation to opening income tax files and file returns. The Government announced and implemented significant tax changes from January, 1, 2021 where the Advance Personal Income Tax (APIT) was introduced in lieu of Pay-As-You-Earn tax (PAYE Tax).

In the past, tax payers who only had employment income were not required to file income tax returns, as PAYE tax was deducted from their income by the employer and remitted to the Inland Revenue Department. However, from January 2020, everyone who is in the tax liable range, are required to register with the Inland Revenue Department and comply with the respec-



tive tax obligations.

During the seminar, Ms. Sarah Afker, Partner - Tax Services of BDO Partners made a detailed presentation which covered important aspects in relation to the personal tax obligation components including sources of income, qualifying payments and reliefs, available exemptions, personal tax rates, concessionary rates and how to compute taxable income, and tax payable.

The seminar was further boosted with an expert panel discussion featuring Ms. Hiranthi Ratnayake, Former Chairperson of the Tax Committee of CA Sri Lanka, Denzil Rodrigo, Alternate Chairman of the CA Sri Lanka Faculty of Taxation, N. R. Gajendran, Partner of Gajma & Co., V. Sivagurunathan, Principal Consultant of Con-



sultants Consortium and Athula Ranaweera, Managing Partner/Director of Assent Advisory Partners. Sulaiman Nishtar, Chairman of the CA Sri Lanka Faculty of Taxation moderated the session.

The Tax Faculty was established in 1995 to assist Chartered Accountants and non-accounting professionals to further their knowledge in taxation. The faculty conducts various courses and programmes including seminars and workshops targeting professionals and practitioners to further their knowledge in the subject. The Tax Faculty also organises events hosted by eminent speakers to share knowledge on subjects related to local and international tax matters.

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka (CA Sri Lanka) takes great pride in being the

change makers of Sri Lanka's accounting arena. For over six long decades, CA Sri Lanka has been the vanguard in developing the accounting profession in Sri Lanka, while also playing a critical role in South Asia to ensure the profession continues to be an important catalyst in the success of the region.

Chartered Accountants produced by CA Sri Lanka are considered a brand of unique and versatile professionals, with the ability to steer any business successfully, due to their exceptional technical and perceptive skills, as well as financial discipline and out of the box thinking. A significant percentage of CA Sri Lanka's members play an influential role across the dynamic corporate world holding distinguished leadership positions.

SEE THE WORLD IN DIVERSE LIGHTS

By
Vasana Abeynayake



FICTION ALLOWS YOU TO LOOK AT THE WORLD IN AN ENTIRELY DIFFERENT LIGHT. WHEN YOU READ FICTION, YOU'RE LOOKING AT THE WORLD THROUGH SOMEONE ELSE'S EYES

Fiction refers to a story that comes from a writer's imagination, as opposed to one based strictly on fact or a true story. In the literary world, a work of fiction can refer to a short story, novella, and novel, which is the longest form of literary prose. Every work of fiction falls into a sub-genre, each with its own style, tone, elements and storytelling devices.

Fiction helps you understand other people's perspectives. It is a bond between the mind of the reader and the writer, and the minds of reader and character. When you read fiction, you're seeing the world through a character's eyes. Watching a character interact with the world around them is powerful.

The literary genres are varied in almost fourteen styles. Literary fiction novels are considered works with artistic value and literary merit. They often include political criticism, social commentary, and reflections on humanity. Literary fiction novels are typically character-driven, as opposed to being plot-driven, and follow a character's inner story.

Mystery novels, also called detective fiction, follow a detective solving a case from start to finish. They drop clues and slowly reveal information, turning the reader into a detective trying to solve the case, too. Mystery novels start with an exciting hook, keep readers interested pacing with, and end with a satisfying conclusion that answers all of the reader's outstanding questions.

Thriller novels are dark, mysterious and gripping plot-driven stories. They very seldom include comedic elements, but what they lack in humour, they make up for in suspense. Thrillers keep readers on their toes and use plot twists, red herrings, and cliffhangers to keep them guessing until the end.

Horror novels are meant to scare, startle, shock, and even repulse readers. Generally focusing on themes of death, demons, evil spirits, and the afterlife, they prey on fears with scary beings like ghosts, vampires, werewolves, witches and monsters. In horror fiction, plot and characters are tools used to elicit a terrifying sense of dread.

Historical fiction novels take place in the past. Written with a careful balance of research and creativity, they transport readers to another time and place; which can be real, imagined or a combination of both. Many historical novels tell stories that involve actual historical figures or historical events within historical settings.

Romantic fiction centers on love stories between two people. They're lighthearted, optimistic and have an emotionally satisfying ending. Romance novels do contain conflict, but it doesn't outshine the romantic relationship, which always prevails in the end.

Western novels tell the stories of cowboys, settlers and outlaws exploring the western boundary and taming the American Old West. They're shaped specifically by their genre-specific elements and rely on them in ways that novels in other fiction genres don't. Westerns aren't as popular as they once were; the

golden age of the genre coincided with the popularity of Western films in the 1940s, '50s and '60s.

Bildungsroman is a literary genre of stories about a character growing psychologically and morally from their youth into adulthood. Generally, they experience a profound emotional loss, set out on a journey, encounter conflict, and grow into a mature person by the end of the story.

Speculative fiction is a super genre that encompasses a number of different types of fiction, from science fiction to fantasy to dystopian. The stories take place in a world different from our own. Speculative fiction knows no boundaries; there are no limits to what exists beyond the real world.

Science-fiction novels are exploratory stories with imagined elements that don't exist in the real world. Some are inspired by 'hard' natural sciences like physics, chemistry and astronomy; others are inspired by 'soft' social sciences like psychology, anthropology and sociology. Common elements of science-fiction novels include time travel, space exploration and futuristic societies.

Fantasy novels are speculative fiction stories with imaginary characters set in imaginary universes. They're inspired by mythology and folklore and often include elements of magic. The genre attracts both children and adults; well-known titles include Alice's Adventures in Wonderland by Lewis Carroll and the Harry Potter series by J.K. Rowling.

Dystopian novels are a genre of science fiction. They're set in societies viewed as worse than the one in which we live. Dystopian fiction exists in contrast to utopian fiction, which is set in societies viewed as better than the one in which we live.

Magical realism novels depict the world truthfully, plus add magical elements.

Realist fiction novels are set in a time and place that could actually happen in the real world. They depict real people, places and stories in order to be as truthful as possible. Realist works of fiction remain true to everyday life and abide by the laws of nature as we currently understand them.

Fiction allows you to look at the world in an entirely different light. When you read fiction; you're looking at the world through someone else's eyes. Looking at the world in different lights is one of the most vital things one can do in the pursuit of growth. Our perspectives are limited, but they're constantly evolving. When we look at the world through someone else's perspective, we try on the elements of their paradigm and when we find something we like, we adopt it and make it our own. In doing so, our own paradigm grows.



That's the thing about books. They let you travel without moving your feet.

—
Jhumpa Lahiri





State Ministry of Skills Development,
Vocational Education, Research & Innovations



Higher Educational Collaboration Between NIBM, Sri Lanka & Deakin University, Australia

The official partnership launch of the National Institute of Business Management of Sri Lanka and Deakin University of Australia took place on the 24th of February 2021 where the Partnership Agreement was officially signed collaborating with the School of Computing & Engineering of NIBM providing an opportunity for NIBM Students to complete their Degree at Deakin in Australia after successfully completing their Diploma or HND at NIBM.

SCHOOL OF COMPUTING & ENGINEERING



Deakin University CRICOS Provider Code 00113B

National Institute of Business Management
No: 120/5, Vidya (Wijerama) Mawatha, Colombo 07, Sri Lanka

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Advertorial

Unique opportunity for world-recognized Phd programme from Management Science University, Malaysia

ENROLL NOW ON FOR THE MARCH 2021 INTAKE

With a track record of proven excellence, that among 47% top university and ranked at 551st in the QS World University Rankings for 2021; and the top 139th in the QS Asian University Rankings for 2021, the Management & Science University (MSU) Malaysia is the ideal choice to enhance your academic track record with a Ph.D. This doctorate programme is a significant value addition to your academic portfolio with the world recognition of the MSU. Having been accredited and endorsed as one of the best and highest ranked universities in the world, the MSU offers you the first-class higher education experience with the required global recognition, bringing together our outstanding faculty, cutting-edge research methods and an immersive theoretical understanding at the exciting study environment, where the next generation of business scholars can refine their expertise.

At present MSU is recognized by more than 40 countries including UK, USA, Australia, Eastern Europe, New Zealand, Japan, South Africa, Indonesia and India. MSU is rated as an 'Excellent University' by Ministry of Higher Education, Malaysia; the first non-Japanese University to be accredited by ABEST 21, Japan; accredited by Accreditation Services for International Colleges (ASIC) UK. Furthermore, MSU is a member of the Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU) and recognized by the University Grant Commission (UGC) of Sri Lanka.



Top/ Rank 314 in the world for faculty Student Ratio	Top/ Rank 333 in the world for International student
Top/ Rank 334 in the world International faculty	Top/ Rank 399 in the world for employer reputation

THE MSU Ph.D PROGRAMS

Being a highly competitive and designed to fill to the knowledge gaps through practical-oriented and outcome-based education, the MSU Ph.D programme prides itself on its superior quality. The program is entirely research based, and the doctorate will be awarded on the successful completion of a thesis - by MSU Malaysia. Students will be examined by assessment of the thesis and the research on what it is based. The Ph.D programs also require a viva voice.

Ph.D Candidates must demonstrate the ability to carry out an independent research, and require a recognized Bachelor's and Master's degree that is approved by the senate of MSU to enter into this prestigious

program. **Management and Science University (MSU) offers the following Ph.D programs:**

- Management / Business
- Computer Science
- Accounting / Finance
- Information & Communication Technology
- Food Service Technology
- Biomedicine
- Applied Science
- Health Sciences
- Engineering

WHY SHOULD WE FOLLOW PHD STUDIES AT MSU?

Management & Science University, Malaysia has established its Learning Centre (MSU) in Colombo to create better opportunities for Sri Lankan students in order to receive an excellent education at their home country. The research-based Ph.D programme offered by MSU, meets the international standards by complementing the thesis work with minimum of three internationally recognized refereed journal publications. The programme is conducted as per the schedules provided by the University that consist a defense presentation, thesis work, work completion seminar and the final defense of VIVA. Malaysian supervisors who are assigned by the university and local advisors guide the Ph.D candidates. Monthly progress monitoring and all exams are conducted by MSU Malaysia.

Boasting an employability rate of 98.7 percent within 6 months of graduation, all MSU programs are specifically designed to cater to industry requirements and remain relevant to the market. MSU also takes the extra step to ensure that students are equipped with the required soft skills and competencies in addition to academic excellence. Providing an educational experience that incorporates theory with the required external exposure, MSU's commitment is to build balanced, holistic and well-rounded individuals who are successful academically and leveraged with soft skills.

MSU importantly contributes for making Sri Lanka as the major educa-



tional hub in the South Asian region through a vast spectrum of programs from Diploma to Degree to Postgraduate Studies to Masters, PhD's and MBA.

Dr. D.A. Thakshila Kumari (Senior Lecturer in Banking and Finance, Department of Banking and Finance, Faculty of Business Studies and Finance, Wayamba University)

It is with great pleasure that I convey this message as a successful Ph.D holder of the 13th batch completed doctoral studies at the Management and Science University of Malaysia (MSU) through the MSU Learning Center Colombo. For my doctoral studies I selected one of the crucial sectors in Sri Lanka; the Banking sector and examined the financial literacy as a significant variable to determine the level of financial inclusion among the rural poor women in Sri Lanka. In this context, the research found that since the lack of financial literacy among the rural women, they are excluded from the formal banking sector. Therefore, formal financial institutes should have focused to formulate some strategies to absorb these unbanked rural populations into the formal banking sector. The findings of this study could provide insights to the policy makers of the financial sector in the ways of how to improve the level of financial literacy of this segment of the society and how to formulate new policies to absorb financial excluded rural women into the formal banking sector and enhance their economic empowerment. In addition, results have shown that financial inclusion plays a significant mediating role between financial literacy and women's eco-



nomical empowerment. I would like to express my sincere thanks and heartfelt gratitude to my supervisors, the Dean of the School of Business, MSU Malaysia, staff members at MSU Learning Center, Colombo for their invaluable guidance and support extended during the last three years.

Dr. Prabhshini Wijewantha (Senior Lecturer, Department of Human Resource Management, Faculty of Commerce and Management Studies, University of Kelaniya)

I completed my Ph.D. from the Management and Science University (MSU), Malaysia in 2020. I was a member of the Batch 13 from Sri Lanka. Upon completion of the Research Methodology lecture series and the workshops, I undertook my research within large scale Sri Lankan private sector organizations which are emerging as multinationals (emerging market multinationals) giving a huge competition to the global corporate giants. As Sri Lanka is currently focusing on promoting local industries to enter the international markets it is very important that we ensure the human resource in these organizations are ready and willing to support this business mission. Given this situation, my research study focused on ensuring health and wellness (well-being) of these employees by supporting them to minimize job- and work-related stress. As such, it is important to see how organizations could minimize these stressors by largely focusing on issues such as internal organizational politics which has largely become a hidden killer of organizations. In undertaking this research study, I was able to further my understanding in the areas of re-



search methodology and data analyses.

As such, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to my supervisors from MSU, Malaysia, the Senior VP for Post Graduate, Business and Social Science Cluster, Dean Graduate School of Management, and the Director and the staff of MSI Learning Centre, Colombo for their support extended during undertaking this insightful research study which I undertook.

Dr. Sumith de Silva (Head of Marketing and Corporate Communications, Airport and Aviation Services (Private) Limited Bandaranaika International Airport)

It is a great pleasure and honor for me to pen down this message after completing my Ph.D. in Business and Marketing at the Management and Science University, (MSU), Malaysia.

Choosing Management and Science University (MSU) Malaysia for my Ph.D. studies has been one of the best decisions I ever made in my academic career. MSU paved the way to expand my horizons and opened up many global opportunities. Ph.D. at MSU has been a journey where I was able to broaden my critical and conceptual thinking with a global mindset. Collaborative culture, closer supervision, and motivation of the eminent panel comprised of globally recognized academia always enrich exceptional learning aptitude in the student's mind.

I owe a debt of gratitude to MSU and my academic supervisors for their invaluable guidance and continuous support during the Ph.D. journey.



Dr. Mudith Sujewa Gamlath (Senior Lecturer, Department of Accountancy, University of Kelaniya)

It is with great pleasure that I write this message as a successful Ph.D holder at the Management and Science University of Malaysia (MSU) through the MSU Learning Center Colombo. For my doctoral studies I selected one of the contemporary issues, the Determinants of Employee Frauds in Public Sector Entities in Sri Lanka. In this complex, uncertain and digitized environment, Public sector entities are exposed to greater level of fraud risk and therefore should more focus on fraud risk and how to manage fraud risk by inculcating ethical culture to improve the integrity among the employees to reduce employee frauds. The findings derived from this study could provide insights to the management of the public sector entities, regulators, and policy makers on the ways of how to manage fraud risk and reduce fraud in public sector entities in Sri Lanka.

I would like to express my sincere thanks and heartfelt gratitude to my supervisors, the Dean of the School of Business, MSU Malaysia, staff members at MSU Learning Center, Colombo for their invaluable guidance and support extended during the last three years.

For more information about MSU Ph.D and other programmes (more specifically about the Ph.D intake in March 2021), kindly contact Management & Science University, through our local Representative MSI Colombo on enquiry@msi.edu.lk telephoneTel: 011 257 6900 / 011 257 6700 Hot line 077 0777 880, or visit us at No 300, Galle Road Colombo 03. www.msu.edu.my



CMA Speech Craft Programme Develops Leadership and Speaking Skills batch No. 22 passed out in January

The CMA Speech Craft Batch 22 commenced the programme on 6th December 2020, and within seven weeks successfully completed the programme online and held the final Awards ceremony meeting online on Sunday, 17th January 2021.

The Speechcraft programme which is mandatory for all CMA final year students, trains students to communicate more effectively at work, home or socially and also to present their ideas convincingly in an organised and logical manner. Enables them to improve their self confidence in front of an audience?

Students could achieve their communication skills to meet the needs of the workplace through the globally recognized Toastmasters.

International Speechcraft program

Speechcraft is a program designed to develop your public speaking ability and so much more. You will gain confidence in all aspects of communication, including written and impromptu speeches, audio-visual aids, body language, active listening, and critical evaluation.

The Speechcraft program exposes each participant to a wide range of communication and learning experiences. Each participant receives a professionally published Toastmaster International Speechcraft Manual plus a range of learning materials.



Batch -22 Virtual Final Meeting and Awards Ceremony

Participants prepare and present speeches in a relaxed atmosphere. Speeches are designed with the novice in mind - you do not need any experience!

During each meeting, short impromptu speaking sessions are conducted to help you learn to think on your feet. After each presentation you

receive a constructive speech evaluation, initially from the course trainers and then from your peers. This process recognizes speaker's strengths and provides valuable guidance on how future presentations may be improved. Speechcraft participants are encouraged to embrace the Toastmasters International motto: Better

Listening, Better Thinking, Better speaking

Prof. Lakshman R. Watawala giving the Chief Guests address at the Awards Ceremony held on zoom, commended the Batch 22 participants for an excellent performance delivering speeches on relevant and inspiring topics. Prof. Watawala ex-

pressed the importance of Communication skill development for the furtherance of the career success of the CMA Management Accountants who will be the future corporate leaders. The participants were encouraged to attend Conferences with local and international presence to improve the knowledge base and volunteer to make presentations in professional 'fora' to gather confidence and climb the corporate ladder.

The Speechcrafters expressed their individual appreciation to Prof. Watawala for making the speechcraft programme mandatory though some had reservations at first but they realized sooner than later the invaluable knowledge and confidence gained to overcome fear of speaking in public, ingredients and structure of an effective speech in addition to critical topics on leadership such as positive thinking, teamwork and time management.

The President of CMA Sri Lanka Toastmasters Club T.M. Mayuran Ramathan, appreciated the visionary leadership of Prof.Watawala for ensuring that CMA students receive the full package of communication and leadership skill development through the speechcraft programme and thanked his fellow Toastmaster members for the co-operation extended to assist in the twelve session programme.

President Mayuran also conducted the Certificate awarding ceremony online with Prof. Lakshman R. Watawala Chief Guest giving away the Certificates for Batch 22 students who successfully completed the Speech Craft programme.

A speechcrafters delivered an elegant and comprehensive Vote of thanks on behalf of the 22 members who completed the Course, giving special note of appreciation to Dian Abeyewardene the Course Director, Mrs. Shanthi Maheswaran, Director Member Services CMA, the IT team of CMA for the efficient online facilitation of all sessions, especially in the final meeting.

The commitment and dedication of Prof. Watawala, President of the Institute of Certified Management Accountants of Sri Lanka, to empower the CMA students in all aspects as future leaders irrespective of all challenges experienced with the Covid - 19 pandemic, was greatly appreciated by all students who acknowledged the immense benefits received by following the Speech Craft programme.

The next two Batches comprising a weekday and weekend batch have commenced registrations and students applications should be sent on or before 25th February 2021 to Ms. Shanthi. Email: registrations@cma-srilanka.org / Mobile 071 4705536

“Education should be not for school but for life”

- Minister of Education, Prof. G.L. Peiris

Final objective of education should not be the school, but the life, said Minister of Education, Prof. G.L. Peiris. Minister made these observations while participating at the opening ceremony of the new Research Building Complex of the Sri Lanka University of Technology recently. After this research building complex is constructed around 45000 sq. ft. area will be allocated for research activities.



We are aware that there is a big mismatch between education in this country and the job market. We can introduce Sri Lanka University of Technology as one of the higher education institutes that has clearly identified the prevailing mismatch. Here, Music is taught in addition to Technology, Engineering, Business Management and Information Technology. Can you believe it? Although there is not much of demand for Music in our country but in foreign countries there is a good demand. Our children can easily get that opportunity.



This year we will be increasing the University intake for higher studies by 11,500 compared to last year. Last year we admitted 30,000 students and this year it will be increased to 41,500. We had to increase that by another 540 owing to certain problems that cropped up regarding the 'Z' score. Accordingly, more than 12,000 students will be admitted this year. When the Government is increasing the opportunities for higher education we are anticipating to start 'ten City Universities' with the intention of providing higher education opportunities. Asian Development Bank is providing funds for this.

The comment of the heads of those institutions was that the graduates who pass out of the Universities lack soft skills development. Although they have the educational qualifications their soft skill development has not taken place through education.

In addition to them our culture and virtues should be safeguarded. We have to direct our Higher Education to those targets.

Therefore, the contribution your Institution is making for research, should be greatly admired, the Minister said.

We talked about jobs with the heads of leading private business institutions in this country in the recent past as we have to plan to provide jobs in addition to the 100,000 jobs our government has provided.

Therefore we have to fill that vacuum in higher education. We have to develop soft skills such as Logic, Information Technology, Creativeness and Human Relations.

Minister of Trade Bandula Gunawardena, Chief Executive of the Sri Lanka University of Technology Ranjith Rubasinghe and many others were present at this occasion.



Senior Business Managers Join PIM's EMBA

Prof. Ajantha S. Dharmasiri, Director, PIM, welcomed the virtually connected EMBA participants.

The Postgraduate Institute of Management (PIM), as the nation's management mentor successfully launched another batch of its Executive Master of Business Administration (EMBA) programme recently with a virtual inauguration. Prof. Ajantha S. Dharmasiri, Director, PIM, in his welcome address mentioned the efforts taken by the PIM to design the EMBA to suit an emerging category comprising of General Managers, Chief Executive Officers, Chief Financial Officers and Entrepreneurs.



at Channa de Silva, CEO, Lanka Clear, who was the chief guest at

the event, stressed the importance of contributing towards economic growth of the country with innovative approaches. Dr. Trevor Mendis, EMBA - of PIM elaborated the content and the conduct of the EMBA at

the PIM. Mrs. Himaja Wijeyanayake, a Gold medalist from a previous EMBA batch highlighted the need to be brilliant in basics with regard to the challenging yet rewarding EMBA experience at PIM.

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INAUGURATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND FINANCE NSBM GREEN UNIVERSITY



NSBM Green University marked another milestone on 18 February 2020 by establishing the Department of Accounting and Finance under the Faculty of Business. The Vice-Chancellor Prof. E.A. Weerasinghe graced the event as the Chief Guest while a leading tea exporter Dr. W. Jinadasa, Chairman of Andaradeniya Group, was participating as the guest of honour. Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Chaminda Rathnayake, Head of Academic Development and Quality Assurance, Prof. Baratha Dodankotuwa, Ms. Thilini De Silva, Dean Faculty of Business were also among other guests who graced the function. Ms. Maithri Vidanakariya Karanage, will be the first-ever Head of the newly established department.

The NSBM Department of Accounting and Finance aspires to become the epitome of creative Accounting and Finance education in Sri Lanka and is dedicated to producing employable and ardent graduates in respective disciplines. Thus, the quintessence of the department is enriched with its



focus to redefine and stretch the boundaries of Accounting and Finance education in Sri Lanka. The department is currently catering to a student population of over 1500 students and offers a range of both local degree programs and international degree programs from affiliated foreign universities; BM (Hons) Accounting and Finance by NSBM Green University, B.Sc. (Hons) Accounting and Finance by the University of Plymouth, United Kingdom and, Bachelor of Business: Banking and Finance and Financial Risk Management by the Victoria University, Australia. The department's radical approach to Accounting and Finance education makes its graduates well acquainted with knowledge, skills, and attitudes demanded by the modern corporate world.

THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE INVESTMENT CENTER

NSBM Department of Accounting and Finance declared open an investment center in collaboration with Bartleet Religare Securities (Pvt) Ltd and Colombo Stock Exchange to nurturing the various aspects of investment knowledge of NSBM

undergraduates. The investment center is equipped with modern technical equipment that facilitates real-time stock trading at the Colombo Stock Exchange within the University premises, and it is also the first of its caliber in Sri Lanka.



ACBT Teacher Training Programme at Sabaragamuwa University

The English Department of Australian College of Business and Technology conducted a training programme for Academic Staff of Sabaragamuwa University in November - December 2020. Over 30 Academic Staff members representing Department of Economics and Faculty of Management Studies of Sabaragamuwa University participated in the training.

This 50-hour training programme was organized under AHEAD: a World Bank funded project by the Sri Lankan Government. The programme focused on effective English medium teaching to undergraduate students, with the objective of enhancing the teaching and learning experience in the English medium in undergraduate programmes at State Universities. Training sessions were conducted online due to the Covid-19 pandemic Health restrictions. Nevertheless, the sessions were interactive, discussion-based and comprised teaching practices and demonstrations.

The training also included internationally recognized TKT CLIL certification as assessment. TKT CLIL is part of Cambridge TKT examinations and is an ideal qualification for those who teach different subjects in the English medium, irrespective of whether they teach in schools or in Universities. TKT certification also includes a module on Teaching Young Learners as well as several modules on Teaching English, which can be taken upon choice and requirement.



ACBT, with over 2 decades of experience and expertise in English language training, is well poised to provide training on English language learning and teaching to both academic and corporate clients. Its affiliation to leading international English Language proficiency testing bodies is an added advantage, leading to trainees' obtaining international certifications in English Language proficiency, teaching ability and business communication.






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'Asian Journal of Management Studies' Launched

The Faculty of Management Studies (FMS) of the Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka recently launched the Faculty Journal named Asian Journal of Management Studies (AJMS). As an 'A' graded faculty in the Sri Lankan State University system, FMS always attempts to be a knowledge hub for the nation by connecting to a broader network. AJMS, a double-blind peer-reviewed scholarly journal in business and management, reflects the FMS's attempt to benchmark the faculty's contribution to the growth of the body of knowledge in business and management. AJMS aims to promote and provide convenient access to publish and disseminate research works in business and management in the local, regional and global arena.

The ceremonial launch was held at the Auditorium of the Staff Development Center, of the Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka, where Professor Udaya Rathnayake, Vice-Chancellor, Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka, attended as the Chief Guest. Prof. Saman K. Herath (Dean, Faculty of Animal Science and Export Agriculture, UvaWellassa University of Sri Lanka) and Manil Jayasinghe (President, The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka) attended the ceremony as the Keynote Speaker and Guest of Honour. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the physical gathering was limited to very few dignitaries, including the Heads of the Departments of FMS. Academic, non-academic, and administrative staff members and the students joined the



session via online platforms, including Zoom and Facebook Live.

Sharing his thoughts at the launch, Professor Udaya Rathnayake stated that "It is indeed a great pleasure to see that the Faculty of Management Studies has taken a step forward by launching the faculty journal". By appreciating the effort made by FMS in launching this journal, the Vice-Chancellor further stated that "The importance of journals in academic life goes beyond providing a means of communication and a permanent record. Journal articles are the final output of most research, and a researcher's performance and productivity are judged largely on the number of publications

as well as where they appear".

The editorial team of AJMS comprises an eminent panel of academics representing the Faculty of Management Studies, Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka. Professor MSM Aslam (Dean - Faculty of Management Studies) heads the journal as the Editor-in-Chief. Dr. Thilini Chathurika Gamage (Senior Lecturer) and Dr. HP Rasika Priyankara (Senior Lecturer) act as the Managing Editors of the journal. The inaugural issue of the journal consists of six articles and a book review by eminent scholars in Sri Lanka.

Commenting on the launching of the journal, Prof. MSM Aslam, Edi-

tor-in-Chief/AJMS and President/Research and Publication Unit of FMS, stated that "As journals are inevitable scientific communication channel for Academic and Research Institutions, AJMS aims to provide a platform to publish new, high-quality and original research papers in the Management discipline in local, Asian and global contexts. Although the initial concept of AJMS is a couple of years old, I am glad that as a faculty, we could launch the journal parallel to the 25th Anniversary celebration of the Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka".

Addressing the gathering, Dean of the Faculty of Management Studies Prof. Athula Gnanapala stated that

"As an academic institution, we believe that it is our primary responsibility to work towards the betterment of the society through new initiatives such as journals and magazines to disseminate the new knowledge". He also appreciated the effort rendered by the editorial team of the journal in making the journal a success.

Sharing his views about the journal, Manil Jayasinghe (President, The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka) stated that "It is a great initiative taken by the Faculty of Management Studies in providing a platform to the development of economy where the community can learn from others' experiences and generate new

knowledge". He further necessitated the importance of close co-operation between academic institutions and the private sector in commercializing the research outputs.

Prof. Saman K. Herath (Dean, Faculty of Animal Science and Export Agriculture, UvaWellassa University of Sri Lanka) stated that academic journals enhance the global visibility of the State Universities and provide a platform for knowledge dissemination. Most importantly, he has highlighted the importance of research ethics in scientific communication. He emphasized that "Given the competitive nature of research, it has become increasingly challenging for scientists to report unique and pioneering research. Nevertheless, the practice of misreporting data and scientific results continues to be followed by some members of the research community".

