

Former Minister's company delayed Central Highway work - Minister



SHAVINI MADHARA
A new town will be created around the Gettuwana Interchange on the Kurunegala - Dambulla main road, Highways Minister Johnston Fernando said.

and the second section from Mirigama to Pothuhera recently. "There was a very sad situation regarding the Central Expressway. A powerful former Minister of the previous government contracted to build a section of this road has delayed work. On several occasions we advised the

company to complete construction of that section as soon as possible. They were even given the money they needed without delay. However, during this visit we saw that the development work on that section of the road could not be completed as planned," the Minister added.

Minister Fernando also stated that the problems are only in the part belonging to the contract company of the former minister. "We have not taken political revenge. For a year and a half we gave the company that had delayed construction, the opportunity to complete work," he said. **TO PAGE 02**

'Possessed' girl caned to death

CAMELIA NATHANIEL
A nine-year-old girl who was reportedly possessed, had died due to being caned during a ritual at the hands of a woman exorcist, police stated. Police Spokesman DIG Ajith Rohana said that the tragedy had been reported to the Meegahawatte Police on Saturday night where a nine year old girl had been taken to a place in the vicinity of her house, by the mother. "The child said to have been possessed had been treated with some oil therapy and a woman known to perform witchcraft at the centre had caned the child. However, after the caning the child had fallen unconscious and had been taken **TO PAGE 02**

O/L EXAM BEGINS TODAY CENTRES SAFE FOR STUDENTS - MINISTER

RS.50 M FOR HEALTH PRECAUTIONS RESULTS BY JUNE, A/L CLASSES BY JULY

BANDARA RATHNAYAKE
Kurunegala additional corr.
All arrangements are in place to hold the GCE Ordinary Level Examination in compliance with health guidelines issued by the Government health authorities to control the spread of COVID-19, Education Minister Prof G. L. Peiris

yesterday. The GCE Ordinary Level examination will begin today at centres around the country in compliance with the instructions given by the health authorities. Forty special centres have been established to meet any emergency situation. The ministry has already allocated

about Rs. 50 million among the centers for health essentials and precautionary steps. Minister Prof. Peiris requested parents not to be hesitant to send their children for the examination as every step has been taken to conduct a safe examination following very strict health guidelines. **TO PAGE 02**



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COVID shot for all over 30 by May - Minister



AMALI MALLAWARACHCHI
The government shall make its best effort to vaccinate all Sri Lankans above 30 against the COVID-19 virus by May 30, Power Minister Dulal Alahapperuma said. Alahapperuma said Sri Lanka has been fortunate to receive the second stock of COVID-19 vaccine which included 500,000 shots. **TO PAGE 02**

82,889 CONFIRMED COVID-19 POSITIVE, 76,979 RECOVER AND RETURN HOME

SHAVINI MADHARA
The National Operation Center for Prevention of COVID-19 (NOCCP) said 460 COVID-19 patients were detected as of yesterday morning. The highest number of infected cases has been reported from the Ratnapura district and the number is 62. In addition, 59 cases have been reported from the Jaffna district, 51 cases from the Gampaha district and 35 overseas arrivals also tested positive for the virus yesterday while 253 cases were detected from other districts. The total number of COVID-19 infected persons reported from the clusters connected to the Minuwangoda Garment Factory and the Colombo Fish Market as of yesterday (28) morning was 79,244. **TO PAGE 02**

Former AG Sunil de Silva, PC, passes away

The death occurred yesterday of former Attorney General Sunil Chandra de Silva, PC, who served in that capacity from 1988 to 1992. He passed away in Melbourne, Australia, where he migrated years back. He was Sri Lanka's 19th Attorney General. An alumni of Royal College, Colombo, de Silva earned a stellar reputation as a legal scholar. He was instrumental in the computerization drive of the AG's Department and introduced many other new technologies to the Department. **TO PAGE 02**



SLAF READIES FOR AIR SHOW WITH IAF



A full rehearsal of the Air Show in celebration of the Sri Lanka Air Force 70th Anniversary was held at the Galle Face yesterday evening. Among the aircraft from the Sri Lanka Air Force that participated in the air show were Bell 212 and 412, Mi17, Cessna 152, Beach Craft B200, MA60 and F7 jets. In addition, 14 aircraft from the Indian Air Force (IAF) also flew in formation at the air show rehearsals. (Picture by Vasitha Patabendige).

Give all factory workers COVID shot - Minister

CAMELIA NATHANIEL
Tourism Minister Prasanna Ranatunga has requested the President to give priority to vaccinate all factory workers with the COVID shot. He said that even during the height of the pandemic these workers had



directly contributed to the country's production process and therefore, they should be administered with the vaccine without delay. There are 14 BOI Free Trade Zones island wide and in addition, there is an industrial park. **TO PAGE 02**

Five phones in locker: Prison guard interdicted

CAMELIA NATHANIEL
A Prison Guard attached to the Negombo Prison was interdicted after being nabbed with five mobile phones. Commissioner of Prisons (Administration and Rehabilitation) Prison Spokesman Chandana Ekanayake told the media that four jailors had searched the private

locker of the guard in his presence and had detected the five mobile phones. This operation was carried out under the directions of the Negombo Prison Commissioner. He said the jailor was unable to prove ownership of the mobile phones. It is suspected

that the phones may have been brought into the prison to be given to some inmates. The 32-year-old prison guard is a resident of Kuliypitiya and he had been in service for nine years. Further investigations are being conducted under the supervision of the Negombo Prison Commissioner.

Lawyers begin inquiry into abuses at Anuradhapura Children's Home

AMILA PRABATH WANASINGHE,
Anuradhapura Additional
A team of lawyers has commenced inquiry into the alleged incidents of abuse at the Avanthi Devi Children's Home in Anuradhapura on the instructions of the Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa. President of the Anuradhapura District Bar Association Mahesh Kotuwella as Coordinator of the Prime Minister's Office inspected the Avanthi Devi Children's Home in Anuradhapura with a group of lawyers last Saturday. "We arrived at the orphanage on the instructions of Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa to look into whether the investigations are being carried out properly. **TO PAGE 02**

IAF jets, planes here for SLAF's 70th anniversary

The Indian Air Force (IAF) and Indian Navy will participate in the 70th anniversary celebration of the Sri Lanka Air Force. To commemorate this event, A fly past and an aerobatic display will be held at Galle Face from March 3 to 5. The presentation of President's Colours to No. 5 Fighter Squadron and No. 6 Helicopter Squadron of the Sri Lanka Air Force will also be held. The Indian Air Force (IAF) will participate in the event with an Aerobatic Display by Sarang



Some of the IAF jets that will participate in the air show at the Katunayake SLAF air base. Pictures by Indian High Commission. Tejas Trainer and the Dornier Maritime Patrol Aircraft. **TO PAGE 02**

Make Political Revenge PCol Report public - NPP

AMALI MALLAWARACHCHI
The report of the Presidential Commission on incidents of Political Revenge during the period from 2015-2019 should be made public immediately, National People's Power

leader, MP Anura Kumara Disanayake said yesterday. Disanayake made this observation at a media briefing held at the JVP headquarters in Batramulla. Disanayake demanded the government to make the report public while pointing out that the said report is not the prop-

erty of the Rajapaksa family to be kept private. Disanayake observed, "Shortly after this government came to power, a Presidential Commission of Inquiry was established to investigate the incidents of political revenge during the Yahapalana regime. **TO PAGE 02**

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Oman repatriates 320 stranded Sri Lankan workers home

Sri Lanka's Embassy in Oman in collaboration with the Presidential Secretariat and the Foreign Ministry made special arrangements for the repatriation of 320 stranded Sri Lankan migrant workers from Muscat to Colombo by Sri Lankan Airlines on February 25.

This includes more than 81 stranded Sri Lankan migrant workers who had overstayed in the Sultanate of Oman after the expiry of their visas. Others included Sri Lankan migrant workers who lost their jobs,

sheltered at the Embassy Safe House, released from prisons and who were under medical emergencies.

The Government of Oman granted an amnesty for the Sri Lankan destitute migrant workers to leave Oman with the full waiver of their penalties and fines. The Embassy of Sri Lanka in Muscat provided them with travel documents free to return home. Sri Lanka's Ambassador in Oman's Ameer Ajwad extended his gratitude to the Government of Sultan

Haitham bin Tarik for the generous gesture extended to the destitute Sri Lankan migrant workers for their return back home with the exemption of their penalties and fines.

The Government of Sri Lanka arranged free PCR tests for all 320 destitute Sri Lankan migrant workers on their arrival at the BIA and provided quarantine facilities for all of them with accommodation, food and other facilities free for 14 days at a Quarantine Centre maintained by the Government.



SL 'Priority One' for India in Defence - HC

Sri Lanka is "Priority One" partner for India in the defence sphere, the Indian High Commission in Colombo said in a statement.

It said the participation of IAF military aircraft in the 70th anniversary celebration of the SLAF is indicative of the growing co-operation, camaraderie and friendship between the two militaries.

It said the assurance of India's fullest cooperation in the field of defence and security was recently reiterated to Sri Lanka's leadership by National Security Adviser Ajit Doval during his visit to Colombo for a trilateral Maritime Security Co-operation talks.

Doval attended the high-level trilateral maritime dialogue in Colombo among India, Sri Lanka and the Maldives in November last year. The meeting hosted by Sri Lanka took place after six years. The last meeting was held in New Delhi in 2014.

"The deployment of a wide variety and huge inventory of aircraft and helicopters of IAF and Indian Navy is testimony to the strong bonds of friendship and close interoperability shared between the corresponding forces of India and Sri Lanka services," the Indian mission said.

It said that all the Indian aircraft on display are 'Made in India' and as such represent the indigenous technical prowess of Indian research and development sector and reliability of products of India's defence industry.

Tejas Trainer, on display for the first time, would also afford the opportunity of independent sorties for the Sri Lankan pilots, accompanied with the Indian pilots whilst adhering to relevant strict health guidelines, the statement said.

During the deployment, the officers from Sri Lanka Air Force and Sri Lanka Navy will also have firsthand experience onboard the Indian Navy's Maritime Patrol Aircraft Dornier, it said.

Ten Top Women to speak at IWD event on March 8

Ten highly-accomplished women from diverse fields of influence will come together on the same stage to share insights on what they would do differently if they were given the opportunity to lead the country.

The event is planned to coincide with the International Women's Day 2021 and will be held at Lotus Ballroom, Shangri-La Hotel, Colombo, on March 8, 2021, at 7 pm.

The Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom, Sri Lanka (FNF) and NextGenSL have organised the event to ensure that women are given a platform to shape the future of Sri Lanka.

Kasturi Wilson (CEO, Hemas), Varuni Amunugama-Fernando (Joint Managing Director, Triad), Prof. Janitha Liyanage (Vice-Chairman - University Grants Commission), Sriyani Kulawansa (Former Olympic Athlete), Dr. Santhusha Fernando (Public Health Specialist and Deputy Director Sri Jayawarde-



napura Hospital), Indeevari Amuwatte (Head of English News - Derana), Ameena Hussein (Author and Publisher), Samadani Kiriwandeniya (Former Chairperson - Sanasa Bank), Sarah Kabir (Writer, Researcher and Author) and Nilshani De Silva ('Reaching for the Stars' award-winner by the Sri Lanka Association for Child Development) will be featured as speakers at the event.

"The objective of the pro-

ject is to demonstrate the manner in which women will lead if given access to decision-making platforms and adequate opportunities in governance. This will also convince the key decision-makers as to why there should be measures to meaningfully address the underrepresentation of women in politics," Hubertus von Welck, Head of Friedrich Naumann Foundation's office in Sri Lanka said, of the event.

"Although women are a majority in Sri Lanka, making 52% of the population, they have been historically subjugated by a patriarchal system that has hindered their social progress. Leadership, for instance, has come amidst great challenges and personal sacrifice, and even though Sri Lanka has been engaged in a nation-building exercise these past 73 years, the representation of women in politics is one of the lowest in

South Asia. We, as Friedrich Naumann Foundation (FNF) are deeply committed to doing our part to help Sri Lanka address this pertinent issue," he said.

"Towards this end, we have carried out a number of initiatives since our establishment in Sri Lanka. For instance, with our #FemaleForward international campaign we have empowered the everyday female heroes in this region.

Our objective is to raise

awareness around the issues that women face in their daily lives in South Asian society. iLead is another initiative through which we feature highly-accomplished women who are able to shape Sri Lanka's future," he added.

In this, it's latest initiative, Friedrich Naumann Foundation (FNF) is joined by NextGenSL, which brings together young political activists across the spectrum. It has organised many public and media events thus far, giving a platform to dynamic young politicians from all parties to voice their views.

NextGenSL stands for a political culture driven by integrity and transparency. It has facilitated a number of workshops across the country on the need for campaign financing regulations, countering online hate and cyberbullying, essential digital and social media skills for political activists and many other areas that will support and enrich the political space of Sri Lanka.



The Sri Lanka Army (SLA) recovered the remains of Akalanka Perera (24) who went missing during a hike at the Narangala Ridge, Badulla on Saturday (February 27). A group of hikers from Avissawella had climbed the Ridge on February 26 intending a night camp amidst the fog despite warnings. Following the notice on the missing hiker, SLA troops rushed to the scene on the instructions of the Army Commander and found the missing person dead.

'Possessed' girl caned to... From page 01

to the Biyagama Hospital. Upon admission, the doctors at the hospital had confirmed that the child was dead.

Meegahawatte Police has initiated investigations into the incident and the woman who had treated the girl

had been arrested by the Biyagama Police.

The Postmortem and the Magisterial Inquest was scheduled to be conducted on the body of the child yesterday. Further investigations are underway.

Centres safe for students... From page 01

Addressing the media after inspecting a GCE Ordinary Level examination center at the Maliyadeva Model School in Kurunegala, the Minister said a comprehensive mechanism is in place to ensure the highest standards of health and safety for the students and supervisory/administrative staffs at the examination centres. Nearly 622,000 school and private candidates will sit for the G.C.E. O/L examination 2020 at 4,513 centres from today.

In case an infected student or staffer is reported from any centre, the relevant parties have been informed of the steps that have to be taken. The entire examination is held for nine days from March 1. Accordingly, special public transport services will also be in operation during this period. The Sri Lanka Navy will support the Examination Department to transport the question papers to the centers set up in the Northern Islands accessible only by sea.

He said the Government is giv-



ing priority to formulate a mechanism through which students in all classes can complete their school education without any delay. The GCE Ordinary Level examination results are expected to be released in June and the Advanced Level classes are due to commence in July. "Under this programme, the learning time of the children will not be wasted and the results of the 2020 GCE Advanced Level examination will also be released by April," he added.

Arrangements will be made for the enrolment of qualified students to State universities in September this year. Prof. Peiris said the Government will not allow the students to wait for months to gain university admission after the Advanced Level results are released.

Commissioner General of Examinations B. Sanath Pujitha and Ministry Media Secretary Buddhika Wickremadara were present on the occasion.

IAF jets, planes here for... From page 01

A total of 23 aircraft of the Indian Air Force and Indian Navy would participate in the event.

All the Indian aircraft on display are made in India. The Tejas Trainer, on display for the first time, would also afford the opportunity of independent sorties for the Sri Lanka Air Force Pilots, accompanied with the Indian Pilots whilst adhering to relevant strict health guidelines.

During the deployment, the officers from Sri Lanka Air Force and Sri Lanka Navy will also have firsthand experience onboard the Indian Navy's Maritime Patrol Air-



craft Dornier. Sri Lanka Air Force pilots and Sri Lanka Navy observers will fly along with the Indian crew. This is in continuation of the half yearly Dornier training sorties being facilitated for SLAF and SLN.

Lawyers begin inquiry into... From page 01

One party claims that these investigations are not being carried out properly. Another party claims that this was deliberately fabricated," Kotuwella said.

Kotuwella also said incidents like these are unacceptable. "Both the President and the Prime Minister have decided to take strict action against cases like these. We came here to find out if there are any discrepancies regarding this investigation. We had discussions with the police investigation team, respective officers and the victims. Police

investigations are being carried out properly. The victims were assured they could give information and they shall be protected."

"The police will appear in court on behalf of the victims in future court proceedings. The Attorney General will appear on behalf of the victims in the case pending in High Court. If the children need personal legal assistance, a large number of members of the Anuradhapura Bar Association are ready to represent them," Attorney Mahesh Kotuwella also said.

82,889 confirmed COVID-19... From page 01

Accordingly, 76,185 were from the Peliyagoda Fish Market cluster. Meanwhile, 76,979 fully-recovered COVID-19 patients have been discharged from hospitals.

Up to yesterday, a total of 82,889 persons have been confirmed COVID-19 positive from all over the country. 78,372 fully-recovered COVID-19 patients have been so far discharged from hospi-

tals and the rest 4,053 are still under treatment in hospitals and care centers. 748 people have been discharged from hospitals and intermediate treatment centers as of yesterday. A total of 9,667 persons were undergoing quarantine at 96 centers under the Tri-Forces as at yesterday. With in Saturday 12, 632 PCR tests were carried out, NOCPC further said.

COVID shot for all over 30... From page 01

Minister Alahapperuma made these observations at the opening ceremony of the Matara Pitakanda carpet road yesterday (26) afternoon.

Speaking further Minister Alahapperuma noted, "At the moment everyone is forced to wear masks for the fear COVID-19 virus. The government has



decided to vaccinate all citizens above 30 by May. 102 countries in the world have not received the COVID-19 vaccine still.

However, the fact that Sri Lanka now has the second stock of 500,000 vaccines is a great victory for all of us as a government."

Former AG Sunil de Silva, PC... From page 01

He was also a stage actor, who played a memorable role in the popular play "He Comes From Jaffna". He regularly took part in stage plays and other items at the Neethi Ranga (the annual variety entertainment show held by lawyers) and was well-known for his sense of humour.

He groomed many of today's leading lawyers and Judges and shared



his vast legal knowledge with juniors without any reservation. Even after retirement, he continued to advise many younger lawyers on the finer points of the law. He also contributed regularly to newspapers on various local and international legal issues, most recently on the UNHRC Sessions in Geneva. Funeral arrangements will be notified later.

Make Political Revenge PCol ... From page 01

Appointed under the chairmanship of former Supreme Court Judge Upali Abeyratne, it was operational from January 9, 2020 to November 26, 2020. Our main argument is about keeping the Commission report secret. I have on several occasions requested at Parliamentary Group meetings that the Commission's report be presented to Parliament. The Speaker has been informed regarding this as well. A request was also made to the Presidential Secretariat on January 21 to provide a copy of the report under the Freedom of Information Act."

Dissanayake pointed out, "On February 8, I was informed by the Information Officer of the Presidential Secretariat that the report could not be submitted. Then on February 22 we filed an appeal. Also, my team of lawyers had requested the Presidential Secretariat to submit the report on January 29 and no response has been received so far.

Attorney Sunil Watagala made another request on February 12."

After the report of the Easter Commission was handed over, an attempt was made to conceal it, Dissanayake noted. "The report had to be presented to Parliament on the insistence of the Cardinal, other political parties and the media. There are about six volumes of that report and only the first volume has been presented to Parliament. No legal action has been taken so far regarding this report submitted on January 31.

The Attorney General too was able to obtain the report after much effort. The report of the Presidential Commission on Political Revenge is kept undisclosed while Cabinet decisions are taken to acquit persons involved in corruption cases based on the report.

We have a fair right to receive this Commission Report," Dissanayake pointed out.

Former Minister's company... From page 01

Responding to a question raised by journalists regarding the Easter Sunday attack, the Minister noted that the people of this country have mandated President Gotabaya Rajapaksa to enforce the law. The President gave the post of Prime Minister to Mahinda Rajapaksa to enforce the law. "We have full confidence in the President and the Prime Minister. So we don't care what others say. The law is fully enforced."

"The law of the country is common to all. Therefore, the law will definitely be enforced. We will definitely stand where the law is enforced. No one with ulterior motives is here. We can say that



clearly. This is a mud-slinging attack. Those who killed people are slandering those who came forward to protect people today. That is the truth. I responsibly say that the law is fully enforced.

The culprits will not be allowed to escape", the Minister further noted.