Delivering the vote of thanks, Managing Editor of the journal, Dr. Thilini Chathurika Gamage, expressed her sincere gratitude to the distinguished dignitaries who have graced the ceremonial occasion and share their invaluable thoughts despite busy schedules. Further, she delivered her heartfelt obligations to the editorial team, eminent reviewers and authors who have contributed immensely to the journal's success.

The journal's future issues will focus on contemporary issues in management while providing some solutions and recommendations to overcome such issues.

The journal can be easily accessed through <https://www.sab.ac.lk/ajms/>



Sri Lanka Institute of Tourism and Hotel Management

MINISTRY OF TOURISM






We are the premier government institute in the country providing education and training for the development of human resources for tourism and hospitality industries.

CERTIFICATE COURSE IN EVENT MANAGEMENT

This program is designed and developed specially to support the MICE Tourism sub sector for the first time in SLITHM education deliverance. It is an opening of a provision for those who are awaiting to become an associate in the event management industry (MICE Tourism Sector).

ENTRY QUALIFICATION:
G.C.E. Ordinary Level / Equivalent Passed with a Simple pass for English language Or
Five years of MICE tourism sector experiences in and Event Company with English language abilities.

PERIOD OF THE COURSE: 06 months
COURSE FEE: 35,000/= (can be paid in two installments)
COURSE CONTENT:

Modules of Event Management program
Introduction to Tourism
Fundamental of Event Management
Event Goals, Objectives
Event Planning Process
Security Measures for Event
Event Concept and Designing
Basic Event Accounting and Financing
English for Event Management
ICT for Event Management

COURSE AVAILABLE AT: SLITHM Head Office-Colombo

At the successful completion of the course, students shall be able to acquaint SLITHM & TVET issued National Vocational Qualification Level-04 Certificates together.

CERTIFICATE COURSE IN TREKKING & HIKING GUIDE

This program is designed and developed specially to support the Adventure Tourism sub sector in srilanka. It has opened a provision for those who are awaiting to become professional Trekking Guide in the adventure tourism industry. This Program is ensured to develop their both foundation and skill levels competencies by delivering both theoretical and practical components during the maximum of one year including on the job training (OJT) period.

ENTRY QUALIFICATION:
G.C.E. Ordinary Level / Equivalent Passed with a Simple pass for English Language Or
Five years of MICE tourism sector experiences in and Event Company with English language abilities

PERIOD OF THE COURSE: 04 months
COURSE FEE: 40,000/= (can be paid in two installments)
COURSE CONTENT:

Modules Of Trekking Guide Program
General Tourism Module
Prepare for Trekking
Carry Out Briefing
Health and Safety Measures
Carry out Navigation Activities
Handel Necessary Gears
Survival Techniques
Perform Casualty Evacuation Process
Camping During Trek

COURSE AVAILABLE AT: SLITHM Head Office-Colombo, Bandarawella, Kandy

At the successful completion of the course, students shall obtain SLITHM qualification which will be directed at SLTDA for licensing as well as the National Vocational Qualification Four (NVQ -04)

NATIONAL CERTIFICATE IN COMMUNITY BASED TOURISM (CBT)

Community Based Tourism (CBT) is a novel concept to Sri Lanka and which has been developed out of the traditional tourism approaches. Also, it is considered as an alternative tourism typology against the conventional mass tourism. Especially community ownership and their significant involvement in tourism is the key factor in CBT.

National Certificate Course in Community Based Tourism (NVQ-4 Level) is designed with the focus of Leaders/members of CBOs engaged with unique feature which has an avenue for tourism. This 06months Train of Trainer (TOT) programme will provide a valuable opportunity, skills and knowledge for the leaders/members of CBOs to obtain an alternative livelihood in their rural setups. Further this will help to reach the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through tourism.

COURSE CONTENT:

Introduction to Tourism
Introduction to Community Based Tourism (CBT)
CBT Product Development
Sri Lankan Studies
Sustainable Tourism
Personal & Professional Development
English Communication Skills for CBT Leaders

ENTRY QUALIFICATIONS:

- Minimum Educational Qualifications: - Should be studied up to G.C.E. Ordinary Level (O/L)
- Age Limit: 18 -65 yrs.
- Should be a Leader/Member of a Community Based Association recommended by the Provincial Tourism Authority.
- At least five years' experience of the particular unique/traditional livelihood
- Should be a resident of North Western Province or Central Province

COURSE FEE: Free of charge
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Strengthening Your Quick Thinking ability



If you're a quick thinker, you pick up new information and ideas easily and 'process' that information swiftly.

For example, a colleague gives you a business plan or proposal to review and by skimming the document, you're able to rapidly extract the essential issues and questions at hand.

Similarly, when reading a case in business school, you could pull out the relevant information promptly. You weren't distracted by or bogged down in facts and figures that may be interesting but that aren't relevant to the core issue.

Or perhaps you've just given a presentation, and members of your audience ask probing questions afterward or disagree with some of your ideas. You quickly weigh their input and respond with appropriate answers.

Clearly, quick thinking is a valuable ability in a world where the pace of change continues to accelerate. How can you develop this key skill? Consider these suggestions:

Read a book on the subject. Potential useful titles include *Quick Thinking on Your Feet* by Valerie Pierce, *Quick Wits: A Compendium of Critical Thinking Skills Activities* by Marlene Caroselli, and *Blink: The Power of Thinking Without Thinking* by Malcolm Gladwell.

Take an online learning course on the subject. Examples include the 'General Thinking Skills' modules offered through www.edwdebono.com. Your company may have purchased a site license for such e-learning programs. Or, you may be able to buy a CD containing modules of interest as well as participate in them online or download them from the developer. Some developers charge a fee for participation in the courses they offer; others offer modules for free.

Consult an expert. Find someone who you view as particularly good at thinking quickly. Ask this person how he or she has strengthened this ability.

Attend a workshop or a course on the subject. Your company may offer such learning opportunities or may be willing to reimburse your tuition fees if you take such a course through another organization. Local Uni-

versity extension programs, as well as continuing education programs, may offer such Workshops and Courses.

Practice 'speed thinking'. Whenever you're mulling over a proposal or other situation in which you have to evaluate a lot of information, work to cut to the heart of a matter. Try not to be distracted by or bogged down in facts and figures that aren't relevant to the issue at hand. Force yourself to quickly zero in on the key issues and to draw conclusions about what should be done - even if you feel you need more time. Then jot your ideas down on paper. Next, re-evaluate the situation at your usual pace, and see if you arrived at similar ideas this time around. Once you get better at this, try to go even faster.

Remember Pareto's Principle (also known as the '80-20 rule'). This rule says that in anything, a few (20%) of the people, facts, analyses, etc. involved are vital, and many more (80%) are irrelevant. As you consider new ideas, discipline yourself to look for the few gold nuggets and to sort them out from the sand and gravel, then draw your conclusions without sifting through the remaining 80%.

Practice 'thinking on your feet'. Create a short presentation on a topic that interests you, then practice delivering your talk to a trusted friend or colleague. Ask your 'audience' to push you by posing questions and challenging your facts or ideas. Don't worry about messing up - the idea is to practice these skills in a safe environment and get more comfortable, not to act perfectly.

Join a Public-Speaking Club. Some people are afraid that they'll get flustered and lose their train of thought in situations where they have to think on their feet. To overcome this fear, consider joining Toastmasters International, a network of Public-Speaking Clubs that offer excellent opportunities to practice thinking on your feet and responding quickly.

Strengthening your ability to think quickly takes practice - especially if you have a slower, more deliberate cognitive style. But the above suggestions can be an excellent starting point for enhancing this important skill.

"Everything is ready to conduct GCE (O/L) Examination guaranteeing health security"

- Minister of Education, Professor G.L. Peiris

Hon. Minister of Education, Professor G.L. Peiris said that the General Certificate of Education (Ordinary Level) Examination will commence on March 01st and will be conducted for nine days and there are six hundred and twenty two thousand (622,000) candidates are scheduled to sit the examination this time.

He also said that all provisions regarding the conduct of the examination amidst Covid pandemic situation have been set and if any of the students sitting the examination is found to be contracted with the virus, as a precaution two examination centres have been set up in every district cope with the situation.

He also pointed out that the examination will be held this year in 4,513 centres island-wide and funds more than 50 million have been provided in provincial level to set up the additional examination centres and that he had contacted with each Director of Education in the provinces online and by that information regarding the conduct of examination was obtained and accordingly everything is planned to conduct the examination under a complete programme.

Steps have been taken to



guarantee the full health security of the students obtaining the advice of the Public Health Inspectors and Medical Officers of Health of the region and discussions were held with the Department of Sri Lanka Railways and the Road Passenger Transport Authority regarding the transport activities during the period of examination and they have already set up a special programme for the transport of students for examinations, the minister pointed out.

If there happen to be any

unfavourable climatic conditions in any area, Sri Lanka Navy and the security forces are kept in alert to transport

STEPS HAVE BEEN TAKEN TO GUARANTEE THE FULL HEALTH SECURITY OF THE STUDENTS OBTAINING THE ADVICE OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS AND MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH OF THE REGION

the students to the examination centres and that the parents could be satisfied with the programmes set up by the government regarding the conduct of the examination, said the minister.

Further, he said that the full attention of the Ministry of Education is focused on continuing the education of the children continuously without any interruption and although the children had to face the examination after a delay, it is the intention of the

Ministry of Education to release the examination results in June so that the students can be admitted to the Advanced Level classes in July.

Secretary to the Ministry of Education, Professor Kapila Perera, Commissioner General of Examination Sanath Pujitha, Media Secretary of the Ministry of Education Buddhika Wickremadara and many people were present while all the provincial Directors of Education were available online.



Hillwood College Kandy

NEW ADMISSIONS FOR GRADE 01 - 2022

(age to be 5 yrs. by 31.01.2022)

- Applications can be downloaded from the College website: www.hillwoodcollege.com from 08.03.2021 to 19.03.2021.
- Applications are also available at the College Bookshop from 15.03.2021 to 19.03.2021 between 8.00 a.m. & 2.00 p.m. on submission of the original birth certificate of the child.
- Cost of an Application: Rs. 1,000/=.

Completed applications must reach the office on or before 3rd April, 2021.

Principal
Hillwood College, Kandy
Tel: 081 2214 214/ Fax: 081-223 4498
E-mail: hillwood@slt.net.lk



UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO FACULTY OF EDUCATION POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN EDUCATION (TEACHING OF ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE) FULL TIME COURSE - 2021/2022

Applications will be entertained from Graduate Teachers of Government Private/Assisted Schools, Pirivenas and other Educational Institutes for the above course.

Applicants should possess:

- A Bachelor's degree including a minimum of 30 credits for the course units of English Language and/or Literature from a University/Institution recognized by the UGC.
- A Bachelor's degree with a minimum three years of work experience in the field of English education.
- Completion of NVQ Level 7 (equivalent to Bachelor's degree in SLQF) with relevant work experience as determined by the Faculty Board of the Faculty of Education and Senate of the University of Colombo.

Age : Applicants should be below 50 years of age on 31st March 2021.

Course Content : Core areas in the Theory & Practice of Teaching of English as a Second Language.

Duration : One year

Course Fee : Rs. 70,000/-

Selection Procedure : Language Proficiency Test and/or Interview

Applications : Application forms may be obtained online from the Faculty of Education website: <http://edu.cmb.ac.lk>

Completed application forms together with a receipt for Rs. 1,000/- paid to the University of Colombo Account No. 206150300001 at any branch of the People's Bank should be sent under registered post to the Senior Assistant Registrar, Faculty of Education, University of Colombo, Colombo 03 along with a self-addressed stamped envelope (22x10 cm in size) to the value of Rs. 50/-

Name of the course should be written on the top left-hand corner of the envelope.

Last date for receiving completed application forms : 31st March 2021.

Registrar,
University of Colombo.



UNIVERSITY OF SRI JAYEWARDENEPURA Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce

Enrollment of New Students - 2019/2020 Student Intake

Online enrollment of new students selected to the Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura will commence from 22.02.2021 to 04.03.2021.

Students are advised to visit the University website www.sjp.ac.lk and complete their enrollments before 04.03.2021 through the Student Enrollment link as per the instructions given therein.

Registrar,
University of Sri Jayewardenepura.
23.02.2021



Masters of Science

UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO, SRI LANKA DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY

Applications are invited for the following Masters of Science Degrees commencing in June 2021.

- Analytical Chemistry
- Applied Organic Chemistry

Duration: 18-24 months

Composition of the Course

Part I: Lectures and Laboratory sessions [on Fridays (5-7 p.m.), Saturdays (8 am - 6 pm) & some Sundays]

Part II: Research project of three months duration (full time)

Course fee: M.Sc in Analytical Chemistry - Rs 220,000/= (Part I only) (Application fee code: 314024000006)

M.Sc in Applied Organic Chemistry - Rs 220,000/= (Part I only) (Application fee code: 314024100005)

Eligibility: The graduates who offered Chemistry as a subject for their B.Sc. Degree are eligible to apply. The selection will be on the basis of an interview & placement test.

Application Procedure:

Application forms and course brochure can be obtained in person or by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to Assistant Registrar, Academic and Publications Branch, University of Colombo, 94, Cumaratunga Munidasa Mawatha, Colombo 03 or visiting science.cmb.ac.lk/departments/chemistry

Duly completed application form together with a paying-in-voucher for Rs. 1,500/- paid to the credit of the University of Colombo, with the application fee code (as the A/C No) at the Thimbrigasyaya Branch of the People's Bank (payment can be made at any branch) should be sent to the Assistant Registrar, Academic and Publications, University of Colombo, 94, Cumaratunga Munidasa Mawatha, Colombo 03 under Registered Cover on or before 23rd April 2021

Registrar,
University of Colombo,
Colombo 03

DERANA INTERNATIONAL (PVT) LTD.

Landscape Designers .Contractors .Consultant

Dherana International (Pvt) Ltd. is a Limited Liability Company. We have been registered under the Board of Investment of Sri Lanka (B.O.I.) Status given by the Government of Sri Lanka.

Junior Landscape Architect (Head Office)

BSc. in Landscape Architecture with membership of the Institution of Architects in Sri Lanka. Minimum 01 year work experience.

If you feel that you are the correct person, forward your detailed CV's to **info@dherana.com** with two non-related referees within 14 days of this advertisement.

(Please indicate the "position" in the subject heading in your email)

Dherana International (Pvt) Ltd.,
 No. 704 A, Negombo Road,
 Mathumagala,
 Ragama.

Vacancies

- Imports & Export Executives
- Transport Executives
- Operations Executive
- Assistant Accountants
- Exports Documentation Clerks
- Accounts Executive
- Wharf Clerk
- Customs Entry Framing Clerk
- Asst. Company Secretaries
- Warehouse Assistant
- Trainee for above
- Heavy Vehicle Drivers
- Diesel Mechanics
- Riders, Peons

Please apply with your expected salary

Email : hr@afacsl.com

Asian Logistics Park Pvt. Ltd.,
 No. 14,
 Sri Dharmakeerthiyarama Road,
 Colombo 3.

TECH WATERS (PVT) LTD
BRIGHT CAREER OPPORTUNITIES
WALK-IN INTERVIEW



TECH WATERS (Pvt.) Ltd is a pioneering total water management company specialized in water and waste water purification related chemicals, swimming pool & leisure equipment is the major operation.

MARKETING MANAGER (Male)

Professional qualifications in sales and marketing from a recognize institute. Preferably Bachelor in science degree (BSc.) in recognized university with 3 -5 years working experience. Science back ground will be an added advantage. Age below 45 years.

SALES / MARKETING EXECUTIVE FOR KANDY, COLOMBO & HORANA AREA (Male)

Up to A/L with science back ground with 03 years' working experience in the similar capacity. Ability to work under pressure. Age below 35 years.

TECHNICAL OFFICERS (CIVIL & MECHANICAL) (Male)

NCT with more than 03 years' working experience, HNDE with more than 02 years' working experience or NDT with more than 01 year working experience or suitable technical qualifications in a reputed institute in a similar capacity. Water retaining structure experience will be an added advantage. Capable to handling ongoing projects and ability to work under pressure. Age below 45 years.

ELECTRICIANS & PLUMBERS (Male)

NCT or suitable technical qualifications in a reputed institute and more than 02 years working experience in a similar capacity. Ability to work under pressure. Age below 45 years.

- Salaries for all positions are negotiable.

Interview will be held from Monday to Saturday between 10.00am to 1.00pm from 01-03-2021 to 13.03.2021. Please call and get a date and a time before coming to the interview on 0701-736968 or 0712-310282.

TECH WATERS (PRIVATE) LIMITED
 303, HIGH LEVEL ROAD, COLOMBO 05.
 Tel: 011 2824287, 2829622, 2826340
 Web : www.techwaterslk.com
 E-mail : md@techwaterslk.com

Talent Media Solutions

Our client, a public-private partnership, which is a key service provider to the banking and finance sector, seeks to recruit an exceptionally competent professional in the capacity of

PROJECT MANAGER

The Role

The Project Manager will be responsible to lead, manage and coordinate all projects undertaken by the organization to ensure timely implementation and delivery within the given budget and other project objectives. The Project Manager will liaise and coordinate with others in diverse disciplines and levels within and outside the organization (local & foreign).

Experience

- 5 to 10 years Project Management experience.
- Strong project management & analytical skills with the ability to meet strict delivery targets.
- Proven track record in ICT projects in a service sector organization preferably with exposure to banking and finance.
- Excellent communicator to deal with technical and non-technical teams within the organization.
- Client facing & negotiations skills.
- Ability to perform multi facet project communications to different project stakeholders.
- Competency in Project Management and collaboration packages and software.

Key Accountabilities

- Lead, manage & be accountable for timely delivery of the projects within the scope & budget.
- Project planning and progress monitoring.
- Manage project issues & risks to ensure risk mitigation strategies are in place.
- Provide direction to the multi-functional teams to align with project plans & schedules and reach project goals.
- Coordinate with local and overseas project / program managers during the entire life cycle of the project.

Qualifications

- Bachelor's degree in Computer Science or Information Technology discipline, or equivalent qualification.
- An industry recognized project management certification (PMP / PRINCE 2 / CPMP).

Non- Technical competency

- Good communication and time management skills.
- Ability to work under pressure in a dynamic environment.

An attractive remuneration package in line with the market and commensurate with skills, qualifications and experience of the selected candidate can be negotiated.

Please forward your complete resume with contact details of two non-related referees together with scanned copies of educational and other relevant certificates to mslr@slt.net.lk within 10 days of this advertisement quoting **MSL Ref. No. 7587** in the subject line of your e-mail. Only short listed candidates will be contacted.

MSL Management Systems (Pvt) Ltd.
 No: 08 Tickell Road, Colombo 08.
mslr@slt.net.lk
www.bposrilanka.com

JOIN SHAPING THE DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION JOURNEY OF THE NATION



Information and communication Technology Agency of Sri Lanka (ICTA) is the apex government entity spearheading the national digital transformation journey. As the agency for driving the national digital agenda, ICTA is entrusted to action the digital strategy of the vision for vistas of prosperity and splendor.

ICTA plays an integral role in building a digitally inclusive nation by delivering efficient and citizen-centric digital government solutions, facilitating a strong digital economy with technology diffusion and innovation to build a prosperous country.

We invite dedicated, innovative and dynamic professionals to be part of this journey.

POSITIONS REQUIRED

DIGITAL ECONOMY

- Director – Technology Diffusion
- Senior Manager – Industry Development
- Senior Manager – Technology Diffusion
- Senior Manager – Regional Cluster Development
- Manager – Industry Development
- Manager – Technology Diffusion
- Manager – Regional Cluster Development
- Manager – Capacity Building
- Manager – Startup Ecosystem Development

TECHNOLOGY

- Software Architect
- Technical Lead (Fullstack Java/JavaScript)
- Lead Information Security Engineer
- Senior Software Engineer (Mobile Development)

DIGITAL GOVERNMENT

- Senior Manager – Line of Business Solutions
- Senior Manager – Shared Solutions
- Manager – Line of Business Solutions
- Manager – Shared Solutions

DIGITAL SERVICES

- Director – Services Marketing
- Senior Manager - Services Marketing
- Senior Manager – Digital Services
- Senior Manager – Platform Services

The selected candidates will get the opportunity to be part of the team that drives national level digital transformation projects touching millions of lives of citizens.

Please forward your application along with contact details of two non-related referees within 14 days (on or before March 13, 2021) of this advertisement to careers@icta.lk. Indicate the position applied for, in the subject line of the email. Only short-listed applicants will be contacted.

The selected candidate will receive an attractive remuneration package, in keeping with the market standards.

Use the following link to obtain details of job roles.
<https://www.icta.lk/careers>

Chief Executive Officer
 The Information and Communication Technology Agency of Sri Lanka
 160/24, Kirimandala Mawatha, Colombo 05.



VACANCIES



STATE PHARMACEUTICALS MANUFACTURING CORPORATION

STATE MINISTRY OF PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTION, SUPPLY AND REGULATION

We are looking for qualified, dynamic, self-motivated, career ambitious, team players to join SPMC to fill the following vacancies.

Every applicant,

- Should be a citizen of Sri Lanka.
- Should be physically and mentally fit to discharge the duties of the post well and to serve in any part of the Island.
- Should be of excellent moral character.

1. POST OF MANAGER PRODUCTION (MM 1-1 – GRADE II)

Qualifications: External Candidates

- (i) First Degree in Natural Sciences, Pharmacy or Engineering from a University recognized by the University Grants Commission,
Or
(ii) Any other equivalent Bachelors' Degree of a University/Institution recognized by the University Grants Commission,
And
- Computer Literacy,
And
- Minimum of 05 years post qualifying experience relevant to the field of Production of Pharmaceuticals.

Qualifications: Internal Candidates

- Having obtained the qualification required by the external candidate
Or
- Completion of minimum 5 years satisfactory service in a post in the Junior Manager Category (JM 1-1) in the subject area relevant to the post

Salary Scale :

MM 1.1- 2016- Rs.53,175/= - 10 x 1,375/= - 15 x 1,910/= - 95,575/=

In addition to the above salaries, government approved allowances are also paid.

- Age: Should not be less than 22 years and not more than 45 years. The upper age limit will not be applicable to internal applicants.
- Method of Recruitment - Written competitive examination and structured interview.

Fringe Benefits for the post of Manager Production :

- Attendance & performance incentive.
- Encashment of unutilized annual and sick leave.
- Provide Medical insurance scheme and Medical reimbursement scheme.
- The Corporation will contribute 15% of the salary towards the EPF whilst the employee will have to contribute 10%.
- The Corporation will also contribute 3% of the salary towards the ETF.
- Gratuity will be paid in accordance with the Gratuity Act No. 12 of 1983 and MSD circular No. 2/2016 on 25.04.2016.
- Other Fringe Benefits

2. POST OF PROJECT SECRETARY - (Contract Basis for 03 years)

We are finding a Proactive, Mature, take initiative and well organized person with ability to work fast under pressure, with an attention to all details highly resourceful, ability to multi-task and work independently as well as in a team for the post of Project Secretary, has been responsible to the Project team for all matters relating to SPMC construction project for new manufacturing plant in Horana, Millewa.

Main Duties of the Project Secretary:

- Maintain all the documentation securely
- Preparation of letters, documents and other related Correspondence
- Assist Project Co-ordinator to carry out tasks given by the Project Management Committee and Steering Committee
- According to the requirements of SPMC, additional tasks will be assigned

Qualifications :

- Pass GCE (A/L) Examination or Diploma in Business Administration, with certifications in secretarial studies
- Fluent in English Language, good written and verbal communications, especially in preparing the minutes of the meetings (office and field)
- Professional and pleasant personality with inter personal skills
- Minimum of two years experience in a project secretarial role
- Proficient in MS Office applications (Excel, Word and Power Point)

Salary : Rs. 60,000/= Per month

- Method of Recruitment - Structured interview.

Fringe Benefits for the post of Project Secretary :

- The Corporation will contribute 15% of the salary towards the EPF whilst the employee will have to contribute 10%.
- The Corporation will also contribute 3% of the salary towards the ETF.
- Other Fringe Benefits

General Instructions:

- Application using the prescribed form should be forwarded with names, addresses and contact details of two non-related referees. Certified copies of all Educational Certificates should be enclosed along with the application. Application form could be downloaded from the official Website of the State Pharmaceuticals Manufacturing Corporation <http://www.spmc.lk>
- Applications from employees in Government Department and Statutory Bodies should be forwarded through their Heads of Institutions who should certify whether the applicant could be released to take up appointment, if selected.
- The post applied for should be written on the top left hand corner of the envelope which contain the application should be sent to the following address by registered Post within 07 days of this advertisement.
- The applications not complying the above requirements will be rejected.

Chairman

State Pharmaceuticals Manufacturing Corporation
No. 11, Sir John Kotelawala Mawatha
Kandawala Estate - Ratmalana.



HEALTHCARE

Access Group of Companies is one of the fastest growing conglomerates in Sri Lanka. Launched in 1990 with a simple business idea, Access today has grown and diversified into many fields, drawing strength from its core business areas such as Engineering, Telecommunication, Power & Energy, Healthcare, Information Technology & General Trading.

The Healthcare arm of the Access Group specializes in Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices in a wide range of specialties including Orthopedics, Ophthalmology, Radiology, Operating Theatre Equipment and Laboratory Equipment etc.

With a focus on premier quality, Access has introduced globally renowned Pharmaceutical and Medical Equipment brands backed by industry leading research and development activities to Sri Lanka.

With the ongoing expansion we are looking for a suitable candidate for the above position to promote and assist in developing world renowned Radiology imaging Equipment

We invite the best in the field to take the opportunity to be a part of this team.

Application Specialist - Radiology Equipment

- Past Experience Radiology Equipment and with a Medical and Clinical Background
- Providing Clinical and application support during installation and demonstration
- Overall management of training and development of the marketing staff Should be able to Schedule training sessions and product knowledge training to the marketing team
- Strong organizational and communication skills
- Should consist of a medical/ Clinical background in Radiology equipment (CT, MRI etc.)
- Should have a medical/ radiology background related degree or similar
- 03 - 04 years' work experience in Radiology field
- Should be able to analyze market trends, and provide marketing strategies
- Meet necessary personal for discussions and demonstrations

If interested, please forward a complete resume with contact details of two non-related referees to reach us within 10 days of this advertisement. The resume should be forwarded to amila.r@access.lk or sent by registered post to the under mentioned address, including the position applied.

ACCESS INTERNATIONAL (PVT) LTD

"Access Towers", 278, Union Place,

Colombo - 02, Sri Lanka.

Web: www.access.lk



DIGIRAY

AGFA HealthCare

POPE



Expanding the frontiers of our country, our people and our company



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Hayleys Group

Hayleys Group is amongst Sri Lanka's largest, and most respected diversified conglomerates with a turnover in excess of USD 1 Billion. To explore the World of Hayleys, visit us at: www.hayleys.com.

Hayleys Fabric PLC

One of the pioneers in fabric manufacture, situated in Neboda – Horana, is a BOI approved company, listed in the Colombo Stock exchange, is a subsidiary of Hayleys PLC.

Head of Supply Chain

We are looking for a senior person with experience, preferably from the Apparel/Fabric industry to be overall in charge of the entire supplier chain function amounting to a buy of over USD 4Mn per month. The selected candidate will report to the Managing Director/CEO and will be positioned in the senior management category with a suitable designation in line with the person's experience and management structure of the company. Remuneration will depend on your experience and is negotiable.

Key Responsibilities:

- Liaising with Foreign principals, suppliers, logistics partners and other related institutions.
- Plans, manages, and coordinates all activities related to the sourcing and procurement of necessary materials and supplies needed to meet the changing levels of product demand.
- Handling Customs/BOI requirements.
- Coordination with clearing agents, freight forwarders and transportation companies to arrive at the best rates. Reviews and approves all freight terms and agreements.
- Collecting relevant information, analyzing, compiling reports and preparing required documentation.
- Develops appropriate supply chain strategy to maximize customer satisfaction at the lowest possible cost.
- Leads the supply chain team in executing best practices and measuring performance through agreed upon Key Performance Indicators (KPIs).
- Directs and coordinates global supply chain functions through strategy, resource optimization, profitability maximization, and KPIs resulting in the maximization of customer satisfaction.
- Ensuring adherence and compliance to the set procedures in terms of procurement and other supply chain related financial and non-financial controls and providing recommendations for continuous improvement.

Candidate Profile:

- Bachelor's degree in Business Administration, Supply Chain/Logistics, or equivalent experience.
- 5+ years of supply chain, logistics and import procedures for foreign procurement experience at Senior Manager Level.
- Ability to continuously add value to the supply chain function.
- Good communication/negotiation skills.
- Experience in using SAP would be an added advantage.

If you think you have what it takes to be successful in this challenging role, please apply via email to careers@hayleysfabric.com indicating the position applied for on the subject line of the email. The closing date for applications will be 10th March 2021. Pay and benefits of this above position will be competitive and the rewards are performance driven. Hayleys is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

To find out more about our career opportunities, log on to:



hayleys-fabric-plc



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hayleysfabriclk

www.hayleys.com/careers/

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VACANCY

Following Vacancies are Available for state of the art Food truck affiliated with the **COLOMBO FOOD COURT**

- **Chefs** (who are specialized in making Burgers, Sauces & Fried rice)
- **Helpers**

Free accommodation and Attractive remuneration Package Inclusive at Service Charge

Tel: 077-4625093 | 077-7785093



VACANCY

ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY

An active Association representing agriculture based industrialist seek the service of an energetic Administrative Secretary. The ideal candidate should be well experienced in the similar field be capable in performing following duties and functions.