Road Development Authority Director General Sardha Weerakoon, Project Director of the first section from Kadawatha to Mirigama Expressway W.K. Kodithuwakku, Project Director of the second section from Mirigama to Pothuhera and several officials and contractors in charge of the construction were also present.

Give all factory workers... From page 01

Within the 14 Free Trade Zones alone there are over 250 factories with an employee cadre of over 130,000.

The Minister noted that there are over 1,700 factories located throughout the country with over 500,000 workers contributing to the country's production process. He said that there is a large group that is indirectly involved which provides these factories with food requirements and other facilities.

Despite the COVID pandemic, Sri Lanka was able to add \$8.5 billion to the country's revenue due to the commitment of these employees. This contribution to the country's economy is around 70% of the country's total revenue.



These factories are functioning in accordance with the health guidelines and it has been decided to provide the vaccine for all citizens over the age of 30 years.

The Minister noted that while the majority of factory workers may be covered under this initiative, it would be even better if a special vaccination programme could be launched specifically for these factory workers.

The President had agreed to Minister Ranatunga's request to give priority to those engaged in the tourism industry during the vaccination drive. Accordingly, the Minister said that those engaged in the tourism sector will be receiving their COVID vaccine very soon.

Roads are constructed to facilitate people, not to get votes – Minister Dullas



AMALI MALLAWARACHCHI

The Matara-Pitakanda carpet road that over 800 families use was opened by Power Minister Dullas Alahapperuma yesterday.

It will also enable the residents to reach Mawarala via Pitakanda and Ambehena that will be of great help to the tea industry - the main source of livelihood for the people of the area. The road will also facilitate the transport of over 10,000 kilos of tea leaves to factories daily.

Minister Alahapperuma said at the opening ceremony that the project is a part of the implementation of President Gotabaya Rajapaksa's *Saubhagya Dekma* Policy Statement. "We came to this village today to extend the goodwill of the President, the Prime Minister and the Highways Minister to our people. This is not an attempt to get votes in an upcoming election. We will never cheat people. We will not ask you to vote us in the next election

just because we built this road. Building a road means creating a new space for the residents of an area. With this new road, Pitakanda opens up to a new world," the Minister said.

"On rainy days, children in this area walk to school with their shoes in hand. People in this area are taken to the hospitals amidst great difficulties. Politicians have cheated these people several times. That is why we gave priority to the construction of this

road. Pitakanda will soon become a developed village. The difficulties faced by the adults in this area who have been without a road for a long time will not be experienced by their children hereafter. Next month, we will open the Kapuduwa Expressway as well," he said.

Minister Alahapperuma said that since 2012, the Government has provided employment to 61,000 non-recruited graduates, regardless of ethnicity or party affiliations.

Power to all by year end

The Government has decided to relax the strict criteria that should be followed when applying for electricity, Power Minister Dullas Alahapperuma yesterday said.

The Ceylon Electricity Board (CEB) is working to change the strict criteria and provide electricity to all under more relaxed conditions, he said.

Minister Alahapperuma was

participating in the opening ceremony of the Matara-Pitakanda carpet road yesterday afternoon.

He said that he, as the Power Minister, he has been entrusted by the new Government to provide electricity to every household in Sri Lanka by the year end. All necessary allocations for this endeavour have been done in the budget, Minister Alahapperuma said.

Minister Alahapperuma said that the provision of electricity for Samurdi and low income families will be completed before the Sinhala and Tamil New Year.

Minister Alahapperuma said that the Government recognises electricity as a fundamental right. The CEB, therefore, is working to change the previous strict criteria and provide electricity to all under simple conditions," he said.

Mega development projects in Nuwara Eliya

LAHIRU FERNANDO

The Urban Development Authority (UDA) will launch a series of rapid mega development projects covering the Nuwara Eliya District on April 23.

According to the Urban Development and Housing Ministry, the projects are implemented on the instructions of President Gotabaya Rajapaksa and Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa in parallel with the 'Vistas of Prosperity', election manifesto.

The project will be in Nuwara Eliya, Pundaluoya, Nanuoya, Ginigathhena, Walapane, Rikillagaskada,

Pussellawa, Kithulgala and the suburbs.

Renovation of the Old Race Course in Nuwara Eliya with new value additions will be the main and the first phase of the project to be implemented.

The Race Course Ground will be developed to the international standards while a football court, athletic training ground, two volleyball courts, two basketball courts, cricket pitch, cable car system, horse race track, stable, carnival area and restaurants will be added to it.

A race track and a hot water pool have also been proposed to be constructed

near Gregory Lake. Shanty dwellers in the nearby area of the Race Course will be given new housing units under the project.

Other identified towns in the district will also be developed with different projects. Local and foreign tourists will be attracted to Nuwara Eliya with the new projects.

A discussion on the proposed development drive was held at the Urban Development and Housing Ministry in Battaramulla under the patronage of Nuwara Eliya District MP and Wildlife and Forest Conservation Minister C.B. Rathnayake recently.

Soldier, ex-soldier arrested in Horana in big narcotic racket



Sniffer dog Ruki after detecting a buried barrel of narcotics.

SAMEERA ABEYSINGHE, Nugegoda Group Corr.

Investigations have revealed that the two soldiers who were arrested in Horana along with a stock of narcotics worth over Rs. 450 million had transported the narcotics from Doctorwatata, Nakanda and Weligama,

according to the Narcotics Bureau.

The Police said that a 33-year-old watcher of the estate had been arrested for the incident.

Upon interrogation of the soldier and the ex-soldier who are held under detention orders, the

Police Officers had gone to the estate and found several barrels of narcotics buried in the estate. The illegal drugs had been hidden in the estate by a group on the directives of notorious drug kingpin Ruwan Nadun Chinthaka alias *Harak Kata*, who is in hiding overseas.

Sniffer dog *Ruki* found the barrels of drugs at various locations in the estate. The Police said that this illegal racket had been operational over a long period.

The watcher of the Dostarwatta Estate is being interrogated, the Police said. Police are investigating.

'Report on Easter attacks does not address expectations'

SHIROMI ABEYSINGHE

The report of the Presidential Commission of Inquiry that probed the Easter Sunday carnage is a useless document as it has failed to address the basic expectations, United National Party (UNP) Chairman former Minister Vajira Abeywardane said.

He was speaking to the media on Sunday.

He said that it is unlikely the victimised parties will be served justice through the report.

The former minister said that what the commission should have done was to thoroughly look into the developments in the Eastern part of

the country, but it has not been done.

During the UNP led government, when the attack took place, the local Muslim community had no issues. This is an international problem. The Commission has not even recommended the solutions against this issue, he said.

"After the assassination of former President Ranasinghe Premadasa and Ranjan Wijeratne, we obtained the support of the Scotland and German Secret Services respectively. But the Commission has not recommended any such agency for the Easter attack. It is



useless if the Commission is only comparing the election manifestos of Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna (JVP) Leader Anura Kumara Dissanayake and President Gotabaya Rajapaksa," he said.

"When Ranil Wickremesinghe was in power, Sri Lanka became the best tourist destination of the world. Also soon after the attack on April 21 when the then President was not available in the country, Wickremesinghe suddenly rushed to the Defence Ministry and took over the control to prevent any recurrence of attacks," he said.

CSD personnel to assist development projects in Kandy

State Minister Anuradha Jayaratne yesterday said that the assistance of Civil Security Department (CSD) Personnel will be obtained for the development projects in the Kandy District under the *Wari Saubagya* programme.

Over 5,000 small and major irrigational schemes will be renovated under the programme.

State Minister Jayaratne said that renovating irrigational tanks in the Kandy District will begin on March 1 with the support of the Civil Security Department.

The State Minister was speaking at a ceremony to inaugurate the renovation of the Angewewa in the Doluwa Divisional Secretariat Division yesterday.

Thirty two acres will be cultivated under the project.

Seventeen O/L student candidates in CP test COVID positive

ASELA KURULUWANSA

Central Province Education Director Thilaka Ekanayake yesterday said 17 students who are sitting the O/L Exam in the Province have tested COVID positive and special examination centres have been set up for them at district level.

Six students in the Kandy district and seven in the Nuwara Elya district and four in the Matale District have tested positive for COVID.

Ekanayake said that centres have been set up in the Palkelele Ayurvedic Hospital, Laggala-Pallegama Hospital and the Walapane District Hospital for the students.

"If a student tests COVID positive during the exam or close contact of a COVID case, he or she will be directed to these hospitals where they can sit for the exam without any hassle," he said.

Suspect from abroad arrested after quarantine

MAHINDA P. LIYANAGE, Galle Central Special Corr

Galle Police arrested a suspect who had returned to Sri Lanka after six years soon after the compulsory quarantine period.

The suspect, Mohammad Tawfiq Mohammad Papawan had evaded court and gone abroad while the cases against

him were being heard in the Maligakanda and Colombo Chief Magistrate's Courts.

The Maligakanda Magistrate's Court and the Colombo Chief Magistrate's Court had ordered that the accused be arrested on his return and produced before court.

When he returned to Sri Lanka from Dubai on Febru-

ary 12 after six years, he was sent to the Gintota Amari Hotel for quarantine and arrested after a two-week quarantine. The suspect has been arrested by Galle Police Crime Investigation Branch OIC IP D.G.Ananda and Sub Inspector Mahilal. He will be produced before the Galle Magistrate's Court.

'Illicit alcohol kills many in Sri Lanka every year'

ARIYAPALA WANSHATHILAKE, Kurunegala Central Special Corr.

The *Sath Korala*, a Community Rights Protection Organisation, said that people who drink illicit alcohol die prematurely and will be infected with many diseases.

Attorney M.R.B. Kohomba Kadawala said at the monthly

meeting of the organization at the Kurunegala Ethkanda Raja Maha Viharaya on Sunday that brewing and distilling of illicit liquor should be prevented to prevent such deaths and diseases.

He said illicit liquor ruins health since it contains various toxins. The Government

should do its best to discourage illicit liquor drinking, which mainly affects the poor and ignorant in Sri Lanka.

He said that cigarettes contain chemicals including nicotine, which is the most poisonous toxin found in all parts of the tobacco plant, especially in its leaves.

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Nugegoda City	S. C. Abeywickrama	Nintavur	A. R. Fathima Sihaniya
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Pictures courtesy President's Media Division

'DISCUSSION WITH THE VILLAGE'

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS TO END TEACHER SHORTAGE

PRESIDENT CALLS FOR:

IDENTIFICATION OF SUITABLE LANDS FOR CULTIVATION IN ALL AREAS ON PRIORITY BASIS

HELPING FARMERS TO GET FAMILIAR WITH TECHNOLOGY TO INCREASE THEIR HARVEST

ASSISTANCE PROGRAMMES BENEFITTING LOW-INCOME EARNING FAMILIES



President Gotabaya Rajapaksa has instructed the respective authorities to immediately call for applications to fill the long-standing vacancies for Maths, Science, English and Computer Technology teachers in schools. New recruitments will be made for existing vacancies in priority subjects on the basis of eight years of compulsory service in the same school to which the initial appointments were made.

"More lands are necessary to increase the cultivation of crops. Therefore we need to identify suitable lands for this purpose. To maximize the yield, the productivity of the lands is also important. Help farmers to get familiar with technology to increase their harvests," President Rajapaksa emphasized.

The programme to employ 100,000 persons from the families of the lowest income strata was implemented with the intention of eradicating poverty. Job recipients will be trained in a number of fields. The President urged not to disrupt this program which was designed for the benefit of the poorest of the poor.

The President expressed these views during the 12th 'Discussion with the Village' programme on Saturday (27) at the Kivulekadawala School premises in the Kivulekadawala Grama Niladhari Division, Gomarankadawala Divisional Secretariat in the Trincomalee district.

The 'Discussion with the Village' programme commenced on September 25, 2020 from the Badulla district. Thereafter programmes were organized covering the Matala, Ratnapura, Anuradhapura, Ampara, Polonnaruwa, Kalutara, Moneragala, Kegalle, Kandy and Puttalam districts. The idea behind this programme is for the President to talk to the rural communities living in remote and difficult areas, without intermediaries, about their long-standing unresolved problems and to present them directly to the officials in order to find solutions.

Problems that can be solved on the spot are instantly addressed. The rest which take time to deal with are noted down to find solutions later. The objective of the programme is to reach out to the people of the village, understand their problems and find solutions giving considerations to their own suggestions.

Gomarankadawala is located 45km away from Trincomalee town on the border of Morawewa, Kuchchaveli, Padavi Sri Pura and Horowpathana areas in the Anuradhapura district. The distance from the centre of Gomarankadawala town to Kivulekadawala village is eight kilometres. The Department of Archaeology has identified this village as a location with a number of cultural heritage sites belonging to the Anuradhapura period. Gomarankadawala and surrounding villages were frequently attacked by terrorists before the end of the war in 2009.

Kivulekadawala, Adampane, Kootitukulama and Konabendiweva villages fall under the limits of Kivulekadawala Grama Niladhari



Division. The total population of the Kivulekadawala village is 1,191 consisting of 416 families. A total of 125 are Samurdhi beneficiaries. Paddy cultivation is the livelihood of the majority. Maize, cowpea, groundnut and vegetables are the other crops they cultivate.

The President on his way to Kivulekadawala College to participate in the 'Discussion with the Village' programme inquired of the people gathered on the roadside about the issues they face in the area while casually engaging in conversation with them. He also had a chat with the people from several nearby houses and asked about the paddy harvest in this season as well. The President

explained to the farmers that the government has taken steps to purchase paddy with moisture for a price of Rs. 43 per kilo. President Rajapaksa said that farmers are free to sell their paddy either to the government or any other party at their own discretion and the government has not imposed any conditions regarding the matter.

Prior to the commencement of the 'Discussion with the Village' session, the President opened the 'Smart Classroom' which was completed by the SLT Mobitel and State Ministry of School Infrastructure and School Services in Kivulekadawala School. In addition, the President also presented a television and internet connections provided by the Dialog Axiata to the principal.

President Rajapaksa examined a pair of shoes that generates electricity when walking, invented and designed by Chathura Madhuma, a student of Kantale Ganthalawa Maha Vidyalaya.

The President has decided to improve library facilities in all the schools in the areas where the 'Discussion with the Village' programme is held. The President presented sets of books to schools under the theme 'A young generation empowered with knowledge'. Each school receives 500 books which

cover a number of diverse streams important for the students.

The threat of wild elephant intrusions has been a major problem for the people of Gomarankadawala for a long time. These villagers were victims of brutality caused by terrorists in the past.

The President instructed the relevant officials to grant deeds to the villagers who have been displaced as a direct result of the war and returned to their areas of origin, after the dawn of peace. It was decided to hold a Land Kachcheri to resolve land issues in Mahadivulwewa and Divulwewa areas.

It was also decided to appoint an Investigation Committee headed by the District Secretary to provide immediate relief to the people who have been evicted as a result of the Yan Oya project and remained landless for a long time as well as to resolve other issues.

As a solution to the threat of wild elephant intrusions, it is planned to construct a 67 km long elephant fence covering many areas in the Trincomalee District within the next year. President Rajapaksa directed the Department of Wildlife Conservation to take measures to complete the work expeditiously and to activate the inactive elephant fences in Bakmeegama, Medawachchiya, Thambalagamuwa, Dahaiganuwa and Morawewa villages.

The President stressed the need for the Divisional Secretary, Wildlife Conservation Officers and Farmers' Organizations to work jointly to construct and protect the elephant fence.

The Gomarankadawala area is considered as one of the areas that lack educational facilities in the island. Many educational issues have arisen due to lack of infrastructure facilities, physical resources and shortage of teachers. "Rs. 34 million has been allocated for the construction and renovation of teachers' quarters in 34 schools in the Trincomalee District and plans have been made to install water filters in 15 schools," the Secretary to Education Ministry said.

The Secretary further added that steps have been taken to call for applications next week to fill the existing vacancies across the country for teachers in subjects such as Mathematics, English, Science and Computer

Technology. It was also stated that it is planned to provide five computers to each Pirivena in the Trincomalee District and to develop playgrounds and infrastructure facilities for students of all Piriven Colleges in the island.

The President instructed the officials to take swift measures to construct an auditorium and classrooms for Kivulekadawala Vidyalaya, to develop the infrastructure facilities of all schools in the district including Gomarankadawala Maha Vidyalaya and to address the issue of shortage of teachers.

The possibility of making Gomarankadawala an education zone and the development of Mahadivulwewa Maha Vidyalaya as a trilingual model school were also discussed.

The President paid special attention to the rehabilitation of the agricultural road network in the area including the Adampane-Pulikandikulam, Epagama-Konabendiweva, Kivulekadawala-Helambawewa, Kattikulam by-roads.

The President directed the Road Development Authority to carpet and develop 41 roads including the road from Tiriyaya Junction to Girihandu Seya Viharaya and the Bakmigama-Rangiri Ulpatha and Malporuwa-Pulmude roads within the next three years.

The President also emphasized the need to address the shortcomings of many religious places, including the Adampane Khetarama Temple.

The low quality health facilities is another problem faced by the people in the area. It was decided to address the shortage of medical, nursing staff and other staff in several hospitals including Gomarankadawala Rural Hospital and Kantale Base Hospital, Morawewa, Thambalagamuwa hospitals and to develop other infrastructure facilities as well. Focusing on the number of kidney patients in the Padavi Sri Pura area, the President stressed the need for the immediate installation of a Blood Dialysis Machine.

The President instructed the officials to renovate the irrigation system including Pulikandikulama tank, Konabendiweva, Epagama anicut, Thimbiriweva, Epagama tank and Maha Helamba tank and provide necessary facilities for cultivation purposes. "Rs. 125 million has been allocated for the rehabilitation of 39 tanks in the area and another 99 tanks will be developed under the program 'Vari Saubhagya' (Irrigation Prosperity)," said the Secretary to the Ministry of Irrigation.

The Secretary to the Ministry of Water Supply said that the Adampane water project is planned to solve the drinking water problem in 54 Grama Niladhari Divisions.

Eastern Province Governor Anuradha Yahampath, Parliamentarian Kapila Athukorala, Principal Advisor to the President Lalith Weeraratunga, People's Representatives of the District, Secretaries to the Ministries, Heads of Government Institutions and the Security Forces and a large number of people participated in the 12th 'Discussion with the Village' programme.

China stands for Sri Lanka at UNHRC

The Foreign Affairs Ministry of China at the daily press conference on February 26 on the resolution initiated by the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) against Sri Lanka told that China will support Sri Lanka's Government in its commitment towards protecting unity and peace in Sri Lanka.

The Ministry said on February 25 that the UNHRC held an interactive dialogue on the country-specific resolution on Sri Lanka that was initiated by the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights.

"Some Western countries used this Dialogue to criticise Sri Lanka's human rights situation, demand Sri Lanka carry out thorough investigation into human rights violations during its period of internal conflicts and pursue accountability, and ask the OHCHR and special procedures to step up supervision and intervention."

"As a friendly neighbour, China sincerely hopes that Sri Lanka will maintain political stability, national solidarity and unity, and that it will make greater achievements in national

development. China commends the efforts taken by the Sri Lankan Government to promote and protect human rights, advance sustainable socioeconomic development, improve people's livelihood, guarantee the rights of vulnerable groups, and continue to promote national reconciliation and combat terrorism.

"China consistently opposes politicising and applying double standard on human rights and using so-called human rights issues to interfere in other countries' internal affairs. All coun-

tries should adhere to the purposes and principles of the UN Charter, respect other countries' sovereignty, political independence and efforts to promote and protect human rights, and reject moves that interfere in others' internal affairs and exert political pressure.

All countries should address differences in the human rights sector through constructive dialogue and cooperation, thus jointly promoting the sound development of the international human rights cause," the Ministry said.

PMB buys wet paddy from farmers in Galle

MAHINDA P. LIYANAGE,
Galle Central Special Corr.

Over 108,060 kilos of wet paddy have been bought from farmers so far in the Galle District, Galle District Agrarian Development Assistant Commissioner Hemapala Warshawitana said.

The Paddy Marketing Board (PMB) is buying the wet paddy at Rs. 46 per kilo. The PMB will buy 500,000 kilos of wet paddy by March first week, the Assistant Commissioner said.

Galle District Agrarian Development Assistant Administration Commissioner J.W.S. Priyanjan has assigned Galle District Assistant Commissioner Warushawitana to coordinating farmers in this regard.

The PMB has appointed an officer to assess the moisture level of paddy. This is the first time that wet paddy has been bought from farmers in the Galle District.

Galle District Agrarian Development Assistant Administration Commissioner J.W.S. Priyanjan, and Assistant Commissioner Hemapala Warushawitana visited the farmers to made them aware of the project.

Panadura North Police OIC transferred

Panadura North Police OIC Chief Inspector Indula Ginnege, who has been investigating the Panadura, Pallimulla murder where a man named Lakshan Sandaruwn was shot dead by an unidentified gun-

men on January 25, has been transferred to the Kalutara Police Division.

The Panadura North Police and a special team of the Mount Lavinia Police were carrying out the investigation into the

Pallimulla murder but they could not make any arrest so far.

Therefore, the Mirihana Police Special Crime Unit was directed by the Western Province DIG Tennakoon to investigate the murder.

Pilgrims, residents complain against Kataragama Project Office

M. NELSON PIYARATNE,
Kataragama Group Corr.

The Project Office of the Department of National Planning of Materials in Kataragama does not offer any service, pilgrims and residents said.

Among its duties are protecting the sacred area, cleaning it, keeping beggars away, preventing hoarding sign boards and memorials.

A high officer from the office said in anonymity that the higher authorities were going to dissolve the department and therefore, cleaning is done by the Basnayaka Nilame Office and protecting the sacred area has been taken over by the police. He said that many employees have retired and only a very few employees work as watchers at the entrance of the city.



The Kataragama Project Office.

NWP Governor opens Breast Cancer Treating Unit

ARIYAPALA WANSHATHILAKE,
Kurunegala Central Special Corr.

North Western Province (NWP) Governor Raja Kollure opened a Breast Cancer Treating Unit at the Kurunegala Cooperative Hospital recently.

The Governor said that the Cancer Treatment Units that

are available only at Colombo Hospitals are now in Kurunegala as well. He said that the Unit will help prevent women from having breast cancers and cure them by early detection.

The Governor said that the Cancer Treatment Units that

ninayaka said that the doctors and nurses should be lauded for carrying out their services properly.

Parliamentarians Sumith Rajapaksa, Manjula Dissanayake and Jayarathne Herath along with several doctors participated.

SALE UNDER SECTION 29D OF THE PEOPLE'S BANK ACT NO. 29 OF 1961 AS AMENDED BY ACT NO. 32 OF 1986

PEOPLE'S BANK

AUCTION SALE OF A VALUABLE PROPERTY

CORPORATE BANKING DIVISION

ALLOTMENT OF LAND MARKED : Lot A depicted in Plan No. 5881 dated 03.09.2014 made by H.K. Mahinda, Licensed Surveyor, of the land called KARADAGOLLAWATTA situated at Kanduboda within the Grama Niladhari Division of Kanduboda No. 282 and Divisional Secretary's Division of Biyagama in Siyane Korale of Adikari Pattu in the District of Gampaha, Western Province.

LAND IN EXTENT : Twenty decimal Four Naught Perches (A0.R0.P20.40) together with building, plantation and everything else. Registered at the Gampaha Land Registry under Volume / Folio N 247/101.

Under the authority granted to me by People's Bank, I shall sell by Public Auction on 27th March 2021 commencing at 11.30 a.m. at the spot.

The auction will be conducted in accordance with the strict guidelines issued by the Ministry of Health, adhering to COVID-19 protocol.

FOR NOTICE OF RESOLUTION : Please refer the Government Gazette of 28.08.2020 and Dinamina, Daily News and Thinakaran of 28.08.2020 newspapers.

ACCESS TO THE PROPERTY : From Delgoda Junction proceed along Biyagama Road (new Kandy Road) for a distance of about 1 km, just passing the playground of Siyabalape Junior School and turn left to a concreted P.S. Road. Proceed along the road for about 400m and turn left to a 30 ft. wide concreted road of blocked out land called Lucrative Garden and proceed for about 75 m up to the T Junction and turn left and continue for about 20m to reach the land which lies on the left end.

MODE OF PAYMENT : The successful Purchaser will have to pay following amounts in cash at the fall of hammer.

1. 10% of the Purchased Price.
2. 01% of the sales Tax payable to the Local Authority.
3. Auctioneer's Commission of 2 1/2% (Two and a Half Percent only) on sale price.
4. Clerk's and Crier's fee of Rs. 1000/=.
5. Cost of Sale and any other charges if any.
6. Stamp duty to the certification.

Balance 90% of the purchase price will have to be paid within 30 days from the date of sale to the Chief Manager - Recoveries, People's Bank, Recoveries Department, Head Office, 10th Floor, Chittampalam A. Gardiner Mawatha, Colombo 02.

T.P. 011-2481546, 011-2481443 Fax : 011-2436947

If the said amount is not paid within 30 days as stipulated above the bank shall have the right to forfeit (10%) of the purchase price already paid and resell the property.

The title deeds and other reference may be obtained from the abovementioned address.

People's Bank reserves the right to stop or cancel the sale without prior notice.

**11/55, Bogahawatta,
Kudabuthgamuwa, Angoda.
T.P. 011-2053286,
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**E.S. Ramanayake
Court Commissioner
Licensed Auctioneer
Valuer and (JP Whole Island)**



40 years of unending Service by the Employees' Trust Fund Board

The Employees' Trust Fund Board which is dedicated to the social security of over three million Semi Government, Private Sector, migrant and self-employed employees and workers, is marking its 40th anniversary. We congratulate the Fund and wish that the EFTB will receive the strength and courage to broaden the massive social security obligation that is being provided to those employees through the 3% contribution of the salaries of those employees, which is contributed directly by their respective employers

Message from the Hon. Prime Minister



The Employees' Trust Fund Board is the second largest social security fund in this Country.

I consider the continued working on behalf of the members' welfare and the nation's social security, the main goal behind establishing the Employees' Trust Fund Board, and indeed their ongoing obligation. I would like to emphasize that working for the security of millions of workers who are dedicating their mind and labour passionately towards the advancement of our country, is indeed the duty and national responsibility of us all.

I send my greetings to the Employees' Trust Fund Board as it is marking its 40th anniversary and congratulate them on their continued success and achievements. I wish the EFTB continued strength and courage to provide a more quality and productive customer service to the labour force that has shouldered the development process of this country through the formal as well as informal sectors.

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

Message from the Secretary



I am very pleased to be able to issue a congratulatory message on the proud fortieth anniversary of the Employees' Trust Fund Board. The Board implements a number of unique social benefits for semi-government and private sector employees, which have a direct effect on the Sri Lankan economy.

This security fund is functioning with the aim of keeping the working people enthusiastic and actively engaged in productive work. This Employees' Trust Fund is the second largest social security fund which mainly acts for the benefit of Sri Lanka's entire working population, and the fund is tightly bound with the lives of our people. The Management of the Employees' Trust Fund Board is executing various programs with new technology to increase the number of new members who have not yet been benefited from this fund and most of the non-pensionable salaried employees have already benefited through the fund.

In addition, over the last forty years, the Employees Trust Fund Board has extended a number of benefits for all the working people of this country and have basically focused on the aspects of housing, health and education of the ETF members and their dependents.

On this fortieth anniversary, may I say Thank You to all the staff who provide an unique contribution and dedicate themselves towards the benefit of the working people in this country. I wish the Employees Trust Fund Board and its staff all the very best and may they have all the strength to continue onwards in this endeavor.

S.R. Attygalle
Secretary to the Treasury, Ministry of Finance

Message from the Chairman



It is a great privilege to be providing leadership to the ETF Board on an occasion of this nature. Public institutions need to become financially sound, well run units providing good and responsible public service, without undue delays or non financial barriers, equally, to all citizens of our country. This Board has progressed through successive good leaders and teams to become one of the best run institutions within Government today. The ETFB was recently declared winner for the "Best Annual Report for Public Sector" and we are pleased that the ETFB was listed recently as the most profitable Public institution as well.

Our mission is essentially to provide a strong financial social safety net to our Members, and we continually strive to improve the quality of our service to the Public. We hope to incorporate more Technology into our future operations in order to become more efficient. We are pleased to now be located at our new Office premises, which was thanks to the vision of the Hon. Prime Minister, Mahinda Rajapaksa. We appreciate the guidance and support we get at all times from the Treasury through Hon. Secretary to the Treasury S.R. Attygalle and the Presidential Secretariat through the Hon. Secretary to the President, P.B. Jayasundera. We are thankful for the guidance and backing from H.E. the President Gotabaya Rajapaksa, and the Hon. Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa, and for their continued engagement. We are fortunate to have a strong competent Board of Directors, good Managerial Leadership and a very committed Workforce and supportive Unions. We hope to continue to provide the same strong Financial and Service outcomes to our members and our country in the decades ahead and thank all Employers, Members, other Government Institutions and the Public for all their contributions and engagement with us.

Sriyan de Silva Wijeyeratne
Chairman / CEO,
Employees' Trust Fund (ETF) Board



Ministry of Finance



Employees' Trust Fund Board
1st Floor, Labour Secretariat, Colombo 05.
Telephone : 011-2587704 Fax : 011-2503917
E Mail : dgmadminetfb@sltnet.lk Web : www.etfb.lk



A bus being submerged.



Fisheries State Minister, Kanchana Wijesekera and officials inspecting a compartment.



A discarded bus being taken to be submerged.

FISHERIES MINISTRY FINDS NEW ABODES FOR FISH

ANURADHA PRIYADHARSHANA

The Fisheries State Minister initiated a project to create an environment for fish breeding by using discarded buses and fishing vessels by submerging them to the seabed.

The first phase of the project was carried out on the seabed near the Trincomalee Harbour about three months ago, while the second stage was carried out on February 27, under the patronage of Fisheries Minister Kanchana Wijesekera where discarded buses, train compartments and fishing vessels were sunk on the seabed about 5 km away from the Galle Fisheries Harbour. Under this project, four discarded busses were transported by the Fisheries Corporation owned 'Sayura' vessel and placed on the sea bed. Navy divers assisted in the sinking of the busses. The project will attract fish to these locations to breed and will serve as a tourist attraction in the future.

The Ceylon Fisheries Corporation, Fisheries Department, NARA and the Navy jointly coordinated the project.

The Ceylon Fisheries Corporation, Fisheries Department, NARA and the Navy jointly coordinated this project according to the vision of President Gotabaya Rajapaksa as outlined in his policy statement Vistas of Prosperity for the development of the fisheries industry. The project to promote fish breeding sites was conducted on scientific research. Buses, train compartments and fishing vessels were used to provide an environment underwater to create a conducive environment for fish breeding.



Discarded buses being brought.

He said that Nara had identified the best locations for the project through research. The Navy has already created a museum on the seabed off the coast of Galle. On the advice of NARA, 192 locations have been identified in the coastal areas around the island to implement the project.

Buses and train carriages were bought by the Fisheries Department at auctions and fishing vessels and obsolete fishing vessels involved in illegal activities in the fishing harbours have also been taken up for the project. In collaboration with the Navy, similar projects will be launched in the sea areas off Midegama, Miris-

sa and Nilwella in Galle in the future as well.

The creation of these artificial fishing grounds has the potential to provide diving opportunities for tourists in the tourism industry, the minister added.

According to President Gotabaya Rajapaksa's Vision of Prosperity that was presented at the last Presidential Election, a talented young Parliamentarian Kanchana Wijesekera was appointed as the Fisheries State Minister.

Being the son of a former Fisheries Minister Mahinda Wijesekera, the fisheries sector was a familiar subject for State Minister Kanchana Wijesekera.

12TH DEATH ANNIVERSARY

In Loving Memory of



Mr. RICHARD ADHIHETTY

Born - 23.03.1921 / Died - 01.03.2009

"Those we love we never lose, for always. They will be loved remembered, treasured always in our memory"

Lovingly remembered and sadly missed by sons Vasantha, Ranjith Nihal, Rohan, daughter Priyani and daughter-in-law of Enid

OBITUARY NOTICE

MRS FERNANDO - RITA - Beloved daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Fernando (deceased), sister of Merrill J. Fernando (Chairman, MJF Holdings) and Agnes (deceased), Lenny (deceased), Pius (deceased), Doreen (deceased), wife of Wilfred De Silva (deceased), mother of Jayalakshmi, Warnashantha, Lalith and Priyalakshmi, mother-in-law of C.A.H.M Wijeratne, Anil, Sherine and Subadhra and grandmother to their children was called to Eternal Rest with Jesus on February 28th. Cortege leaves her residence at 31/1, 2nd Lane, HPT Road, Liyanagemulla, Seeduwa at 4 p.m. on March 1st to Kurana Church followed by burial at the Bolawalana Cemetery.



Sayuru in the operation.



A discarded train compartment is lowered to be submerged



A discarded bus being lifted to be submerged.

'O' Positive kidney sought

Manaz Mohamed Mohideen (46), a father of two is in need of an 'O' Positive kidney for his transplant.

The Consultant Nephrologist of the National Hospital, Colombo A.L.M. Nazar, has recommended a kidney transplant for his survival.

His blood group is 'O Positive' and he needs a kidney from a person whose blood group is 'O'.

For more information contact Siraj on 0777- 27 0675 and Imthiyaz on 071 - 34 53 861.

Obituaries

RAJARATNAM VINOTHAN (Old boy St. Thomas College Mt Lavinia, Class of 75) passed away peacefully on Saturday night (27 Feb 2021). Loving son of late Dr Rajaratnam and Pathmawathy, beloved husband of Shanthi and caring father of Gajan (Stripes and Checks) and Savithri. Son-in-law of late Mr and Mrs Kathiravetpillai. Brother of Dr Ajanthan and brother-in-law of Rathi, Pari, Bawani, Ganga and Vasuki. Viewing will be on Sunday (28 Feb 2021) from 10.00am to 6.00pm and on Monday (1 March 2021) at Jayaratne Parlour. Final Hindu Rights will begin at 10.30am on Monday (1 March 2021) and cremation at 1.30pm. In lieu of flowers in his memory, please make donations to Embark (<https://otarafoundation.com/donate-now/>) 015700

SENAKA LAL ANICLETUS PALIHENA, entered into Eternal Rest on 27.02.2021. Beloved husband of Swineetha Palihena (nee Liyanage), son of late Lionel and Henrietta Palihena loving father of Mevan, Nihara and Hiruni, father-in-law of Iresha, Deshala and Malinda, brother of Shanthi, Drukshini, Enakshi and Dires. The funeral service, restricted to closest relatives, will be at the residence at 442, Sellakanda Road, Mahahunupitiya, Negombo on Monday 1st March 2021 at 3.30 p.m.

015701

Action taken to resolve human-elephant conflict in Anuradhapura

NIMAL WIJESINGHE,
Anuradhapura Additional District Group Corr.

Steps are being taken to mitigate the human-elephant conflict in Anuradhapura now. Anuradhapura Government Agent R.M.Wanninayake said that large number of complaints from farmer organisations have been submitted, main-

ly from the organizations in Medawachchiya, Kebithigollewa, Talawa, Moragoda, Rambewa and Nochchiyagama about jumbo invasions.

After the recent *Gama Samaga Pilisandarak* Programme in Kebithigollewa, the Divisional Wildlife Conservation Authorities have accelerated the measures to

prevent the jumbo invasions.

According to the Anuradhapura District Wildlife Conservation Department information sources, 480 km fences will be erected by the year end. The fence from Seegiriya to Hiriwadunna will be extended to Padawiya via the Ritigala Reservation - 350 km. The

fences from Oyamaduwala-Lindawewa (35 km), Thantrimala-Kimbulpetiyawa (15 km), Thantrimala-Ruwanmaduwa (10 km) and Ipalogama-Kalaoya (16 km) are being erected now.

A department spokesman said that those fences that have not been erected properly will be re-erected and over 330 km have already



A herd of elephants crossing a road.

been erected. "We identified obstructed elephant corridors and earmarked them.

We have inspected over 60 km and will have to inspect another 200 km. We will

demolish illegal structures that hinder elephant corridors," the spokesman said.

The project costs the Government Rs 450 million.

Drinking water for Kannakipuram

M.A. PHAKURDEEN,
Addalaichenai Group Corr.

Drinking water will be provided to Kannakipuram in the Alayadiyembu Divisional Secretariat by the Water Supply Ministry soon.

Water Supply Board (WSB) Coordina-

tor Piyasena Kiruthikan met villagers of Kannakipuram on Saturday and discussed their problems. They said that they have to walk a long distance to get drinking water in droughts.

He assured the villagers that the issue will be resolved soon.

Eastern Province annual transfers effective today

ADDALAI CHENAI
CENTRAL CORR.

The annual transfers of officers of the combined services in the Eastern Province will be effective today, Eastern Province

Deputy Administration Chief Secretary H.E.M.W.G. Dissanayaka said.

The annual transfers 2021 were to be carried out from January 18 but it

was put on hold on the instruction of the Eastern Province Governor.

Management Assistant (MA) Service, Translator Service, Development Officer (DO), Technical

Officer (TO) Service, Information Communication and Technology Assistant (ICTA) Service, Drivers Service and Office Employee Service (OES) will be transferred.

A circular has been sent to the Eastern Province Chief Secretary, Ministry Secretaries, Deputy Chief Secretaries and Heads of Departments and Institutions in this regard.

UNP, NLF hold meeting in Trincomalee



Before the meeting.

M.S. ABDUL HALEEM,
Mullipothana Group Corr.

The United National Party (UNP) leaders have organised a conciliatory meeting with National Liberation Front (NLF) leader Mohamed Musammil Muhaideen

yesterday in Trincomalee at latter's party Headquarters in Mullivilla, Mullipothane.

During the event, a tree planting ceremony was held at the Al Hijra Jumma Masjid where 60 saplings were given to the Al Wafa Founda-

tion. UNP Deputy Leader and former Defence Minister Ruwan Wijewardene, former Parliamentarian Chandip Samarasinghe and Trincomalee District NLF Organiser Abdul Aziz Johari participated.

'SLPA will capture EPC at PC Elections'

PERIYAPORATHIVU
THINAKARAN CORR.

The Sri Lanka People's Alliance (SLPA) will win the Eastern Provincial Council (EPC) by the unanimous vote of the minority population, SLPA Batticaloa District Organiser Paramasivam Chandrakumar said the media on Sunday at his office.

"If the Eastern Provincial Council election is held, Chanakya, who has been declared the Chief Ministerial Candidate for the Eastern Province from the SLPA, will be the Chief Minister by the votes of the Muslim minority. The SLPA is ready to carry out the development that they could not make earlier then," he said.

"During the COVID pandemic, Chanakya provided relief to the people, sports equipment to the youth, and bicycles to the



Paramasivam Chandrakumar

students. Under the guidance of the SLPA, the Eastern Provincial Council will be taken over by the SLPA this time," he said.

"We have sent two members of our party to Parliament and made them Ministers," he said.

"The ethnic problem and development of the Tamil people has not yet been resolved by the TNA, which believes that the

recent protests from Pottuvil to Polikandy can solve many problems for Tamils. On the contrary, the Tamil people have not yet benefited, except that the minority Muslims have again benefited from the first Polikandi struggle. Chanakya, will be able to contest the provincial council elections this time and become the Chief Minister by the votes of the Muslim minority," he said.

"The Government has worked tirelessly to give the Provincial Council all the powers of the 13th Amendment and to make the Provincial Council system better," he said.

"The struggle from Pottuvil to Polikandy has created fear among the people of the Southern Sri Lanka that the TNA would split the country if powers were given to the Provincial Council," he said.

Man, two women arrested with narcotics

SIVAM PACKIYANATHAN,
Batticaloa Special Corr.

A man and two women were arrested with narcotics in Kiran and Oddamavadi by Eravur Police on Saturday.

A car was taken in to police custody and the suspects were produced before the Eravur Magistrate and ordered to be remanded.

A house in Kiran was inspected with sniffer dogs and an amount of heroin hidden in a broomstick was found.