- Reporting to the committee and perform secretarial duties
- Processing, Typing (Sinhala, English) editing formatting reports and documents
- Filing documents as well as entering and maintain data base
- Liaising with external institutions and general membership
- Arranging and scheduling appointments, Meetings travel bookings and events.
- Observing best business practices and etiquette within the association.
- General legal background, ability to travel independently, high interpersonal ability and fluency in two languages both spoken and written will be advantages.
- An official Motor bike could be provided if required for traveling purpose.

Please forward your resume by email actcomcey@gmail.com Before 12th March 2021

All Ceylon Traditional Coconut Oil Manufacturers Association.
1st Floor 223, Hill Street, Dehiwela.

BANK OF CEYLON

MANAGEMENT TRAINEE

The closing date of applications for the above post advertised in this newspaper on 06th December 2020 has been extended to 15th March 2021.


Therefore, submit your application through our website www.boc.lk (under the tab "Careers") **on or before 15th March 2021** and keep the "Application Reference Number" for your future reference.

The candidates who have already applied and received the "Application Reference Number" to their e-mail do not need to apply again.

The age limit should be 30 years or below as at closing date i.e. 15th March 2021.

All the other contents in the advertisement published on 06.12.2020 will remain unchanged.

Human Resource Division
Bank of Ceylon
Head Office
Colombo 01



VACANCIES

UNIVERSITY OF MORATUWA SRI LANKA

The University of Moratuwa will entertain applications for the under mentioned posts from suitably qualified persons up to 26.03.2021.

Faculty of Architecture

Department of Architecture

Senior Lecturer Grade I/Senior Lecturer Grade II/Lecturer (Unconfirmed) /Lecturer (Probationary)

Areas of Expertise

- Architecture

SALARY SCALES #

(a) Senior Lecturer Grade I - Rs.91,310 - 7 X 2,170 - 106,500 p.m. [U-AC 3 (I)] w.e.f. 01.01.2020 Academic Allowance # of 151% of salary will be paid

(b) Senior Lecturer Grade II - Rs.79,360 - 11 X 1,630 - 97,290 p.m. [U-AC 3 (II)] w.e.f. 01.01.2020 Academic Allowance # of 151% of salary will be paid

(c) Lecturer (Unconfirmed) - Rs.69,580 - 5 X 1,630 - 77,730 p.m. [U-AC 3 (III)] w.e.f. 01.01.2020 Academic Allowance # of 131% of salary will be paid

(d) Lecturer (Probationary) - Rs.54,600 - 10 X 1,335 - 67,950 p.m. [U-AC 3 (IV)] w.e.f. 01.01.2020 Academic Allowance # of 115% of salary will be paid

- In addition to the above salary, cost of living allowance and other approved allowances will be paid to the selected candidate/s.
- Salary and Academic Allowance will be paid according to the University Grants Commission Circular No. 17/2016 (v) dated 01.06.2018 and No. 17/2016 (vi) dated 14.06.2018, Commission Circular No. 13/2017 dated 15.06.2017 and Department of Management Services Circular No. 04/2016 dated 18.08.2016.

Applications should be sent only Online and further particulars and application forms along with the handout could be downloaded from the University web site - www.mrt.ac.lk/web/vacancies up to 26th March 2021. Online applications should be submitted to reach Senior Assistant Registrar, Establishments Division, University of Moratuwa, on or before the closing date of applications.

Applicants from the University System/Government Departments/Corporations and Statutory Boards should channel their applications with the recommendation of the Heads of their respective Institutions, using form 'A' and attaching the scanned copy of the same.

Applications received after the closing date and incomplete applications and applications not submitted in prescribed format of the University of Moratuwa will be rejected without intimation.

Registrar
University of Moratuwa, Moratuwa.
23.02.2021



CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER (COO)

Since the inception in 1999 as an entrepreneurial endeavor, 20 years hence, the Group has reached a leadership position in the Cashew Nuts segment with annual turnover in excess of Rs. 500 million while nurturing a strong brand. The Group of Companies has two factories and 20 branded stores nation-wide, supported with a fast-growing e-commerce business to cater to the direct-to-home segment.

The Group has undertaken a transformation program to capture the potential to be 3-4 times the size it is now. In consultation with consultants of repute, the way forward of transforming the Group from what it is to being an admired best-in-class corporate in Sri Lanka has been undertaken, possibly with a view of considering a public offering.

A key next step in this transformation program is the recruitment of the Chief Operating Officer.

Reporting to : Executive Chairman and Managing Director

- We are looking to hire an experienced, visionary, results-oriented COO to strategize and mobilize the collective strength of the company to achieve unparalleled growth by harnessing a team-oriented performance culture.
- To oversee our company's accelerated growth while ensuring operational excellence in delivering customer satisfaction. The COO will, among others, optimize our company's operating capabilities, employ strategies to maximize growth through customer satisfaction.
- To manage all areas of Marketing, Sales and Distribution (S&D), R&D, Factory, Packaging, Operations and Customer Support.
- To formulate marketing led S&D for demand creation and demand based production to maximize utilization through increased productivity.
- To keenly strategize and execute on the further development of indirect, direct, on-line channels under own/co-branded/private labels to serve both the domestic and export markets.
- Design product/factory/marketing/S&D roadmaps that will predictably enable to profitably and appreciably increase market share.
- Growth centric budget preparation and focused monitoring of achievement against monthly budget while employing strategies to safeguard company's assets, receivables and stock turnover.
- Ownership for the overall Group P&L performance. Purposeful setting of Sales & Marketing targets based on budgetary forecasts, sales volume targets, product pricing terms and revisiting the credit terms/limits as required.
- Lead the development of plans and programs, including R&D, to hit all assigned targets, with strong focus on developing new product variants to capture new market segments.
- To ensure success by having a keen desire to understand our company's core values and culture.
- Ideal candidate will be an exemplary proven leader who will inspire all levels of team members, have excellent business acumen, performance track record and have sound understanding of growth oriented business strategies.

Profile

- Experience in FMCG is a must.
- Minimum 15 years of experience in FMCG with 5 years of C-suite/CEO-2 experience in (a) firm(s) having annual turnover of around LKR 5 Billion.
- Track record as head of Marketing and S&D role with an international FMCG or blue chip company is an advantage.
- The incumbent must have a proven track record in marketing led sales management, selling skills, managing multi-level distributors and pricing policies. Hands-on experience in key account management, relationship building and good understanding of marketing principles and concepts, financials, sensitivity to numbers, swift interpretation of financial reports/analysis, etc.
- BSc/BS/BA Degree and preferably an MBA/ACMA.


In addition to an attractive remuneration package, a rare opportunity with great growth prospects awaits the selected candidate to steer this growth transformation.

Please send your applications within 14 days to chairman@royalcashew.lk and/or ruwan@greenwayasia.com and/or WhatsApp to +94 71 441 3771.


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University of the Visual and Performing Arts VACANCIES

The University of the Visual and Performing Arts will entertain applications for the undermentioned posts up to 22.03.2021.

Information Technology Centre

01. Programmer Cum System Analyst (Grade II)

Special Note: The candidate should have comprehensive knowledge of the fields of Multimedia applications, Web development, Web maintaining, Computer Programming and System handling

02. Instructor (Computer Technology) Grade II

Special Note: The candidate should have comprehensive knowledge of the fields of Multimedia applications, Web development, Web maintaining, Computer programming and System handling

Instructions for the Applicants

- Required qualifications, other relevant details and application forms can be downloaded from the **University website: www.vpa.ac.lk**
- Certified photocopies of all relevant certificates including certificates of service experiences should be attached to the application. Applications submitted without certified copies of certificates shall be regarded as incomplete and subjected to rejection.
- Candidates from Government Departments, Corporations and Statutory Boards should forward their application through the Heads of the respective institutions.
- Applications that do not fulfill the required qualifications and/or do not conform to the instructions given above, and late submissions will be rejected.
- All candidates who apply for the above posts will be shortlisted as per the SOR and called for an aptitude test to check their knowledge in the relevant subject. The candidates who manage to reach the cut-off mark or above, as decided by the University, will be summoned for an interview.
- Candidates who wish to apply for both posts should submit separate applications.
- Duly completed applications should be sent by **registered post** addressed to the "Deputy Registrar /Academic Establishments Division, University of the Visual and Performing Arts, 21, Albert Crescent, Colombo 07" on or before **22.03.2021**. The post applied for should be mentioned on the top left corner of the envelope containing the application.

Registrar
University of the Visual and Performing Arts

23.02.2021

VACANCY

ACCOUNTANT

The candidates should have the following requirements

- Partly qualified in CA
- Age below 35
- 2-4 years experience
- Knowledge of Accounting System
- External communication skills
- Good Computer Literacy

Quick Cargo Logistics Pvt. Ltd.,
No. 101/7, Hunupitiya Lake Road,
Colombo 2.
E-mail : hr@quickcargo.lk

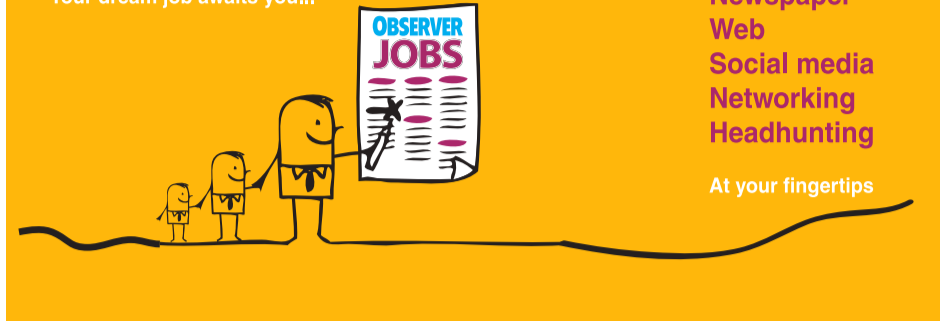
WANTED FOR IMMEDIATE EMPLOYMENT

- 01). Site Engineer**
BSc. with three years experience
- 02). Technical Officer**
NDT or HNDE with 7 years experience
- 03). Site Supervisor - NCT**
NCT Civil three years experience
- 04). Store-Keeper**
With full curriculum vitae
Forward your CV
E-Mail - fieldcon@outlook.com
Field Construction (Pvt) Ltd.,
37/2, Hill Street,
Dehiwala.

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For more information
0777270012 / 0777270000 / 0112429314



SABARAGAMUWA UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA VACANCIES

The Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka will entertain applications for the undermentioned posts from suitably qualified persons up to 23.03.2021.

1. FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES & LANGUAGES

Department of English Language Teaching

- i. **Post :** Senior Lecturer - Gr. I / Senior Lecturer Gr. II / Lecturer (Unconfirmed) / Lecturer (Probationary) - (02 Nos.)
- Subject Area :** English
- ii. **Post :** Temporary Instructor in English - (05 Nos.)

2. REGISTRAR'S OFFICE

1. **Post :** Statistical Officer Gr. II - (01 No.)

Special Note : Candidates who have applied for the post of Statistical Officer Gr. II as per the Paper Advertisement published in Sunday Observer dated 28.06.2020, need not apply again as per this advertisement.

SALARY SCALES :

Lecturer (Probationary)	Rs. 54,600 - 10x1,335 - 67,950 p.m.	(U-AC 3 (IV) - 2016A)
Lecturer (Unconfirmed)	Rs. 69,580 - 5x1,630 - 77,730 p.m.	(U-AC 3 (III) - 2016A)
Senior Lecturer Gr. II	Rs. 79,360 - 11x1,630 - 97,290 p.m.	(U-AC 3 (II) - 2016A)
Senior Lecturer Gr. I	Rs. 91,310 - 7x2,170 - 106,500 p.m.	(U-AC 3 (I) - 2016A)
Temporary Instructor in English	Rs. 41,095 p.m. (Fixed)	
Statistical Officer Gr. II	Rs. 50,625 - 3 x 1,125 - 54,000 (EB) 55,335 ; 12x1,335 - 71,355 p.m.	(U-EX I (II) - 2016 A)

AGE LIMIT :

Age limit for the posts of Temporary Instructor in English and Statistical Officer Gr. II is 45 years. This age limit will not apply for employees of the University System, employees of Government Departments / Corporations / Statutory Boards.

BENEFITS :

Appointees to the permanent posts are required to contribute 10% of their monthly salary to the Universities Provident Fund, the University in turn contributes a sum equivalent to 8% to the University Pension Fund, 7% to the Universities Provident Fund (UPF) and 3% to the Employees Trust Fund (ETF).

Appointees to the temporary posts will contribute 10% of their monthly salary to the UPF, the University in turn contributes a sum equivalent to 15% to the UPF and 3% to the ETF.

In addition to the above salary, Cost of Living Allowance, Academic Allowance, Research & Development Allowance and other due allowances approved by the University Grants Commission will also be paid to the staff where relevant.

The appointees for Senior Lecturer Gr. I, Senior Lecturer Gr. II, Lecturer (Unconfirmed) and Lecturer (Probationary) are entitled to Academic Allowance of 151%, 131% and 115% of the basic salary of their posts respectively.

SABBATICAL LEAVE :

All appointees to the posts of Senior Lecturer Gr. II and above are entitled for one year Sabbatical Leave with pay once in every seven years of service and as per the provisions of relevant UGC circulars. Air passage will be paid by the University to the Teacher and his/her spouse when proceeding abroad on such leave.

CONDITIONS OF SERVICE :

Selected candidates if presently serving in a Government Department will have to obtain his/her release through their respective appointing authority. Government employees will not be entitled to maintain their pension rights whilst in the University Service.

HOW TO APPLY :

Application Forms and qualification guidelines could be either downloaded from the University Web Site : www.sab.ac.lk or obtainable from the Deputy Registrar (Academic Establishments) of the University, by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope 9"x4" in size on or before **15.03.2021**.

Applicants from the Public Service / Corporations / Statutory Boards, should forward their applications through their respective Heads. Duly completed applications on prescribed forms together with certified copies of Degree Certificates, Professional Certificates, etc. should be sent under Registered Cover, indicating the post applied for on the top left hand corner of the envelope, to reach the **Deputy Registrar (Academic Establishments), Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka, P.O. Box 02, Belihuloya** on or before **23.03.2021**.

Candidates are advised to submit separate applications when applying for more than one post.

Special Note :

Candidates are encouraged to download the Applications from the University Website and submit the advanced copy (scanned copy) of the completed application to the academicst@adm.sab.ac.lk before the closing date, mentioning that original will be sent through registered post.

Every correspondence or inquiry, if needed with regard to the forwarding of applications, to be sent to the email academicst@adm.sab.ac.lk or 045-2280215.

Applications received after the closing date or incomplete applications or applications those have not been prepared in the prescribed format will be rejected without intimation. The University reserves the right to shortlist the candidates, if necessary.

Actg. Registrar
Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka

State Mortgage & Investment Bank Career Opportunities at SMIB



SMIB, as the premier housing bank to the Nation, is in the process of restructuring the bank's operation to offer a higher level of customer satisfaction and a wider variety of services. As such, we invite applications from candidates who have demonstrated dynamic leadership roles and make full commitment to achieve business goals with relevant qualifications and experience for the following posts.

BOARD SECRETARY

Key Responsibilities

The Board Secretary should fulfill the responsibilities of the Bank and the Board of Directors to maintain the highest standards of effective corporate governance. The Board Secretary will provide leadership, initiative, and innovation in effective corporate governance through the execution of responsibilities including the following:

- Convening meetings of Board of Directors and the Board Subcommittee meetings/management meetings as required.
- Formulating meeting agenda and circulation/uploading of board papers and other documents required for the meetings well in time.
- Ensuring all meetings are minuted and monitoring of Board decisions.
- Assisting the preparation of the Bank's annual report.
- Ensuring minutes books are properly maintained.
- Ensuring compliance to corporate governance requirements.
- Organizing online meetings

Qualifications

She/He should be an Attorney-at-Law or a Member of Institute of Chartered Corporate Secretaries of Sri Lanka (ICCSLK) or a Member of Institute or Chartered Secretaries and Administrators (UK)

Experience

Overall, 12 years' experience of which at least 05 years' experience in Secretarial work in a similar capacity. Experience in a Bank / Financial Institution would be preferable.

Remuneration

Salary Scale- Rs. 158,890 - 4,935 x 12 - 218,110 per month together with bank approved allowances. Monthly gross salary on this basis would be approximate.

Age - Not more than 45 years (However, the age limit will not apply to those already employed in state sector organizations).

General Conditions

Method of Selection - Inviting applications as per the recruitment policy and procedure of the bank. Selection by an Interview.

Other benefits

- Provident Fund contribution 15% by the employer and 10% by the employee. The bank contributes to the ETF
- The annual bonus of two months gross salary
- Housing loans at concessionary rates after confirmation in the service
- Benefits under the bank's medical scheme
- Encashment of unutilized medical leave

Closing Date for Applications - 15/03/2021

How to Apply

Interested qualified candidates should send their Curriculum Vitae and copies of their Educational/ Professional transcripts and the names, addresses and contact numbers of two professional non-related referees. Post applied for should be indicated on the top left-hand corner of the envelope enclosing the application.

All applications will be treated in strict confidential and any form of canvassing will be regarded as a disqualification. The Bank reserves the right to decide the selection, postponement or cancellation of recruitment or any other action and/or change the selection criteria for this recruitment. The decision of the Board of Directors will be final and conclusive.

Applications should be sent under Registered Post to:

General Manager / CEO,
State Mortgage and Investment Bank,
No.269, Galle Road,
Colombo 03.

The Housewives' companion
Classifieds on
Daily News

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT SERVICES
Needs Lady/Gent. Should be responsible for management/development of properties of a group of companies. Qualifications & experience knowledge of Civil and Maintenance repairs ability to work on-time. Minimum five years experience. Positive attitude.
UNITEC PLACEMENTS (PVT) LTD.,
Able to arrange lease agreements. Email: realcommstate@gmail.com

Replies to Classifieds & Casual Advertisements published C/o the **Daily News** should only be sent by ordinary post. Replies sent under registered cover will not be accepted.



VACANCY NOTICE

Support UNICEF Sri Lanka Country Office (SLCO) to strengthen the risk-informed programming and resilience building at national and sub-national level planning, budgeting and monitoring in WASH sector.

Contract type : Consultancy
Duty station : Colombo

We are looking for

- A qualified individual with a Master's degree or equivalent in Climate Change, Water Management, Environmental Management, Natural Resource Management, Hydrology, Geography, Development Studies, and Disaster Management.
- At least 8 years of relevant professional experience in the fields related to climate change, water conservation/management aspects, environment management, and development sectors as well as experience of working with governmental entities, research and policy institutions and communities.

If you are a committed, creative professional and are passionate about making a lasting difference for children, the world's leading children's rights organization would like to hear from you.

UNICEF is committed to diversity and inclusion within its workforce and encourages qualified female and male candidates from all religious and ethnic backgrounds, including persons living with disabilities, to apply to become a part of our organization.

UNICEF is a non-smoking working environment.
Only short-listed applications will be acknowledged.

Apply online
<https://jobs.unicef.org/cw/en-us/job/538358>
In order to apply for this position, it is mandatory to create your profile on the e-recruitment portal following the link given above.

Application deadline
MARCH 8, 2021
Job number : 538358

Dreamron™
LIVE BEAUTY



HEAD OF MARKETING

Dreamron Group of Companies

WHO ARE WE Dreamron Group of companies is in the business of manufacturing and marketing a wide range of quality Professional Cosmetics, Hair Care, Skin Care, Toiletries products and making inroads into Perfume market to extend its product portfolio for more aggressive growth. It's 120,000 sqft manufacturing facility and office complex is located in a 10 acre land with two plants certified by GMP, ISO 9001-2015 – one plant is dedicated to exports with BOI approval and another for local brand manufacturing and 3rd party contract manufacturing. The group has 4 business entities namely; Kindai Kagaku Lanka (Pvt) Ltd, Harumi Holdings (Pvt) Ltd, Dreamron Lanka (Pvt) Ltd and Dreamron College of Art and Beauty. The group employees over 650 people. Currently Dreamron products are marketed in over 20 countries and the group is specialized in manufacturing OEM brands and Private labels for several leading global cosmetic and toiletries brands. Dreamron has a very dominant market position in the local professional Cosmetic market with a wide range of solutions.

WHO WE WANT We are looking for an experienced Marketing Professional with a relevant bachelor's or masters degree and proven track record in a similar capacity spanning over 10 years - a strategist with strong analytical skills and creativity who can take the lead for brand growth for elevated business results.

He should be a strong personality with superior communication & PR skills to provide the right leadership and collaborate across other functions for org-wide synergy.

Reporting to the Group CEO/Managing Director this senior position will be directly responsible for the following;

- Asses the competitive position of the company thru formal and informal consumer & market audit
- Develop and execute profitable brand growth initiatives to deliver business plan goals
- Build marketing & sales promotion programs to support specific marketing objectives across different sales channels and customer segments
- Liaise with the creative ad agency to ensure targeted returns are met thru brand building investments
- Work with sales teams – recognize sales growth opportunities and propose and implement sales strategy to align with marketing and brand growth
- Develop and implement digital communication and e-commerce strategies for specific target audiences

The successful candidate will be offered a market competitive remuneration package inline with qualifications, experience and capacity, measured through a systematic assessment process.

Submit your application within the next 7 days to

E-mail : hr@dreamroncosmetics.com

Address : Dreamron Lanka (Pvt) Ltd.,
No. 112, Sunethradevi Road, Kohuwala, Nugegoda.

Tel : 0112 853 804 Fax: 0112 853 805

www.dreamron.com

VACANCIES

SENIOR LECTURER | LECTURER



BE A PART OF A WORLD-CLASS TEAM

National School of Business Management (NSBM Green University), the Premier Degree School in Sri Lanka, with an excellent academic environment and outstanding facilities, is in search of outstanding personalities as **fulltime academics** with relevant qualifications to join the NSBM Team for the following subject areas.

FACULTY OF SCIENCE

DEPARTMENT OF BIOMEDICAL SCIENCE

- Human anatomy and physiology
- Molecular biology
- Immunology
- Analytical Chemistry

DEPARTMENT OF NURSING AND HEALTH CARE

- Nursing

QUALIFICATIONS

SENIOR LECTURER

- A Bachelors Degree and a Masters Degree in an appropriate field of specialization from a recognized university. An earned Doctorate will be an added advantage.
- At least 5 years of teaching experience at the undergraduate/graduate level in a recognized university.

LECTURER

- A Bachelors Degree in an appropriate field of specialization with a first class from a recognized university.
- A Masters Degree and lecturing experience will be an added advantage.

TEACHING ASSISTANT

- We are also looking for fresh graduates who have a Bachelors Degree in an appropriate field of specialization with a first class from a recognized university to join our NSBM team as academics.

Candidates should also possess strong interpersonal skills, ability to work independently and unsupervised, be resourceful, be committed and aspire to succeed, be self-motivated, be able to thrive in a fast and high pressure work environment and be prepared to work long and irregular hours.

Attractive remuneration packages beyond industry standards are on offer for the ideal candidate. Please apply via registered post with a cover letter which indicates your fields of expertise and a detailed curriculum vitae with the position marked on the top left hand corner of the envelope or email your CV to careers@nsbm.ac.lk with the position applied on the subject line to reach us on or before **10th March 2021**.

VICE CHANCELLOR
National School of Business Management,
NSBM Green University,
Pitipana, Homagama.



The highest standards in business education



Affiliated exclusively to top-ranked universities



Transfer to Australia



NSBM Green University | Mahenwatta, Pitipana, Homagama. | E-mail : careers@nsbm.ac.lk

Sri Lanka Insurance

Sri Lanka Insurance the state insurance giant is on the lookout for an Insurance Marketing Specialist to pilot the company's Life Insurance Category.

If you are a Marketing Specialist in the field of Life Insurance we would like to hear from you.

Assistant General Manager - Life Insurance Category Marketing

Directly reporting to Deputy General Manager - Head of Marketing you will be responsible for developing & Driving the overall Marketing Strategy for the Life Insurance Category of the Company. The role involves a complete understanding of the Sri Lankan Life Insurance Market, with good exposure to Life Insurance products and processes.

Job Duties & Responsibilities;

- Develop & drive the Life Insurance category to achieve the objectives of the company which includes developing strategic & tactical marketing plans for category.
- Be responsible & drive the product development function of the category through close research and close monitoring of the market & to drive product innovation and product road mapping process for the Life Insurance brand portfolio.
- Liaise with external agencies (advertising/research etc..) to ensure strategic brand positioning & targeted Marketing communication and liaise with external stake holders to develop strategic partnerships
- Responsible to drive the category brand activations and maintain effective external visibility.
- Drive distribution support initiatives through the distribution network to reach the company top-line targets, designing & driving rewards & recognition schemes for the distribution channels through internal data analytics and constantly use MIS to evaluate the current behavioural trends to take timely and corrective action. Ensure a clear flow of information to all stakeholders.
- Developing and tracking of key brand, consumer and business metrics to ensure success of all category initiatives.
- Drive the Social Media strategy of the Life Insurance category to achieve set KPIs.
- Be involved in developing the sales training strategies for the category and guide the sales training to achieve the company objectives.
- Responsible in managing a high performing team through constant training motivation and knowledge sharing.
- Be responsible to driving the CRM strategy for Life category
- Responsible for managing the Category budget to achieve the set objectives.
- Overall Responsible for the overall growth of the Life Insurance category & customer engagement.

Pre- Requisite

- Should possess a Degree in Marketing from UGC approved university or post graduate diploma in marketing from Chartered Institute of Marketing UK, or from Sri Lanka Institute of Marketing.
- Being a Chartered Marketer or Holding aMBA will be an added advantage.
- Minimum of 12 years' hands on experience in the field of Insurance Marketing and at least 7 years in a senior managerial capacity.
- Age should be between 35 – 45.

Skills


- Strategic & Positive Thinking, Organizing, Decision making, Controlling, Communicating, Interpersonal relations, Team work, Problem solving, Leadership

Attitude


- Ability to work under pressure, Punctuality, Target achieving, Knowledge sharing, Initiative, Willingness to accept responsibilities, empathy & a team player

If you believe you possess the above qualifications and experience, send in your CV along with the names of two non-related referees within 07 days of this advertisement to the address given below, stating the post applied for on the top left corner of the envelope or e-mail to jobs@sri.lankainsurance.com stating the post applied for on the subject line.


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Deputy General Manager – HR & ER
Sri Lanka Insurance,
No. 21, Vauxhall Street, Colombo 02.
Company Registration Number: PB 289





UNIVERSITY OF PERADENIYA

VACANCY

Applications are invited from suitably qualified persons for the following post in the University of Peradeniya.

1. BURSAR

Salary Scale: 95320-7x2170; 11x2700-140210 p.m. [U-EX 3(II)]

In addition to the basic salary of the above salary scale, following allowances will also be paid.

- I. Cost of Living Allowance - Rs. 7,800.00
- II. Additional Allowance - 20% of the Basic Salary
- III. Monthly Compensatory Allowance (MCA) - 45% of the Basic Salary

Qualifications:

1. (a) Should possess the Membership of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka (CASL) or its equivalent;

AND

(b) Should possess at least six (06) years of experience in accounting and/ or auditing in an executive capacity after acquiring the qualification at 1(a) above.

OR

2. A holder of the post of Deputy Accountant/ Deputy Bursar/ Deputy Internal Auditor in the University Grants Commission or Higher Educational Institution/ Institute with the following;

- Confirmed in that post with three (03) years of satisfactory service in that post of which one (01) year should be after acquiring the qualification at 1(a) above.

OR

3. A holder of the post of Senior Assistant Accountant/ Senior Assistant Bursar/ Senior Assistant Internal Auditor in the University Grants Commission or Higher Educational Institution/ Institute with all of the following;

- Confirmed in that post with ten (10) years of experience in accounting and/ or auditing in an executive capacity;
- At least eight (08) years of satisfactory service of above ten (10) years should be in the post of Senior Assistant Accountant/ Senior Assistant Bursar/ Senior Assistant Internal Auditor in the University System;
- Three (03) years of above eight (08) years of experience should be after acquiring the qualification at 1(a) above.

OR

4. A holder of the post of Deputy Accountant/ Deputy Bursar/ Deputy Internal Auditor in the University Grants Commission/ Higher Educational Institution/ Institute with all of the following;

- Confirmed in that post;
- Possess Intermediate qualification of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka (CASL) or its equivalent;
- Possess a Masters' Degree in Accountancy/ Finance/ Management* from a recognized University/ HEI;
- Twelve (12) years of experience in accounting and/ or auditing in an executive capacity after successful completion of the Intermediate qualification of the CASL or its equivalent;
- Ten (10) years of above experience should be in the post of Senior Assistant Accountant/ Senior Assistant Bursar/ Senior Assistant Internal Auditor or above in the University system.

OR

5. A holder of the post of Deputy Accountant/ Deputy Bursar/ Deputy Internal Auditor in the University Grants Commission/ Higher Educational Institution/ Institute with all of the following;

- Confirmed in that post with three (03) years of satisfactory service in that post;
- Possess a Bachelor's Degree from a recognized University/ HEI;
- Possess Intermediate qualification of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka (CASL) or its equivalent

or
Higher National Diploma in Accountancy (HNDA) conducted by the Sri Lanka Institute of Advanced Technological Education (SLIATE) or its predecessor;

- Fourteen (14) years of experience in accounting and/ or auditing in an executive capacity after obtaining the Intermediate qualification/ HNDA stated above;
- At least five (05) years of such experience should be in the post of Deputy Accountant /Deputy Bursar/ Deputy Internal Auditor and/ or in the post of Senior Assistant Accountant/ Senior Assistant Bursar/ Senior Assistant Internal Auditor in the University system carrying the salary scale denoted by salary code U-EX 2(I).

OR

6. A holder of the post of Deputy Accountant/ Deputy Bursar/ Deputy Internal Auditor in the University Grants Commission/ Higher Educational Institution/Institute with all of the following;

- Confirmed in that post;
 - Possess a Bachelor's Degree from a recognized University/ HEI
- or
the Intermediate qualification of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka (CASL) or its equivalent
- or
Higher National Diploma in Accountancy (HNDA) conducted by the Sri Lanka Institute of Advanced Technological Education (SLIATE) or its predecessor;
- Not less than eighteen (18) years of experience in accounting and/ or auditing in the University system;
 - Three (03) years of above experience should be in the post of Deputy Accountant/ Deputy Bursar/ Deputy Internal Auditor in the University system.

OR

7. A holder of the post of Accountant Grade II of the Sri Lanka Accountants' Service with the following;

- Should possess the Membership of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka (CASL) or its equivalent;
- or
Master's Degree in Accountancy/ Finance/ Management* from a recognized University/ HEI.

Note: 'Accounting and/or Auditing' experience means, experience gained in an executive capacity in Accounting and/or Auditing in a State or Reputed Private Sector Organization.

* Term **'Management'** means a Degree in Management/ Public Administration/ Business Administration with major component in Accounting and Finance.

Method of Recruitment:

Selection by a structured interview

Age Limit: Age limit will not apply. The compulsory retirement age of employees of the University service is sixty years. The selected candidate will be on probation for a period of three years or one year (for confirmed employees of the University System) reckoned from the date of assumption of duties.

Other Benefits:

1. The holder of the post of Bursar after confirmation in the appointment, will be eligible for Sabbatical Leave of one year's duration with pay or two years' duration without pay on completion of the seven years of service. Those proceeding abroad on Sabbatical Leave shall be entitled to receive full air passage for himself/ herself as well as for the spouse.
2. Further training where appropriate will be supported by the University.
3. Research allowance and accommodation, transport and communication facilities will be provided according to prevailing circulars.

General Conditions:

- I. The University reserves the right to shortlist the applications and summon candidates for the interview, based on the prevailing rules and regulations.
- II. Employees of Government/ Corporations should forward their applications through the Heads of respective Departments/ Corporations along with a certified statement of the present salary particulars. The applications which are not received through the proper channel on or before the closing date will not be considered.
- III. The selected candidates will become contributors to the Universities Provident Fund as well as the Universities Pension scheme, the contributions being 10% from the employee to the Provident Fund and 7% and 8% from the employer to the Provident Fund and Pension Fund respectively. Further contribution of 3% will be made by the employer to the Employees Trust Fund.
- IV. Application forms should be downloaded from the University Website at <http://www.pdn.ac.lk/Vacancies/> and duly completed application along with photocopies of certificates in proof of qualifications and experience should be sent by **Registered Post** to **Senior Assistant Registrar, Non-Academic Establishments Division, Senate House, University of Peradeniya** on or before **29th March 2021**.
- V. Name of the post (Post of Bursar) should be stated on the top left-hand corner of the envelope.
- VI. Applications will not be entertained personally and the University will not bear any responsibility for such submissions. Incomplete, illegible, late applications, applications without documents of proof, applications which are not submitted through prescribed format and which are not submitted through proper channel will be rejected.

REGISTRAR
University of Peradeniya
28th February 2021

VACANCIES

MARKETING MANAGER

- A Degree in Business Management & Marketing from a Recognized University
- Excellent Communication skills.
- Good Knowledge in Digital Marketing.
- Minimum 2 years' Experience.

Apply within two weeks with non-related referees.
M: +9477 1099941 T: +94 372232815-6 F: +94372232817
Mail: ashokarajaksha993@gmail.com

AYURVEDIC DOCTOR

Looking for a potential candidate with below requirements to fulfill the position of Ayurvedic Doctor:

- Certificate from Ayurveda Medical Council is a must
- Good command of English Language
- Residing in Colombo District
- Ability to work in any part of Sri Lanka
- Recently Graduated or Age above 50 years

If you are interested in joining our team, please submit your CV to jobs@siddhalepa.com stating the subject as S/HR/AYUR/001 on or before 17.03.2021

SIDDHALEPA GROUP HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGER - HETTIGODA GROUP
No 33/3, Sri Dharmarama Road, Ratmalana.
T: 011 2736910 / 077 3370991 F: 011 2735465

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GROUP HUMAN RESOURCES & COMPLIANCE MANAGER - COLOMBO

We are a Leading Group of Companies in the Forefront of the Apparel Trade. Our pride is our technologically advanced machinery and the collective coordination and firm bonds within our workforce to achieve and fulfill our Timely and Quality Shipments to our Customers.

We do have a senior position of Human Resources & Compliance Manager to lead a Professional Human Resource team and sustain skills of the human capital.

If you possess on following professional qualifications and had held a senior position in Human Resources & Compliance Management over a period of 15 years.

Requisites

- Degree in Human Resources Management from a reputed university or institute.
- Sound knowledge in Sri Lankan labor law
- Conversant in professional certification of the industry
- Should have a good knowledge of Compliance Requirements and maintain the established standards and take corrective action for any shortcomings
- Knowledge of the software and Payroll is also essential
- If you possess LLB or MBA from recognized institute
- Accredited certification or Registration from environmental management system
- Sound knowledge and working experience in rewarding and compensation procedures
- Sound knowledge in implementing disciplinary procedures
- Any prerequisites on preproduction or production process will be distinct advantage
- Should be fluent in writing and oral in English and Sinhala languages

EAM MALIBAN GROUP

If you are confident and with above prerequisites please forward your CV within 07 days to Group General Manager Operation, via Email: lakmal.dissanayake@maliban.com

EAM Maliban Textiles (Pvt) Ltd
261, Siri Dhamma Mawatha, Colombo 10.

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HOUSE & PROPERTY



IMMEDIATE VACANCY

We are the Leading Computer Software Developing Company Located in Maharagama, requires the well experienced or trainee candidates to be filled

**Customer Support Executive
Cum Accounts Clerk - Female**

- > Experience with similar capacity would be an added advantage
- > Trainees are welcome
- > Age between 20 - 35
- > Attractive Remuneration

If you are suitable for above position, send your CV quoting the position applied in the subject of the email to gsspvt@gmail.com including contact Details of two non-related referees.

VACANCIES

A well established export oriented company in Ja- Ela, Ekala & Galle has below vacancies

**TECHNICIANS
ELECTRICIANS**

- Attractive salaries & incentives
- ATI / GermenTech / NVQ Level 4,5
- Experience in similar field will be and added advantage.

Call : 0772 858 938

**Electrician cum Mechanic
(Technical Head) (MALE) - TOP URGENT**

Qualifications & Experience:

- NVQ level 3-4 or similar qualification from a recognized technical institute.
- 3 years' hands on experience
- Fair knowledge in VSD PLC HMI micro controller pneumatic system & Hydraulic system
- Good knowledge in 3phase wiring distribution and control systems
- Industrial mechanical application knowledge experience in an added advantage.
- Should be willing to work long hours & shift woks.
- Age below 45

Ability to take up appointment at short notice & those living in close proximity to Kesbewa, Homagama or Horana will be preferred.

Contact No : 0773 791 560

Please forward your CV to :

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by e-mail to sampath@metric-products.com

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LAKE HOUSE



**Bandaranaike Centre for
International Studies (BCIS)**

VACANCIES

SENIOR RESEARCHERS

The Bandaranaike Centre for International Studies (BCIS) is a research and education based institution which focuses on International Relations and its sub disciplines.

BCIS has decided to expand its research/academic programs in International Relations and related subjects and therefore is in search of experienced, qualified and conscientious researchers willing to contribute to the advancement of the institution.

In this light, applications are now called for the Post of Senior/Junior Researcher.

Tasks and Responsibilities

- Develop IR related research concepts/projects
- Produce analytical reports and develop BCIS areas of interest
- Carry out qualitative and quantitative data collection and analysis
- Supervise and mentor junior researchers
- Coordinate on going/new initiatives and liaise with stakeholders.

Qualifications and Skills

- A Masters' qualification in International Relations or Political Science (or related Social Sciences) from a recognized local or foreign University. A PhD is also advantageous.
- A minimum of five (5) years of relevant professional work experience.
- Excellent communication, analytical and writing skills in English with proficiency in IT.
- Networking skills and links with think-tanks and related stakeholder organizations/development partners in Sri Lanka and outside.
- Passionate, innovative and enthusiastic team player.

JUNIOR RESEARCHER

Qualifications and Skills

- A Masters' qualification in International Relations, Social Sciences and its sub disciplines from a recognized local or foreign university.
- A minimum of five (5) years of relevant professional work experience.
- Excellent communication and writing skills in English (Trilingual skills will be an added advantage).
- Good communication skills with a sound knowledge in IT.
- Passionate, innovative and enthusiastic team player.

Salary : Negotiable

Application submission deadline : March 21, 2021.

Potential candidates can email their CVs with a covering letter addressed to the Director/BCIS.

Director
Bandaranaike Centre for International Studies (BCIS)
BMICH, Baudhaloka Mawatha,
Colombo 07.
Tel No. : 011-2687124
Fax No. : 011-2691176
e-mail : admin@bcis.edu.lk

**Marketing
Assistant Manager
(MALE)**

Do you want to be a team member of Sri Lanka's premier and preferred cabs service provider?

The Profile

- Qualified in sales and marketing.
- Outgoing personality with High Communication Skills in English.
- Computer Literacy (MS OFFICE / EXCEL).
- Possession of valid Riding/Driving License.
- Experience in any field as a Marketing Executive (Transport and Travel field preferred).
- Age between 25 to 45 years.

The Rewards

- Attractive Remuneration package awaits together with other benefits.

Please send your applications to info@2585588.com or send by post to below address. For early appointments for interviews

0112580047

The Senior Manager HR & Administration
KANGAROO CABS (PVT) LTD
No: 485/7A, Gunawardena Mawatha, Wijerama,
Gangodawila, Nugegoda.



VACANCY

ACE Healthcare (Pvt.) Ltd. is a BOI approved Pharmaceutical and Cosmeceutical Manufacturing Plant designed to comply with GMP, WHO-GMP, EU-GMP and US FDA Standards, located in Horana, Sri Lanka.

Applications are invited for dynamic, result - oriented, individuals to fill below positions.

QUALITY ASSURANCE EXECUTIVE / QUALITY ASSURANCE OFFICER

Qualifications

- Qualified in BSc in Chemistry, BSc in Pharmacy or equivalent qualification from a recognized university.
- Knowledge of cGMP and quality operations would be an added advantage.
- Previous experience (2-3 years) in a similar capacity would be an added advantage.
- Age below 35.
- Fluent in English.

Duties and responsibilities

- Maintaining and supervising the Quality assurance measures adopted by the company.
- Assure that all products and manufacturing processes comply with relevant QA standards.
- Attend to product complaints and customer queries.
- Conduct internal audits.
- Prepare SOP, procedures, and other required documents.
- Maintain Good Manufacturing Practices in the manufacturing, filling, and packaging area.

QUALITY CONTROL EXECUTIVE /CHEMIST

Qualifications

- Qualified in BSc in Chemistry, BSc in Pharmacy or equivalent qualification from a recognized university.
- Knowledge of cGMP and quality operations would be an added advantage.
- Hands-on experience in a Pharmaceutical Laboratory (2-3 years) in a similar capacity would be an added advantage.
- Sound knowledge in operation, calibration of laboratory instruments such as HPLC, FTIR, UV-Visible spectrophotometer is required.
- Age below 35

Duties and responsibilities

- Maintaining Good laboratory practices, laboratory safety measures and train the staff.
- Perform and supervise quality tests from manufacturing to finished products as per SOP.
- Performing Analytical Method Validation activities
- Inspect raw materials and packing materials.
- Calibration, Verification of laboratory instruments.
- Maintain Good Manufacturing Practices, in the manufacturing, filling, and packaging area.

MICROBIOLOGIST

Qualifications

- Qualified in BSc in Microbiology or equivalent qualification from a recognized university.
- Knowledge of cGMP and quality operations would be an added advantage.
- Previous experience (2-3 years) in a similar capacity would be an added advantage.
- Age below 30.

Duties and responsibilities

- Planning and carrying out testing
- Environmental monitoring
- Recording, analysis and interpreting the data
- Growing microbe cultures
- Assure proper Collection of samples from a variety of locations.

PRODUCTION EXECUTIVE / PRODUCTION OFFICER

Qualifications

- B. Sc/ B. Pharm degree or any other relevant qualification.
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills.
- For Executive grade- A minimum 03-04 years of experience in a similar capacity will be required
- For Officer grade- looking for fresh graduates.
- Age below 35 years

Duties and responsibilities

- Efficient supervision of production process and lead the production team to achieve expected targets.
- Adhere to the cGMP functions
- Train and guide production floor employees to achieve planned production output.
- Ensure health and safety aspect of employees and make them aware on 'Safety First culture'.

An attractive remuneration package based on experience awaits the right candidate. Please forward your CV with name & contact numbers of two non-related referees along with the post you are applying within 7 days of this advertisement to **Manager, HR division, Ace Healthcare (Pvt) Ltd.** Please mention the post you are applying in the subject line of the e mail.

No. 72/A, Illimba Road, Kandana, Horana, Sri Lanka. hr@acehealthcare.lk 0112 620712/3/4

Sri Lanka Insurance

Sri Lanka Insurance, The No 1 General Insurance Company in the country, is looking out for a No. 1 Marketing Specialist to lead the winning formula.

If you are a Marketing Specialist in the field of General Insurance we would like to hear from you.

Assistant General Manager - General Insurance Category Marketing

Directly reporting to Deputy General Manager - Head of Marketing you will be responsible for developing & Driving the overall Marketing Strategy for the General Insurance Category of the Company. The role involves a complete understanding of the Sri Lankan General Insurance Market, with good exposure to General Insurance products and processes.

Job Duties & Responsibilities:

- Develop & drive the General Insurance category to achieve the objectives of the company which includes developing strategic & tactical marketing plans for category.
- Be responsible & drive the product development function of the category through close research and close monitoring of the market & to drive product innovation and product road mapping process for the General Insurance brand portfolio.
- Liaise with external agencies (advertising/research etc..) to ensure strategic brand positioning & targeted Marketing communication and liaise with external stakeholders to develop strategic partnerships
- Responsible to drive the category brand activations and maintain effective external visibility.
- Drive distribution support initiatives through the distribution network to reach the company top-line targets, designing & driving rewards & recognition schemes for the distribution channels through internal data analytics and constantly use MIS to evaluate the current behavioural trends to take timely and corrective action. Ensure a clear flow of information to all stakeholders.
- Developing and tracking of key brand, consumer and business metrics to ensure success of all category initiatives.
- Drive the Social Media strategy of the General Insurance category to achieve set KPIs.
- Be involved in developing the sales training strategies for the category and guide the sales training to achieve the company objectives.
- Responsible in managing a high performing team through constant training motivation and knowledge sharing.
- Be responsible to driving the CRM strategy for General category
- Responsible for managing the Category budget to achieve the set objectives.
- Overall Responsible for the overall growth of the category & customer engagement.

Pre-Requisite

- Should possess a Degree in Marketing from UGC approved university or post graduate diploma in marketing from Chartered Institute of Marketing UK, or from Sri Lanka Institute of Marketing.
- Being a Chartered Marketer or Holding a MBA will be an added advantage.
- Minimum of 12 years' hands on experience in the field of Insurance Marketing and at least 7 years in a senior managerial capacity.
- Age should be between 35 - 45.

Skills

- Strategic & Positive Thinking, Organizing, Decision making, Controlling, Communicating, Interpersonal relations, Team work, Problem solving, Leadership

Attitude

- Ability to work under pressure, Punctuality, Target achieving, Knowledge sharing, Immitativeness, Willingness to accept responsibilities, empathy & a team player

If you believe you possess the above qualifications and experience, send in your CV along with the names of two non-related referees within 07 days of this advertisement to the address given below, stating the post applied for on the top left corner of the envelope or e-mail to jobs@sri.lankainsurance.com stating the post applied for on the subject line.

Deputy General Manager – HR & ER

Sri Lanka Insurance,
No. 21, Vauxhall Street, Colombo 02.
Company Registration Number: PB 289





VACANCIES

SRI LANKA STANDARDS INSTITUTION (SLSI)

Ministry of Technology



Applications are invited from qualified citizens of Sri Lanka for filling the following vacancies of the SLSI.

Deputy Director General - Senior Manager Category (HM 2-1)

Deputy Director General

Qualifications - External

Bachelor's Degree in Engineering (four years) or Science Stream (Physics, Chemistry, Food Science, Textile, Microbiology, Environmental Science, Fisheries, Agriculture, Biology, Biotechnology, Molecular Biology, Mathematics, Information Technology or Statistics) - Special Degree (four years) or General Degree (three years) with a class which is recognized by the University Grant Commission (UGC) of Sri Lanka.

with

A Postgraduate Degree qualification (Masters') in Science/ Engineering/ Agriculture/ Business Administration/ Management which is recognized by the University Grant Commission (UGC) of Sri Lanka or Chartered membership of a recognized professional Chartered Institution in a related field to the post.

Experience for the above post

Minimum of 19 years experience after first degree in the technical field/ scientific field/ other relevant field at a "Managerial Level" out of which 07 years of experience should be at Senior Managerial Level with a proven track record in a Corporation, Statutory Board/Institution or a reputed Private Institution.

and

A proven ability to lead and direct multi-disciplinary teams with experience in proper deployment and efficient management of human and other resources

Internal (01 or 02 below)

01) Having obtained the qualifications required by the external candidates above

02) A minimum of four (04) years satisfactory service in a Director (Technical) or Director (Engineering) post in the Senior Manager Category

and

A proven ability to lead and direct multi-disciplinary teams with experience in proper deployment and efficient management of human and other resources

The role of supervision of five Divisions will be held with the selected candidate.

Salary Scale

LKR 91 645.00 – 12 x 2 700.00 – LKR 124 045.00

Age Should be not less than 35 years and not more than 55 years (Upper limit will not be applicable to internal applicants)

Director - Senior Manager Category (HM 1-3)

Director (Administration)

Qualifications - External

Bachelor's Degree in Management, Public Administration, Public Management, Business Administration or Human Resource Management (four years) which is recognized by the University Grant Commission (UGC) of Sri Lanka.

with

A Postgraduate Degree qualification (Masters') in Business Administration, Human Resource Management, Management, Public Management or Public Administration which is recognized by the University Grant Commission (UGC) of Sri Lanka or Chartered membership of a recognized professional Chartered Institution in a related field to the post.

Experience for the above post

Minimum of fifteen (15) years relevant experience after first degree at a "Managerial Level" out of which 03 years of experience should be at senior manager level with a proven track record in a Corporation, Statutory Board/Institution or a reputed Private Institution.

and

A proven ability to lead and direct multi-disciplinary teams with experience in proper deployment and efficient management of human and other resources

Internal (01 or 02 below)

01) Having obtained the qualifications required by the external candidates above

02) Completion of minimum three (3) years satisfactory service in the post of Senior Deputy Director (Administration) with Postgraduate Degree qualification (Masters') in Business Administration, Human Resource Management, Management or Public Administration which is recognized by the University Grant Commission (UGC) of Sri Lanka or Chartered membership of a recognized professional Chartered Institution in a related field to the post.

and

A proven ability to lead and direct multi-disciplinary teams with experience in proper deployment and efficient management of human and other resources

The selected candidate will be in charge of the Administration Division and, is responsible for administrative functions of the Institution. He/She should have excellent leadership and communication skills to facilitate with staff at all levels.

Salary Scale

LKR 86 865.00 – 15 x 2 270.00 – LKR 120 915.00

Age Should be not less than 35 years and not more than 55 years (Upper limit will not be applicable to internal applicants)

Director - Senior Manager Category (HM 1-3)

Director (Finance)

Qualifications - External

Bachelor's Degree in Accounting/Financial Management/ Business Administration or Commerce (four years) which is recognized by the University Grant Commission (UGC) of Sri Lanka

with

A Postgraduate Degree qualification (Masters') in Accounting/ Financial Management/ Business Management which is recognized by the University Grant Commission (UGC) of Sri Lanka or Chartered membership of a recognized professional Chartered Institution in a related field to the post.

Experience for the above post

Minimum of fifteen (15) years relevant experience after obtaining above qualification at a "Managerial Level" out of which 03 years of experience should be at senior manager level with a proven track record in a Corporation, Statutory Board/Institution or a reputed Private Institution.

and

A proven ability to lead and direct multi-disciplinary teams with experience in proper deployment and efficient management of human and other resources

Internal (01 or 02 below)

01) Having obtained the qualifications required by the external candidates above

02) Completion of minimum three (3) years satisfactory service in the post of Senior Deputy Director (Finance/ Audit) with Postgraduate Degree qualification (Masters') in Accounting/Financial Management/ Business Management which is recognized by the University Grant Commission (UGC) of Sri Lanka or Chartered membership of a recognized professional Chartered Institution in a related field to the post

and

A proven ability to lead and direct multi-disciplinary teams with experience in proper deployment and efficient management of human and other resources

The selected candidate will be in charge of the Finance Division and, is responsible for managing the finances of the Institution according to the accepted standards of accounting and Government Rules & Regulations

Salary Scale

LKR 86 865.00 – 15 x 2 270.00 – LKR 120 915.00

Age Should be not less than 35 years and not more than 55 years (Upper limit will not be applicable to internal applicants)

Director - Senior Manager Category (HM 1-3)

Director (Technical)

Qualifications - External

Bachelor's Degree in Engineering (four years) or Science Stream (Physics, Chemistry, Food Science, Textile, Microbiology, Environmental Science, Fisheries, Agriculture, Biology, Biotechnology, Molecular Biology, Mathematics or Statistics) - Special Degree (four years) or General Degree (three years) with a class which is recognized by the University Grant Commission (UGC) of Sri Lanka

with

A Postgraduate Degree qualification (Masters') in the relevant field to the subject area of the post which is recognized by the University Grant Commission (UGC) of Sri Lanka or Chartered membership of a recognized professional Chartered Institution in a related field to the post.

Experience for the above post

Minimum of fifteen (15) years relevant experience after first degree at a Managerial Level out of which 03 years of experience should be at senior manager level with a proven track record in a Corporation, Statutory Board/Institution or a reputed Private Institution.

and

A proven ability to lead and direct multi-disciplinary teams with experience in proper deployment and efficient management of human and other resources

Internal (01 or 02 below)

01) Having obtained the qualifications required by the external candidates above

02) Completion of Minimum of three (3) years satisfactory service in the post of Senior Deputy Director (Technical) or Senior Deputy Director (IT) with Post Graduate Degree qualification (Masters') in the subject area relevant to the post which is recognized by the University Grant Commission (UGC) of Sri Lanka or Chartered membership of a recognized professional Chartered Institution in a related field to the post.

and

A proven ability to lead and direct multi-disciplinary teams with experience in proper deployment and efficient management of human and other resources

The selected candidate will be in charge of one of the Technical Divisions and, is responsible for administrative functions of the Division. He/She should have excellent leadership and communication skills to facilitate with staff at all levels.

Salary Scale

LKR 86 865.00 – 15 x 2 270.00 – LKR 120 915.00

Age Should be not less than 35 years and not more than 55 years (Upper limit will not be applicable to internal applicants)

Other Benefits

01. Assigned vehicle or transport allowance as per the Public Enterprises Circular No.PED 1/2015 & PED 1/2015 (i)
02. Encashment of unutilized medical leave
03. Life Insurance Cover & Medical Insurance Cover
04. Reimbursement of medical expenses subject to a limit
05. Annual incentive payment as approved by the General Treasury
06. Opportunity to work in a professional environment
07. Professional Allowance
08. Communication allowance

Applications indicating the name in full, age, educational qualifications and any other relevant particulars together with copies of certificates and names and addresses of two non-related referees should be forwarded under registered cover to reach the Director General, Sri Lanka Standards Institution, No. 17, Victoria Place, Elvitigala Mawatha, Colombo 08 on or before 2021-03-15. Those employed in Public Sector Institutions should forward their applications through the respective Heads of the Institutions. The post applied for should be clearly stated on the top left corner of the envelope.



Director General
Sri Lanka Standards Institution (SLSI)

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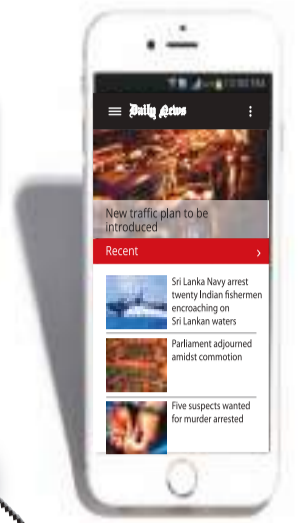
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Email : info@observerjobs.lk Hotline: 1949

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0777270012 / 0112429314

ADVERTISING Centres

VISIT OUR ADVERTISING CENTRES IN KEY CITIES TO:

- ✓ Submit your advertisements
- ✓ Reserve rooms at Lake House Kataragama Pilgrims Rest
- ✓ Order subscriptions of Lake House newspapers

<p>Kandy Branch</p> <p>KANDY No.99 ,D.S.Senanayaka veediya ,Kandy 081 223 4200</p>	<p>Anuradhapura Branch</p> <p>ANURADHAPURA No.310/1/2, Harischandra Mawatha, Bank Town 025 222 2370</p>
<p>Matara Branch</p> <p>MATARA No.29, Upper Floor, Main Bus Stand 041 223 5412</p>	<p>Nugegoda Branch</p> <p>NUGEGODA 4th Floor Savsiri Complex, High Levelle Road 011 282 8114</p>
<p>Jaffna Branch</p> <p>JAFFNA No.06, Sirampirady, Off Stanley Road 077 616 4901</p>	<p>Maradana k/v Branch</p> <p>MARADANA No.383, D R Wijewardena Mawatha, Colombo 10 011 242 9336</p>
<p>Kataragama Branch</p> <p>KATARAGAMA Opposite Kataragama Bus Stand, Pussadewa Mawatha 047 223 5291</p>	

LAKE HOUSE HEAD OFFICE HOT LINES
1949, 011 242 9342, 011 242 9333
No 35, D R Wijewardena Mawatha, Colombo 10

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VACANCY JUNIOR SECRETARY

An association based in Dehiwela representing the automobile spare parts industry seeks the services of a highly skilled Junior Secretary with following capability with at least 5 years' work experience in a similar back ground.

1. Working with the Association membership and provide administrative support when required.
2. Implementing and maintaining an effective filing system, photo copying, storing all association documents.
3. Frequently updating Contact details, Effective communication, handling of transport and courier
4. Independent correspondence in two languages and fluency in MS word with excellent typing skills
5. Ability to travel independently when required with past experience in similar field.

Please apply by email umsialk@gmail.com

Used Motor Spare Parts Importers Association (UMSIA),
 1st Floor, 223, Hill Street, Dehiwela.



ROOFMART (PVT) LTD
 ONE STOP FOR ALL YOUR STEEL BUILDING PRODUCTS

Roof Mart is the Pioneer and leading company for Steel Building Products specialist and ISO 9001:2008 Certified Company in Sri Lanka.

WE ARE IN SEARCH OF TALENTED AND MOTIVATED INDIVIDUALS TO JOIN OUR JOURNEY TOWARDS SUCCESS

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

Minimum 2 Years' Experience with Relevant Qualification.

Excellent career development and opportunities and an attractive remuneration packages in a challenging working environment await for suitable candidate.

Please forward your resume with the names and contract details of Two non-related referees and passport size photograph to careers@roofmart.lk Mentioning the post on the subject line.

Manager-Human Resources
 ROOFMART (PVT) LTD
 Rathkarawwa, Maspotha, Kurunegala.
Tel: (+94) 372239644

CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY VACANCY

BUILD MART LANKA, A LEADING CIVIL CONSTRUCTION COMPANY IN THE COUNTRY WITH OVER 30 YEARS IN OPERATION. WE ARE CIDA C1 WITH ISO 9001:2015, 14001:2015, 45001:2018 CERTIFICATIONS WITH A TEAM DEDICATED TO SHAPE COUNTRY'S CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY.