On the same day, a suspect was arrested in Oddamavadi, while he was travelling along with his wife in a car with cocaine. The car had been used to bring a stock of heroin from Kurunagala to a trader in Eravur. After delivering the stock to a location in Sammanthurai, the suspects were returning with a small quantity of heroin when they were arrested.

Eravur Police are investigating.

Kalmunaikudy Samurधि Bank online service commences



Bank Manager Moses Puviraj commencing the online service.

I.L.RIZAN,
Addalaichenai Central Corr.

The Kalmunaikudy Samurधि Bank online service commenced recently in a ceremony.

Bank Manager Moses Puviraj and Assistant Manager M.I.M. Mujeeb

co-ordinated the event. Kalmunai Divisional Secretariat Senior Samurधि Head Quarter Manager A.R.M. Salih was Chief Guest.

Samurधि Bank Society Assistant Manager, staff and others were present.



The Annual Milk Pot Procession of the Hatton Bandaranaike Pura Mavadi Pattini Devalaya paraded the street from the Hatton Hanuman Devalaya to the Pattini Devalaya recently. The idol of Goddess Pattini was washed with milk and rituals were performed thereafter. Picture by Hatton Central Special Corr.

Northern Province reports 69 COVID cases

RASULA DILHARA GAMAGE, Northern Province Special Corr.

Sixty nine COVID cases were detected from the Northern Province including 51 Jaffna Prison inmates on February 27, Northern Province Health Services Deputy Director

Keheeswaran said. He said that 69 cases were found with 239 PCR tests at the Jaffna University and the Jaffna Teaching Hospital.

The COVID infected included a coroner, a nurse and a teacher, he said.

Former SP Minister passes away

MAHINDA P. LIYANAGE,
Galle Central Special Corr.

Southern Province Agriculture, Irrigation, Agrarian Development, Water Supply and Drainage, Food Supply and Distribution and Trade and Co-operative Development former Minister U.G.D Ariyathilake passed away on Sunday at the Karapitiya Teaching Hospital after a brief illness.

Ariyathilake, a lawyer, first entered politics in 1991 after being elected to the Nagoda Pradeshiya Sabha and subsequently became its Chairman. Thereafter, he was elected to the Southern Provincial Council in 1993 and became its Chairman in 1999. He also served as a Provincial Minister in 2004, 2009 and 2014.

He was also the Sri Lanka Freedom Party (SLFP) Galle Chief Organiser



from 2003 to 2015 and served as SLFP Akmeemana Electorate Chief Organiser.

Ariyathilake, who was hailed from Udalamatta in Galle was a distinguished past student of Richmond College, Galle. Besides a politician, he was an eminent activist and lifelong champion of civil rights and democracy.

His remains are lying at No. 257/1, Richmond Hill Road, Galle and the body will be taken in procession to Udalamatta at 12.30 pm today. Funeral will take place at the Udalamatta Maha Vidyalaya Grounds at 2.00 pm today (1)

Houses for low income families in Batticaloa



A recipient of a house.

SIVAM PACKIYANATHAN,
Batticaloa Special Corr.

Two hundred fifty houses will be constructed in the Batticaloa District under the housing project of the Government for low income families.

The initial payments in this regard to build 43 houses were made by the National Housing Development Authority (NHDA) District Office in Kallady, Batticaloa

recently. Backward Rural Areas Development and Promotion of Domestic Animal Husbandry and Minor Economic Crop Cultivation State Minister Sathasivam Vivalendran, Public Relations Officer of the Parliamentarian Sivanesadurai Chandrakanthan, T. Easwararaja and Batticaloa Government Agent K.Karunakaran were present.



RAJARATA UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA Centre for Distance and Continuing Education (CDCE) DIPLOMA IN ENGLISH (EXTENSION) YEAR 2021/2022

Conducted by
Department of English Language Teaching
Faculty of Social Sciences & Humanities

Applications are invited for the above course from those employed in the public and the private sectors and school leavers. Applicants should possess the following entry requirements,

- An Advanced Certificate in English from a recognized University OR
- A candidate should have passed General Certificate of Education (Advanced Level) Examination, or an equivalent qualification or course equivalent to SLQF level. 2 (Sri Lanka Qualifications Framework) or NVQL 4 (National Vocational Qualification) and
 - A credit pass for English at GCE (O/L) or
 - Basic or Professional English Certificate from a recognized university or
 - A pass at the National Certificate in English (NICE) or
 - A pass for General English at the GCE (A/L) or
 - A pass at the compulsory English examination conducted by a university as a requirement for the award of a degree or
 - A degree in English medium from a recognized university, or
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Duration
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(Rs. 18,000/= + Rs. 12,000/=)

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Application forms and further information could be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, Centre for Distance & Continuing Education, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, Mihintale by sending a self addressed stamped envelope (9"X4") along with the bank slip after depositing Rs. 200.00 credited to Account No. 5022233 of Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, Bank of Ceylon, Mihintale Branch (Payment could be made at any branch of Bank of Ceylon) or by calling over personally with the bank slip. Application forms and further information could also be downloaded from www.rjt.ac.lk and when the application is sent to the University, the bank slip obtained as per the instructions in this advertisement should be sent.

Closing Date of Applications
Applications will close on 30.04.2021.

Inquiries : Senior Assistant Registrar, Center for Distance and Continuing Education - 025-2266251
Department of English Language Teaching - 025-2266802, 025-2266650 (Ext. 2155)

Registrar
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Repercussions from PCoI Report

Why is the UN Human Rights Council seemingly unconcerned about the human rights of the victims of the vicious terrorist attack on Easter Sunday, 2019?

Those that bore the brunt of the attacks were all civilians, and the news from the attack reverberated globally for weeks.

However, the accent of the UNHRC is on so-called "past atrocities in Sri Lanka", and not about ensuring cross-border measures against the kind of attacks that took place on Easter Sunday 2019.

Be that as it may, the PCoI report on the attack has determined that it was an act of retaliation for the Christchurch Mosque carnage.

That is the mindset of the terrorist – an eye for an eye. It goes without saying that there should be better coordinated international measures against probable future attacks of this nature, but it seems the key global actors are content with expressing disgust about such atrocities the week they happen, only to forget the entire episode with the next big breaking news in the news cycle.

Human Rights are not just about Governments. They are about the collective conscience of humanity. That may not be provided for by mandate at the UNHRC – but it is obvious that the search for human rights should be animated by the collective conscience of those in charge of Governments around the world.

But it seems that most Member States seem to be content with matters concerning Governments, and with 'accountability'. There appears to be little by way of proactively ensuring that there is intelligence sharing, etc., that would prevent the types of attacks that took place on that fateful Easter Sunday, April 21, 2019.

This has left Governments in the difficult position of having to decipher the nature of the planning and the motivation behind similar atrocities all on their own. This applies not just to our Government, but to Governments around the world. The future threats from these types of attacks are arguably more acute than any other perceived threat to human rights that could come from Governments themselves.

But the world body on human rights seems hung-over by political considerations and holding Governments to account. There is no doubt that this is part of the mandate of the UNHRC, but all these efforts at least in the future should be tempered by a greater stress on how rights violations by shadowy groups and illegal entities could be combatted.

As for the PCoI report that has seen the light of day here, it seems frustrating at times that it appears to pose even more questions than it provides answers. That perception is perhaps due to the Babel of voices that are quick to come to conclusions on the report, without due consideration of what the Report is – and how exactly its findings should be considered.

In the first place, it was a report of a Commission appointed by the former administration. That should not detract from the validity or the credibility of its content, but there seem to be various people with different agendas who seem to be propagating the view that it is a flawed report for which this Government is responsible.

Nobody can presuppose it is a flawed report. If they are questioning the credibility of the report, they should do so whilst adducing reasons, and not through the device of cheap innuendo.

Also, they cannot possibly hold press conferences analyzing the report, and then be heard to say that its content should not be subject to deliberation by another Commission. If they maintain that there is no clarity in the report's findings, they should not have any fundamental opposition to the new Commission appointed by the President to look into the means by which the PCoI recommendations can indeed be implemented.

What is as important as accountability is the political will to ensure that the types of lapses that enabled the attacks do not happen again. To this end too, the PCoI has made a slew of important recommendations.

But recommendations or their implementation alone would not prevent future calamities of this nature. What will do so however is a collective national pledge towards eternal vigilance.

That is a matter for the Intelligence arm of the State and the Forces. That's why the most important factor that contributes towards maintaining eternal vigilance is the element of civic consciousness.

Every citizen – and definitely every politically active citizen who holds any sort of public office – should act from a position of good faith in ensuring that the issues of National Security are not needlessly politicized.

There cannot be any compromise on National Security matters, and National Security decision making should not be contaminated by political taint. To those who breach this code, there should be just punishment, so that there is maximum deterrence.

That should be the goal of all civil society actors too, and they should be asking for such a future regimen that ensures National Security, instead of making the Commission Report another political football, enabling the end purpose of pointing fingers at all and sundry they politically oppose.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Terrorism has become the systematic weapon of a war that knows no borders or seldom has a face. - Jacques Chirac



The UNHRC in session

Of Commissions and Truth

Now & Then
BY NADIRA GUNATILLEKE

All media reports broadcast and published in Sri Lanka and abroad during the last week was full of certain words such as 'commissions', 'reports', 'UNHRC', 'genocide', etc. It is important to look at these words carefully because all words have an impact on the future of this precious island which is the Motherland of all Sri Lankans regardless of their community and faith. But it is good to start from the beginning and from a few decades ago.

It was a bright day in early February in 1997 (24 years ago). It was the very first day of my journalistic career. Around noon I prepared to go for the coverage of the Batalanda Commission with prominent and renowned senior legal journalist Sarath Malalasekera. We left our office around noon and reached our destination where the Commission held its sittings. I sat with another female journalist from *ITN*. From that moment I saw and heard how poor parents, brothers, sisters and hundreds of close family members of the victims of the Batalanda torture camp wept while giving evidence before the Commission. I underwent the torture of seeing and hearing their agony for many years since that day.

The Batalanda Commission was appointed by the Government in 1995 to look into violations of human rights and crimes committed at the Batalanda torture and detention centre. In the report, the Commission recommended to the Government to take legal action against the then Opposition Leader who represented the United National Party (UNP). However, no legal action has been taken against him by any Government to date.

The Batalanda Commission was appointed on December 15, 1995 and the report of the Commission was released in 2000. The mandate given to the Commission was to inquire and report on the circumstances relating to the disappearance of a Sub-Inspector attached to the Sapugaskanda Police Station and the persons directly or indirectly responsible, the circumstances relating to the arrest and subsequent detention of a Sub-Inspector attached to the Peliyagoda Police Station and the persons directly or indirectly responsible, the establishment and maintenance of a place or places of detention at the Batalanda Housing Scheme of the State Fertilizer Manufacturing Corporation and whether any person or persons were subject to inhuman or degrading treatment or to treatment which constituted an offence under any written law as a result of a conspiracy and the person or persons directly or indirectly responsible for the same.

It was also tasked with finding out whether any inquiry or probe into



All Sri Lankans deserve justice



Relatives of Easter attack victims pray for their loved ones while Cardinal Malcolm Ranjith looks on. (File photo)



A foreign journalist looks at the damage caused by a suicide bomber at St. Anthony's Church, Kochikade. (File photo)



Soldiers saved thousands of civilians from the clutches of the LTTE

any of the aforesaid matters had been conducted by any officer and whether any person or persons directly or indirectly interfered in such inquiry or probe and the person or persons responsible for such interference and to find out whether any officer or any other person was responsible for the commission of any criminal offence under any written law or the use of undue influence or misuse or abuse of power in relation to any of the aforesaid matters.

The Batalanda Commission recommended comprehensive investigations to be initiated in terms of the provisions of the Penal Code against the individuals implicated. Its other rather novel recommendation related to the Supreme Court being vested with additional jurisdiction to impose suitable sanctions in the deprivation of civil rights on persons who are found to have repeatedly violated basic fundamental rights of citizens. The Batalanda detention centre was an alleged detention centre used to torture and exterminate members of the then militant Marxist rebel organization, the Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna (JVP) during the JVP uprising of 1988-1989 which launched a second armed revolt against the elected UNP Government.

That Government has been accused of using detention camps in several places including Batalanda to

quell the JVP uprising. These were said to be run by anti-subversive units of the law enforcement officers tasked with destroying the rebels. It is believed that nearly 5,000 to 10,000 members of the JVP were brutally tortured and killed in this camp. The then UNP Leadership was accused of being the political authority behind the alleged detention centre.

Why are we still talking about the Batalanda Commission? Three decades have passed since the terror period of 1988/1989. According to several local and foreign media reports and many other legal and documentary reports, over 60,000 youths had been killed during 1988/1989 and this can be named as the one and only real genocide that took place in Sri Lanka up to now. Almost all those killed were Sinhalese. But unfortunately the UNHRC or the 15 countries now crying loudly over the final days of the conflict in 2009 in Sri Lanka did nothing at all at that time and just turned a blind eye and a deaf ear.

It is hilarious to see how the Tamil Diaspora and their henchmen use the word 'genocide' for the humanitarian operation which saved thousands of innocent Tamil civilians from the barbaric LTTE. Maybe now the world's leading dictionaries such as Oxford and Cambridge need to change the meaning of 'genocide'

from 'killing' people to 'saving' people.

On the other hand they are talking about a minority. There are 76 million Tamils living in all parts of the world with 72 million Tamils living in Tamil Nadu alone while only 2.2 million Tamils live in Sri Lanka. Of the 1.8 billion Muslims live in the world over, 1.9 million Muslims live in Sri Lanka. The Sinhalese are just over 15 million. The majority of them live here in Sri Lanka and only a handful of them live in a few other countries with no special rights. Now anyone can compare the size of 15 million with 76 million and 1.8 billion and see who the majority are and who the minority are.

Several comments were made about the contents of the Commission Report on Easter Sunday suicide bomb attacks. But the best opinion was given by Ven. Prof. Induragare Dhammarathana Thera during the book launching ceremony held at Abhayaramaya, Narahenpita, last Thursday under the patronage of Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa.

Ven. Prof. Dhammarathana Thera said the final report of the Presidential Commission of Inquiry (PCoI) into the Easter Sunday bomb attacks has recommended direct punishment for long gone historical reasons and individuals indirectly connected to the attacks but not recommended adequate punishments for the culprits who are directly responsible for the attacks. He said this is like "Muwa hamata thadi bema" which literally means "flaying the skin of a dead deer" – a saying that denotes a futile exercise. In his words, this is like another judgement given by King Kekille, an ancient King who was known to have given completely baffling and nonsensical verdicts to cases brought to the Royal Court. The Ven. Thera noted that another commission will indeed be required to inquire about this Commission which produced this report.

Ven. Prof. Dhammarathana Thera further said that 206 years have passed since the total destruction of the Sinhala society in Sri Lanka. Incidentally, the 206th anniversary of this event, where the whole of Sri Lanka was handed over to the English on a platter, falls tomorrow (March 2). According to history, the Sinhala King was handed over to England by Sinhala Ministers. John D'Oily used the disunity among Sinhala Nilames (then Ministers) to capture the Sinhala King and hand him over to England. That is how the Sinhala Kingdom was totally destroyed.

No matter which commission produces which report, we all saw who did what, how, when and why from 1815 and not from 1948, 1971, 1977, 1988/1989 or April 21, 2019. There is no need to tell us who did, what, how, when and why. Almost all Sri Lankans know the truth. Maybe there are truths. But what matters to us is 'the truth' which we saw and heard ourselves. The truth still exists safely as physical materials. Therefore the only challenge for any commission so far since 1815 is giving legal recognition to this one and only truth experienced by all innocent Sri Lankans. Otherwise as usual Mother Nature will do the justice because no one can lie, cheat, bribe or mislead the God above us who appears in different faces and attires for different believers in different religions. We saw, heard and experienced the power of Mother Nature, God and Justice on November 16, 2019 (just 15 months ago). Justice strikes when required. No one can stop it. No one will be able to avoid the judgement of God.

Sunil de Silva, PC

An exceptional repository of legal knowledge and acumen

KALINGA INDATISSA, PC

This morning I learnt of the death of Mr. Sunil Chandra de Silva, PC - former Attorney General.

I initially met him when I joined the Attorney General's Department in 1987. He was one of the gentlemen who interviewed me. The AG at that time was Shiva Pasupathi. I recall the grilling that I had when he questioned me on *Manawadu v AG* which had been just pronounced.

He had his early education at Royal College, Colombo and was very proud of his alma mater. Even though I did not know him personally when I joined the Department, he took an instant liking to me. Later on in life I got to know that he was closely connected to the late Minister Lalith Athulathmudali, PC, who also played an important part in moulding me.

Mr. De Silva was very sad when I was selected to the Civil Branch. However, despite my allocation he used to send me Criminal files. A year after I joined the Department Mr. De Silva was appointed as Attorney General (AG) in 1988. While keeping me in the civil side he appointed me as State Counsel (SC) Administration as junior to Kolitha Dharmawardene initially and then to Mohan Pieris, who later became Chief Justice and is now the Permanent Representative of Sri Lanka to the United Nations in New York.

I was relatively junior for that appointment. Later he had commented that I was an incorrigible person and that the only way to reform was to put me in charge of administration. That was a golden opportunity as I was compelled to study Administrative Regulations (ARs) and Financial Regulations (FRs) and other Government Circulars. He knew all circulars by heart.

He was a very intelligent man and was extremely mischievous. Those in the Department at that time would remember the pranks that he played on people. He had a marvellous sense of humor. His candour and repartee was second to none.

He was a stern AG. He never believed in the media and in fact on the contrary issued several circulars restraining the members of the Department from going public on various issues.

He was one of those who developed my liking to history, traditions and ethical standards. He also developed our computer skills. I recall that he got a few of us trained in computers as we had joined the Department. Nalin Ladduwahetty, PC, was his best student in the area of computers.

He was also a fast driver. I recall many instances where we had travelled out of Colombo for official work. He used to take the wheel and drive at a speed of around 120 Km/h violating most of the provi-



sions of the Motor Traffic Act (MTA). Anyway who cared, after all he was the AG.

In the first Neethi Ranga (the

annual variety entertainment show held by lawyers) that we held, the AG's Department staged a play. Mr. De Silva acted in that and directed

APPRECIATIONS

I recall taking part in that skit with my friend Shavindra Fernando. Later on I had the opportunity of acting with him in a few instances in *He Comes from Jaffna*. Elson Divithurugama played *He Comes from Jaffna's* role. Mohamad Adammally played the role of Aru, his son. I played the same role taking turns. Angela Seneviratne, Kumar Paul, Shavindra Fernando and Sunil Rodrigo, AAL and former GM Galle Face Hotel were the other actors along with Mr. Sunil de Silva himself.

Mr De Silva was a pleasing personality. We all enjoyed his sense of humour. He was never at a loss for words. He enjoyed company. Even though he migrated to Australia, (where he passed away) his heart was here. He kept in touch with all of us. Whenever he came for the Royal Thomian Big Match in March he met a few of us. The last time I had the opportunity of meeting him was when former AG Palitha Fernando, PC, organized a dinner at his place for all the Department Old Boys.

A few days ago he messaged me and checked whether his pension

was being regularly deposited to the BOC account here. I immediately checked and informed him that it indeed was. He wanted to use that in Sri Lanka when he visited here the next time.

Only yesterday he had taken a shot at Hiran Kulatilleke on a common WhatsApp thread that we were all in.

He always believed in creating the next generation. He shared his knowledge with every one without any reservation. He was kind to all but fearless. He continued to share his experience and knowledge even after retirement. He was a very sharp and an intelligent human being.

We have learnt lots and lots from you, Sir.

Life would have been different if we did not come across people like you.

We cherish and appreciate every second spent with you.

May you attain the Supreme Bliss of *Nibbana*.

May your journey through *Sam-sara* be short.

(The writer is *President of the Bar Association of Sri Lanka*)

THALIF DEEN

A sign outside a laundry in New York City had a frivolously flip-pant slogan: "We launder dirty clothes, not dirty money."

And a 2019 movie titled *Laundromat*, based on a book *Secrecy World* by Pulitzer Prize winning author Jake Bernstein, exposed the byzantine world of money laundering.