SITE MANAGERS

Should possess NDT/NDES or equivalent with 08 years' experience with the capability to independently manage overall site activities of multi type building construction projects. Should have expertise in quality assurance & HSE practices and be able to handle engineering instruments.

CONSTRUCTION SUPERINTENDENTS

Should possess NCT or equivalent with 04 years' experience. Should be able to handle operational, labour handling and quality assurance activities at sites and be conversant with HSE practices and handling engineering instruments.

Candidates who do not possess above experience may apply for trainee category.

What's in for you

- Competitive Salary and other fringe benefits in par with industry standards.
- Planned career progression.
- Opportunity to perform in a dynamic and challenging working environment.



BUILD MART LANKA (PVT) LTD
 25 & 25B, JESMIN GARDEN,
 NAWALA, RAJAGIRIYA.
 Email : info@buildmart.lk | www.buildmart.lk



VACANCIES

We are one of the pioneers in the Sri Lankan stationery industry and we have been in the business for over 70 years. Our new product range and market expansion require dedicated Sales Executives to penetrate the market.

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT EXECUTIVES

- Age below 35 years.
- 3- 5 Years' minimum experience in the field of sales, preferably FMCG.
- Minimum G.C.E. A/L passed.
- Excellent communication skills and PR Skills.
- Team players who can be dependable / Flexible and People oriented.
- Be able to work under pressure / Ready to work long hours when required.
- Presentable and Organized persons.
- A professional qualification would be an added advantage.
- A Competitive remuneration package in par with the industry.
- Valid Riding License essential.

If you think you are capable of working in a dynamic and goal oriented sales team and possesses the above criteria, please send in your CV to,

The Sales Manager
Weerodara Stationery (Pvt) Ltd.
 No: 15, Chapel Lane, Nugegoda.
 E-mail: rasika@weerodara.com
 WhatsApp: 075 585 5851

SRI JAYEWARDENEPURA GENERAL HOSPITAL

VACANCY

POST OF ACCOUNTANT

- Applications are invited for the above post.
- Retired Accountant of Government Hospitals, Departments and Ministries are welcome
- This appointment will be on Assignment basis for one year. An extension of the Assignment period will be decided by the Management of Sri Jayewardenepura General Hospital.
- The salary will be negotiable.
- The Sri Jayewardenepura General Hospital Board reserves to itself the right to make/not to make an appointment.
- The post applied for should be marked on the left-hand corner of the envelope.
- Applicants should send their applications with full curriculum vitae and with names of the two (02) not related referees to reach the undersigned on or before 15th March 2021.

Chairman,
 Sri Jayewardenepura General Hospital,
 Thalpathpitiya,
 Nugegoda.

IGNITE THE FIRE WITHIN YOU



People's Spark is an Entrepreneurship Development Programme including a collateral-free loan scheme for Young Graduates and Young Persons who have acquired National Vocational Qualifications NVQ Level-5 equivalent or above

- 3 month internship programme in successfully developed businesses
- Mentorship under industry leaders
- Up to Rs. 2.5 million collateral-free loan

The applicant should be

- A citizen of Sri Lanka.
- Age between 18-35 Years
- A graduate from a university accepted by the University Grants Commission of Sri Lanka or a person who has successfully completed vocational training, NVQ level-5, equivalent or above
- Not a defaulter of People's Bank or any financial institution
- Willing to undertake internship and training programmes arranged by the Bank on a need basis from time to time
- Should have a passion to venture into a business

Eligible Sectors

- Agriculture (farming, livestock, fisheries, agro produce collectors and intermediaries, small rice millers)
- Manufacturing Industries
- Food and Beverages
- Innovation and technology-based businesses.
- Essential Services (Health, Education, Logistics, Communication)
- Tourism

The applications can be submitted online via www.peoplesbank.lk/peoples-spark or call: 011 2 481 356 for more details

*Conditions apply



Immediate Vacancies

We are a subsidiary of Access Engineering PLC, a leading CSE listed company with core business of construction. We are also in the construction business highly specialized in leisure sector along with ceiling/Aluminium manufacturing and installation.

With our rapid expansion of our business we are looking for dynamic and energetic people who believe in taking the Company to the highest level.

Construction Division - Site

- **Site Engineer/Senior Technical Officer -Finishing**
 - NDT, HNDE, NCT or equivalent qualification with minimum 05 years' Experience in finishing works.

Aluminium Division - Factory

- **Engineer**
 - BSc in Production & Manufacturing/ Mechanical Engineering or equivalent qualification
 - More than one-year experience in a similar capacity, preferably in Aluminium fabrication Industry.
- **Store Executive**
 - Store Management Diploma or equivalent with minimum three year Experience
 - Excellent Knowledge in Computer Programs (Excel, Word and Other Software)
 - Knowledge in Bin Card Management, Inventory monitoring and Report Preparation, Stock Maintain and Stock Report, arranging Stocks According labelling and 5S and Good Housekeeping Practices.

Please forward your complete resume by mail/ e-mail with contact details of two non-related referees and a passport size photograph to reach us on or before 14th March 2021, indicating the post applied for on the top left corner of the envelope or in the subject cage of the e-mail. Any form of canvassing will be a disqualification.

Email to: hr@accessprojects.lk

Access Projects (Pvt) Ltd

Access Tower I, No 278, Union Place, Colombo 02

ICTAD-C1 & ISO 9001-2015 certified Company



The Bank of the People



STATE PHARMACEUTICALS CORPORATION OF SRI LANKA
VACANCY

State Pharmaceuticals Corporation is the sole importer of pharmaceuticals and medical devices for the government hospitals and the leading importer and distributor of pharmaceuticals for the private sector in Sri Lanka.

Applications are invited from suitably qualified Sri Lankan citizens to fill the following vacancy.

PROCUREMENT OFFICER (WHARF) JM 1.1 – GRADE II – (01 VACANCY)

- (a) Bachelor's Degree or equivalent qualifications of a University recognized by the University Grants Commission,
And
- (b) Computer Literacy
And
- (c) Minimum of one year post qualifying experience in the field of Wharf Duties of a Public/ Corporation/ Board/ Statutory body/ Reputed Mercantile Establishment.

Salary Scale: Rs. 42,600/- 755/- x 10, 1135/- x 18 - 70,580/-
(Approximate monthly remuneration will be around Rs. 97,780/-)

Age limit : Should not be less than 18 years and not more than 45 years. The upper age limit will not be applicable to Internal Candidates.

Fringe Benefits :

The selected candidates will be entitled to an attractive range of fringe benefits including a monthly attendance incentive, encashment of unutilized sick leave, annual bonus and profit sharing incentive, welfare benefits, medical benefits and medical insurance scheme for the employee and the family for hospitalization.

Applications should be with full bio-data including age, qualifications, training, work experience, present position, salary point and scale, previous positions held, dates of joining and leaving the previous employers, together with copies of educational & service certificates and names with addresses of two non related referees.

Please note that the applications without copies of the relevant certificates will be rejected.

Applications from employees of Public Sector Organizations should be forwarded through the respective Heads of Institutions.

Envelopes enclosing applications **should be marked the post applied for on the top left hand corner** and should be sent under registered cover on or before **10.03.2021** to reach,

Deputy General Manager – Human Resources & Administration
State Pharmaceuticals Corporation of Sri Lanka
75, Sir Baron Jayathilake Mawatha,
Colombo 01.
Tel. 011 2320356/9



MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
SRI LANKA INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED
TECHNOLOGICAL EDUCATION
(SLIATE)



VACANCIES

Applications are invited for the following posts in SLIATE. The applications must reach the Director General, SLIATE, "Janawathu Piyasa", No. 320, T.B. Jayah Mawatha, Colombo 10 under registered post on or before **28.03.2021**. Please indicate the post applied for on the top left hand corner of the envelope.

1. Hostel Warden/Hostel Matron

Subject Area	Location
Hostel Warden/Hostel Matron (vacancies 04)	Dehiwala - 02 - female Ampara - 01 - female Colombo 01 - male

3.1 External Recruitment

Educational Qualifications

- (a) Should have passed in the GCE O/L Examination 06 subjects in not more than 02 sittings with Credit Passes for
 1. Sinhala/Tamil/English Language
 2. Mathematics and
 3. two other subjects
 - (b) Should have passed all the subjects (except General Paper) at GCE A/L. However, it is sufficient to pass in 03 subjects at one sitting under old syllabus.
- and**
- (c) Should have successfully completed a study course in Information Technology / Typing / Stenography.

1.2 Internal Recruitment

- (a) Employees in the SLIATE Service who have satisfied education qualification indicated in 3.1 (a), (c) above and completed 05 years' service in minor grades.

Salary scale: -

MA 1-2- 2016 - 27,910 - 10 x 300 - 7 x 350 - 12 x 710 - 49,080

Note: In addition, government approved allowances will be paid.

Conditions of Service: -

1. Selected candidates will become the contributors to the Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) contributing 10% of their earnings and the SLIATE contributing 15% of their earnings from its funds and also contributing 3% of their earnings to the Employees' Trust Fund (ETF).
2. Age limit is below 45 years for all categories. However, it is not applicable for those who are in the permanent cadre in the Public/State sector.
3. Applicants in Government Departments, Corporations and Statutory Boards should send their applications through the Heads of respective Institutions.
4. Selected applicants holding pensionable posts in Government Departments will have to obtain their release through the Director General of Establishments. However, they will not be entitled to pension rights whilst in the service of the SLIATE.

Applications received after the closing date will be rejected without intimation.

Director General
Sri Lanka Institute of Advanced Technological Education
No. 320, T.B. Jayah Mawatha
Colombo 10.

Exciting Career Opportunities
STUDENT COUNSELLOR
● Age below 18 to 45 ● Able to speak in English
● School leavers welcome
ENGLISH / IELTS TEACHER
● Age below 18 to 45 ● School leavers welcome
● Experience in Teaching IELTS & Spoken English an added Advantage
RECEPTIONIST
● Female Age below 18 to 30 ● School leavers welcome
Please send your CV to flexinstitute04@gmail.com or call for an interview on 0777 761 346
Flex Institute
6A, Parakumbala Place, Colombo 06
E-mail: flexinstitute04@gmail.com
www.flexinstitute.lk

VACANCY
Accountant (Male/Female) and online Operator.
● He/she should be experienced and should have thorough knowledge of computer accounting MS office with Quick book and tally will be added an advantage
Maayu Import And Export (Pvt) Ltd
144A, Keyzer Street, Colombo-11.
Mobile: 075 794 79 79 | E-mail: maayuimpex@gmail.com

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Casual Advertisements published C/o the
Daily News
should only be sent by ordinary post.
Replies sent under registered cover will not be accepted.

VEHICLE FOR SALE
MOTOR CAR - PEUGEOT 508 (WP CAE-XXXX)
MOTOR VAN - NISSAN (KG-CWGE25)
The above mentioned company vehicles are available for immediate sale at the present condition. Inspection could be arranged between 9.00 a.m. and 4.00 p.m. from 01st to 05th March 2021 at our car park, 118, Union Place, Colombo 02 by contacting undersigned and sealed offers should reach us on or before 4.00 p.m. on Friday, 05th February 2021 to the following address.
Senior Assistant
Administration Manager,
Singer Sri Lanka PLC
112, Havelock Road, Colombo 05.

RESTAURANT OPERATIONS VACANCY MANAGER
An A-Graded restaurant is looking for an Experienced Operations Manager who possesses excellent skills in Customer Service, Communication & Staff Management, to manage the day to day operations. A very attractive salary is on offer for the right candidate.
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A- Grade Tourist Board Approved Restaurant in Colombo is looking for Stewards / Waiters who can deliver excellent dining experience for our customers. A pleasing personality with good communication skills is essential With a very attractive salary .
Call 0703 606 042

CAREER OPPORTUNITY
BK Group (Pvt) Ltd. Requires the services of Qualified Applicants For our Showrooms at Kadawatha, Colombo and Negombo. Candidates are encouraged to apply for the positions of
* SALES REPRESENTATIVE
* SALES SUPERVISOR
* WAREHOUSE ASSISTANT
* At least 2 years of relevant experience will be an added advantage.
* Fresh candidates can also apply.
* Age above 18.
Interested candidates may send their Cvs to the e-mail address mentioned below. bkgroups@hotmail.com
Apply before 31st March 2021
BK Group (Pvt) Ltd.
No.139/5 A Kandy Road , Kadawatha
Contacts - 071 - 1936411 / 077 - 4683520

HOSPITAL VACANCIES
Senior/Junior Nurses (Female) -
Applications are invited from Senior or Junior Nurses having experience.
Receptionist/Call Center Operator (Female) -
Applications are invited from female with or without experience (school leavers also can apply) for the above post. Age 18-35.
Attractive salary package, free hostel facility, OT Food & other benefits.
Please apply or call
ROYAL HOSPITAL (PVT) LTD,
62, W A Silva Mw., Wellawatta, Colombo 06.
Tel: 2584212, Fax 2597698
E-mail: hr@royalhospitals.com

THREAD WORKS (PVT) LTD
VISUAL MERCHANDISER & SALES REPRESENTATIVES
We are a well reputed company located in Moratuwa and looking for candidates for above-mentioned two positions.
Requirements:
● Ability to work in Colombo area
● School leavers are encouraged to apply
● Should have valid riding license
Qualifications:
● Successfully passed in GCE O/L is a must
● Successfully passed in GCE A/L will be an added qualification
● Experience in similar capacity
● Prefer male candidates
● Age limit 18-30
● Unmarried
Salary is negotiable
Please apply with completed CV and contact details of non-related referees within 7 days to hr@threadworks.lk
Thread Works (Pvt) Ltd., 83/14, Angulana Station Road, Moratuwa
Tel: 011-2626888/5767676

AIRPORT & AVIATION SERVICES (SRI LANKA) (PRIVATE) LIMITED
VACANCY FOR A STORE KEEPER
We are looking for highly motivated individual with right attitudes to fill the vacancy of Store Keeper.
If you are interested and possess the relevant qualifications & experience mentioned in our website <http://www.airport.lk> > Corporate > careers please send in your resume prepared accordingly to the specimen application given in the same website with copies of the relevant certificates to the following address on or before **March 12, 2021** by only registered post.
Please note that the applications without copies of the relevant certificates and forwarded in other modes and not in accordance with the application given in our Website will be rejected.
Please note that only shortlisted candidates will be notified.
CHAIRMAN,
AIRPORT & AVIATION SERVICES (SRI LANKA) (PRIVATE) LIMITED,
BANDARANAIKE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT,
KATUNAYAKE.

A specialized Bank listed under Securities & Exchange Commission of Sri Lanka with islandwide branch network is seeking the services of an individual with relevant experience in finance to fill the following vacancy.

POST OF ACCOUNTANT
1. Eligibility Criteria
1.1 Should be a citizen of Sri Lanka.
1.2 Required Educational Qualifications/Professional Qualifications and skills
■ Associate member of Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka (CA Sri Lanka)/ Chartered Institute of Management Accountants of UK (CIMA – UK)/Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA)/Institute of Certified Management Accountants of Sri Lanka (CMA-SL)
■ Degree in Accountancy/Finance from a recognized University would be an added qualification.
■ Sound knowledge on SLFRS/LKAS, specially SLFRS – 9 impairment computations.
■ Strong analytical skills and literacy in MS Office suite.
■ Effective communication and interpersonal skills
1.3 Experience
Minimum of Five (05) years' experience in a similar capacity.
1.4 Age : Not more than 45 years.
2. Key Responsibilities
■ Preparation of periodical Financial Statements and MIS reports
■ Timely submission of regulatory reports ensuring compliance with new regulatory requirements pertaining to financial reporting
■ Perform IFRS related computation
3. Remuneration
An attractive remuneration package awaits the right candidate.
4. Terms & conditions relating to the position
This position will be subjected to a probationary period of one year and confirmation in the post will be based on the satisfactory performance. Short-listed applicants based on the stipulated qualifications and experience will be called for an interview.
Applications with two non-related Referees, should be sent by registered post to Senior Manager – HR, P.O.Box 2085, Colombo 02 within 10 days of this advertisement. It is required to indicate the position applied on the top left-hand corner of the envelope.

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No.310/1/2, Harischandra Mawatha, Bank Town
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Matara Branch
No.29, Upper Floor, Main Bus Stand
041 223 5412
Nugegoda Branch
4th Floor, Savsiri Complex, High Level Road
011 282 8114
Jaffna Branch
No.06, Sirampirady, Off Stanley Road
077 616 4901
Maradana k/v Branch
No.383, D R Wijewardena Mawatha, Colombo 10
011 242 9336
Kataragama Branch
KATARAGAMA
Opposite Kataragama Bus Stand, Pussadewa Mawatha
047 223 5291
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1949, 011 242 9342, 011 242 9333
No 35, D R Wijewardena Mawatha, Colombo 10

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

DESIGN, FABRICATION, SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF PROPRIETARY ALUMINIUM DOOR SYSTEMS AND FIXED GLAZING IN PERIPHERAL WALL AT SIXTH FLOOR FOR BLOCK 04 OF DEFENCE HEADQUARTERS COMPLEX AT AKUREGODA

CONTRACT NO : DHQC/FIX GLAZ 6FL 4/2020

1. The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee (PPC) on behalf of the Ministry of Defence now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for **Design, Fabrication, Supply and Installation of Proprietary Aluminium Door Systems and Fixed Glazing in Peripheral Wall at Sixth Floor for Block 04 of Defence Headquarters Complex at Akuregoda** as described below and estimated to cost **LKR 48 Million** (excluding VAT).

The work consists of Design, Fabrication, Supply and Installation of structural glazing and glazed proprietary aluminium doors with associated accessories and components, granite architrave and threshold and all relevant Hardware and accessories. The Construction period is 105 Days.

- Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding Procedure.
- To be eligible for the Contract award;
 - The proprietary aluminium system developer shall be an organization possessing ISO 9001 and 14001 certifications and inhouse product testing laboratory.
 - The bidder shall be either the;
 - The proprietary system developer of the offered proprietary aluminium doors and glazing system.
 - Authorized agent of the system developer of the offered proprietary aluminium doors and glazing system, possessing ISO 9001 certification.
 - A licensed installer of the system developer of the offered proprietary aluminium doors and glazing system possessing ISO 9001 certification.
 - Bidder shall not have been blacklisted.

Bidders shall establish their business status with the Bid by submitting the supportive documents. The Bidders shall possess Construction Industry Development Authority (CIDA) grading for aluminium and finishing works – SP2 or above (Mandatory).

- Qualification requirements to qualify for contract award include:
 - Average annual turnover in the latest five (05) years including 2019-2020 shall be at least LKR 72 million.
 - Experience in successful completion of at least At least three (03) projects related to structural glazing and glazed proprietary aluminum doors, successfully completed within last five (05) years out of which at least one project shall be of value not less than LKR 6 million successfully completed within last five (05) years.
 - The minimum amount of liquid assets net of other contractual commitments and exclusive of any advance payment which may be made under this Contract, shall be not less than LKR 41 million.
- Interested bidders may obtain further information from **The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee (PPC), Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla** and inspect the bidding documents free of charge at the same address **from 01st March 2021 until 22nd March 2021 from 0900 hrs to 1500 hrs during working days.**
- A complete set of Bidding Documents in English language may be purchased by interested bidders on submission of a written application to **The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee (PPC), Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla from 01st March 2021 until 22nd March 2021 from 0900hrs to 1500hrs during working days** upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **Sri Lankan Rupees Twelve Thousand (LKR 12,000.00)**. The method of payment will be cash or Bank draft drawn in favour of **The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee (PPC), Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla.**
- Pre bid meeting will be held at **1400 hrs on 12th March 2021** and a site visit will be held on **same day** after the pre bid meeting at the Project Management Unit of Defence Headquarters Complex site at Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla.
- Bids shall be delivered in duplicate to the address below or shall be deposited in the Tender box placed at the address below on or before **1000 hrs on 23rd 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 **22nd June 2021** (91 days after the date of Bid Opening).
- All bids shall be accompanied by a "Bid-Security" of **Sri Lankan Rupees Four Hundred Eighty Thousand Only (LKR 480,000.00)** obtained from a commercial bank operating in Sri Lanka approved by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka in the form of an unconditional and on demand guarantee and shall be valid up to **20th July 2021** (119 days after the date of Bid opening).
- If any bidder wishes to submit bids for several packages of the same block or any other blocks of this project, the bidder shall establish the qualification/ eligibility criteria required under each contract separately, if not the bidder will not be qualified for the award of more than one bid.
- In addition to Item 11 of above, if any bidder has already been selected/is working as a contractor in any of the packages of the block/s of this project, the bidder shall establish his financial and technical requirements under specification/ eligibility criteria exclusively for this bidding package. If not, the bidder will not be qualified for the award of this bid.
- Bidders shall present the registration certificate under the Public Contract Act No.3 of 1987 before purchasing the bidding documents.
- Bidders are advised to inform in writing, to The Director – Project Management Unit, Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla the name and the NIC/ Passport Number of the individual who is participating at the bid opening at least prior to three (03) working days of the bid opening.

The address(es) referred to above is (are) :

**The Chairman,
Project Procurement Committee (PPC),
Defence Headquarters Complex Project,
Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta,
Battaramulla.**

**Tel : 0094-011-4209885
Fax : 0094-011-4209885
E-mail : pmudhqc@gmail.com**

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.

	PRODUCTS	QUANTITY (MT)	BID SECURITY (LKR or USD for 20 MTs)	PACKAGE TERMS OF DELIVERY	DATE & TIME OF TENDER CLOSING AND OPENING
1.	92-95C% Graphite Powder (HS 25041090)	800 MT	LKR 376,000.00 Or USD 2035	1 MT FIBC Bags (Jumbo Bag)	06.04.2021 at 1400 hrs
2.	92-95C% Graphite Chip (HS 25041090)		LKR 335,000.00 Or USD 1815		
3.	90-92C% Graphite Powder (HS 25041090)		LKR 282,000.00 Or USD 1525		
4.	90-92C% Graphite Chip (HS 25041090)		LKR 260,000.00 Or USD 1405		

All other details in the Advertisement remain same.

**Ministry Tender Committee (Sales)
Ministry of Industries, P.O. Box 570, No. 73/1, Galle Road, Colombo 03, Sri Lanka.**

MINISTRY OF PUBLIC SECURITY

SRI LANKA POLICE - SPECIAL TASK FORCE

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

Construction of Building

1. The Chairman, Ministry Procurement Committee, Ministry of Public Security, 14th Floor, Suhurupaya, Battaramulla on behalf of the Secretary, Ministry of Public Security now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the building constructions of the Special Task Force as described below:-

Contract No.	Contract Name & Location	Estd. Cost (Excl. VAT) Rs.	CIDA Grade	Non Refundable Tender Fee	Amount of Bid Security (Rs.)
PS/03/PB/CON/08/03/21	Repairing of Existing Quarters for Special Task Force at Biyanwila, Kadawatha	28.5 M	C5 or above	Rs. 5,000.00	450,000.00
PS/03/PB/CON/08/04/21	Renovation works of Married Quarters at Katukurunda for Special Task Force	19 M	C6 or above	Rs. 3,500.00	285,000.00

Scope of Works:

- Repairing of Existing Quarters for Special Task Force at Biyanwila, Kadawatha**

Construction Period - 180 days

The work consists of demolition, concrete work, water proofing work in toilet areas, Aluminium door with windows, supply & fixing of sanitary fittings, floor and wall tiling in toilet areas and painting. Repair work in existing roof, plumbing system, sewerage and drainage system and electrical wiring

- Renovation works of Married Quarters at Katukurunda for Special Task Force**

Construction Period - 180 days

The Works consist of removing of existing damaged door /window sashes, down pipes, gutters, floor tiling in toilet areas, Supply and fixing of new door/window sashes, sanitary installation, floor and wall tiling in toilet areas, water proofing work, painting to walls & ceiling, roof repair works, repair work of existing drainage system etc.

- 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:
 - CIDA registration required: - As mentioned above
 - Registered as a main construction contractor in the specialty of building works as mentioned above.
 - Bidder shall register under Public Contracts Act No: 03 of 1987.
- Qualification requirements to qualify for contract award include:

Contract No.	Average of the annual volume of construction works performed in last five years 2015-2020	The minimum amount of Liquid Assets and/or credit facilities required	Value of Experience in construction of at least one contract in public sector within last 05 years, which is similar to the nature and complexity of the works shall be
PS/03/PB/CON/08/03/21	Rs. 90.0 M	Rs. 15 M	Rs. 20 M
PS/03/PB/CON/08/04/21	Rs. 57.0 M	Rs. 9.5 M	Rs. 10 M

- Interested bidders may obtain further information from Chief Accountant, Ministry of Public Security and inspect the Bidding Documents at the Procurement Branch of the Ministry of Public Security, 14th Floor, Suhurupaya, Battaramulla, through Telephone No-011-2887697 and inspect the Bidding Documents at the Procurement Branch addressed above from 0900 hrs to 1500 hrs on any working days (except on Public & Bank Holidays) from 01.03.2021 until 23.03.2021.
- A complete set of Bidding Documents in English Language may be purchased by interested bidders on submission of a written application to the Chief Accountant of the Ministry of Public Security, 14th Floor, Suhurupaya, Battaramulla on any working days from 01.03.2021 until 23.03. 2021 from 0900 hrs to 1500 hrs upon payment of a non-refundable fees as mentioned above on behalf of Secretary, Ministry of Public Security. The method of payment will be in cash. Only a single set of bidding documents shall be issued for a bidder.
- Sealed Bids in (Original & Duplicate) with PCA 3 Form shall be kept at the Tender Box placed at the Procurement Branch of Ministry of Public Security, 14th Floor, Suhurupaya, Battaramulla. Alternatively, bids may be sent by registered post to reach the above address on or before 14.00 hrs on 24.03.2021. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened soon after closing of bids in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend. The representatives who wish to attend should produce an authorized letter from the organization and the letter should be sent to reach Chief Accountant. of Ministry of Public Security, prior to the date of bid opening.
- Bids shall be valid for 91 days from the date of closing/opening of bids.
- All bids shall be accompanied by a bid security and it shall be:
 - An unconditional on demand bank guarantee
 - Issued by any Commercial Bank operating in Sri Lanka and approved by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka.
 - In favour of Secretary / Ministry of Public Security.
 - In the form included in Section 9 of the bidding documents.
 - At the amount mentioned above and shall be valid for 119 days i.e. from 24.03.2021 to 20.07.2021.
- Bidders are expected to attend the pre bid meeting which shall be held on 05.03.2021 at 14.00 hrs at the Ministry of Public Security, 14th Floor, Suhurupaya, Battaramulla after the site visit.
- For further clarifications, please contact,

**Chief Accountant
Ministry of Public Security
14th Floor, Suhurupaya,
Battaramulla.
Telephone - 011-2887697/ Fax - 011-2887784
E-mail - caminlofinance@gmail.com**

**OIC Building -STF, STF Headquarters,
No. 223, Bauddahaloka Mawatha, Colombo-07.
Tele: No. 011-2589784**

**Chairman
Ministry Procurement Committee
Ministry of Public Security.**

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1949

INVITATION FOR BIDS**MINISTRY OF DEFENCE****FABRICATION, SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF HEAVY DUTY STEEL FIRE RATED DUCT DOORS FOR BLOCK 01 OF DEFENCE HEADQUARTERS COMPLEX AT AKUREGODA**

CONTRACT NO : DHQC/FIRE RAT DUCT DOOR 1/2020

1. The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee (PPC) on behalf of the Ministry of Defence now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for **Fabrication, Supply and Installation of Heavy Duty Steel Fire Rated Duct Doors for Block 01 of Defence Headquarters Complex at Akuregoda** as described below and approximately estimated to cost **LKR 15.3 Million** (excluding VAT).

The Works consist of fabrication, supply and installation of Heavy-Duty Steel Fire Rated Duct Doors including Door Sashes, Frames, Door Hardware and Accessories with powder coated hot dipped galvanized steel frames and sashes. The Intended Completion Date of the Works shall be 119 Days from the Start Date.

2. Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding Procedure.

To be eligible for the Contract award, the successful bidder shall not have been blacklisted and shall have a valid business registration in Sri Lanka for at least five (05) years. The bidder shall be either the Manufacturer of the offered work or the authorized agent of the manufacturer of the offered work. If the bidder is not the manufacturer of the offered work, then he shall be mandatorily required being an organization possessing ISO 9001 Certification.

3. Documentary evidence to support Bidder's experience and track record shall be provided with the Bid.

4. Qualification requirements to qualify for contract award include:

- Average annual turnover value in last five (05) years shall be at least LKR 24 million.
- Experience in fabrication, supply and/or installation of heavy-duty steel fire rated doors including at least one project of value not less than 05 million completed within last five (05) years.
- The minimum amount of liquid assets (after setting apart for other contractual commitments) and exclusive of any advance payment which may be made under this Contract, shall be not less than LKR 12 million.

5. Interested bidders may obtain further information from **The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee (PPC), Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla** and inspect the bidding documents free of charge at the same address from **01st March 2021** until **22nd March 2021** from **0900 hrs to 1500 hrs during working days**.