That's the insidiously darker side of the world's financial system - with millions of dollars in ill-gotten gains finding safety in offshore banks - a crime perpetrated on a global scale, says a High-Level Panel on International Financial Accountability, Transparency and Integrity for Achieving the 2030 Agenda (FACTI).

Ibrahim Mayaki, FACTI co-chair and former prime minister of Niger points out that closing loopholes that allow money laundering, corruption and tax abuse and stopping wrongdoing by bankers, accountants and lawyers are steps in transforming the global economy for the universal good.

In a report released February 25, the UN panel has called on governments to agree to a *Global Pact for Financial Integrity for Sustainable Development*.

The panel, comprising former world leaders, central bank governors, business and civil society heads and academics, says as much as 2.7 percent of the global gross domestic product (GDP) is laundered annually, while corporations shopping around for tax-free jurisdictions cost governments up to \$600 billion a year.

At a time when billionaires' wealth soared by 27.5 percent, even while 131 million people were pushed into poverty due to COVID-19, the report says a tenth of the world's wealth could be hidden in offshore financial assets, preventing governments from collecting their fair share of taxes.

Recovering the annual loss to tax avoidance and evasion in Bangladesh, for example, would allow the country to expand its social safety net to nine million more of the elderly; in Chad, it could pay for 38,000 classrooms, and in Germany, it could build 8,000 wind turbines, according to the report.

Professor Kunal Sen, Director, UN University - World Institute for Development Economics Research (UNU-WIDER), told *IPS*: "At a time when developing countries are facing sharp declines in tax revenues due to the economic crisis generated by the pandemic, it is imperative to find solutions to the large losses to public exchequers due to illicit financial flows."

This is a key challenge to development, as provision of crucial public services, such as education, healthcare, and infrastructure, rely

Darker side of the world's offshore financial system



on states having money to spend, he pointed out.

"Global coordination of taxation policies, preferably led by the G-7 (world's industrialized) countries, that limit tax evasion and money laundering is the need of the hour," he noted.

James A. Paul, a former Executive Director at Global Policy Forum, told *IPS* the new report by the UN High Level Panel is certainly welcome, but there is reason to wonder where it will take us.

"It provides a devastating analysis of the corrupt global financial system and how the financiers undermine well-being, fairness and legitimacy."

The report, he said, argues that the system's architecture and rules make sustainable development (and the UN's 17 Sustainable Development Goals) difficult, if not impossible to achieve.

"Those who have been critically following the global financial system over the past few decades will not disagree, but they will find little here that is truly new," said Paul, author of *"Of Foxes and Chickens"—Oligarchy and Global Power in the UN Security Council*.

He also pointed out that "It has been clear, then, for a long time that the world's richest families and nations are the primary benefi-

ciaries of this system, that they have a hammerlock on politics, and that they have no intention of changing things in any fundamental way."

In particular, the national leaders of this global corruption mafia are nationals of the United States and the United Kingdom, whose financial institutions and oligarchies are the world's most powerful, he added.

"They have ruled the global financial system for a long time and (in spite of declarations to the contrary) they are dead-set against reforms that would increase "fairness," "transparency," and the other good things the High-Level Panel seeks to promote," said Paul.

This brings us to the dilemma of the UN - and its capacity to analyze and to resolve the world's most fundamental problems."

However, he said the Presidents of the UN General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council are to be congratulated for setting up this Panel and for reminding us once again how the global oligarchy is practicing corruption on a breathtaking and devastating scale.

The report's authors are unable to go far enough, however. This is no surprise.

"For we need something more fundamental - nothing less than a roadmap towards a global democratic order, freed from the grip

of the financial oligarchy and guided at last by the needs and the will of the people themselves... UN and its capacity to analyze and to resolve the world's most fundamental problems."

A former UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan, a national of Ghana, once said that "billions of dollars of public funds continue to be stashed away by some African leaders - even while roads are crumbling, health systems are failing, school children have neither books nor desks nor teachers, and phones do not work."

Dr. Richard Ponzio, Senior Fellow and Director of the Global Governance, Justice and Security Program at the Stimson Center in Washington, D.C, told *IPS* that aside from eroding national tax bases and diverting funds from critical public expenditure projects, tax abuse, corruption, and money laundering help fuel insecurity in today's hyper-connected global economy by sustaining the work of criminal syndicates and international terrorists to the detriment of global security and justice.

The recommended global pact for financial integrity for sustainable development, he argued, should help extend the Financial Action Task Force's (created in 1989 by the G7 and later joined by a few dozen countries)

global reach in coordinating global anti-money laundering efforts.

In addition, more (especially non-OECD) countries should be encouraged to participate in the OECD Declaration on Automatic Exchange of Information (AEOI) in Tax Matters, which aims to increase banking transparency and decrease tax evasion worldwide.

The AEOI standard - which benefits poor and rich nations alike - makes it harder for money launderers to hide their proceeds and easier for the victims of tax evasion to recover funds.

For developing countries to fully realize the benefits of this new transparency, he said, the developed world and international institutions should recognize and help overcome the financial and capacity restraints that prevent less well-off countries from participating in a multilateral regime for AEOI.

Simultaneously, developed and developing countries should promote the transparency of corporate registries to prevent money launderers from operating behind shell companies.

Paul told *IPS* that NGOs, both local and international, have long been pointing out the staggering sums diverted from public treasuries by banks and financial managers, aided by corrupt politicians and systematically covered up by journalists, professors and other apologists.

The honest investigations have shown, among other things, how taxes are avoided or evaded and how the richest individuals and companies pay almost nothing in support of public projects and programs.

"This knowledge has deepened public distrust of governments and it has led us into the present crisis of global authoritarianism, but it has done little to change regulatory laws, improve the harvesting of taxes, or reduce public corruption. If anything, the trend has been moving in the opposite direction."

Ponzio said the UN's Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and other corporate social responsibility standards can also contribute to improving due diligence requirements to prevent or decrease illicit financial flows (IFFs) in different economic sectors (including financial, accounting, and legal).

He said participatory budgeting and a human rights approach to budget monitoring can shine a spotlight on whether IFFs divert government expenditure from promoting the public good.

Empowered with the right information, civil society organizations, the media, and the general public can each play significant roles in holding states, businesses, and facilitators (lawyers and accountants) to their human rights obligations. (*IPS*)



SRI LANKA AIR FORCE CELEBRATES 70 YEARS OF GALLANT SERVICE



KFIR ATTACK AIRCRAFT

DISHAN JOSEPH

As an island nation Sri Lanka has always maintained her sovereignty and territorial integrity. The overall defence strategy of the then Ceylon Defence Force initiated by the British administration did not involve an air defence component using aircraft. When the allied forces consolidated their presence in Ceylon and felt the imminent danger of enemy air raids, the Royal Air Force hurriedly went about setting up airfields in locations like Ratmalana, China Bay (Trincomalee), Koggala and Katunayake.

The Royal Ceylon Air Force (RCyAF) was established on March 2, 1951. The RCyAF was the youngest of Ceylon's defence services. The first Commander of the Air Force was Group Captain G.C. Bladon who laid the foundation for the Air Force to grow. He was the Senior Air Staff Officer in charge of the RAF 62 Group in England. His temporary office was at the Galle Face Hotel, and he later shifted office to Rifle Green House at Parsons Road, where the present Sri Lanka Air Force (SLAF) Station Colombo is located. It is recorded that in 1951 there were 12 vacancies for Officer Pilots, and that Flight Lieutenant Ken Nagarajah had to filter through 200 aspiring applications to select the first batch of officer cadets. These officer cadets were trained at Royal Air Force College Cranwell. The first two Ceylonese Cadets at RAF Cranwell were Paddy Mendis and Sene Seniviratne.



Sri Lanka Air Force Station Colombo-(1970s)



SLAF Chief Air Marshal Sudarshana Pathirana

The SLAF board of management was duly formed. To this day, the board operates under the following structure: Air Force Commander, Chief of Staff, Deputy Chief of Staff and Directors representing Air Operations, Ground Operations, Aeronautical Engineering, General

Engineering, Electronics and Telecommunications Engineering, Logistics, Administration, Civil Engineering, Health Services, Training and Welfare.

Subsequently ACM Mendis introduced the concept of Helitours, commercial flights for civilians. This was done using a Convair 440 aircraft. During this time four lady officers were commissioned into the Volunteer Air Force.

By 1971 the No. 6 Jet Squadron was flying the MIG 15 and MIG 17 fighter aircraft. Training officers was an important element and by 1976 the Sri Lanka Air Force Academy was opened in March at China Bay, Trincomalee. During a polio epidemic the SLAF flew in the urgently needed vaccines to Colombo, from New Delhi. On March 2, 1976, the SLAF celebrated its Silver Jubilee. By 1978 the Air Dogs Unit (kennels) was reactivated. To this day an assortment of dog breeds work with specialized skill as trackers and narcotics detection and explosive detection dogs.

Air Force life is not only fixed on flying. The officers and other ranks engage in sports. Air Force rugby was taken to great heights during the tenure of Air Marshal Harry Goonetilleke (Air Force Commander). The SLAF has many welfare projects at all of its bases. The Air Force Band is part of all ceremonial parades, enhancing the dignity and decorum at any event. The Cultural Troupe also adds glamour at events. The new Officers' Mess in Colombo was opened at Baddhaloka Mawatha in 1984. The Command Agro Unit has many cultivation and farming projects, and has done much to increase our nation's forest cover.

Between 1984 and 1985 the SLAF acquired Bell 212 and Bell 412 helicopters, which had a greater payload. In January 1983 the SLAF recruited its first batch of airwomen. Since its inception the Air Force had carried out an air support role but this would rapidly change after a new threat in 1983 with the escalation of another armed insurgency from the North. The SLAF air assets needed to be enhanced with greater firepower. In 1991 the SLAF formed the No. 5 Jet Squadron which flies the F-7 jet. The SIAI Marchetti jet was also inducted. By now the SLAF had its air interception and air defence capability. In 1992 the IA58-Pucara ground attack jet was added to the fleet.

During the Humanitarian Operation, SLAF pilots flew the MIG 27, F-7 and Kfir C-7 fighter jets decimating enemy targets. The Mi-17 helicopters (inducted in 1993) also played a vital role in air missions. The C-130 Hercules and the AN-32 aircraft did a tremendous task with heavy airlift duties. The Mi-24 and Mi-35 attack helicopters powerfully dominated the skies. The SLAF made an immense contribution to achieve peace. The Y-12 and B-200 aircraft continue their dedicated aerial observations across Sri Lanka.

Advances have been in Radar, Air Traffic Control (ATC), UAV (Unmanned Aerial Vehicles) and Air Defence Systems. The SLAF has a fully fledged CBRNE Wing to deal with scenarios related to Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear threats. The Air Force has its own Special Forces wing, which was a concept of then Chief of Staff Air Vice Marshal Oliver Ranasinghe (subsequently Air Force Commander). The SABF - Special Air Borne Force - specializes in airfield security, deep penetration operations, sky marshal operations, counter-assault operations and VIP security. The SABF redefined VIP security being the first force to use motorbike outriders in VIP convoys. Having journeyed 70 years with excellence, the SLAF, our guardians of the sky, remain primed and ready to serve the motherland.



the Chipmunk in 1951 created the requirement for aircraft engineering activities. Later the Dove aircraft was added to the fleet in 1955. The Air Force's first helicopters were the Westland S-51 Dragonfly. Shortly Prestwick single engine aircraft were inducted into the RCyAF fleet. The arrival of the Heron aircraft enabled the Air Force to proceed with international flights, flying to Indonesia, Pakistan, Singapore and India. The Oxford Airspeed was phased out in 1958.

In 1971 Air Commodore Paddy Mendis became the youngest Air Force Commander. In 1972 when Ceylon became a Republic, the Royal Ceylon Air Force became the Sri Lanka Air Force. From its inception in 1951 there have been 17 Air Force Commanders who have led the organization through various challenges, and the present Air Force Commander is Air Marshal Sudarshana Pathirana. During the period of conflict, the SLAF's air assets and other SLAF resources were consistently updated to mitigate the aerial and land-based threats.

In 1959 the fleet was enhanced with the arrival of the Jet Provost. These aircraft enabled our pilots to cut their teeth as fighter pilots. Another significant addition came in 1968 when the Air Force got its first Bell Ranger Helicopters, making way for the formation of the No. 4 Helicopter Squadron. By 1966 the RCyAF was fully manned by Ceylonese officers and other ranks.

The Dragonfly helicopter was phased out in 1969. A much-needed Electronic Maintenance and Training school was opened in 1971. In the same year the Ground Combat Training School was set up in the salubrious hills of Diyatalawa for the basic training of all officers and airmen.

On April 5, 1971, the serene island of Ceylon was suddenly woken up to its first armed insurgency. The 1,500 strong Air Force was deployed to augment counter-insurgency operations, alongside the Army and Police. For the first time Bell Jet Ranger helicopters were flying reconnaissance over Colombo. By April 6, almost 50 police stations had been attacked around the country. Police officers were injured and there was an immediate need to provide ammunition and evacuate injured policemen. The duty fell on the Air Force pilots who rose to the challenge. The three helicopters did 73 supply drops, flying day and night. Other airplanes carried fuel to areas such as Jaffna, Vavuniya, Trincomalee and Ampara. This was a massive airlift operation for the pilots. The Jet Provost aircraft at China Bay were armed, and became an effective weapon against the insurgent's concentration.

In 1972 when Ceylon became a Republic, the Royal Ceylon Air Force became the Sri Lanka Air Force.

In January 1983 the SLAF recruited its first batch of airwomen.

In 1953 the RCyAF sent a contingent of men from Ceylon for the coronation of the Queen; they were led by Flight Lieutenant Wijendran. Subsequently Ceylonese officers were sent for technical training to the Royal Air Force Technical School at Halton. Later Air Commodore J.L. Barker took over the reins in 1958 as Air Force Commander. An officer with boundless vitality he rendered a great service. In 1962 Air Commodore E.R. Amarasekera brought honour to the nation when he became the first Ceylonese to be appointed as Air Force Commander. As a Squadron Leader he had seen active service during World War 2, in the RAF Bomber Command.

The fleet grew steadily as did other Air Force infrastructure. The first equipment storage was set up at Queens Road, Fort, using an old Dutch building. Later a Supply Depot was set up at Katunayake. In 1952 the first Medical Branch was set up in Colombo under Flight Lieutenant Samad Ismail. In the same year an Education and Training Unit was set up under Flight Lieutenant Walpita.

When the Royal Air Force moved out of Katunayake (November 1, 1957) the Ceylonese officers and airmen did a sterling job in improving and making new airfields and buildings. An airfield fire fighting service was started operating Firefly and Salamander Fire Tender Trucks. The initial aircraft used for flight training in Ceylon were the Chipmunk, followed by the Oxford and later the Balliol (with the Rolls Royce Merlin engine). The arrival of



DE HAVILLAND 104 DOVE



PUCARA



BELL JET RANGER



IN THE SUPREME COURT LIST OF CASES FOR MONDAY, 01ST, MARCH, 2021. HON. B.P. ALUVIHARA (P.C.) (J) HON. K.K. WICKRAMASINGHE J. HON. M.A. SAMAYAWARDHANA J. COURT NO. 501 (FROM 10.00 A.M. - 11.30 A.M.) TO BE MENTIONED 1.S.C. Appeal No. 68/13 - HCCA 296/2004 2.S.C. CHC Appeal No. 72/13 - HC (Civil) 244/07 3.S.C.HC.CA.LA 94/20 - HCCA 168/18 4.S.C. (Spl.) LA 194/20 - CA 119/16 5.S.C. H.C.CA.LA 286/20 - HCCA 115/17 FOR SUPPORT 1.S.C. Appeal No. 180/18 - HCCA 02/15 FOR GRANTING OF LEAVE 1.S.C. H.C.CA.LA 437/19 - HCCA 171/19 (Top of the list) FOR ARGUMENT 1.S.C. Appeal No. 113/12 - HCCA 390/12 (FROM 11.30 A.M. - 12.45 P.M.) FOR GRANTING OF LEAVE 1.S.C. (Spl.) LA 64/19 - CA 594/96 2.S.C. H.C. CA.LA 212/20 - HCCA 104/17 3.S.C. (Spl.) LA 410/19 - HC 46/17 FOR ARGUMENT 1.S.C. Appeal No. 209/15 - HC 337/14 (FROM 01.30 P.M. - 03.00 P.M.) FOR ARGUMENT 1. SC. Application FR 255/19 HON. SISIRA J. DE ABREW J. HON. A.H.M.D. NAWAZ J. HON. A.A.U. WENGAPPULI J. COURT NO. 502 (FROM 10.00 A.M. - 11.30 A.M.) TO BE MENTIONED 1.S.C. Appeal No. 215/16 - HCCA 125/11 2.S.C. (Spl.) LA 76/18 - CA 948/97 3.S.C.HC.CA.LA 383/18 - HCCA 34/09 4.S.C. Application FR 87/19 COURT NO. 502 CONTD. (FROM 10.00 A.M. - 11.30 A.M.) FOR GRANTING OF LEAVE 1.S.C. (Spl.) LA 71/17 - CA 178/10 FOR ARGUMENT 1.S.C. Application FR 428/08 (Top of the list) (FROM 11.30 A.M. - 12.45 P.M.) FOR LEAVE TO PROCEED 1.S.C. Application FR 158/12 2.S.C. Application FR 247/19 FOR GRANTING OF LEAVE 1.S.C. H.C. CA.LA 493/19 - HCCA 13/16 2.S.C. (Spl.) LA 20/20 - CA 232/17 3.S.C. (Spl.) LA 145/20 - HC 77/19 FOR ARGUMENT 1.S.C. Application FR 46/08 (FROM 01.30 P.M. - 03.00 P.M.) FOR ARGUMENT 1.S.C. Appeal No. 63/14 - HCCA 89/10 HON. PRIYANTHA JAYAWARDANE (P.C.) (J) HON. MURDU N.B. FERNANDO P.C.J. HON. YASANTHA KODAGODA P.C.J. COURT NO. 403 (FROM 10.00 A.M. - 11.30 A.M.) TO BE MENTIONED 1.S.C. Appeal 155/18 - HCCA 68/09 2.S.C. Application FR 63/19 & 249/19 3.S.C.HC.LA 86/19 - HC (Civil) 29/18 4.S.C.HC.LA 88/19 - HC (Civil) 07/17 5.S.C.HC.CA.LA 270/20 - HCCA 22/24 6.S.C.HC.CA.LA 289/20 - HCCA 06/16 TO BE RESUMED 1.S.C.HC.LA 32/20 - HC 06/18 (Top of the list) FOR GRANTING OF LEAVE 1.S.C.HC.CA.LA 174/20 - HCCA 81/19 COURT NO. 403 CONTD. (FROM 10.00 A.M. - 11.30 A.M.) FOR ARGUMENT 1.S.C. CHC. Appeal 27/12 with 16/12 - HC (Civil) 354/07, 355/07 (FROM 11.30 A.M. - 12.45 P.M.) FOR LEAVE TO PROCEED 1.S.C. Application FR 145/20 FOR GRANTING OF LEAVE 1.S.C. (Spl.) LA 258/20 - CA 205/20 2.S.C.HC.LA 05/21 - HC 127/18 FOR ARGUMENT 1.S.C. Appeal 101/17 - HCCA 1076/16 (FROM 01.30 P.M. - 03.00 P.M.) FOR ARGUMENT 1.S.C. Appeal No. 66/20 - CA 87/13 HON. L.T.B. DEHIDIENIYA J. HON. A.L.S. GOONERATNE J. HON. JANAK DE SILVA J. COURT NO. 404 (FROM 10.00 A.M. - 11.30 A.M.) TO BE MENTIONED 1.S.C. Application FR 181/14 2.S.C. H.C. LA 40/20 WITH 88/20 - HC 24/19 3.S.C.HC. 87/20 - HCCA 52/20 4.S.C.HC.CA.LA 338/20 - HCCA 44/19 FOR ARGUMENT 1.S.C. Appeal 112/10 - HCCA 378/07 (Top of the list) 2.S.C. Appeal 157/19 - HC. (Civil) No. 253/17 (Top of the list) (FROM 11.30 A.M. - 12.45 P.M.)

FOR GRANTING OF LEAVE 1.S.C.HC.CA.LA 339/20 - HCCA 45/19 2.S.C.HC.CA.LA 340/20 - HCCA 91/19 3.S.C.HC.CA.LA 341/20 - HCCA 90/19 4.S.C.HC.CA.LA 342/20 - HCCA 88/19 5.S.C.HC.CA.LA 343/20 - HCCA 89/19 COURT NO. 404 CONTD. (FROM 11.30 A.M. - 12.45 P.M.) FOR ARGUMENT 1.S.C. Appeal 15/19 - CA 163/13 2.S.C. Appeal 16/19 - CA 164/13 3.S.C. Appeal 17/19 - CA 166/13 (FROM 01.30 P.M. - 03.00 P.M.) FOR ARGUMENT 1.S.C. Appeal 41/19 & 42/19 - HCCA 15/14, 14/14 IN THE COURT OF APPEAL LIST OF CASES FOR MONDAY, 01ST, MARCH, 2021. HON. ARJUNA OBEYESEKERE J. (P/CA) HON. MAYADUNNE COREA J. COURT NO. 301 AT 09.30 A.M. TO BE MENTIONED 1.503/07 Writ of Cert 2.114/14 Writ of Cert 3.153/19 Writ of Cert 4.467/19 Writ of Cert 5.530/19 Writ of Cert 6.03/19 COC 7.215/14 PHC 8.01/12 HCA 9.194/19 HC FOR SUPPORT 1. 02/20 Writ of Cert 2.125/20 Writ of Cert 3.408/20 Writ of Cert 4.448/20 Writ of Cert 5.02/21 Writ of Cert 6.04/21 Writ of Cert NOTICE RETURNABLE 1.549/19 Writ of Cert WITH WRT 550/19 2.48/20 Writ of Cert HON. ARJUNA OBEYESEKERE J. (P/CA) HON. MAYADUNNE COREA J. COURT NO. 301 10.30 A.M. FOR SUPPORT 1.37/21 Writ of Cert HON. ARJUNA OBEYESEKERE J. (P/CA) HON. MAYADUNNE COREA J. COURT NO. 301 12.00 NOON FOR SUPPORT 1.416/20 Writ of Cert 2.86/21 Writ of Cert HON. ARJUNA OBEYESEKERE J. (P/CA) HON. MAYADUNNE COREA J. COURT NO. 301 OTHERS 1.163/19 Writ of Cert 2.06/18 COC FOR SUPPORT 1.73/20 Writ of Cert 2.74/20 Writ of Cert 3.96/20 Writ of Cert 4.134/20 Writ of Cert 6.407/20 Writ of Cert FOR ARGUMENT 1.19/20 Writ of Cert HON. K. PRIYANTHA FERNANDO (J) HON. SAMPATH B. ABAYAKOON J. COURT NO. 107 AT 10.00 A.M. TO BE MENTIONED 1.328/19 HC 2.338/19 HC 3.421/19 HC 4.429/19 HC 5.160/20 Writ of Cert 6.407/20 Writ of Cert FOR ARGUMENT 1.19/20 Writ of Cert HON. K. PRIYANTHA FERNANDO (J) HON. SAMPATH B. ABAYAKOON J. COURT NO. 107 OTHERS 1. 350/19 HC FOR ARGUMENT 1. 177/19 HC HON. MENAKA WIJESUNDERA J. HON. NEIL IDDAWALA J. COURT NO. 204 AT 09.30 A.M. TO BE MENTIONED 1. 24/17 PHC 2. 81/17 PHC FOR SUPPORT 1. 10/21 PA NOTICE RETURNABLE 1.124/20 PA HON. MENAKA WIJESUNDERA J. HON. NEIL IDDAWALA J. COURT NO. 204 OTHERS 1.06/20 BA FOR ARGUMENT 1.151/17 PA HON. N. BANDULA KARUNARATNE (J) HON. R. GURUSINGHE J. COURT NO. 205 AT 10.00 A.M. ASSIGN COUNSEL 1.85 - 86/20 HC 2.87/20 HC TO BE MENTIONED 1.69/06 LTA WITH RV 278/06 (To be mentioned) 2.18/21 PA 3.19/21 PA 4.154/17 HC 5.348/18 HC FOR ARGUMENT 1.369 - 370/17 HC HON. N. BANDULA KARUNARATNE (J) HON. R. GURUSINGHE J. COURT NO. 205 OTHERS 1.109/13 HC 2.237/13 HC 3.135/15 HC 4.41 - 42/16 HC 5.239 - 240/17 HC 6.13/18 HC 7.15/18 HC 8.203 - 204/18 HON. DEVIKA ABEYRATNE J. HON. P. KUMARARATNAM J. COURT NO. 110 AT 10.00 A.M. ASSIGN COUNSEL

1.84/20 HC TO BE MENTIONED 1.190 - 191/17 HC 2.102 - 104/18 HC 3.390/19 HC 4.02/20 HC 5.76/20 HC FOR ARGUMENT 1.32/16 HC 2.58-61/17 HC 3.120 -122/18 HC HON. DEVIKA ABEYRATNE J. HON. P. KUMARARATNAM J. COURT NO. 110 OTHERS FOR ARGUMENT 1.142/15 HC 2.52/18 HC 3.402/18 HC 4.422/18 HC HON. M. T. MOHAMMED LAFFAR J. HON. K. K. A. V. SWARNADHIPATHI J. COURT NO. 206 AT 10.00 A.M. TO BE MENTIONED 1.710 - 712/99 (F) DC 2.348/18 Writ of Cert HON. M. T. MOHAMMED LAFFAR J. HON. K. K. A. V. SWARNADHIPATHI J. COURT NO. 206 OTHERS FOR ARGUMENT 1.1102/98 (F) DC 2.425/14 Writ of Cert 3.243/17 Writ of Cert 4.170/18 Writ of Cert with PHC 30/15 HON. DR. RUWAN FERNANDO (J) HON. M. SAMPATH K. B. WIJERATNE J. COURT NO. 302 AT 10.00 A.M. FOR ARGUMENT 1.21/19 TAX HON. DR. RUWAN FERNANDO (J) HON. M. SAMPATH K. B. WIJERATNE J. COURT NO. 302 OTHERS. TO BE MENTIONED 1.09/20 TAX FOR ARGUMENT 1.18/19 TAX HON. SOBITHA RAJAKARUNANA J. HON. DHAMMIKA GANEPOLA J. COURT NO. 303 AT 10.00 A.M. FOR ORDER 1.169/19 Writ of Cert COURT NO. 303 AT 10.00 A.M. contd... 1.164/19 Writ of Cert With WR 165/19 - 168/19, 171/19, 177/19, 317/19 -

319/19, 28/20 (To be mentioned) 2.377/19 Writ of Cert FOR ARGUMENT 1.11/19 Writ of Cert 2.183/19 Writ of Cert HON. SOBITHA RAJAKARUNANA J. HON. DHAMMIKA GANEPOLA J. COURT NO. 303 OTHERS FOR ARGUMENT 1.73/19 Writ of Cert WITH WR 163/16 2.187/19 Writ of Cert HON. D. N. SAMARAKOON J. HON. PRADEEP KIRTISINGHE J. COURT NO. 108 AT 10.00 A.M. FOR ARGUMENT 1.17/15 TAX HON. D. N. SAMARAKOON J. HON. PRADEEP KIRTISINGHE J. COURT NO. 108 OTHERS FOR SUPPORT 1.06/19 RII HON. PRASANTHA DE SILVA J. HON. S. U. B. KARALLIYAD-DE J. COURT NO. 109 AT 12.30 P.M. TO BE MENTIONED 1.22/17 PHC 2.96/17 PHC 3.85/20 PA HON. PRASANTHA DE SILVA J. HON. S. U. B. KARALLIYAD-DE J. COURT NO. 109 OTHERS TO BE MENTIONED 1.06/05 PHC 2.27/17 PHC 3.183/17 PHC NOTICE RETURNABLE 1.35/16 PHC 2.190/16 PHC FOR ARGUMENT 1.122/14 PHC CIVIL APPEAL WESTERN PROVINCE (COLOMBO) LIST OF CASES FOR MONDAY, 01ST, MARCH, 2021. HON. A.M. MOHAMMED MACKIE (H.C.J.) HON. D.F.H. GUNAWARDHANA (H.C.J.) (AT 10.00 A.M.) TO BE MENTIONED 152/18 (F) HCCA/Colombo 295/15 (F) HCCA/Colombo 97/18 (F) HCCA/Colombo 225/17 (F) HCCA/Colombo FOR SUPPORT LA 03/21 HCCA/Colombo LA 11/19 HCCA/Colombo

Kandiah Thirunavukarasu

An epitome of geniality, generosity and humaneness



It is shocking and saddening to know that death has taken away our dearest close relative and friend, Kandiah Thirunavukarasu from our midst. He lived amidst us for eight decades and was called to Eternal rest. We are certain he will be safe in the abode of our creator. My wife and I share with his wife Pushpam, children and their loved ones, the pain and grief of their personal bereavement and the poignancy of the void left in their lives. Thirunavukarasu was affectionately called Thiru by his friends and relatives and he was a true family man. He was devoted husband, an affectionate father, a loving grandfather, an understanding father-in-law a kind brother and a caring uncle. He brought up his children the fear of God, trained them in character and instilled noble values in them, his compassion, care and concern for others and his hospitality endeared him to his relatives and friends and his home was a haven to them. He stood by them in times of adversity and he was an adviser and guide to them. His life had been exemplary and it was blessing to his dear and near ones around him. He is the very epitome of geniality, generosity and humaneness. Thiru along with his wife Pushpam executed their parental responsibility with commitment and love, giving utmost priority to their children's education. They loved their children very much and they showered their affection

on their grandchildren. Yarlani, their daughter is married to her own cousin, Murali and they live in Australia, Muhuntan, their son is married and the couple live in the UK. Born in a family of four children Thiru is the last but one in the family and all others are sisters. His sisters showered their love on him and return he showed his affection on his sisters and their children with Thiru's eldest sister's son, Sivkaumaran fell ill, he flew to Sri Lanka from London to see him and also he stayed with "Sivam" at the elder care home for almost more than a month to make him feel homely and help him adjust to a new environment. Such is the manifestation of his love towards his nephews and nieces. Halling from the distinguished Kandiah family in Kondavil, Thiru had a great pride in his family heritage. As family they were always helpful to the downtrodden and the poor and they were well

respected by the public of Kondavil and nearby villages. The aspiration to serve the public runs in their family circle. Tough Thiru was rooted in Hindu faith, the admirable quality in him was that he had respect for other religious faiths. He set an example of their religious harmony and he never missed Christmas when his Christian relatives celebrated the event. When our family was living in Jaffna town and due to the conflict situation which prevailed there at that time, we had to move out of the town for safety. It was Thiru who gave us shelter at his home in Kokuvil for a few days which we can never forget. The hospitality showered on us during that time by Thiru and his family is ever fresh and green in our minds built a good rapport with his fellow workers and superiors. His devotion to duty and his dexterous skills were so much recognized that he was sent as the Fire Prevention Officer to take charge

of the Fire Brigade of the Jaffna Municipal Council and there also he served in his home station very dedicatedly before retiring. After he left the Fire Service Department he moved away with his wife to the UK and he was living in Croydon, he was working there for a few years till his health permitted. His wife and children looked after him with so much of love and care that they kept his spirits till the very end. Thiru had a lively mind even in his early seventies and he and his wife were mutually helpful to each other in sharing their domestic chores. Their son Muhuntan who lives closer to them in Croydon, visits them often to inquire after them. Our dearest relative Thiru had left behind many fragrant memories which we will always cherish and they will live in our hearts forever. May his soul rest in peace and rise in glory. - Mr and Mrs. A.A. Arulnarajah

SASIRI Draw Number: 056, Winning Numbers: 02, 30, 46, Saturday, Total Value of Prizes Rs. 2,538,020/-

කංචරිඳි වාසනාව Development Fortune, Date: 27-02-2021, Draw Number: 414, Colour: Red, SUPER JACKPOT Rs. 10,282,688/-

English Letter & Winning Numbers, Draw No.: 1207, Colour: Yellow, Total Value of Prizes Rs. 2,724,680/-

English Letter & Winning Numbers, Draw No.: 1206, Colour: Purple, Total Value of Prizes Rs. 3,251,220/-

English Letter & Winning Numbers, Draw No.: 1208, Colour: Purple, Total Value of Prizes Rs. 10,418,320/-

English Letter & Winning Numbers, Draw No.: 1207, Colour: Yellow, Total Value of Prizes Rs. 5,444,560/-

English Letter & Winning Numbers, Draw No.: 1206, Colour: Purple, Total Value of Prizes Rs. 2,820,120/-

English Letter & Winning Numbers, Draw No.: 3537, Colour: Green, Total Value of Prizes Rs. 5,056,940/-

English Letter & Winning Numbers, Draw No.: 3536, Colour: Orange, Total Value of Prizes Rs. 2,642,020/-

English Letter & Winning Numbers, Draw No.: 3087, Colour: Blue, SUPER JACKPOT Rs. 2,000,000/-

English Letter & Winning Numbers, Draw No.: 3088, Colour: Light Blue, SUPER JACKPOT Rs. 2,136,751/-

English Letter & Winning Numbers, Draw No.: 1207, Colour: Yellow, Total Value of Prizes Rs. 2,724,680/-

English Letter & Winning Numbers, Draw No.: 1207, Colour: Yellow, Total Value of Prizes Rs. 2,724,680/-

English Letter & Winning Numbers, Draw No.: 1207, Colour: Yellow, Total Value of Prizes Rs. 2,724,680/-

English Letter & Winning Numbers, Draw No.: 1207, Colour: Yellow, Total Value of Prizes Rs. 2,724,680/-

English Letter & Winning Numbers, Draw No.: 3537, Colour: Green, Total Value of Prizes Rs. 5,056,940/-

English Letter & Winning Numbers, Draw No.: 3537, Colour: Green, Total Value of Prizes Rs. 5,056,940/-

English Letter & Winning Numbers, Draw No.: 3087, Colour: Blue, SUPER JACKPOT Rs. 2,000,000/-

English Letter & Winning Numbers, Draw No.: 3087, Colour: Blue, SUPER JACKPOT Rs. 2,000,000/-

English Letter & Winning Numbers, Draw No.: 1381, Colour: Blue, SUPER BALL Rs. 4,248,320/-

English Letter & Winning Numbers, Draw No.: 1381, Colour: Blue, SUPER BALL Rs. 4,248,320/-

English Letter & Winning Numbers, Draw No.: 1380, Colour: Pink, SUPER BALL Rs. 2,190,460/-

APPLICATION OF IHR AND IHL TREATIES AT INTERNATIONAL AND NATIONAL LEVEL

"The place of international law in domestic legal systems has been especially affected by the post-war emphasis on human rights, humanitarian law and democratic governance."

Prof. Dinah Shelton, International Law and Domestic Legal Systems (Oxford)

DAYANTHA LAKSIRI MENDIS

The application of international human rights law (IHR) and international humanitarian law (IHL) treaties at international and national level is of fundamental importance to Sri Lanka in the context of the Geneva Resolutions.

At the international level, application of treaties to States is generally determined by the 1969 Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties (VCLT 1969), 1986 Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties between States and International Organizations or between International Organizations (VCLT 1986) and 1978 Vienna Convention on Succession in respect of Treaties (VCLT 1978). All three Conventions deal with legal implications relating to the application of treaties at the international level.

At the national level, the application of IHR law and IHL treaty standards to States is determined by reference to constitutional and statutory provisions. In the absence of such provisions, monist or dualist theories apply in regard to the application of IHR and IHL treaties at national level.

1. Application of IHR and IHL treaties at international level

The application of IHR and IHL treaties is determined at international level in accordance with VCLT 1969. A sovereign State may express its consent to be bound by the treaty by way of signature, ratification or accession. However, a treaty may not bind a State until a treaty has come into force as prescribed in the treaty. Hence, the required number of signatures and ratifications as stipulated by State Parties is necessary for its entry into force. Non-treaty instruments such as Geneva Resolutions, ICAO Resolutions, SC Resolutions, IMO Resolutions, etc. do not require consent of the State to be bound by them.

Anthony Aust's classic book on treaty law and practice illustrates a few exceptions. For example, states which are not sovereign have ratified a treaty with the consent of other State parties. India and Belorussia were granted permission to ratify the UN Charter even before they attained full independence.

At international level, those who can bind a State are specified in Article 7 of the 1969 VCLT. These specified persons are Head of State, Head of Government or Foreign Minister. Any Ambassador who is accredited to a State or international organization may also sign, ratify or accede to a treaty. All other persons require credentials. Unless this procedure is followed, the ratification or accession of a treaty could be rendered null and void.

However, States may limit the application of treaties by way of reservations, so long as such reservations do not affect the object and purpose of the treaty. Reservations need to be approved by other States in order to be effective at the international level. A State can terminate or withdraw from a human rights treaty or from the UNHRC. However, a state cannot accede to the same treaty later on with new reservations. (See *AG vs Kennedy* - Trinidad and Tobago). Reservation should also be distinguished from Declarations. Such Declarations can be classified as political, interpretative or legal. Some of these Declarations are necessary for treaty action.

Unlike legislation, treaties can fall into desuetude or be rendered inapplicable under the doctrine of *rebus sic stantibus*. It can also be rendered voidable under VCLT 1969. President De Gaulle once said that treaties are like beautiful girls and they last only till their beauty lasts. It is not true if one looks at the events leading up to Brexit.

The application of treaties to member States becomes very complex and complicated when a regional economic organization enters into a treaty relationship with another international organization. In this situation, it is difficult to determine whether such treaty ratification will bind all members or not.

2. Application of IHR and IHL treaties to States at national level

The application of the IHR and IHL treaties to States at national level is more complex than at international level. It is an area regulated by international law theories and doctrines and therefore the unraveling of these theoretical ramifications is a difficult exercise.

At this point I will explore the impact of international law theories and doctrines relating to the application of IHR and IHL treaties at national level.

(a) Theories of Monism and Dualism

The theories of monism and dualism impact on the application of IHR and IHL treaties at the national level. Lauterpact and Kelsen who based their theories on universalism and Kantian philosophy are the chief exponents of the theory of monism. According to them, all law is one and international law and municipal law are part of a single system. The monist theory is connected with the naturalist theories and monists take the position that not only states but also individuals have rights under international law. (USA, France and many Latin American States are monists).



What is International Humanitarian Law?



The opposing view is held by dualists such as Anzilotti and Triepel who based their theories on Hegel's philosophy. According to them, international law and municipal law are entirely separate legal orders and deal with different subjects and persons. Dualism is associated with positivist theories and with the notion that only states and not individuals are the primary subjects of international law. (UK and most Commonwealth countries are dualist states.)

These theories are today subdivided into 'moderate monism' and 'moderate dualism'. Moderate monism and moderate dualism take into account modern realities of the relationship between international and municipal law. According to Roodt, limited application of municipal law over international law and *vice versa* is recognized by moderate monism and moderate dualism.

(b) Doctrines of Transformation and Incorporation

The application of treaties at national level has become less confusing with the emergence of the doctrine of incorporation and transformation. Professor Ian Brownlie describes the emergence of the doctrine of transformation in the following manner:

"In England and also it seems in most Commonwealth countries the conclusion and ratification of treaties are within the prerogative of the Crown (or its equivalent) and if a transformation doctrine were not applied, the Crown could legislate for the subject without parliamentary consent. As a consequence, treaties are only part of English law if an enabling Act of Parliament has been passed."

The doctrine of incorporation refers today to the 'adoption' or 'incorporation' of customary international law in so far as such customary international law is not in conflict with an Act of Parliament.

The doctrine of transformation refers to legislative implementation of treaties into the domestic legal order. In some jurisdictions, the doctrine of transformation has been further refined with condi-

tions. Sanders in South Africa stated that transformation must evince a clear and mandatory expression of the will on the part of the Legislature (Parliament). He said that "a mere vague allusion" to a treaty or permissible legislation will not convert its provisions into rules of municipal law.