6. 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, Project Procurement Committee (PPC), Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla** from **01st March 2021** until **22nd March 2021** from **0900 hrs to 1500 hrs during working days** upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **Sri Lankan Rupees Four Thousand Seven Hundred (LKR 4,700.00)**. The method of payment will be cash or Bank draft drawn in favour of **The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee (PPC), Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla**.

7. Pre bid meeting will be held at **1100 hrs on 12th March 2021** and a site visit will be held on **same day** after the pre bid meeting at the Project Management Unit of Defence Headquarters Complex site at Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla.

8. Bids shall be delivered in duplicate to the address below or shall be deposited in the Tender box placed at the address below on or before **1000 hrs on 23rd 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.

9. Bids shall be valid up to **08th June 2021** (77 Days after the date of Bid opening).

10. All bids shall be accompanied by a "Bid-Security" of **Sri Lankan Rupees One Hundred Fifty Four Thousand (LKR 154, 000.00)** obtained from a commercial bank operating in Sri Lanka approved by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka in the form of an unconditional and on demand guarantee and shall be valid up to **06th July 2021** (105 days after the date of Bid opening).

11. If any bidder wishes to submit bids for several packages of the same block or any other blocks of this project, the bidder shall establish the qualification/eligibility criteria required under each contract separately, if not the bidder will not be qualified for the award of more than one bid.

12. In addition to Item 11 of above, if any bidder has already been selected/is working as a contractor in any of the packages of the block/s of this project, the bidder shall establish his financial and technical requirements under specification/eligibility criteria exclusively for this bidding package. If not, the bidder will not be qualified for the award of this bid.

13. Bidders shall present the registration certificate under the Public Contract Act No.3 of 1987 before purchasing the bidding documents.

14. Bidders are advised to inform in writing, to The Director - Project Management Unit, Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla the name and the NIC / Passport Number of the individual who is participating at the bid opening at least prior to three (03) working days of the bid opening.

The address(es) referred to above is (are) :

**The Chairman,
Project Procurement Committee (PPC),
Defence Headquarters Complex Project,
Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta,
Battaramulla.**

Tel : 0094-011-4209885

Fax : 0094-011-4209885

E-mail : pmudhq@gmail.com

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**BID INVITATION**

The Lanka Hospitals Corporation PLC wishes to invite price proposal and/or price quotations from bidders who are interested to provide following requirements.

Bid Invitation No.	Title of the Bid Invitation	Non Refundable Fee	Bid Documents Issuing Date	Closing Date and Time of Bidding	Documents required
LH/20/001636/GK/P052	Construction Work of Lift Core for Service Building	3500.00	From 01 st March 2021 to 16 th March 2021	17 th March 2021 11.00 am	Proof document for ICTAD Grading 07 or above in building construction
LH/20/000512/GK/P052	The Lanka Hospitals Corporation PLC wishes to invite offers /quotations for space requirements for two years and renewable period 1. A New building for Hostels - Area should be in range of 3,500 -7,000 sq.ft. 2. Preferably within 2 km radius from Lanka Hospital. 3. Pipe borne Water & Electricity facility 4. Well secured area. 5. Sanitary facilities.	No any deposits required and no any additional document should be collected to quote		17 th March 2021 - 11.00 am	Self-prepared offers/quotations with brief introduction of the offered space should include: 1. Consent Letter from the owner(s) to lease the premises to the Lanka Hospital Corporation PLC 2. Copies of NIC(s) of the owner(s) 3. Building plan 4. Copies of the Deeds, Survey Plans & Extracts. 5. Assessment Notices and its payment receipt for the 1 st quarter of 2021 6. Last three months Water & Electricity bills 7. Area of the space (No. of sq.ft) 8. Expected monthly Lease amount for two years 9. Requested Advance payment (Advance Payment will be deducted in equal installments during the two years period) 10. Expected lease out period after two years. 11. If the premises is mortgaged, "No objection certificate" from the bank 12. Certificate of Conformity and Fire insurance for the building

General Information :

1. A complete set of bidding documents in English Language can be purchased by interested bidders on submission of a written request (for each) to Manager - Procurement, Procurement Department, No. 598, Administration Building, Lanka Hospitals PLC, Narahenpita, Colombo 05 and upon payment of a non-refundable fee per set in cash to the Finance Dept., on working days from above mentioned issuing date during 10.00 am to 3.00 pm.
2. Duly perfected bids marked "The Tender No. & Title of the Tender" on the top left hand corner of the envelope, sealed bids may either be deposited in the tender box located in Procurement Department, 04th Floor, Administration Building, No. 598, Lanka Hospitals PLC, Narahenpita, Colombo 05 or sent by registered post to the same address.
3. Bids will be opened soon after the deadline in the presence of the bidders or their authorized representatives who choose to attend.
4. Incomplete & late bids will be rejected & The Procurement Committee reserves the right to accept or reject bids received or part thereof.
5. **Pre bid meeting for Construction Work of Lift Core for Service Building will be held on 08.03.2021 at 11.00am in the 10th Floor (Auditorium) at Lanka Hospitals Corporation PLC.**

For Further details, please contact Tel: 011-5438579, 0755 82 7777.

**The Chairman - Procurement Committee,
The Lanka Hospitals PLC PQ (180)
No. 578, Elvitigala Mawatha,
Narahenpita,
Colombo 5.**

STATE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT, COAST CONSERVATION, WASTE DISPOSAL AND COMMUNITY CLEANLINESS**URBAN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY****TENDER NOTICE****Tender for Allocation of Commercial Units at Metro Homes, No.40, Java Lane, Slave Island, Colombo 02**

1. Offers are invited by the Chairman, Revenue Tender Board (Minor), Urban Development Authority to allocate the following Commercial Units at Metro Homes, Slave Island, Colombo 02 on monthly lease basis for a period of 5 years.

Seri. No	Unit No.	Floor	Purpose	Floor Area (Sq. Ft)	Base Price (Rs.)	Monthly Rent (Rs.)	Bid Bond (Rs.)
01	40/19	Ground Floor	Commercial	581.2	1,130,000.00	9,450.00	34,000.00
02	40 1/5	First Floor	Office/ Commercial	1151.7	1,380,000.00	11,500.00	41,500.00
03	40 1/6	First Floor	Office	645.8	773,000.00	6,500.00	23,000.00
04	40 1/10	First Floor	Office / Commercial	635.1	950,000.00	8,000.00	28,500.00
05	40 1/17	First Floor	Commercial	333.7	250,000.00	2,000.00	7,500.00
06	40 1/30	First Floor	Office / Commercial	1959.0	2,930,000.00	24,500.00	88,000.00
07	40 2/8	Second Floor	Hotel / Office / Commercial	1689.9	2,275,000.00	19,000.00	68,000.00
08	40 2/10	Second Floor	Commercial	183.0	192,000.00	1,600.00	6,000.00
09	40 2/16	Second Floor	Commercial	53.8	50,000.00	1,000.00	2,000.00
10	40 2/27	Second Floor	Office / Commercial	645.8	773,000.00	6,500.00	23,000.00
11	40 2/38	Second Floor	Commercial	53.8	50,000.00	1,000.00	2,000.00

2. These shops will be allocated for a period of 05 years on monthly lease basis. Selection of the allottee shall be made considering the highest base price offered by the prospective bidders.
3. Interested parties should make their offers, above the base values indicated in the table above for each shop unit. In addition to the base value offered and monthly lease, 8% VAT thereon should be paid. The base value paid by the successful bidder is non-refundable.
4. Interested parties may purchase the tender document from the Real Estate Mgt. & Dev. Division, Urban Development Authority, 8th Floor, Sethsiripaya - Stage I, Battaramulla from 9.00 a.m. to 2.30 p.m. on working days from **01.03.2021 to 17.03.2021**, upon a payment of a non-refundable fee of Sri Lankan Rupees Two Thousand & Five Hundred + 8% VAT thereon. (LKR 2,500.00 + 8% VAT). Further, Tender documents could be inspected free of charge within the said period.
5. A Bid Bond referred in above table relevant for the Shop for which a bid to be submitted, is paid in cash to the Finance Division, Urban Development Authority & the original of the receipt shall be submitted along with each Tender document.
6. Tenders will be closed at 2.00 p.m. on **19.03.2021** and will be opened immediately after the closing time at the Finance Division, 6th Floor, Urban Development Authority, Sethsiripaya-Stage I, Battaramulla. Tenderer or his/her authorized representative could be present at the time of opening.
7. Further details could be obtained from the Director, (Real Estate Development), Urban Development Authority, 8th Floor, Sethsiripaya, Stage- I, Battaramulla Telephone: 011-2875921 and 011-2875916-20 Extension 2960-2967 during office hours 9.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m.

**Chairman
Revenue Tender Board (Minor)
Urban Development Authority**

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STATE PHARMACEUTICALS CORPORATION OF SRI LANKA

PROCUREMENT NOTICE

OBTAINING OF BUILDING FACILITY ON LEASE/RENT

TENDER REFERENCE: AD/1/BLG LIST/32/2021

CLOSING ON: 22/03/2021 AT 11.30 A.M.

Tenders are hereby invited to obtain buildings to establish Rajya Osu Sala outlets by the State Pharmaceuticals Corporation of Sri Lanka, on' rent / lease basis in and around following listed areas.

1. Embilipitiya 2. Kegalle 3. Wellawatta 4. Batticaloa

It is expected that the building should consist of a ground floor with an area of location 1,000 - 1,200 Square feet situated in and around the commercial areas of the above listed with 3 phase Electricity, Water, Telephone & Parking Facilities. An Air Conditioned building enabling to maintain the inside temperature below 25°C is considered as an added feature .

Sealed applications with all the details including expected monthly rental, number of square feet, Building Plan, a copy of the deed, extract and the location should be sent to "The Chairman, Departmental Procurement Committee" to the undermentioned address either by registered post or placed in the tender box provided at the same address to be received at or before **11.30 a.m. on 22/03/2021. Tender No, Time & Date of closing should be marked on the top left hand corner of the envelope.**

Tenderers should strictly adhere to the following conditions:

- Offers should be submitted in duplicate.
- Properly sealed offers should be clearly and separately marked as "original" & "duplicate" and to be inserted in two separate envelopes (Not to be used staple pins)
- "Tender No., Closing Date & Time" should be indicated in the left hand corner of the envelope.
- Alternative Bids will not be accepted.

Tenders will be opened immediately after closing of the tender and the Tenderers or their authorized representatives will be permitted to be present at the time of opening of tender.

**THE CHAIRMAN,
DEPARTMENTAL PROCUREMENT COMMITTEE,
STATE PHARMACEUTICALS CORPORATION OF SRI LANKA,
NO. 75, SIR BARON JAYATHILLAKE MAWATHA,
COLOMBO - 01.
0112320356 -9**

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

DESIGN, FABRICATION, SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF PROPRIETARY DOORS, FRAMES AND HARDWARE FOR BLOCK 03 OF DEFENCE HEADQUARTERS COMPLEX AT AKUREGODA

CONTRACT NO : DHQC/TIM DOOR 3/2020

1. **The Chairman, Ministry Procurement Committee (MPC)** on behalf of the Ministry of Defence now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for **Design, Fabrication, Supply and Installation of Proprietary Doors, Frames and Hardware for Block 03 of Defence Headquarters Complex at Akuregoda** as described below and estimated to cost **LKR 331 Million** (excluding VAT).

The works shall be as follows and the Time for Completion for the whole of works shall be 196 Days.

a) *The works consist of Design, Manufacture, Supply and Installation of heavy-duty door system including Proprietary Door sashes, Frames, Architraves, Door Hardware and Accessories and coordination with access control system (where necessary). The contractor shall incorporate Delay Egress and Automatic Operated equipment to relevant doors as per the schedule suitably and co-ordinate with relevant provisions related to the systems. The contractor shall propose the suitable equipment in relation with other related items specified by others to incorporate on the door according to the size of door jambs and panels. Those items can be surface mounted or concealed type that comply required function related to all other components of the door. Supply of Access Control Systems and AOD are not included in this scope, but the Contractor shall install the items under the supervision of the relevant other contractors.*

b) *The relevant door components shall be of engineered hardwood, manufactured according to proprietary construction to suite the function such as normal, fire or acoustic.*

2. Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding Procedure.

3. To be eligible for the Contract award,

The successful bidder shall not have been blacklisted and shall have a valid business registration in Sri Lanka for at least five (05) years.

The bidder shall be the Manufacturer or Authorized supplier or Installer for the intended works. Manufacturer to be accredited and registered under ISO 9001. Supplier shall be a registered and authorized agent of the manufacturer. Installer shall be qualified and specialized in installation with a valid license and eligible to receive manufacturer's warranty for the works.

4. Qualification requirements to qualify for contract award include:

- Average annual turnover in last five (5) years shall be at least LKR 497 million.
- Experience in successful completion of at least one project of supply and installation of engineered hardwood, heavy-duty door system of value not less than LKR 100 million within last five (05) years.
- The minimum amount of liquid assets (after setting apart for other contractual commitments) and exclusive of any advance payment which may be made under this Contract, shall be not less than LKR 142 million.

5. Interested bidders may obtain further information from, **The Director, Project Management Unit, Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla** and inspect the bidding documents free of charge at the same address from **01st March 2021 until 24th March 2021 from 0900 hrs to 1500 hrs during a working day.**

6. A complete set of Bidding Documents in English language may be purchased by interested bidders on submission of a written application to **The Accountant (Procurement), Ministry of Defence, No. 15/5, Baladaksha Mawatha, Colombo 03, from 01st March 2021 until 24th March 2021 from 0900 hrs to 1500 hrs** upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Sri Lankan **Rupees Forty Six Thousand (LKR 46,000.00)**. The method of payment will be in Cash to the shroff of **Ministry of Defence.**

7. Bids shall be delivered in duplicate to the address below or shall be deposited in the tender box placed in the below address at or before **1000 hrs on 26th 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.

8. Bids shall be valid up to **23rd July 2021** (119 days after the date of Bid Opening).

9. All bids shall be accompanied by a **Bid-Security of Sri Lankan Rupees Three Million Three Hundred Ten Thousand (LKR 3,310,000.00)** shall be issued by a commercial bank operating in Sri Lanka approved by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka. This Bid-Security shall be in the form of an unconditional, on demand guarantee and shall be valid up to **20th August 2021** (147 days after the date of Bid Opening).

10. A pre bid meeting will be held at **1100 hrs on 10th March 2021** and a site visit will be held at **1130 hrs on same day** at the Project Management Unit, Defence Headquarters Complex site at Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla.

11. If any bidder wishes to submit bids for several packages of the same block or any other blocks of this project, the bidder shall establish the qualification / eligibility criteria required under each Contract separately, if not the bidder will not be qualified for the award of more than one bid.

12. In addition to Item 11 of above, if any bidder has already been selected/is working as a Contractor in any of the packages of the block/s of this project, the bidder shall establish his financial and technical requirements under specification/eligibility criteria exclusively for this bidding package. If not, the bidder will not be qualified for the award of this bid.

13. Bidders are strongly advised to present the registration certificate under the Public Contracts Act No.3 of 1987 (when relevant), along with the Bidding Document from Ministry of Defence.

14. Bidders are advised to inform in writing, to The Chief Financial Officer, Ministry of Defence, No. 15/5, Baladaksha Mawatha, Colombo 03, the name and the NIC / Passport Number of the individual who is participating at the bid opening at least prior to three (03) working days of the bid opening.

The address(es) referred to above item (07) is :

**The Chairman,
Ministry Procurement Committee (MPC),
Ministry of Defence,
No. 15/5, Baladaksha Mawatha,
Colombo 03.**

Tel : 0094-11-2439381 / 0094-11-2390719
Fax : 0094-11-2390720
E-mail : procurement@defence.lk



STATE MINISTRY OF PRODUCTION, SUPPLY AND
REGULATION OF PHARMACEUTICALS

STATE PHARMACEUTICALS MANUFACTURING
CORPORATION OF SRI LANKA



INVITATION FOR REGISTRATION OF NEW SUPPLIERS FOR SUPPLY OF Paracetamol Direct Compression 90 (DC 90)

REF. SPMC/REG/PARA-DC/2021 Closing on 15.03.2021 at 10.00 a.m.

- The State Pharmaceuticals Manufacturing Corporation invites applications from eligible and qualified bidders to be registered for **Supply of Paracetamol Direct Compression 90 (DC 90)**.
- Sealed duly completed original and duplicate documents should be sent separately by registered post addressing to the Chairman, Procurement Committee, State Pharmaceuticals Manufacturing Corporation (SPMC), 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.
- Following criteria have to be complied when submitting an application from prospective suppliers
 - Minimum quantity of 10 kg of Paracetamol DC 90 raw material sample has to be supplied to the Corporation free of charge with COA, GMP Certificate of manufacturer
 - The Corporation will keep the final product prepared with the above supplied material for six months to check stability.
 - Successful Manufacturer and supplier should enter into a contract with SPMC related to quality matters.
 - Successful Manufacturer and supplier should submit additional information and documents requested by SPMC when necessary.
 - Successful Manufacturer should send sample of (Approx. 50 g) of Active pharmaceutical Ingredient (Paracetamol BP) used for each and every batch of Paracetamol DC 90, certified by the manufacturer in each consignment .
- Below documents should be submitted with the application.
 - Product formula with Certificate of Analysis from the Manufacturer
 - Certificate of Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) of API manufacturer
 - Manufacturer's Certificate of Analysis of API of Paracetamol BP
 - Manufacturing Process validation report for DC Granules / Protocol
 - Manufacturer's Authorization letter and Supplier's Authorization letter
- Application must be delivered to the given address on or before **15th March 2021 at 10.00 a.m.** and late applications will not be considered. **"Registration for Supplying of Paracetamol DC 90"** should be written on the top left-hand corner of the envelope.
- Interested and eligible bidders may obtain further information from Deputy General Manager - Planning & Procurement, SPMC (Tel. 011-2623298) during office hours.
- These Details can be viewed from the Website of SPMC. (www.spmclanka.lk)**

**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@slt.net.lk
Website : www.spmclanka.lk
Fax : (00) 94-11-2634771, 2626621



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இலங்கை மத்திய வங்கி
CENTRAL BANK OF SRI LANKA

EMPLOYEES' PROVIDENT FUND

NOTICE

**STATEMENTS OF MEMBER ACCOUNTS
SECOND HALF OF 2019**

For the special attention of all Employers and Members

The Statements of Accounts of the members for the Second Half of 2019 showing the closing **balance as at 31.12.2019** and contributions credited to the member accounts from **July to December 2019 have been posted** to the respective employers for distribution among the relevant members.

Accordingly, members of the Employees' Provident Fund are hereby requested to obtain these Statements of Accounts from their employers.

If any discrepancy/discrepancies are noted with respect to the details such as member names, National Identity Card Number and the contribution amounts in these Statements, please forward the documents applicable for correction of such details through your employers to the Superintendent, Employees' Provident Fund, immediately.

Telephone Nos. : EPF Help Desk 011-2206642
011-2206690
011-2206691
011-2206692
011-2206693

Fax No : 011-2206694

Email : epfhelpdesk@cbsl.lk

**A G U Thilakarathna
Superintendent
Employees' Provident Fund Department
Central Bank of Sri Lanka, Level 12, Tower 5
No.30, Janadhipathi Mawatha, Colombo 01.**



INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD OF CEYLON

PROCUREMENT NOTICE

Supply of Acrylonitrile Butadiene Rubber (NBR) for the manufacture of rubber compounds

Chairman, Procurement Committee, Industrial Development Board invites Tenders from manufacturers, accredited sole agents for the supply of Acrylonitrile Butadiene Rubber - 5000 kgs.

Tender No.	Quantity	Description
T/03/2021	5000 kg.	Acrylonitrile Butadiene Rubber - (N.B.R.) Medium Grade -34:55

Tender documents could be obtained from the Deputy Director (Supply), Supplies Division, Industrial Development Board of Ceylon, No. 615, Galle Road, Katubedda, Moratuwa, Sri Lanka on a non-refundable payment of Rs. 2000/=.

Bidders should make a written request to the Deputy Director (Supply), Supplies Division, Industrial Development Board of Ceylon for the purchase of Tender Documents.

Tender Documents are issued from 01.03.2021 to 15.03.2021 on working days between 9.30 a.m. & 3.00 p.m.

Bidders should submit the tenders to the Deputy Director (Supply), Industrial Development Board, No. 615, Galle Road, Katubedda, Moratuwa on or before 16.03.2021 at 2.30 p.m.

Tender Opening Date & Time - 16.03.2021 at 2.30 p.m.

**Chairman
Procurement Committee
Industrial Development Board of Ceylon
No. 615, Galle Road
Katubedda
Moratuwa.**

TENDER NOTICE



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இலங்கை மத்திய வங்கி
CENTRAL BANK OF SRI LANKA

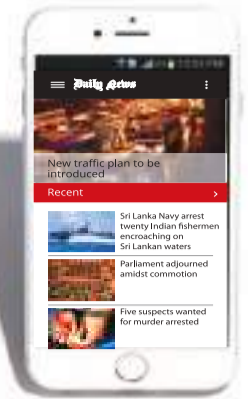
TENDER FOR SUPPLY, INSTALLATION, COMMISSIONING AND MAINTENANCE OF REAL TIME GROSS SETTLEMENT SYSTEM

Tender Number	LK-CBSL-65728-GO-RFP
Tender Description	Tender for Supply, Installation, Commissioning and Maintenance of Real Time Gross Settlement System for the Central Bank of Sri Lanka
Non-refundable Fee	Sri Lankan Rupees Thirty Seven Thousand (LKR 37,000/-) or in United States Dollars Two Hundred (US\$ 200/-)
Pre-Bid Meeting	Date : 25 March 2021 Time : 1400 Hrs Location : Head Office Building, Central Bank of Sri Lanka, No 30, Janadhipathi Mawatha, Colombo-01, Sri Lanka and/or MS Teams
Bid closing and opening	Date : 28 April 2021 Time : 1400 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.

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INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

DESIGN, FABRICATION, SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF PROPRIETARY DOORS, FRAMES AND HARDWARE FOR BLOCK 04 OF DEFENCE HEADQUARTERS COMPLEX AT AKUREGODA

CONTRACT NO : DHQC/TIM DOOR 4/2020

- The Chairman, Ministry Procurement Committee (MPC) on behalf of the Ministry of Defence now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for **Design, Fabrication, Supply and Installation of Proprietary Doors, Frames and Hardware for Block 04 of Defence Headquarters Complex at Akuregoda** as described below and estimated to cost **LKR 353 Million** (excluding VAT).

The works shall be as follows and the Time for Completion for the whole of works shall be 196 Days.

- The works consist of Design, Manufacture, Supply and Installation of heavy-duty door system including Proprietary Door sashes, Frames, Architraves, Door Hardware and Accessories and coordination with access control system (where necessary). The contractor shall incorporate Delay Egress and Automatic Operated equipment to relevant doors as per the schedule suitably and co-ordinate with relevant provisions related to the systems. The contractor shall propose the suitable equipment in relation with other related items specified by others to incorporate on the door according to the size of door jambs and panels. Those items can be surface mounted or concealed type that comply required function related to all other components of the door. Supply of Access Control Systems and AOD are not included in this scope, but the Contractor shall install the items under the supervision of the relevant other contractors.
 - The relevant door components shall be of engineered hardwood, manufactured according to proprietary construction to suit the function such as normal, fire or acoustic.
- Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding Procedure.
 - To be eligible for the Contract award,
The successful bidder shall not have been blacklisted and shall have a valid business registration in Sri Lanka for at least five (05) years.
The bidder shall be the Manufacturer or Authorized Supplier or Installer for the intended works. Manufacturer to be accredited and registered under ISO 9001. Supplier shall be a registered and authorized agent of the manufacturer. Installer shall be qualified and specialized in installation with a valid license and eligible to receive manufacturer's warranty for the works.
 - Qualification requirements to qualify for contract award include:
 - Average annual turnover in last five (5) years shall be at least LKR 530 million.
 - Experience in successful completion of at least one project of supply and installation of engineered hardwood, heavy-duty door system of value not less than LKR 100 million within last five (05) years.
 - The minimum amount of liquid assets (after setting apart for other contractual commitments) and exclusive of any advance payment which may be made under this Contract, shall be not less than LKR 152 million.
 - Interested bidders may obtain further information from, **The Director, Project Management Unit, Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla** and inspect the bidding documents free of charge at the same address from **01st March 2021 until 24th March 2021 from 0900 hrs to 1500 hrs during a working day.**
 - A complete set of Bidding Documents in English language may be purchased by interested bidders on submission of a written application to **The Accountant (Procurement), Ministry of Defence, No. 15/5, Baladaksha Mawatha, Colombo 03**, from **01st March 2021 until 24th March 2021 from 0900 hrs to 1500 hrs** upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Sri Lankan Rupees Forty Seven Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty (LKR 47,750.00). The method of payment will be in Cash to the shroff of **Ministry of Defence**.
 - Bids shall be delivered in duplicate to the address below or shall be deposited in the tender box placed at the below address on or before **1200 hrs on 26th 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 **23rd July 2021** (119 days after the date of Bid Opening).
 - All bids accompanied by a **Bid-Security of Sri Lankan Rupees Three Million Five Hundred Thirty Thousand (LKR 3,530,000.00)** shall be issued by a commercial bank operating in Sri Lanka approved by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka. This Bid Security shall be in the form of an unconditional, on demand guarantee and shall be valid up to **20th August 2021** (147 days after the date of Bid Opening).
 - A pre bid meeting will be held at **1130 hrs on 10th March 2021** and a site visit will be held at **1200 hrs on same day** at the Project Management Unit, Defence Headquarters Complex site at Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla.
 - If any bidder wishes to submit bids for several packages of the same block or any other blocks of this project, the bidder shall establish the qualification / eligibility criteria required under each Contract separately, if not the bidder will not be qualified for the award of more than one bid.
 - In addition to Item 11 of above, if any bidder has already been selected/is working as a Contractor in any of the packages of the block/s of this project, the bidder shall establish his financial and technical requirements under specification/eligibility criteria exclusively for this bidding package. If not, the bidder will not be qualified for the award of this bid.
 - Bidders are strongly advised to present the registration certificate under the Public Contracts Act No.3 of 1987 (when relevant), along with the Bidding Document from Ministry of Defence.
 - Bidders are advised to inform in writing, to The Chief Financial Officer, Ministry of Defence, No. 15/5, Baladaksha Mawatha, Colombo 03, the name and the NIC / Passport Number of the individual who is participating at the bid opening at least prior to three (03) working days of the bid opening.

The address(es) referred to above item (7) is :

**The Chairman,
Project Procurement Committee (MPC),
Ministry of Defence,
No. 15/5, Baladaksha Mawatha,
Colombo 03.**

Tel : 0094-11-2439381 / 0094-11-2390719
Fax : 0094-11-2390720
E-mail : procurement@defence.lk

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

DESIGN, FABRICATION, SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF PROPRIETARY DOORS, FRAMES AND HARDWARE FOR BLOCK 01 OF DEFENCE HEADQUARTERS COMPLEX AT AKUREGODA

CONTRACT NO : DHQC/TIM DOOR 1/2020

- The Chairman, Ministry Procurement Committee (MPC) on behalf of the Ministry of Defence now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for **Design, Fabrication, Supply and Installation of Proprietary Doors, Frames and Hardware for Block 01 of Defence Headquarters Complex at Akuregoda** as described below and estimated to cost **LKR 255 Million** (excluding VAT).

The works shall be as follows and the Time for Completion for the whole of works shall be 175 Days.

- The works consist of Design, Manufacture, Supply and Installation of heavy-duty door system including Proprietary Door sashes, Frames, Architraves, Door Hardware and Accessories and coordination with access control system (where necessary). The contractor shall incorporate Delay Egress and Automatic Operated equipment to relevant doors as per the schedule suitably and co-ordinate with relevant provisions related to the systems. The contractor shall propose the suitable equipment in relation with other related items specified by others to incorporate on the door according to the size of door jambs and panels. Those items can be surface mounted or concealed type that comply required function related to all other components of the door. Supply of Access Control Systems and AOD are not included in this scope, but the Contractor shall install the items under the supervision of the relevant other contractors.
 - The relevant door components shall be of engineered hardwood, manufactured according to proprietary construction to suit the function such as normal, fire or acoustic.
- Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding procedure.
 - To be eligible for the Contract award :
The successful bidder shall not have been blacklisted and shall have a valid business registration in Sri Lanka for at least five (05) years.
The bidder shall be the Manufacturer or Authorized Supplier or Installer for the intended works. Manufacturer to be accredited and registered under ISO 9001. Supplier shall be a registered and authorized agent of the manufacturer. Installer shall be qualified and specialized in installation with a valid license and eligible to receive manufacturer's warranty for the works.
 - Qualification requirements to qualify for contract award include:
 - Average annual turnover in last five (5) years shall be at least LKR 383 million.
 - Experience in successful completion of at least one project of supply and installation of engineered hardwood, heavy-duty door system of value not less than LKR 100 million within last five (05) years.
 - The minimum amount of liquid assets (after setting apart for other contractual commitments) and exclusive of any advance payment which may be made under this Contract, shall be not less than LKR 123 million.
 - Interested bidders may obtain further information from, **The Director, Project Management Unit, Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla** and inspect the bidding documents free of charge at the same address from **01st March 2021 until 24th March 2021 from 0900 hrs to 1500 hrs during a working day.**
 - A complete set of Bidding Documents in English language may be purchased by interested bidders on submission of a written application to **The Chairman, Ministry Procurement Committee (MPC), Ministry of Defence, No. 15/5, Baladaksha Mawatha, Colombo 03**, from **01st March 2021 until 24th March 2021 from 0900 hrs to 1500 hrs** upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Sri Lankan Rupees Forty Thousand (LKR 40,000.00). The method of payment will be in Cash/Bank draft in favour of **Ministry of Defence**.
 - Bids shall be delivered in duplicate to the address below or shall be deposited in the tender box placed at the below address on or before **1000 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 **22nd July 2021** (119 days after the date of Bid Opening).
 - All bids accompanied by a **Bid-Security of Sri Lankan Rupees Two Million Six Hundred Thousand (LKR 2,600,000.00)** shall be issued by a commercial bank operating in Sri Lanka approved by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka. This Bid Security shall be in the form of an unconditional, on demand guarantee and shall be valid up to **19th August 2021** (147 days after the date of Bid Opening).
 - A pre bid meeting will be held at **1000 hrs on 10th March 2021** and a site visit will be held at **1030 hrs on same day** at the Project Management Unit, Defence Headquarters Complex site at Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla.
 - If any bidder wishes to submit bids for several packages of the same block or any other blocks of this project, the bidder shall establish the qualification / eligibility criteria required under each Contract separately, if not the bidder will not be qualified for the award of more than one bid.
 - In addition to Item 11 of above, if any bidder has already been selected/is working as a Contractor in any of the packages of the block/s of this project, the bidder shall establish his financial and technical requirements under specification/eligibility criteria exclusively for this bidding package. If not, the bidder will not be qualified for the award of this bid.
 - Bidders are strongly advised to present the registration certificate under the Public Contracts Act No.3 of 1987 (when relevant), along with the Bidding Document from Ministry of Defence.
 - Bidders are advised to inform in writing, to The Director, Project Management Unit, Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, the name and the NIC / Passport Number of the individual who is participating at the bid opening at least prior to three (03) working days of the bid opening.

The address(es) referred to above item (7) is :

**The Chairman,
Project Procurement Committee (MPC),
Ministry of Defence,
No. 15/5, Baladaksha Mawatha,
Colombo 03.**

Tel : 0094-11-2439381 / 0094-11-2390719
Fax : 0094-11-2390720
E-mail : procurement@defence.lk

Replies to Classifieds & Casual Advertisements published C/o the Daily News should only be sent by ordinary post. Replies sent under registered cover will not be accepted.



ETI Finance Limited

Public Auction Sale Of Unredeemed Pawned Gold Articles

Articles pawned up to 30th November 2019, 31st December 2019 & 31st January 2020 at the following branches of ETI Finance Ltd. Which were not redeemed or renewed on or before 16th March 2021, will be sold by Public Auction at Head Office. Auction will be commenced at 9.30 a.m in each day.

Pawned Date	Pawned Branches	Place & Date Of Auction
30-11-2019 31-12-2019 31-01-2020 Up to	Ampara, Ambalangoda, Badulla, Bandarawela, Eheliyagoda, Embilipitiya, Galle, Tissamaharama, Kegalle, Kurunegala, Matara, Monaragala, Welimada, Rathnapura, Avissawella, Bambalapitiya, Battaramulla, Dematagoda, Gampaha, Grandpass, Homagama, Horana, Kalutara, Kadawatha, Kaduwela, Kandana, Kiribathgoda, Kotahena, Kottawa, Piliyandala, Maharagama, Malay Street, Maradana-143, Maradana-435, Pettah, Moratuwa, Mt. Lavinia, Negombo, Nugegoda, Panadura, Ward Place (Col-07), Borella (D.S.S. Mw), Wellawatta-307, Wellawatta-99, Sea Street, Mathugama, Dambulla	<p>No-114, Ward Place, Colombo - 07 Borella Branch</p> <p>17-03-2021, 18-03-2021,</p>

All Participants should produce their National Identity Cards. The Company reserves the right to cancel, amalgamate or postpone the Auction without any further notice.

No. 114, Ward Place, Colombo 07
Telephone No: 0117534200, Fax No: 0112674435



TENDER NOTICE

STATE PHARMACEUTICALS CORPORATION OF SRI LANKA

The State Pharmaceuticals Corporation of Sri Lanka, Colombo 01 invites quotations from registered and previous sources for following items for open market sales and tenders will be closed at 1.15 p.m. on the dates given below. (E.mail / Fax offers as well as FOB offers are not acceptable)

Item	Quantity	Tender No.	Closing on
Item Code No : 270105C31 Calcium Lactate Tablets BP/USP 300mg In 1000 Tablets	36,000 Packs	RES/16/03/A/2021	16.03.2021
Item Code No: 120302C19 Telmisartan Tablets 40mg In 10 x 10 Tablets (Blister)	72,000 Packs	RES/16/03/B/2021	16.03.2021
Item Code No : 130103J99 Clotrimazole 1% w/w with Beclomethasone Dipropionate 0.025% w/w Cream in 15g tube packed in a box	24,000 Tubes	RES/16/03/C/2021	16.03.2021
Item Code No : 311397V99 Zinc Oxide Surgical Adhesive Tape BP OR Adhesive Tape USP (Zinc Oxide Coated) Width : 7.5cm Length 4.5m in 1 spool	9,000 Rolls	RES/16/03/D/2021	16.03.2021
Item Code No : 180801C03 Levothyroxine Tablets BP/Thyroxine Tablets BP 100mcg OR Levothyroxine Sodium Tablets USP 100mcg in 100 Tablets (Blister)	50,000 Packs	RES/16/03/E/2021	16.03.2021
Item Code No : 060501K26 Amoxicillin Oral Suspension BP 125mg/5ml OR Amoxicillin for Suspension USP 125mg/5ml in 100ml packed in a carton with a spoon.	76,800 Packs	RES/16/03/F/2021	16.03.2021

These tenders are administered by the provisions of the "Public Contracts Act No. 3 of 1987" and therefore, in the event bidder is to retain an Agent, Sub-Agent, Representative, Nominee for and on behalf of tenderer shall register himself and such Public Contract in accordance with Section 10 of the Public Contracts Act and produce such valid certificate of registration in the course of any transaction relating to the tender or Act at any stage in the duration of the tender.

Tenders will be closed at the office of the State Pharmaceuticals Corporation at 1.15 p.m. on the dates indicated against each tender and will be opened immediately thereafter. Tenderers or their authorized representatives will be permitted to be present at the time of opening of Tender.

The Chairman - Procurement Committee
State Pharmaceuticals Corporation of Sri Lanka
75, Sir Baron Jayathilake Mawatha,
Colombo 01.
Phone: 0094-11-2320356 - 9

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

DESIGN, FABRICATION, SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF PROPRIETARY DOORS, FRAMES AND HARDWARE FOR BLOCK 02 OF DEFENCE HEADQUARTERS COMPLEX AT AKUREGODA

CONTRACT NO : DHQC/TIM DOOR 2/2020

- The Chairman, Ministry Procurement Committee (MPC)** on behalf of the Ministry of Defence now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for **Design, Fabrication, Supply and Installation of Proprietary Doors, Frames and Hardware for Block 02 of Defence Headquarters Complex at Akuregoda** as described below and estimated to cost **LKR 233 Million** (excluding VAT).
The works shall be as follows and the Time for Completion for the whole of works shall be 168 Days.
 - The works consist of Design, Manufacture, Supply and Installation of heavy-duty door system including Proprietary Door sashes, Frames, Architraves, Door Hardware and Accessories and coordination with access control system (where necessary). The contractor shall incorporate Delay Egress and Automatic Operated equipment to relevant doors as per the schedule suitably and co-ordinate with relevant provisions related to the systems. The contractor shall propose the suitable equipment in relation with other related items specified by others to incorporate on the door according to the size of door jambs and panels. Those items can be surface mounted or concealed type that comply required function related to all other components of the door. Supply of Access Control Systems and AOD are not included in this scope, but the Contractor shall install the items under the supervision of the relevant other contractors.*
 - The relevant door components shall be of engineered hardwood, manufactured according to proprietary construction to suite the function such as normal, fire or acoustic.*
- Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding procedure.
- To be eligible for the Contract award :
The successful bidder shall not have been blacklisted and shall have a valid business registration in Sri Lanka for at least five (05) years.
The bidder shall be a Manufacturer or an Authorized Supplier or an Installer for the intended works. Manufacturer to be accredited and registered under ISO 9001. Supplier shall be a registered and authorized agent of the manufacturer. Installer shall be qualified and specialized in installation with a valid license and eligible to receive manufacturer's warranty for the works.
- Qualification requirements to qualify for contract award include:
 - Average annual turnover in last five (5) years shall be at least LKR 350 million.
 - Experience in successful completion of at least one project of supply and installation of engineered hardwood, heavy-duty door system of value not less than LKR 100 million within last five (05) years.
 - The minimum amount of liquid assets (after setting apart for other contractual commitments) and exclusive of any advance payment which may be made under this Contract, shall be not less than LKR 117 million.
- Interested bidders may obtain further information from, **The Director, Project Management Unit, Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla** and inspect the bidding documents free of charge at the same address from **01st March 2021 until 24th March 2021 from 0900 hrs to 1500 hrs during a working day.**
- A complete set of Bidding Documents in English language may be purchased by interested bidders on submission of a written application to **The Accountant (Procurement), Ministry of Defence, No. 15/5, Baladaksha Mawatha, Colombo 03, from 01st March 2021 until 24th March 2021 from 0900 hrs to 1500 hrs** upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Sri Lankan Rupees **Thirty Eight Thousand (LKR 38,000.00)**. The method of payment will be in Cash to the Shroff of **Ministry of Defence**.
- Bids shall be delivered in duplicate to the address below or shall be deposited in the tender box placed at the below address at or before **1200 hrs on 25th 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 **24th July 2021** (91 days after the date of Bid Opening).
- All bids shall be accompanied by a **Bid Security of Sri Lankan Rupees Two Million Three Hundred Thirty Thousand (LKR 2,330,000.00)** shall be issued by a commercial bank operating in Sri Lanka approved by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka. This Bid Security shall be in the form of an unconditional, on demand guarantee and shall be valid up to **22nd July 2021** (119 days after the date of Bid Opening).
- A pre bid meeting will be held at **1030 hrs on 10th March 2021** and a site visit will be held at **1030 hrs on same day** at the Project Management Unit, Defence Headquarters Complex site at Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla.
- If any bidder wishes to submit bids for several packages of the same block or any other blocks of this project, the bidder shall establish the qualification / eligibility criteria required under each Contract separately, if not the bidder will not be qualified for the award of more than one bid.
- In addition to Item 11 of above, if any bidder has already been selected/is working as a Contractor in any of the packages of the block/s of this project, the bidder shall establish his financial and technical requirements under specification/eligibility criteria exclusively for this bidding package. If not, the bidder will not be qualified for the award of this bid.
- Bidders are strongly advised to present the Registration Certificate under the Public Contracts Act No.3 of 1987 (when relevant), along with the Bidding Document from the Ministry of Defence.
- Bidders are advised to inform in writing, to The Chief Financial Officer, Ministry of Defence, No. 15/5, Baladaksha Mawatha, Colombo 03, the name and the NIC / Passport Number of the individual who is participating at the bid opening at least prior to three (03) working days of the bid opening.

The address(es) referred to above item (7) is :

The Chairman, Ministry Procurement Committee (MPC), Ministry of Defence, No. 15/5, Baladaksha Mawatha, Colombo 03.
Tel : 0094-11-2439381 / 0094-11-2390719
Fax : 0094-11-2390720
E-mail : procurement@defence.lk

Invitation for Bids (IFB)

Ministry of Urban Development and Housing

Strategic Cities Development Programme

French Agency for Development (AFD) funded

Anuradhapura Integrated Urban Development Project

(Credit Number : CLK 1009 01 R- AIUDP)

Construction and Re-Development of Vehicle Parks in the Sacred Area in Anuradhapura

IFB No : SCDP/AFD/WK/06

- The Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka has received a loan from the Agency for French Development towards the cost of Strategic Cities Development Programme and intends to apply part of the proceeds of this loan to payments under the Contract for Construction and Re-Development of Vehicle Parks in the Sacred Area in Anuradhapura.
- The Chairman Project Procurement Committee (PPC) on behalf of the Secretary, Ministry of Urban Development and Housing now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for Construction and Re-Development of Car Parks in the Sacred Area in Anuradhapura as described below and estimated to cost Sri Lankan Rupees 282 Million.

NCB. No	Contract Title	CIDA Minimum Grade & Field of Specialisation	Non Refundable Bid fee per set of Bidding Document	Construction Period	Engineer's Estimate (excluding VAT)
SCDP/AFD/WK/06	Construction and Re-Development of Vehicle Parks in the Sacred Area in Anuradhapura	C3 or C2 only Under Building Works	LKR.35,000.00	12 months	LKR 282 Mn

The scope of the Work consists of

- Construction of Vehicle Park - Sri Maha Bodhi South Gate** - Landscaping Work including gravel roads and hollow block paved parking areas, construction of 01nr Ticket counter and 01 nr wash room
- Construction of Vehicle Park - Mirisavetiya** - Landscaping Work including gravel roads and hollow block paved parking areas, and construction of 01nr Ticket counter and 01 nr wash room.
- Construction of Vehicle Park - Lankaramaya** - Landscaping Work including gravel roads and hollow block paved parking areas, and Construction of 14 nrs Vending Shops under one roof with Electrical Works, Plumbing Works and necessary services.

- Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding (NCB) procedures as specified in the Procurement Guidelines for Agency for French Development (AFD) financed Contracts in Foreign Countries (February 2017 edition) and is opened for all eligible bidders as defined in the Procurement Guidelines.
- Eligible bidders must meet the following General Specific Criteria.

Average Annual Construction Turnover for the last 5 years	Liquid assets	Specific Construction Experience of Similar nature within last 5 years	Amount of Bid Security
> 423Mn	71 Mn	Satisfactory completion of 01 Contract of Similar nature (LKR 200 Mn) within one year during last 5 years	LKR. 2,820,000.00

- Interested bidders may obtain further information from The Procurement/Contract Management Specialist,, Strategic Cities Development Programme, Ministry of Urban Development and Housing, 4th Floor, Sethsiripaya Stage 1, Battaramulla, Telephone No 0112887320/1 Fax No:-0112868188 Email:- scdp.pd2@gmail.com and inspect the bidding documents at the address given below from 0900 hrs to 1500 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 Project Director, Strategic Cities Development Programme, Ministry of Urban Development and Housing, 4th Floor, Sethsiripaya Stage 1, Battaramulla, from 3rd March 2021 until 26th March 2021 from 0900 hrs to 1500 hrs upon payment of a non-refundable fee of 35,000.00 LKR. The method of payment is given below.

Account Name : Strategic Cities Development Project - Anuradhapura
Account Number: 7040466
Bank & Branch : BOC, Battaramulla
- Bids shall be delivered in duplicate to the address below on or before 31st 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 25th August 2021.
- All Bids shall be accompanied by a Bid Security of LKR, 2,820,000.00 as per the given format. The Bid Security shall be valid up to 22nd September 2021.
- A pre-bid meeting will be held on 11th March 2021 at 11.00a.m at Project Implementation Unit (PIU), AIUDP - SCDP office, No 06/393 Wewa Road, Harischandra Mawatha, Stage I, Anuradhapura. A site visit will be conducted at 10.00 a.m. by the Employer before the Pre-Bid meeting.

Chairman Project Procurement Committee (PPC)
Anuradhapura Integrated Urban Development Project
Ministry of Urban Development and Housing,
4th Floor, Sethsiripaya Stage 1, Battaramulla.
Telephone No : 0112887320/1
Fax No : 0112868188
Email : scdp.pd2@gmail.com.

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.

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)**MINISTRY OF DEFENCE**

**FABRICATION, SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF
MAIN ENTRANCE DOOR WITH DECORATIVE
GRANITE WALL PANELS OF BLOCK 02 OF
DEFENCE HEADQUARTERS COMPLEX AT AKUREGODA**

CONTRACT NO : DHQC/ENTRANCE DOOR 2/2020

1. **The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee (PPC)** on behalf of the Ministry of Defence now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the **Fabrication, Supply and Installation of Main Entrance Door with Decorative Granite Wall Panels of Block 02 of Defence Headquarters Complex at Akuregoda** as described below and approximate estimated to cost **LKR 14.4 million** (excluding VAT).

The Time for Completion for the whole of the Works shall be 63 Days.

The Works consist of Fabrication, Supply and Installation of Main Entrance Door with Decorative Granite Wall Panels.

- Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding procedure.
- To be eligible for contract award, the successful bidder shall not have been blacklisted.
- Qualification requirements to qualify for contract award include:
 - Bidder shall have been registered as a business entity in Sri Lanka for at least five (5) years and shall currently engage in the business of architectural furnishings and decorative works.
 - Bidder shall be an organization registered under ISO 9001.
 - Bidder shall possess experience in successful completion of at least one prestigious project which comprises of exquisite architectural decorative works including ornamented doors and/or wood works of a value not less than LKR 2 Million within the last five years.
- Interested bidders may obtain further information from **The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee (PPC), Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla** and inspect the bidding documents free of charge at the same address **from 01st March 2021 until 22nd March 2021 from 0900 hrs to 1500 hrs during working days.**
- A complete set of Bidding Documents (Except Volume 1) in English language may be purchased by interested bidders on submission of a written application to **The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee (PPC), Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla** from **01st March 2021 until 22nd March 2021 from 0900 hrs to 1500 hrs during working days** upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **Sri Lankan Rupees Five Thousand (LKR 5,000.00)**. The method of payment will be by Cash or Bank draft drawn in favour of **Ministry of Defence**.
- Pre bid meeting will be held at **1100 hrs on 10th March 2021** and a site visit will be held on same day after the pre bid meeting at the Project Management Unit of Defence Headquarters Complex site at Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla.
- Bids shall be delivered in duplicate to the address below or shall be deposited in the Tender box placed at the address below at or before **1000 hrs on 23rd 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 **08th June 2021** (77 Days after the date of Bid opening).
- All bids shall be accompanied by a "Bid Security", of **Sri Lankan Rupees One Hundred Forty Five Thousand (LKR 145,000.00)** obtained from a commercial bank operating in Sri Lanka approved by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka in the form of an unconditional and on demand guarantee and shall be valid up to **06th July 2021** (105 days after the date of Bid opening).
- If any bidder wishes to submit bids for several packages of the same block or any other blocks of this project, the bidder shall establish the qualification / eligibility criteria required under each Contract separately, if not the bidder will not be qualified for the award of more than one bid.
- In addition to Item 10 of above, if any bidder has already been selected/is working as a Contractor in any of the packages of the block/s of this project, the bidder shall establish his financial and technical requirements under specification / eligibility criteria exclusively for this bidding package. If not, the bidder will not be qualified for the award of this bid.
- Bidders are strongly advised to present the Registration Certificate under the Public Contracts Act No.3 of 1987 when relevant, before purchasing the Bidding Document from Project Procurement Committee (PPC).
- Bidders are advised to inform in writing, to The Director - Project Management Unit, Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla the name and the NIC / Passport Number of the individual who is participating at the bid opening at least prior to three (03) working days of the bid opening.

The address(es) referred to above is (are) :

**The Chairman,
Project Procurement Committee (PPC),
Defence Headquarters Complex Project,
Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta,
Battaramulla.**

Tel : 0094-011-4209885

Fax : 0094-011-4209885

E-mail : pmudhqc@gmail.com

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)**MINISTRY OF DEFENCE**

**FABRICATION, SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF
MAIN ENTRANCE DOOR WITH DECORATIVE
GRANITE WALL PANELS OF BLOCK 03 OF
DEFENCE HEADQUARTERS COMPLEX AT AKUREGODA**

CONTRACT NO : DHQC/ENTRANCE DOOR 3/2020

1. **The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee (PPC)** on behalf of the Ministry of Defence now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the **Fabrication, Supply and Installation of Main Entrance Door with Decorative Granite Wall Panels of Block 03 of Defence Headquarters Complex at Akuregoda** as described below and approximate estimated to cost **LKR 14.4 million** (excluding VAT).

The Time for Completion for the whole of the Works shall be 63 Days.

The Works consist of Fabrication, Supply and Installation of Main Entrance Door with Decorative Granite Wall Panels.

- Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding procedure.
- To be eligible for contract award, the successful bidder shall not have been blacklisted.
- Qualification requirements to qualify for contract award include:
 - Bidder shall have been registered as a business entity in Sri Lanka for at least five (5) years and shall currently engage in the business of architectural furnishings and decorative works.
 - Bidder shall be an organization registered under ISO 9001.
 - Bidder shall possess experience in successful completion of at least one prestigious project which comprises of exquisite architectural decorative works including ornamented doors and/or wood works of a value not less than LKR 2 Million within the last five years.
- Interested bidders may obtain further information from **The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee (PPC), Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla** and inspect the bidding documents free of charge at the same address **from 01st March 2021 until 22nd March 2021 from 0900 hrs to 1500 hrs during working days.**
- A complete set of Bidding Documents (Except Volume 1) in English language may be purchased by interested bidders on submission of a written application to **The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee (PPC), Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla** from **01st March 2021 until 22nd March 2021 from 0900 hrs to 1500 hrs during working days** upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **Sri Lankan Rupees Five Thousand (LKR 5,000.00)**. The method of payment will be by Cash or Bank draft drawn in favour of **Ministry of Defence**.
- Pre bid meeting will be held at **1120 hrs on 10th March 2021** and a site visit will be held on same day after the pre bid meeting at the Project Management Unit of Defence Headquarters Complex site at Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla.
- Bids shall be delivered in duplicate to the address below or shall be deposited in the Tender box placed at the address below at or before **1000 hrs on 23rd 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 **08th June 2021** (77 Days after the date of Bid opening).
- All bids shall be accompanied by a "Bid Security", of **Sri Lankan Rupees One Hundred Forty Five Thousand (LKR 145,000.00)** obtained from a commercial bank operating in Sri Lanka approved by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka in the form of an unconditional and on demand guarantee and shall be valid up to **06th July 2021** (105 days after the date of Bid opening).
- If any bidder wishes to submit bids for several packages of the same block or any other blocks of this project, the bidder shall establish the qualification / eligibility criteria required under each Contract separately, if not the bidder will not be qualified for the award of more than one bid.
- In addition to Item 10 of above, if any bidder has already been selected/is working as a Contractor in any of the packages of the block/s of this project, the bidder shall establish his financial and technical requirements under specification / eligibility criteria exclusively for this bidding package. If not, the bidder will not be qualified for the award of this bid.
- Bidders are strongly advised to present the Registration Certificate under the Public Contracts Act No.3 of 1987 when relevant, before purchasing the Bidding Document from Project Procurement Committee (PPC).
- Bidders are advised to inform in writing, to The Director - Project Management Unit, Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla the name and the NIC / Passport Number of the individual who is participating at the bid opening at least prior to three (03) working days of the bid opening.

The address(es) referred to above is (are) :

**The Chairman,
Project Procurement Committee (PPC),
Defence Headquarters Complex Project,
Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta,
Battaramulla.**

Tel : 0094-011-4209885

Fax : 0094-011-4209885

E-mail : pmudhqc@gmail.com

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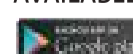
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**STATE PHARMACEUTICALS CORPORATION OF SRI LANKA
INVITATION FOR BIDS**

Obtaining a Land Space on Rent Basis in Narahenpita close to Labour Department for Vehicle Parking

**TENDER NO : AD/TR/LVP/33/2021
CLOSING ON : 15th March, 2021 AT 11.00 A.M.**

State Pharmaceuticals Corporation of Sri Lanka invites sealed bids to obtain a land space on rent basis with respect to the Vehicle parking.

It is expected that the land area of 3,000 square feet which must be situated around the Narahenpita Labour Department.

Sealed quotations with all the details including expected monthly rental, number of square feet, Land plan, a copy of the deed, location and any of the special conditions should be sent to **The Chairman, Departmental Procurement Committee, State Pharmaceuticals Corporation of Sri Lanka, No. 75, Sir Baron Jayathilake Mawatha, Colombo 01** either by registered post or be deposited in a box kept at the Internal Audit Department of this building at or before **11.00 a.m. on 15th March, 2021.**

Offers should be submitted by the land owner directly.

Tenderers should strictly adhere to the following conditions :

- Offers should be submitted duplicate clearly & separately marked as "Original" & "Duplicate" are to be inserted in properly sealed two separate envelopes.
- "Tender No, Time & Date of closing" should be indicated on the top of left corner of the envelope.
- Alternative Bids will not be accepted.

Late bids will not be entertained. Tenders will be opened immediately after the closing of the tender. Tenderers or their authorized representatives will be permitted to be present at the time of opening the tender.

**The Chairman - Departmental Procurement Committee,
State Pharmaceuticals Corporation of Sri Lanka,
No.75, Sir Baron Jayathilake Mawatha,
Colombo 01.**

Tel : 2 320356 - 9

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INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

**MATERIALS REQUIREMENT FOR
FABRICATION OF ALUMINIUM WET AREA
FOR BLOCK NO. 03 & 04
AT DEFENCE HEADQUARTERS COMPLEX
AKUREGODA**

CONTRACT NO : DHQC/PROC/2021/H/62

- The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee on behalf of the Ministry of Defence, now invites sealed Bids from eligible and qualified Tenderers for **Supply of undermentioned Items for the Defence Headquarters Complex at Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla.**
Description of Item - Material Requirement for Fabrication of Aluminium Wet Area
- Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding procedure.
- To be eligible for the Contract award, the successful Tenderers shall not have been blacklisted and shall possess a valid business registration in Sri Lanka for at least 05 years. Documentary evidence shall be established with the Bids.**
- Bidders are strongly advised to present Registration Certificate issued by the Registrar of Companies as per the 8th Paragraph of Public Contracts Act No. 03 of 1987 for every Bid which exceeds tenderable amount of Rs. 5.0 million, and copy of certificate to be presented when purchasing the bidding document.**
- A complete set of Bidding Documents in English Language can be purchased upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **Rupees Twenty Thousand (LKR. 20,000.00)** (The method of payment shall be by cash) by interested bidders on submission of a written application to the address below, from **0900 hrs to 1600 hrs during 01st March 2021 to 1000 hrs on 22nd March 2021.**
- All Tenders shall be accompanied by a Tender Security, to the value of **Nine Hundred Ninety Thousand Nine Hundred Twenty Sri Lanka Rupees (LKR. 990,920.00)** obtained from any commercial bank operating in Sri Lanka approved by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka. This Tender Security shall be in the form of an unconditional, on demand guarantee and shall be **valid from 22nd March 2021 to 19th July 2021** (120 days including Both Days).
- Validity of Bids - Bids shall be valid for 90 days from the date of Bid Opening (From 22nd March 2021 to 19th June 2021).**
- Duly completed Bids shall be delivered to: **The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee, Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla at or before 1000 hrs on 22nd 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 in person at **Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla.**

The address referred in Para 6 & 9 is as follows :

**The Chairman,
Project Procurement Committee,
Defence Headquarters Complex Project,
Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta,
Battaramulla.**

**Tel : 0094-011-4209885, Fax: 0094-011-4209885
E-mail : pmudhqc@gmail.com,
dhqcproc2015@gmail.com**

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

**MATERIALS REQUIREMENT FOR
FABRICATION OF ALUMINIUM PARTITION
DOORS FOR BLOCK NO. 03 & 04
AT DEFENCE HEADQUARTERS COMPLEX
AKUREGODA**

CONTRACT NO : DHQC/PROC/2021/H/59

- The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee on behalf of the Ministry of Defence, now invites sealed Bids from eligible and qualified Tenderers for **Supply of undermentioned Items for the Defence Headquarters Complex at Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla.**
Description of Item - Material Requirement for Fabrication of Aluminium Partition Doors
- Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding procedure.
- To be eligible for the Contract award, the successful Tenderers shall not have been blacklisted and shall possess a valid business registration in Sri Lanka for at least 05 years. Documentary evidence shall be established with the Bids.**
- Bidders are strongly advised to present Registration Certificate issued by the Registrar of Companies as per the 8th paragraph of Public Contracts Act No. 03 of 1987 for every Bid which exceeds tenderable amount of Rs. 5.0 million, and copy of certificate to be presented when purchasing the bidding document.**
- A complete set of Bidding Documents in English Language can be purchased upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **Rupees Seventeen Thousand (LKR.17,000.00)** (The method of payment shall be in cash) by interested bidder on submission of a written application to the address below, from **0900 hrs to 1600 hrs during 01st March 2021 to 1000 hrs on 22nd March 2021.**
- All Tenders shall be accompanied by a Tender Security, to the value of **Nine Hundred Thirty Two Thousand One Hundred Forty Sri Lanka Rupees (LKR. 932,140.00)** obtained from any commercial bank operating in Sri Lanka approved by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka. This Tender Security shall be in the form of an unconditional, on demand guarantee and shall be **valid from 22nd March 2021 to 19th July 2021** (120 days including Both Days).
- Validity of Bids - Bids shall be valid for 90 days from the date of Bids Opening (From 22nd March 2021 to 19th June 2021).**
- Duly completed Bids shall be delivered to: **The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee, Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla at or before 1000 hrs on 22nd 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 in person at **Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla.**

The address referred in Para 6 & 9 is as follows :

**The Chairman,
Project Procurement Committee,
Defence Headquarters Complex Project,
Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta,
Battaramulla.**

**Tel : 0094-011-4209885, Fax: 0094-011-4209885
E-mail : pmudhqc@gmail.com,
dhqcproc2015@gmail.com**

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

**FABRICATION, SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF
MAIN ENTRANCE DOOR WITH DECORATIVE
GRANITE WALL PANELS OF BLOCK 04 OF
DEFENCE HEADQUARTERS COMPLEX AT AKUREGODA**

CONTRACT NO : DHQC/ENTRANCE DOOR 4/2020

- The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee (PPC)** on behalf of the Ministry of Defence now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the **Fabrication, Supply and Installation of Main Entrance Door with Decorative Granite Wall Panels of Block 04 of Defence Headquarters Complex at Akuregoda** as described below and approximate estimated to cost **LKR 14.4 million** (excluding VAT).