In *Trendtex Trading Corporation vs Central Bank*, Lord Denning, MR, attempted for the first time to define the doctrines relating to incorporation and transformation. He traced the origin of the doctrine of incorporation as going back to the 1737 case of *Buvot vs Barbut*. Lord Denning then referred to *Triquet vs Bath* and cited the following quotation of Lord Talbot to



explain the ingredients of the doctrine of incorporation.

"The law of nations in its full extent was part of the law of England... The law of nations was to be collected from the practice of different nations and the authority of writers."

In terms of the above definition, it appears that Lord Denning holds the view that only customary international law comes within the ambit of the doctrine of incorporation.

In the UK, the origin of the doctrine of transformation is best illustrated by reference to *The Parlement Belge*. In this case, Lord Phillimore held that a treaty between the Queen of Great Britain and the King of Belgium relating to the immunity of a mail steamer belonging to the King of Belgium could not form part of English law unless it is transformed by an Act of Parliament.

(c) The doctrine of self-executing and non-self-executing treaties

In monist States, treaties are self-executing on ratification/accession of the treaty. In the USA, however, in *Foster vs Nielson* (1892), the Supreme Court held that certain treaties are not self-executing. Similarly, in *Fuji vs AG*, the Supreme Court of USA held that Articles 54 and 55 of the UN Charter which deals with human rights is not self-executing. The essence of the doctrine of non-self-executing treaties are laid down by Professor Burgenthal (former Judge of the ICJ) in the following manner:

(i) The treaty does not create clear rights and duties and the treaty is merely goal oriented or programmatic in nature.

(ii) Rights and obligations created by the treaty require national legislation for enforcement.

(iii) The treaty expresses directly or indirectly that some provisions are not self-executing.

(iv) The judicial enforcement of the treaty will involve political controversy due to uncertainty.

(v) The States parties did not intend "automatic incorporation" of the treaty.

In the USA, courts have classified some treaties as non-self-executing and in some instances such determinations have led to bitter controversy at the international level. (See *Mexico vs USA*, 2004, ICJ - This Case is known as the Avena Case in which the US Supreme Court held that Article 36 of the Consular Relations Convention as non-self-executing).

(d) The doctrine of Direct Application

The doctrine of direct application is associated with the EU system. In the EU system, IHR and IHL treaties will apply directly on ratification/accession without any legislative intervention. In the UK, Section 2 of the EEC Act of 1972 provides for such reception of EU treaties into the domestic legal order. In two important decisions of the European Court of Justice *Van Gend Loos* and *Da Costa*, the principle has been confirmed by the ECJ. In the UK, the Human Rights Act 1998 gave effect to the European Convention on Human Rights, as it does not have direct application to the UK.

3. Relevance of constitutional and statutory provisions in regard to the application of IHR and IHL treaties

It must be said that the application of IHR law and IHL treaty standards in Sri Lanka or elsewhere is ultimately dependent on constitutional and statutory provisions. In Sri Lanka, the chapter on Fundamental Rights in the 1978 Constitution, Geneva Conventions Act 2006 and International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights 2007 constitute the main constitutional and statutory provisions. Unfortunately, IHL and IHR treaty standards are transformed partially into the domestic legal order (see the EU Report for GSP+ Concessions).

In the absence of such constitutional or statutory provisions, the application of IHR law and IHL standards will be determined on the basis of interna-

tional law theories and doctrines as discussed in the previous part.

As a general rule, the constitutional instruments in many Commonwealth countries do not make any provisions in regard to the application of treaties. These constitutional instruments display "inadequacy" or "laconic generality", although some human rights standards are incorporated as Fundamental Rights with a mechanism for enforcement.

4. Relevance of Judicial Decisions in regard to the application of IHR and IHL treaties

In the UK and Common Law countries, there are judicial decisions with respect to the application of IHR and IHL treaties at the national level. These cases demonstrate that Courts have applied the theories of monism and dualism in regard to the application of IHL and IHR standards at national level. In the *Mananperi Case* 1972 IHL was not applied despite the robust arguments of late George Chitty, QC. In the USA *Lieutenant Calley* was tried for murder of at least 102 Vietnamese civilians (My Lai massacre) by a Military Court Martial under US Uniform Code of Military Justice.

In the UK and some Commonwealth countries, IHL violations can be applied as common law offences. However, in Sri Lanka, it is not possible to apply common law offences without statutory incorporation. (See *Mohamed vs Kachcheri Mudaliyar's Case*).

In the UK and Commonwealth countries, there is an intense debate whether the Courts could take into account unincorporated treaties relating to human rights at the national level on the basis of legitimate expectation, as treaty-compliance-executive conduct is gaining ground in many parts of the Commonwealth.

In the UK, Courts have adopted human rights standards taking into account unincorporated treaties by reference to the doctrine of legitimate expectation in *Schmidt vs Secretary of State* (1969). In Australia, in the famous *Teoh Case*, the High Court adopted this approach and held that the deportation of a resident alien would offend the provisions of the Rights of the Child Convention 1989. However, there are differing views expressed on the same subject with varied interpretations.

In Sri Lanka, *AG vs Singarasa* (2006), the Supreme Court did not go far enough to accept unincorporated treaties as part of the domestic law, although legitimate expectation was canvassed in this case for the first time in the Supreme Court of Sri Lanka. However, subsequent to this case, the Sri Lanka Parliament enacted a piece of legislation giving effect to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights in a comprehensive manner.

In the Caribbean, there are numerous cases in which the doctrine of legitimate expectation is adopted at the Caribbean Court of Justice and the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council which still remains the highest appellate Court for some Caribbean States. Nonetheless, there are many dissenting views and opinions of Judges in regard to the application of treaties through the back door, when the treaty has not been transformed effectively into national law. (D. Laksiri Mendis: *Transformation of Treaties into National Legislation*, Stat. Law, 1992, Oxford University Press).

5. Concluding Remarks

In conclusion, it must be said that it is not possible to apply IHR and IHL treaties at the national level in Sri Lanka without legislative transformation, although such treaties contribute to peace, security and accountability.

In Sri Lanka, IHL applies to international armed conflict but not to a non international armed conflict under the Geneva Conventions Act of 2006. If accountability is determined under general law, it is likely that many combatants and rebel forces could be found guilty as killing is not justified under general penal law.

Hence, it is a matter of serious consideration for Sri Lanka to amend the Geneva Conventions Act 2006 and conduct such investigation under common article 3 if a domestic mechanism is established for accountability. Original draft Bill prepared by me for the ICRC gave effect to common article 3 of the Geneva Conventions of 1949 since enlightened legal opinion of the ICRC at that time was that the armed conflict in Sri Lanka was a non international armed conflict in terms of the common article 3 of the Geneva Conventions and the *travaux préparatoires* prepared by late Jean Simon Pictet.

(Dayantha Laksiri Mendis, LLB (Cey), MPhil (Cantab), was former Legal Adviser to the ICRC, Lecturer on IHL at the KDU and University of Colombo, former Ambassador to Austria and Permanent Representative to the UN in Vienna, former UN Legal Expert and Legal Adviser to several Caribbean, African and Asian countries. He has drafted diverse legislation, treaties and non-treaty instruments at the time he served as Commonwealth Legal Expert to the Caribbean Community Secretariat in Guyana, South America. He can be contacted at: mendis_law@yahoo.com).



"CHARIOT OF THE GODS" DISCOVERED IN POMPEII

ITALY: Calling it an "exceptional discovery," researchers at Pompeii have announced the uncovering of an intact ceremonial chariot from a villa near the famous archaeological site.

The announcement Saturday called the chariot "an extraordinary find" which "has no parallel in Italy thus far."

The chariot is preserved in remarkable detail, officials say, with four iron wheels, metal arm- and backrests, and a seat perched atop that could sit one or two people. Notably, the chariot is adorned with metal medallions depicting satyrs, nymphs and cupids, suggesting the possibility that it may have been used in marriage ceremonies.

"I was astounded," said Eric Poehler, a professor at the University of Massachusetts Amherst with a specialty in traffic in ancient Pompeii. "Many of the vehicles I'd written

about before ... are your standard station wagon or vehicle for taking the kids to soccer. This is a Lamborghini. This is an outright fancy, fancy car."

Archaeologists worldwide expressed similar excitement Saturday over the announcement. "Still wrapping my head around the latest incredible discovery," wrote Sophie Hay of the University of Cambridge. "My jaw is on the floor just now!" wrote Jane Draycott of the University of Glasgow. A single exclamation point did not suffice for historian and writer Rubén Montoya, who wrote that Pompeii "does not stop giving us surprises!!!"

The ancient city of Pompeii has been the subject of fascination and archaeological digs for hundreds of years. It was buried in

volcanic ash from Mt. Vesuvius nearly 2,000 years ago, a disaster that preserved in incredible detail the buildings and ephemera of the city, and even the shapes of the bodies of the Romans who once walked the city's streets.

According to Italian authorities, the chariot survived the eruption and the intervening years because it was stored inside a portico. The eruption caused the walls and ceiling around it to collapse under the weight of volcanic ash. In recent years, looters had dug tunnels on either side. But "miraculously," officials say, the chariot was spared.

While previous excavations had yielded everyday vehicles used for travel and work, this ceremonial chariot is the first find of its



kind to be discovered, explained Massimo Osanna, the outgoing director of the site.

"It is an extraordinary discovery for the advancement of our knowledge of the ancient world," Osanna said in a statement.

Every so often, some new discovery from Pompeii prompts excitement from historians about the glimmer of understanding it reveals about the residents of the ancient world: their fast food preferences, how their taverns were decorated, their unlucky deaths.

Even among those semi-frequent discoveries, Poehler says this cart stands out.

"This is precisely the kind of find that one wants to find at Pompeii, the really well-articulated, very well-preserved moments in time," he said. "And it happens to be in this case an object that is relatively rare despite its ubiquity in the past." (NPR)



DRAW NUMBER: 01 OFFICIAL RESULTS

ಕವಿತಾ ರಜಾ ಸಂಪಥಾ

DRW DATE: 25-02-2021

SAMPATHA DRAW

WINNING LETTER	E	WINNING NUMBERS	9 4 9 4 6 8
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Let's Play This Number

Super prize	E 9 4 9 4 6 8	Rs. 18,857,277.80	1
01 Prize	9 4 9 4 6 8	2,999,899.00	1
02 Prize	4 9 4 6 8	188,856.00	10
03 Prize	9 4 6 8	18,856.00	119
04 Prize	4 6 8	1,886.00	1,179
05 Prize	6 8	188.00	11,441
06 Prize	8	36.00	112,704

Let's Play This Number

07 Prize	9 4 9 4 6	10,000.00	11
08 Prize	9 4 9 4	1,000.00	112
09 Prize	9 4 9	100.00	1,163
10 Prize	9 4	50.00	11,238
11 Prize	E	20.00	45,232

LAGNA WARAMA DRAW

WINNING ZODIAC: Cancer

WINNING NUMBERS: 42 64 76

Super Prize	42 64 76	Rs. 10,000,000.00	1
1st Prize	42 64 76	500,000.00	10
2nd Prize	42 64 76	5,000.00	239
3rd Prize	42 64 76	500.00	2,595
4th Prize	42 64 76	100.00	9,923
5th Prize	42 64 76	30.00	110,798
6th Prize	42 64 76	30.00	95,177

Total Prizes won in this draw
Rs. 43,998,347.50

The Super Prize of next draw
Rs. 10,000,000.00

National Lotteries Board

26 & 27.02.2021 - TOTAL PRIZE WINNERS PRODUCED BY NATIONAL LOTTERIES BOARD 1,121,442

TOTAL PRIZE MONEY DISTRIBUTED AMONG WINNERS 46,454,100.00

Rs.2,000,000.00 PRIZES 02 Rs.1,000,000.00 PRIZES 02 Rs.1,00,000.00 PRIZES 44

OFFICIAL RESULTS

Draw No: 1578 Draw Date: 2021/02/26

Winnings

Prize	Condition	Prize	No. of Winners
1st	All 6 numbers are correct	Rs. 500,000.00	00
2nd	Super Number & 63 numbers are correct	Rs. 20,000.00	01
3rd	63 numbers are correct	Rs. 1,000.00	82
4th	Super Number & 62 numbers are correct	Rs. 200.00	248
5th	62 numbers are correct	Rs. 100.00	3,283
6th	Super Number & 61 number is correct	Rs. 60.00	2,819
7th	61 number is correct	Rs. 20.00	41,844
8th	Only the Super Number is correct	Rs. 20.00	18,194

Total Prizes Won in This Draw
Rs. 1,703,640.00

Super Prize of the Next Draw
Rs. 2,952,724.40

MAHAJANA SAMPATHA

Draw Number: 4410 Date: 26-02-2021

Winning Letter: G Winning Numbers: 9 0 5 0 1 0

Prize	Condition	Prize	No. of Winners
1st	9 0 5 0 1 0	Rs. 2,000,000.00	01
2nd	9 0 5 0 1 0	Rs. 100,000.00	08
3rd	9 0 5 0 1 0	Rs. 10,000.00	78
4th	9 0 5 0 1 0	Rs. 1,000.00	794
5th	9 0 5 0 1 0	Rs. 100.00	7,906
6th	9 0 5 0 1 0	Rs. 20.00	79,128

Total Prizes Won in This Draw
Rs. 16,749,095.00

Govisetha

Draw Number: 2705 Date: 26/02/2021

Winning Letter: E Winning Numbers: 09 34 46 62

Prize	Condition	Prize	No. of Winners
1st	All 4 numbers correct	Rs. 1,000,000.00	01
2nd	Letter & any 3 numbers correct	Rs. 100,000.00	03
3rd	Any 3 numbers correct	Rs. 2,000.00	100
4th	Letter & any 2 numbers correct	Rs. 1,000.00	243
5th	Any 2 numbers correct	Rs. 100.00	5,976
6th	Letter & any number correct	Rs. 40.00	3,973
7th	Any number correct	Rs. 20.00	99,317
8th	Only the letter is correct	Rs. 20.00	18,125

Total Prize Money Won in This Draw
Rs. 4,850,360.00

Super Prize for the Next Draw
Rs. 68,022,894.40

DHANA NIDHANAYA

Date: 26/02/2021

Draw Number: 447

Winning Letter: Y Winning Numbers: 21 46 78 79

Prize	Condition	Prize	No. of Winners
1st	All 4 numbers are correct	Rs. 1,000,000.00	-
2nd	English Letter and 1 number are correct	Rs. 100,000.00	03
3rd	Any 3 numbers are correct	Rs. 3,000.00	68
4th	English Letter and 2 numbers are correct	Rs. 1,000.00	126
5th	Any 2 numbers are correct	Rs. 100.00	3,312
6th	English Letter and 1 number are correct	Rs. 60.00	2,139
7th	1 number is correct	Rs. 20.00	34,768
8th	Only English Letter is correct	Rs. 20.00	10,277

Total Prize Money Won in This Draw
Rs. 2,166,440.00

Next Draw Super Prize
84,323,275.20

Mega Power

Draw Number: 776 Date: 26.02.2021

Winning Numbers: S 02 05 08 40 78

Prize	Condition	Prize	No. of Winners
1st	If all 4 numbers are correct	Rs. 1,000,000.00	-
2nd	If only 3 numbers with English Letter is correct	Rs. 100,000.00	82
3rd	If all 3 numbers are correct	Rs. 1,000.00	85
4th	If only 2 numbers with English Letter is correct	Rs. 100.00	123
5th	Only 2 numbers are correct	Rs. 100.00	3,518
6th	If only 1 number with English Letter is correct	Rs. 40.00	2,739
7th	Only 1 number are correct	Rs. 20.00	56,188
8th	Only English Letter are correct	Rs. 20.00	18,356

Next Mega Super Prize
Rs. 118,827,510.80

OFFICIAL RESULTS

Draw No: 1100 Date: 27.02.2021

Winning Zodiac: Pisces

Winning Numbers: 3 5 5 4 4 1

Prize	Condition	Prize	No. of Winners
01	3 5 5 4 4 1	Rs. 1,000,000.00	-
02	3 5 5 4 4 1	Rs. 100,000.00	06
03	3 5 5 4 4 1	Rs. 10,000.00	29
04	3 5 5 4 4 1	Rs. 1,000.00	280
05	3 5 5 4 4 1	Rs. 100.00	2,917
06	3 5 5 4 4 1	Rs. 20.00	28,367

Total Prizes Won in This Draw
Rs. 2,745,680.00

Next Wednesday Super Prize
Rs. 14,987,563.70

MAHAJANA SAMPATHA

Draw Number: 4411 Date: 27-02-2021

Winning Letter: E Winning Numbers: 5 0 7 7 4 7

Prize	Condition	Prize	No. of Winners
1st	5 0 7 7 4 7	Rs. 2,000,000.00	01
2nd	5 0 7 7 4 7	Rs. 100,000.00	12
3rd	5 0 7 7 4 7	Rs. 10,000.00	118
4th	5 0 7 7 4 7	Rs. 1,000.00	1,160
5th	5 0 7 7 4 7	Rs. 100.00	11,818
6th	5 0 7 7 4 7	Rs. 20.00	116,922

Total Prize Money Won in This Draw
Rs. 10,915,590.00

Super Prize of the Next Draw
Rs. 17,721,423.00

Govisetha

Draw Number: 2706 Date: 27/02/2021

Winning Letter: E Winning Numbers: 16 25 36 37

Prize	Condition	Prize	No. of Winners
1st	All 4 numbers correct	Rs. 1,000,000.00	01
2nd	Letter & any 3 numbers correct	Rs. 100,000.00	08
3rd	Any 3 numbers correct	Rs. 2,000.00	154
4th	Letter & any 2 numbers correct	Rs. 1,000.00	358
5th	Any 2 numbers correct	Rs. 100.00	9,482
6th	Letter & any number correct	Rs. 40.00	6,184
7th	Any number correct	Rs. 20.00	155,578
8th	Only the letter is correct	Rs. 20.00	28,334

Total Prize Money Won in This Draw
Rs. 7,138,960.00

Super Prize for the Next Draw
Rs. 68,306,015.20

DHANA NIDHANAYA

Date: 27/01/2021

Draw Number: 448

Winning Letter: L Winning Numbers: 06 60 62 76

LAGNA WARAMA
3452

Prize	Condition	Prize	No. of Winners
1st	All 4 numbers are correct	Rs. 1,000,000.00	-
2nd	English Letter and 3 numbers are correct	Rs. 100,000.00	4
3rd	Any 3 numbers are correct	Rs. 3,000.00	87
4th	English Letter and 2 numbers are correct	Rs. 1,000.00	205
5th	Any 2 numbers are correct	Rs. 100.00	4,857
6th	English Letter and 1 number are correct	Rs. 60.00	3,339
7th	1 number is correct	Rs. 20.00	62,019
8th	Only English Letter is correct	Rs. 20.00	15,500

Total Prize Money Won in This Draw
Rs. 3,644,420.00

Next Draw Super Prize
84,551,544.80

Mega Power

Draw Number: 777 Date: 27.02.2021

Winning Numbers: V 18 40 45 59 71

Prize	Condition	Prize	No. of Winners
1st	If all 4 numbers are correct	Rs. 1,000,000.00	-
2nd	If only 3 numbers with English Letter is correct	Rs. 100,000.00	82
3rd	If all 3 numbers are correct	Rs. 1,000.00	89
4th	If only 2 numbers with English Letter is correct	Rs. 100.00	200
5th	Only 2 numbers are correct	Rs. 100.00	5,011
6th	If only 1 number with English Letter is correct	Rs. 40.00	3,355
7th	Only 1 number are correct	Rs. 20.00	63,449
8th	Only English Letter are correct	Rs. 20.00	15,159

Next Mega Super Prize
Rs. 119,167,060.40

Desperate EU countries hunt for more vaccines

In vaccine-hungry, cash-rich Europe, the hunt for more doses has nations trading with each other, weighing purchases from Russia and China, and fielding offers from middlemen ranging from real to outright frauds.

Amid building anger over a sluggish European Union coronavirus vaccine rollout that has left them far behind several other wealthy countries, many E.U. states are looking beyond the bloc's joint purchasing strategy, which now seems woefully underwhelming.