The Time for Completion for the whole of the Works shall be 63 Days.

The Works consist of Fabrication, Supply and Installation of Main Entrance Door with Decorative Granite Wall Panels.

- Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding procedure.
- To be eligible for contract award, the successful bidder shall not have been blacklisted.
- Qualification requirements to qualify for contract award include:
 - Bidder shall have been registered as a business entity in Sri Lanka for at least five (5) years and shall currently engage in the business of architectural furnishings and decorative works.
 - Bidder shall be an organization registered under ISO 9001.
 - Bidder shall possess experience in successful completion of at least one prestigious project which comprises of exquisite architectural decorative works including ornamented doors and/or wood works of a value not less than LKR 2 Million within the last five years.
- Interested bidders may obtain further information from **The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee (PPC), Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla** and inspect the bidding documents free of charge at the same address **from 01st March 2021 until 22nd March 2021 from 0900 hrs to 1500 hrs during working days.**
- A complete set of Bidding Documents (Except Volume 1) in English language may be purchased by interested bidders on submission of a written application to **The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee (PPC), Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla from 01st March 2021 until 22nd March 2021 from 0900 hrs to 1500 hrs during working days** upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **Sri Lankan Rupees Five Thousand (LKR 5,000.00)**. The method of payment will be Cash or Bank draft drawn in favour of **Ministry of Defence.**
- Pre bid meeting will be held at **1140 hrs on 10th March 2021** and a site visit will be held on same day after the pre bid meeting at the Project Management Unit of Defence Headquarters Complex site at Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla.
- Bids shall be delivered in duplicate to the address below at or before **1000 hrs on 23rd 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 **08th June 2021** (77 Days after the date of Bid opening).
- All bids shall be accompanied by a "Bid Security", of **Sri Lankan Rupees One Hundred Forty Five Thousand (LKR 145,000.00)** obtained from a commercial bank operating in Sri Lanka approved by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka in the form of an unconditional and on demand guarantee and shall be valid up to **06th July 2021** (105 days after the date of Bid opening).

- If any bidder wishes to submit bids for several packages of the same block or any other blocks of this project, the bidder shall establish the qualification/ eligibility criteria required under each Contract separately, if not the bidder will not be qualified for the award of more than one bid.

- In addition to Item 10 of above, if any bidder has already been selected/is working as a Contractor in any of the packages of the block/s of this project, the bidder shall establish his financial and technical requirements under specification / eligibility criteria exclusively for this bidding package. If not, the bidder will not be qualified for the award of this bid.

- Bidders are strongly advised to present the Registration Certificate under the Public Contracts Act No.3 of 1987 when relevant, before purchasing the Bidding Document from Project Procurement Committee (PPC).

- Bidders are advised to inform in writing, to The Director - Project Management Unit, Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla the name and the NIC / Passport Number of the individual who is participating at the bid opening at least prior to three (03) working days of the bid opening.

The address(es) referred to above is (are) :

**The Chairman,
Project Procurement Committee (PPC),
Defence Headquarters Complex Project,
Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta,
Battaramulla.**

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STATE PHARMACEUTICALS CORPORATION OF SRI LANKA

PROCUREMENT NOTICE

The Chairman, Procurement Committee of the State Pharmaceuticals Corporation of Sri Lanka, Colombo 01 invites sealed quotations from registered and previous sources for following items and bids will be closed at the respective times on the dates given below and will be opened immediately thereafter.
(E. mail /Fax offers as well as FOB offers are not acceptable).

Sealed Bids may be sent by post under registered cover or may be personally deposited in the box available for this purpose at Internal Audit Department in the Mezzanine Floor of the State Pharmaceuticals Corporation at No. 75, Sir Baron Jayatillake Mawatha, Colombo 1, Sri Lanka.

Bidders or their authorised representatives will be permitted to be present at the time of opening of Bids.

LAB ITEMS

TENDER NO/ BID REFERENCE	CLOSING DATE	CLOSING TIME	ITEM	QUANTITY
DHS/RL/85SR/20	15.03.2021	02.30 p.m.	03/40300401-Formaldehyde solution 40% in amber colour glass bottles Packing : 2500ml	3,400,000 ml
			06/40300602-Xylene substitute : non - toxic substitutes of alcoholic degree and xylol (mixture of alcohol and linear hydrocarbons) Packing : 2500ml	1,500,000 ml
DHS/RL/13SM/21	15.03.2021	02.30 p.m.	40484801-Monoclonal mouse antibody Dystrophin (C-terminus) 2.5ml	4
			40484901-Monoclonal mouse antibody Dystrophin (N-terminus) 2.5ml	4
			40485001-Monoclonal mouse antibody Utrophin(N- terminus) 2.5ml	3
			40485201-Monoclonal mouse antibody Dysferin 1ml	4
			40485301-Monoclonal mouse antibody Merosin Laminin Alpha 2 Chain 1ml	4
			40485401-Monoclonal mouse antibody nNOS (Nitric Oxidase Synthase) 1ml	4
			40485501-Monoclonal mouse antibody Emerin 1ml	4
			40485601-Monoclonal mouse antibody Gamma-Sarcoglycan 1ml	4
			40485701-Monoclonal mouse antibody Beta - Sarcoglycan 1ml	4
			40485901- Monoclonal mouse antibody Alpha-Sarcoglycan 1ml	4
			40486001-Monoclonal mouse antibody Delta-Sarcoad 1ml	4
			40486101-Monoclonal mouse antibody Beta - Dystroglycan 1ml	4
			40486201-Monoclonal mouse antibody Alpha- Dystroglycan 1ml	4
			40486301-Monoclonal mouse antibody Calpain 2.5ml	4
			40486401-Monoclonal mouse/rabbit antibody Caveolin-3 1ml	4
			40486501-Monoclonal mouse antibody perlecan 0.2ml	4
40486601-Monoclonal mouse antibody Myotilin 1ml	4			

Bids should be prepared as per particulars given in the Bidding Documents available at the Head Office of State Pharmaceuticals Corporation of Sri Lanka, No.75, Sir Baron Jayatillake Mawatha, Colombo 1.

Wherever necessary potential bidder/bidders should get registered in terms of the Public Contracts Act No.3 of 1987 before collecting the Bid Documents and also should get the contract registered after the award.

**CHAIRMAN - PROCUREMENT COMMITTEE
STATE PHARMACEUTICALS CORPORATION OF SRI LANKA
75, SIR BARON JAYATILLAKE MAWATHA
COLOMBO 1
SRI LANKA.**

**FAX : 00 94-11- 2335008/2344082
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Kelaniya.
Contact: 077-1004734**

Inspection between 9.00 a.m. and 4.00 p.m. from 02.03.2021 to 05.03.2021.

Tender forms could be obtained upon payment of a refundable deposit of Rs. 25,000/- and a non-refundable fee Rs. 500/- from 02.03.2021 to 12.03.2021 between 9.00 a.m. & 3.00 p.m. (on working days) from Manager (HR & Admin) at the below listed address.

**Property Development PLC
Floor 19, BOC Headquarters Building,
Colombo 01.
Tel: 2544328, 2544332**

Tenders will be closed on 12.03.2021 at 3.00 p.m.

INVITATION FOR BIDS

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

BID FOR DESIGN, SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY SYSTEM (ICTS) FOR BLOCK 03 OF DEFENCE HEADQUARTERS COMPLEX AT AKUREGODA

CONTRACT NO : DHQC/ICT/03/2020

- The Chairman, Ministry Procurement Committee (MPC) of the Ministry of Defence now invites sealed Bids from eligible and qualified Bidders for Design, Supply and Installation of Information Communication Technology System (ICTS) For Block 03 of Proposed Defence Headquarters Complex at Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla and as described below and estimated to cost LKR 490 Million.
The work consists of supply, installation, configuration and maintenance of all the works in Local Area Network Switches System (LANS), Network Operating Center (NOC), Closed Circuit Television IP Surveillance System (CCTV/IPSS) and Door Access Control System (DACS) of Block 03 of Defence Headquarters Complex at Akuregoda, Sri Lanka.
- The Construction period is 270 Days.
- Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding Procedure.
- To be eligible for the contract award, the successful bidder shall not have been blacklisted. Bidders shall have **Construction Industry Development authority Grading EM1 in the Specialty of Electrical and Mechanical Services (EM1) Under sub specialist area on Telecommunication and Information Technology Systems, Security Systems and Pipe Music Systems (ELV).**
- Other minimum Qualification requirements to qualify for contract award shall be,

Qualifications	Minimum Qualifications Requirements
(i) Average annual volume of construction work performed in any 5 years during last 10 years (2010/2011 to 2019/2020)	LKR 490 million per year. <i>(Certified audited financial reports of 2010/2011, 2011/2012, 2012/2013, 2013/2014, 2014/2015, 2015/2016, 2016/2017, 2017/2018, 2018/2019, 2019/2020, shall be provided with the Bid)</i>
(ii) Experience in Design, Supply and Installation within last ten years. (2010, 2011, 2012, 2013 & 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018 & 2019)	At least 3 nr. Information Communication Technology Systems successfully completed within last 10 years. Minimum value of one (1) Number of such system shall not be less than LKR 75 million. Information Communication Technology Systems. <i>Evidence should be provided.</i>
(iii) The minimum amount of liquid assets and /or credit facilities (after setting apart for other contractual commitments) and exclusive of any advance payment which may be made under this Contract	Not less than LKR160 million. <i>Evidence should be provided.</i>

- Interested bidders may obtain further information from **The Chairman, Ministry Procurement Committee (MPC), Ministry of Defence, No 15/5, Baladaksha Mawatha, Colombo 03, Sri Lanka** or email to procurement@defence.lk and inspect the bidding documents free of charge at the above address from **01/03/ 2021 until 23/03/ 2021 From 09.00 hrs. to 15.00 hrs.** during a working day.
- A complete set of Bidding Documents (except Section I and III of Volume 1A) in English language may be purchased by interested bidders on submission of a written application to **The Chairman, Ministry Procurement Committee (MPC), Ministry of Defence, No 15/5, Baladaksha Mawatha, Colombo 03, Sri Lanka** from **01/03/ 2021 until 23/03/ 2021 from 09.00 hrs. to 15.00 hrs.** during a working day upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **LKR 40,000.00 (Sri Lanka Rupees Forty Thousand)**. The method of payment will be by Cash or Bank draft drawn in favour of **Ministry Procurement Committee (MPC), Chief Accountant, Chief Accountant's Office (Ground Floor), Ministry of Defence, No. 15/5, Baladaksha Mawatha, Colombo 03.**
- A pre bid meeting will be held at **10.00 hrs. on 08/03/2021** and a site visit will be held on **same day** after the pre bid meeting at the Project Management Unit of Defence Headquarters Complex site at Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla.
- Bids shall be delivered to the address below or shall be deposited in the Bid box placed at the address below at or before **11.00 hrs. on 24/03/ 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 **20/07/2021** (119 Days after the date of opening of Bids, including bid opening date).
- All bids shall be accompanied by a "Bid-Security", of **Sri Lankan Rupees Four Million Nine Hundred Thousand (LKR 4,900,000.00)** obtained from a bank operating in Sri Lanka approved by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka, in the form of an unconditional and on demand bond and shall be valid up to **17/08/2021** (147 Days from the date of opening Bids, including bid opening date). Beneficiary of the Bid Security shall be Secretary, Ministry of Defence.
- Bidders are strongly advised to present the registration certificate under the Public Contracts Act No.3 of 1987 (when relevant), with the Bidding Document.
- Bidders are advised to inform in writing, to the Chief Accountant Ministry of Defence, the Name and the NIC/Passport Number of the individual who is participating at the Bid opening at least prior to three (03) working days of the bid opening.

The address referred to above 9 is :

**The Chairman,
Project Procurement Committee (MPC),
Ministry of Defence,
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INVITATION FOR BIDS**MINISTRY OF DEFENCE****FABRICATION, SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF HEAVY DUTY STEEL FIRE RATED DUCT DOORS FOR BLOCK 04 OF DEFENCE HEADQUARTERS COMPLEX AT AKUREGODA**

CONTRACT NO : DHQC/FIRE RAT DUCT DOOR 4/2020

1. **The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee (PPC)** on behalf of the **Ministry of Defence** now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for **Fabrication, Supply and Installation of Heavy Duty Steel Fire Rated Duct Doors for Block 04 of Defence Headquarters Complex at Akuregoda** as described below and approximately estimated to cost **LKR 33 Million** (excluding VAT).

The Works consist of fabrication, supply and installation of Heavy-Duty Steel Fire Rated Duct Doors including Door Sashes, Frames, Door Hardware and Accessories with powder coated hot dipped galvanized steel frames and sashes. The Intended Completion Date of the Works shall be 126 Days from the Start Date.

2. Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding procedure.

To be eligible for the Contract award : **the successful bidder shall not have been blacklisted and shall have a valid business registration in Sri Lanka for at least five (05) years. The bidder shall be either the Manufacturer of the offered work or the authorized agent of the manufacturer of the offered work or a licensed installer of the manufacturer of the offered work. If the bidder is not the manufacturer of the offered work, then he shall be mandatorily required being an organization possessing ISO 9001 Certification.**

3. **Documentary evidence to support Bidder's experience and track record shall be provided with the Bid.**

4. Qualification requirements to qualify for contract award include:

- Average annual turnover value in last five (05) years shall be at least LKR 49 million.
- Experience in fabrication, supply and/or installation of heavy- duty steel fire rated doors including at least one project of value not less than 07 million completed within last five (05) years.
- The minimum amount of liquid assets (after setting apart for other contractual commitments) and exclusive of any advance payment which may be made under this Contract, shall be not less than LKR 24 million.

5. Interested bidders may obtain further information from **The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee (PPC), Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla** and inspect the bidding documents free of charge at the same address **from 01st March 2021 until 22nd March 2021 from 0900 hrs to 1500 hrs during working days.**

6. 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, Project Procurement Committee (PPC), Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla** from **01st March 2021 until 22nd March 2021 from 0900 hrs to 1500 hrs during working days** upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **Sri Lankan Rupees Eight Thousand Five Hundred (LKR 8,500.00)**. The method of payment will be cash or Bank draft drawn in favour of **The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee (PPC), Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla.**

7. Pre bid meeting will be held at **1100 hrs on 12th March 2021** and a site visit will be held on **same day** after the pre bid meeting at the Project Management Unit of Defence Headquarters Complex site at Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla.

8. Bids shall be delivered in duplicate to the address below or shall be deposited in the Tender box placed at the address below on or before **1000 hrs on 23rd 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.

9. Bids shall be valid up to **22nd June 2021 (91 Days after the date of Bid opening)**.

10. All bids shall be accompanied by a "Bid-Security" of **Sri Lankan Rupees Three Hundred Thirty Thousand (LKR 330,000.00)** obtained from a commercial bank operating in Sri Lanka approved by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka in the form of an unconditional and on demand guarantee and shall be valid up to **20th July 2021 (119 days after the date of Bid opening)**.

11. If any bidder wishes to submit bids for several packages of the same block or any other blocks of this project, the bidder shall establish the qualification / eligibility criteria required under each contract separately, if not the bidder will not be qualified for the award of more than one bid.

12. In addition to Item 11 of above, if any bidder has already been selected/is working as a contractor in any of the packages of the block/s of this project, the bidder shall establish his financial and technical requirements under specification / eligibility criteria exclusively for this bidding package. If not, the bidder will not be qualified for the award of this bid.

13. Bidders shall present the registration certificate under the Public Contract Act No.3 of 1987 before purchasing the bidding documents.

14. Bidders are advised to inform in writing, to The Director - Project Management Unit, Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla the name and the NIC / Passport Number of the individual who is participating at the bid opening at least prior to three (03) working days of the bid opening.

The address(es) referred to above is (are) :

**The Chairman,
Project Procurement Committee (PPC),
Defence Headquarters Complex Project,
Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta,
Battaramulla.**

Tel : 0094-011-4209885

Fax : 0094-011-4209885

E-mail : pmudhqc@gmail.com

INVITATION FOR BIDS**MINISTRY OF DEFENCE****FABRICATION, SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF HEAVY DUTY STEEL FIRE RATED DUCT DOORS FOR BLOCK 03 OF DEFENCE HEADQUARTERS COMPLEX AT AKUREGODA**

CONTRACT NO : DHQC/FIRE RATE DUCT DOOR 3/2020

1. **The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee (PPC)** on behalf of the **Ministry of Defence** now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for **Fabrication, Supply and Installation of Heavy Duty Steel Fire Rated Duct Doors for Block 03 of Defence Headquarters Complex at Akuregoda** as described below and approximately estimated to cost **LKR 32.4 Million** (excluding VAT).

The Works consist of fabrication, supply and installation of Heavy-Duty Steel Fire Rated Duct Doors including Door Sashes, Frames, Door Hardware and Accessories with powder coated hot dipped galvanized steel frames and sashes. The Intended Completion Date of the Works shall be 154 Days from the Start Date.

2. Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding Procedure.

To be eligible for the Contract award, **the successful bidder shall not have been blacklisted and shall have a valid business registration in Sri Lanka for at least five (05) years. The bidder shall be either the Manufacturer of the offered work or the authorized agent of the manufacturer of the offered work or a licensed installer of the manufacturer of the offered work. If the bidder is not the manufacturer of the offered work, then he shall be mandatorily required being an organization possessing ISO 9001 Certification.**

3. **Documentary evidence to support Bidder's experience and track record shall be provided with the Bid.**

4. Qualification requirements to qualify for contract award include:

- Average annual turnover value in last five (05) years shall be at least LKR 49 million.
- Experience in fabrication, supply and/or installation of heavy- duty steel fire rated doors including at least one project of value not less than 10 million completed within last five (05) years.
- The minimum amount of liquid assets (after setting apart for other contractual commitments) and exclusive of any advance payment which may be made under this Contract, shall be not less than LKR 16 million.

5. Interested bidders may obtain further information from **The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee (PPC), Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla** and inspect the bidding documents free of charge at the same address **from 01st March 2021 until 22nd March 2021 from 0900 hrs to 1500 hrs during working days.**

6. 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, Project Procurement Committee (PPC), Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla** from **01st March 2021 until 22nd March 2021 from 0900 hrs to 1500 hrs during working days** upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **Sri Lankan Rupees Eight Thousand Five Hundred (LKR 8,500.00)**. The method of payment will be cash or Bank draft drawn in favour of **The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee (PPC), Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla.**

7. Pre bid meeting will be held at **1100 hrs on 12th March 2021** and a site visit will be held on **same day** after the pre bid meeting at the Project Management Unit of Defence Headquarters Complex site at Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla.

8. Bids shall be delivered in duplicate to the address below or shall be deposited in the Tender box placed at the address below on or before **1000 hrs on 23rd 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.

9. Bids shall be valid up to **08th March 2021 (77 Days after the date of Bid opening)**.

10. All bids shall be accompanied by a "Bid-Security" of **Sri Lankan Rupees Three Hundred Thirty Thousand (LKR 330,000.00)** obtained from a commercial bank operating in Sri Lanka approved by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka in the form of an unconditional and on demand guarantee and shall be valid up to **06th July 2021 (105 days after the date of Bid opening)**.

11. If any bidder wishes to submit bids for several packages of the same block or any other blocks of this project, the bidder shall establish the qualification / eligibility criteria required under each contract separately, if not the bidder will not be qualified for the award of more than one bid.

12. In addition to Item 11 of above, if any bidder has already been selected/is working as a contractor in any of the packages of the block/s of this project, the bidder shall establish his financial and technical requirements under specification / eligibility criteria exclusively for this bidding package. If not, the bidder will not be qualified for the award of this bid.

13. Bidders shall present the registration certificate under the Public Contract Act No.3 of 1987 before purchasing the bidding documents.

14. Bidders are advised to inform in writing, to The Director - Project Management Unit, Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla the name and the NIC / Passport Number of the individual who is participating at the bid opening at least prior to three (03) working days of the bid opening.

The address(es) referred to above is (are) :

**The Chairman,
Project Procurement Committee (PPC),
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INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

BID FOR DESIGN, SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF FRAMELESS VANITY MIRRORS FOR WET AREAS OF BLOCK 02 OF DEFENCE HEADQUARTERS COMPLEX AT AKUREGODA

CONTRACT NO : DHQC/MIRROR 2/2020

1. **The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee (PPC)** on behalf of the Ministry of Defence now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for **Design, Supply and Installation of Frameless Vanity Mirrors for Wet Areas of Block 02 of Defence Headquarters Complex at Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla** as described below and estimated to cost **LKR 3.4 Million** (excluding VAT).

The Works consist of Design, Supply and Installation of Frameless Vanity Mirrors for Wet Areas of Block 02 of Proposed Defence Headquarters Complex (DHQC) at Akuregoda, Sri Lanka.

The Intended Completion Date for the Works shall be 105 Days from the Start Date.

- Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding Procedure.
- To be eligible for the Contract award, **the successful bidder shall not have been blacklisted and shall have a valid business registration in Sri Lanka for at least five (05) years. Documentary evidence to support Bidder's experience and track record shall be provided with the Bid.**
- Qualification requirements to qualify for contract award include:
 - Average turnover in last five (05) years shall be at least LKR 20 million.
 - Experience in successful completion of supply and installation of vanity mirrors including at least one project of value not less than SLR 2 million completed within last five years.
- Interested bidders may obtain further information from **The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee (PPC), Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla** and inspect the bidding documents free of charge at the same address from **0900 hrs to 1500 hrs from 01st March 2021 until 22nd March 2021 during working days.**
- A complete set of Bidding Documents in English language may be purchased by interested bidders on submission of a written application to **The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee (PPC), Defence Headquarters Complex Project**, at the above address from **01st March 2021 until 22nd March 2021 from 0900 hrs to 1500 hrs** upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **Sri Lankan Rupees One Thousand Five Hundred (LKR 1,500.00)**. The method of payment will be in Cash.
- Pre bid meeting will be held at **1140 hrs on 12th March 2021** and site visit will be held on same day after the pre bid meeting at the Project Management Unit of Defence Headquarters Complex site at Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla.
- Bids shall be delivered to the address below or shall be deposited in the tender box placed at the below address on or before **1000 hrs on 23rd 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 until **25th May 2021**. (63 Days after the date of Bid opening).
- All bids shall be accompanied by a **Bid Security of Sri Lankan Rupees Thirty Four Thousand (LKR 34,000.00)** obtained from a commercial bank operating in Sri Lanka approved by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka. This Bid Security shall be in the form of an unconditional, on demand guarantee and shall be valid up to **22nd June 2021** (91 Days after date of the Bid opening).
- If any bidder wishes to submit bids for several packages of the same block or any other blocks of this project, the bidder shall establish the qualification / eligibility criteria required under each contract separately, if not the bidder will not be qualified for the award of more than one bid.
- In addition to Item 11 of above, if any bidder has already been selected/is working as a contractor in any of the packages of the block/s of this project; the bidder shall establish his financial and technical requirements under specification / eligibility criteria exclusively for this bidding package. If not, the bidder will not be qualified for the award of this bid.
- Bidders are strongly advised to present the registration certificate under the Public Contracts Act No. 3 of 1987 (when relevant), before purchasing the Bidding Document from Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla.
- Bidders are advised to inform in writing, to the Director, Project Management Unit, the name and the NIC / Passport Number of the individual who is participating at the bid opening at least prior to three (03) working days of the bid opening.

The address referred to above item (8) is :

**The Chairman,
Project Procurement Committee,
Defence Headquarters Complex Project,
Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta,
Battaramulla.**

Tel : 0094-011-4209885

Fax : 0094-011-4209885

E-mail : pmudhqc@gmail.com



Information and Communication Technology Agency of Sri Lanka

Invitation for Bids (IFB)

Procurement of Supply, Delivery and Installation of Computer Hardware & Accessories for implementing Eighteen (18) Digital Public Libraries

(ICTA/GOSL/GOODS/NCB/2021/01)

- Information and Communication Technology Agency (ICTA) in close collaboration with National Library and Documentation Services Board, implement Digital Libraries Project in selected 18 public libraries across the country.
- Department Procurement Committee (DPC), on behalf of ICTA, now invites sealed Bids from eligible and qualified Bidders for Procurement of Supply, Delivery and Installation of Computer Hardware & Accessories for implementing Eighteen (18) Digital Public Libraries under Digital Libraries Project.

A brief summary of the requirement is given in Table below :

Lot No.	Item No.	Description of Goods	Quantity / Units
Lot 01	1	All in one Desktop Computers	144
	2	Line Interactive UPS	144
	3	Laptop computers	18
Lot 02	4	Sticker Printers	36
	5	Barcode Readers	72
Lot 03	6	Multifunctional Photocopy machine	18
Lot 04	7	Tablet PCs with Stylus pen	108
Lot 05	8	Card Printers	18
	9	Empty Plastic Cards	36,000
	10	Full Color with overlay (CMYKO*) Ribbon (1000 cards should be printed from each ribbon)	36
	11	Cleaning Kits	18

Bidders at their option are allowed to bid for any single lot or any combination of Lots or for all Lots. Each Lot shall be evaluated separately. Bidders are required to quote for all the items in a lot and total quantity of each item. Partial bids shall be treated as non-responsive and rejected. Detailed description of the Requirements and Specifications is given in the bidding document.

- Bidding will be conducted using the **National Competitive Bidding (NCB) procedure that shall be governed by the procurement guidelines of Government of Sri Lanka** and is open to all eligible bidders that meet the eligibility and qualification requirements given in the bidding documents.
- Interested bidders may **inspect the bidding documents** free of charge during office hours on working days commencing from 01st March 2021 at Procurement Division of ICTA, 160/24, 2nd Floor, Kirimandala Mawatha, Colombo 05. Telephone: 0112369099, email: procurement@icta.lk. Bidding documents are also available on ICTA Website (https://www.icta.lk/procurement/) only for inspection purposes.
- A complete set of Bidding Documents in English Language may be purchased by interested bidders on submission of a written application and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Sri Lankan Rupees Four Thousand **(LKR 4000.00)** effective from 01st March 2021 during office hours on working days from the office of the ICTA at 160/24, 2nd Floor, Kirimandala Mawatha, Colombo 05. The method of payment will be by cash.
- A Pre-bid meeting which potential bidders may attend will be held at **10.00 hrs on 08th March 2021** at the office of ICTA at the above address. Bidders are advised to attend this meeting.
- Bids must be delivered to Procurement Division, Information and Communication Technology Agency of Sri Lanka (ICTA), **160/24, 2nd Floor, Kirimandala Mawatha, Colombo 05** at or before **1500 hrs (3.00 p.m) on 22 March 2021**. Bids will be opened immediately after the deadline for bid submission in the presence of the bidders' representatives, who choose to attend. Late Bids and Bids sent electronically will not be accepted and will be rejected.
- All Bids must be accompanied by Bid Securities in the form of a Bank Guarantee in the following amounts in Sri Lankan Rupee using the format given with the bidding documents. Bidders shall submit separate Bid Guarantee for each Lot.

Lot No.	Amount of Bid Guarantee LKR
1	212,000
2	26,000
3	30,000
4	86,000
5	50,000

- Bids shall be valid up to 21st June 2021.
- ICTA will not be responsible for any costs or any expenses incurred by the Bidders in connection with the preparation or delivery of Bids.

**Chairman
Department Procurement Committee
Information and Communication Technology Agency of Sri Lanka (ICTA),
160/24, 2nd Floor, Kirimandala Mawatha, Colombo 05.**

28th February 2021

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<p>Matara Branch</p> <p>MATARA No.29, Upper Floor, Main Bus Stand 041 223 5412</p>	<p>Nugegoda Branch</p> <p>NUGEGODA 4th Floor Sawsiri Complex, High Level Road 011 282 8114</p>	<p>Kataragama Branch</p> <p>KATARAGAMA Opposite Kataragama Bus Stand, Pussadewa Mawatha 047 223 5291</p>	

Dial 1949
011 242 9342
011 242 9333

LAKE HOUSE No 35, D R Wijewardena Mawatha, Colombo 10