An immense black — or at least gray — market has arisen, with pitches from around the world at often exorbitant prices. Sellers have approached E.U. governments claiming to offer 460 million doses of vaccines, according to the early results of an investigation by the bloc's anti-fraud agency that were shared with The New York Times.

While they still plan to get vaccines from the bloc, some nations are also trying to negotiate directly with drug makers and eyeing the murky open market where they are still unsure of the sellers and the products. Some have also agreed to swap vaccines with each other, deals some of them now have reason to regret.

The European Union last year was slow to make massive advance purchases from drug companies, acting weeks after the United States, Britain and a handful of other countries. This year, the



bloc was blindsided by slower-than-expected vaccine production, and individual countries have fumbled the rollout. About 5 percent of the E.U.'s nearly 450 million people have received at least one dose of a vaccine, versus almost 14 percent in the United States, 27 percent in Britain and 53 percent in Israel, as of earlier this week, according to Our World in Data database and governments.

The stumbles by the world's richest bloc of nations have turned vaccine politics toxic. Particularly galling to many Europeans is the sight of a former E.U. member, Britain, forging ahead with its vaccination and reopening plans, while E.U. societies remain under lockdown amid a new surge of dangerous variants, their economies sinking deeper into recession.

In the final months of 2020, several countries opted to forgo parts of their population-based shares of E.U.-purchased vaccines.

Much of that trade involved less affluent countries, with less infrastructure and hard-to-reach populations, selling their shares of vaccines from Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna that require ultra-cold storage and instead making the cheaper AstraZeneca vaccine, which is easier to handle, the centerpiece of their vaccination campaigns.

But then AstraZeneca, whose vaccine was developed with the University of Oxford, slashed its expected E.U. deliveries because of production problems. And despite experts' assurances, many Europeans expressed doubts about it after some leaders questioned its efficacy in older age groups, which were not well represented in clinical trials. (Pfizer also suffered a supply slowdown.)

A decision by any country to let go of doses is potential political dynamite, and the recriminations have begun. Poland gave up a chunk of its expensive Moderna quota expected late this year, rea-

soning that it would not come soon enough to make much difference, considering they were anticipating ample deliveries of AstraZeneca and potentially the Johnson & Johnson vaccine by that point.

"I would never give up on buying what is safe and efficient," said Andrzej Halicki, a Polish member of the European Parliament. "As a former minister I can tell you that in my view this is criminal action, this is a breach of obligations."

A German official said the country had secured 50 million Moderna vaccine doses, a significantly larger number than it would get under its population-based allocation of the E.U. supply. E.U. officials confirmed that Germany had obtained at least some of their extra doses from other member states.

Germany also secured a controversial side-deal with Pfizer-BioNTech, for an extra 30 million doses to be delivered later in 2021, sparking anger in parts of the E.U. as the move was seen as the richest E.U. nation leading the bloc to a collective strategy and then hedging by also going it alone.

The bloc's fear is that such side-deals could undermine its collective purchasing power and override delivery schedules to all 27 countries.

The European Commission has made it clear that E.U. countries should not be cutting separate deals with the same pharmaceutical companies that it has negotiat-

ed contracts with for the whole bloc.

The Netherlands has secured, from one or more other E.U. countries, 600,000 doses of the shot that Pfizer developed with the German company BioNTech, according to a government official who would not say which nation or nations had given them up. France has not made public any deals it has made, but Prime Minister Jean Castex said, "If vaccine doses happen to be available, the instruction is clear: France will buy immediately."

Hungary has unilaterally approved and bought Russian and Chinese vaccines, and others, such as Croatia and the Czech Republic, are weighing similar moves. E.U. officials say they are getting calls from several other member states eager to see the bloc approve the Russian shot, Sputnik V.

In a troubling turn, senior government officials and even heads of government have received dozens of unsolicited offers for vaccines. Few of the sellers appear to be legitimate operators, said Ville Itala, director-general of the European Anti-Fraud office, known as OLAF.

"They are offering vaccines, quite huge amounts, so far it is 460 million doses, which is around 3 billion euros," he said in an interview this week. "So it's not a small business, it's a huge business, and this is growing all the time." (NYT)



US approves J&J vaccine

The Food and Drug Administration late Saturday granted emergency use authorization to Johnson & Johnson's single-dose coronavirus vaccine, providing the United States with a long-anticipated tool that adds firepower and flexibility to the nation's accelerating inoculation effort — but also presents new challenges.

Health authorities now have three effective vaccines, a singular scientific achievement that few would have predicted a year ago, when a pandemic emerged that has killed 2.5 million people worldwide, including more than 500,000 in the United States. It comes at a particularly fraught time, as Americans are whipsawed by encouraging developments, including sharp declines in nursing home deaths, and concerning news such as the emergence of potentially menacing variants.

With demand for vaccines

outracing supply and officials scrambling to get much of the population vaccinated before variants spoil an improving picture, a third vaccine is "really good news," said Eric Toner, senior scholar with the Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security. The vaccine will not have a big effect initially on supply shortages. Only a few million doses will be shipped to states in the days immediately after authorization, though production will ramp up in coming weeks, with 20 million doses to be delivered by the end of March and 100 million total in the first half of the year, according to the company.

The new vaccine, which is for adults 18 and older, has clear practical and logistical advantages over the first two vaccines — it does not have to be kept frozen, and there is no need for a second round of appointments.

(Washington Post)



Europe approves Regeneron COVID therapy

Europe's medicines regulator on Friday provisionally approved use of US biotech firm Regeneron's Covid-19 therapy, saying it prevented patients from getting worse.

Regeneron's synthetic antibody treatment was used to treat former US President Donald Trump after he contracted coronavirus last year.

The European Medicines Agency said preliminary results showed treatment with REGN-COV2 reduced the amount of the virus in the back of the nose and throat and led to fewer medical visits.

"The Agency concluded that... REGN-COV2 can be used for the treatment of confirmed Covid-19 in patients who do not require supple-

mental oxygen and who are at high risk of progressing to severe Covid-19," it said in a statement.

REGN-COV2 is a combination of Casirivimab and Imdevimab, two monoclonal antibodies which is given to a patient via a drip, the EMA said. Monoclonal antibodies are lab-made versions of the body's natural infection-fighting defenses.

The two antibodies have been designed to attach to the spike protein of the coronavirus at two different sites, stopping it from entering the body's cells, the EMA said.

A rolling review of the two antibodies, which started on February 1 "was ongoing", the medicines regulator said, adding "once finalised it will

be the basis for an EU marketing authorisation for this combination".

The US-based Food and Drug Administration in November approved the emergency use of REGN-COV2, experimentally used to treat Trump. On Thursday, France too announced it had distributed thousands of monoclonal antibody treatments to hospitals, with Health Minister Olivier Veran saying "there are new hopes... which strengthen our anti-Covid arsenal".

The EMA however did not make an announcement Friday on the approval of Johnson & Johnson's coronavirus jab, which earlier this month applied for authorisation within the European Union.

So far, three vaccines made by Pfizer/BioNTech, Moderna and AstraZeneca have been approved by the EMA.

A US panel of independent experts was meeting Friday to discuss whether to grant J&J's Covid shot the go-ahead in the United States.

Friday's announcements followed the Amsterdam-based EMA's monthly meeting, where it also recommended the approval of six other medicines including the first oral treatment for patients with certain types of spinal muscular atrophy.

This rare and often fatal genetic disease causes muscle weakness and progressive loss of movement. (AFP)

Auckland in another seven-day lockdown

New Zealand's largest city, Auckland, is going back into a seven-day lockdown after a new Coronavirus case emerged. Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern announced the move on Saturday, with officials still working to identify the origin of the coronavirus in this case, Reuters reported.

Countries have been closely monitoring the United Kingdom, African and Brazilian variants of the virus. Officials say the patient was infectious Sunday and visited several public places before realizing two days later that they had symptoms.

For the next week, residents in the city will only be allowed out to get groceries or for essential work. The rest of the country has level two lockdowns and will not allow big gatherings.

New Zealand saw some coronavirus cases earlier this month, with three of the cases being the coronavirus variant from the U.K.



NZ PM Jacinda Ardern

There is evidence that the U.K. variant is more contagious and more deadly than previous variants. Officials are attempting to see if the new case is linked to the earlier cases.

New Zealand has seen more than 2,000 reported cases and over 20 deaths from the virus, dramatically smaller numbers compared to other countries, with the nation going into lockdown after new cases emerge. Health authorities were trying to find out whether the new case was linked to the earlier February cluster, now at 12 infections.

The lockdown, with Level 3 restrictions, will allow people to leave home only for essential shopping and essential work, Ardern said. Public venues will remain closed. Restrictions in the rest of the country will be tightened to Level 2 restrictions, including limits on public gatherings. The new restrictions also complicated the America's Cup Event yacht race scheduled to start on March 6 in Auckland's harbour. America's Cup Event said on Twitter it was working "through the implications."

(The Hill, NY Post)

Thailand begins vaccination campaign

Thailand started rolling out its Covid-19 inoculation program with Sinovac Biotech Ltd.'s vaccine as the Southeast Asian nation tries to revive its pandemic-hit tourism industry.

Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-Ocha on Sunday presided over the kickoff of the program, with a group of healthcare workers receiving the vaccine, state-owned NBT television network showed in a national live broadcast. Prayuth was not inoculated on Sunday as earlier planned because the Sinovac is not recommended for people of his age, Opas Kankawinpong, Director General of the Disease Control Department, told a briefing on Saturday.

"Today's event is to assure the public about the safety of the vaccine that the government will roll out from now on," said Prayuth. "National vaccination is a major step for the government to go through with this Covid-19 pandemic."



Southeast Asia's second-biggest economy aims to inoculate 50% of its population by the end of this year as the government tries to reopen its borders, which have been closed for almost a year to curb the outbreak.

The government has also approved AstraZeneca Plc's vaccine and has ordered 61 million doses.

Deputy Prime Minister and Health Minister Anutin Charnvirakul and four other ministers received

the Sinovac shot on Sunday. AstraZeneca's vaccine arrived in Thailand on Feb. 24 but the company still needs to complete the quality-assurance process, it said in a statement on Saturday. (Bloomberg)

BA calls for Digital Health Passes

The owner of British Airways is calling for digital health passes for passengers as a step toward getting airlines back in the sky after devastating losses due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

International Airlines Group, which also owns carriers such as Iberia and Aer Lingus, announced Friday a total annual loss of £6.4 billion (US\$ 9.8 billion) for the group after passenger traffic plunged by one third in 2020 compared to the previous year. The group's CEO, Luis Gallego, said the company was looking for "a clear roadmap" for scaling back restrictions on travel "when the time is right."

"We're calling for international common testing standards and the introduction of digital health passes to reopen our skies safely," Gallego said.

The International Air



Transport Association recently said its "IATA Travel Pass" — a smartphone app that verifies that a passenger has had a negative coronavirus test or has been vaccinated — should be ready "within weeks."

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

the country ... And then governments need to have the confidence that the tests is one which is accurate," he added.

However, it's not yet clear if such a pass would be utilized by airlines or governments.

In January, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention began requiring passengers entering the country from abroad to provide a negative coronavirus test before boarding a U.S.-bound flight.

IAG said despite its steep losses, its cargo business had helped prop up the passenger side of the operation. The company made more than 4,000 cargo-only flights last year, with revenue for the sector up strongly.

"Our results reflect the serious impact that COVID-19 has had on our business," Gallego said.

The losses at IAG have been felt worldwide throughout the airline industry, with U.S.-based carriers hit particularly hard.

In January, American Airlines posted its largest annual loss on record — US\$ 8.9 billion for 2020, with United Airlines reporting a US\$ 7.1 billion loss. Southwest Airlines posted an annual loss of US\$ 3.1 billion — its first since 1972.

(NPR)

Food delivery robot unveiled at Philadelphia Airport

Philadelphia International Airport's concessions program is piloting robotic food delivery to customers at the travel hub as a new addition to its contactless ordering platform Order-at-PHL.com, reports the Philadelphia Business Journal.

Named Gita (pronounced "jee-ta," meaning "short trip" in Italian), the robot is powered by digital service AtYourGate and "smart following technology" company Piaggio Fast Forward, which was founded in 2015 by Boston entity Piaggio Group. Piaggio Group is the Italian manufacturer and creator of the well-known Vespa scooter.

Gita is the first product from Piaggio Fast Forward and is a following robot designed to carry 40 pounds for up to four hours, which the company equates to roughly 20 miles of walking,



on a single charge. The tech entity specializes in pedestrian mobility intelligence and aims to create mobile tech solutions that mirror the way people move to ultimately help them complete day-to-day tasks.

The robots at PHL pair with a human delivery person by way of visual sensors, allowing them to follow

the person at a distance, said Megan O'Connell, marketing and customer service manager at MarketPlace PHL. Gita stops when the delivery person stops and turns when the delivery person turns. If the robot hits any type of road block, it immediately stops and pauses until it relocates its delivery person.

More than a dozen restaurants from California Pizza Kitchen to Smashburger to local favorite Chickie and Pete's at the Airport are using the Gita.

"With businesses looking for more contactless experiences, Gita took on a new role during COVID to move things within the airport environment for employees, vendors and travelers — hands-free," Piaggio Fast Forward CEO Greg Lynn explained in a statement released by the airport. (NBC)

Was associated in seven 200-plus opening stands in ODIs

Upul Tharanga has left a lasting impression on Sri Lankan batting

CHRIS DHAMBARAGE

Upul Tharanga who announced his retirement from international cricket last week was a solid opening batsman for his country having displayed his prowess in all formats of the game.

His overall career figures and statistics of course, does not really provide a clear reflection on the vast amount of contributions he has made towards the success of the Sri Lanka team.

But more important about his performances is the fact that he has always concentrated on team effort and to build up partnerships with teammates with the intention of putting his side in command.

In fact, Tharanga has figured in as many as seven double-hundred opening partnerships for Sri Lanka in One Day Internationals (ODIs), which is quite a significant achievement.

In terms of partnerships,

his best batting performance came during the fifth and final ODI against England at Leeds in July 2006, which also helped his team to complete a 5-0 sweep against the hosts.

The elegant left-hander put on an opening stand of 286 runs in 31.5 overs along with Sanath Jayasuriya as Sri Lanka romped to an eight-wicket victory with more than 10 overs to spare.

Their opening stand record stood for 12 years until the Pakistan pair of Imam-ul-Haq and Fakhar Zaman established a new record with a stand of 304 runs against Zimbabwe at Bulawayo in 2018.

Focus on the team

Tharanga's focus on the team is very much clear when considering that he figured in another double-hundred opening stand with a contribution of just 68 runs

during their tour of New Zealand in December 2006.

This time he did not mind playing the supporting role for his team as Sanath Jayasuriya blasted the New Zealand bowling attack with an 82-ball 111, which helped Sri Lanka to complete a seven-wicket victory in the first ODI at Napier.

Tharanga then found another new opening partner in Tillakaratne Dilshan and the pair established themselves as one of the most destructive combinations in world cricket.

In fact, Tharanga was a key player in Sri Lanka's 2011 ICC World Cup campaign with a couple of big scores to his credit in the sub-continent.

His magnificent 282-run partnership with Dilshan in the game against Zimbabwe at the Pallekele Stadium in Kandy, virtually sealed Sri Lanka's place in the World Cup quarter-final.

Tharanga continued his majestic form in the 2011 World Cup and figured in another 200-plus stand with Dilshan in the quarter-final fixture against England at the R. Premadasa Stadium.

Tharanga's contribution was an unbeaten 102 inclusive of one six and a dozen boundaries as Sri Lanka overtook England's modest total of 229 for six with 10 overs and 10 wickets to spare.

Tharanga also had the satisfaction of winning a total of 11 ODI Man-of-the-Match awards and one of them came against Bangladesh when he hammered an unbeaten 118 in a Tri Nation Tournament game at Dhaka in January 2010.

The significant fact about this innings was that he also added 215 runs for the first wicket along with Mahela Jayawardene as Sri Lanka cruised to a nine-wicket vic-

tory with seven overs to spare.

The Tharanga-Jayawardene batting association continued and this time the pair added 213 runs against India in a Tri Nation Series game at Kingston.

Highest ODI score

This match in fact, turned out to be a memorable one for Tharanga who also had the credit of scoring his highest ODI score - 174 not out from 159 deliveries with three sixes and 19 boundaries.

Another innings in which Tharanga showed his class was when he scored a battling century against New Zealand while facing the likes of Kyle Mills, Shane Bond, Chris Cairns and Jacob Oram in the second ODI at Christchurch in 2006.

Tharanga's knock of 103 of course, was not good enough for Sri Lanka to win the

match but yet he was named Man-of-the-Match simply for his determined batting performance.

Tharanga may have not had the same amount of success in the longer version of the game but he certainly left a lasting impression with his trademark style of batting.

In fact he had a very good start to his Test career and produced a Man-of-the-Match winning performance while playing in his third Test against Bangladesh at Bogra in March 2006.

Tharanga had the opportunity of playing in the inaugural ICC T20 World Cup at a time when the shortest format of the game was still beginning to build up the momentum.

He had limited opportunities to showcase his potential during his career but yet ended up with a strike-rate of 123, which is much higher than some of the other reputed players.



Upul Tharanga



The Girl's College Dankotuwa Karate Team which participated at the All Island Inter School Karate Championship 2019. Standing L/R - Thilini Seneviratne, Nikini Seneviratne, W. A. A. S. Lasantha (Coach), Milena Priyadarshani Fernando, L. B. Pamali Levanya, Nipuni Seneviratne. (Picture by Dilwin Mendis, Moratuwa Sports Special Correspondent)

Milena Priyadarshani an outstanding karateka

DILWIN MENDIS

Moratuwa Sports Special Correspondent

Karate Black Belt, Gold Medalist and member of the Sri Lanka Karate Squad Milena Priyadarshani Fernando has brought honour and fame to her Alma Mater Girls' College, Dankotuwa. She was admitted to this school in 2008 when Rev Sister Beatrice was at the helm of the school.

When Milena was in the Primary Section of the school she did swimming under Mrs. Guneththi but her forte was Karate and noticing her keenness and interest in karate her parents Raju Fernando and Krishanthi Priyadarshani

admitted their daughter to the school karate class and she came under Susantha Perera.

Her first Karate Meet was in 2014 and she participated as an under 14 competitor in Nanthako Kata Event which was held at Ratnapura and she clinched a Gold Medal at her first attempt and this achievement was a great boon for her karate career. In the mean time she came under her school Karate Coach Sumith Wasantha and in 2015 she took part in a Karate Meet organized by Puttalam District Karate Do Association in under 15 age group and received a Merit Certificate At the Sri Lanka Karate Do Asso-



ciation Meet she won a Gold for Kumite and in the same age category she participated in the North Western Provincial Karate Meet in 2016 and won a Gold for Kumite and in the All Island Inter School Karate Championship in

2017 in the same age group she bagged a Gold

In 2018 competing in the under 18 age category in the All Island Inter School Karate Meet organized by Sri Lanka Schools Karate Association she won a Gold and in 2019 All Island School Games organized by the Ministry of Education she grabbed a Bronze Medal and with these performances under her belt the Sri Lanka Karate Federation selected a Karate Squad and she was in the pool for Kumite Event.

So far competing in six karate tournaments she has won five Golds and a Bronze during her short stint in Karate.

KDCA to conduct Twenty20 cricket tourney

HAFIZ MARIKAR

A T20 inter schools cricket tournament is due to get underway this month. For the first time Kandy District Cricket Association has planned for an Under 19 Kandy District Schools Twenty20 Tournament, which will be worked off from 12th March. The event will feature eight teams. The matches will be

played under Twenty 20 rules.

The teams in "Group A" will be Trinity College, Kingwood College, Dharmaraja College and Sri Sumangala College.

"Group B" will comprise St. Anthony's College, Sri Rahula College, St. Sylvester's College and Vidyarthi College.

The winners and runners-

up will be presented with trophies, and there will be awards for Player of the Tournament, Man of the Match, Best Batsman, Bowler, and Fielder

The first game is on 12th March - between Dharmaraja College and Sri Sumangala College at Lake View grounds in the morning, same day in the afternoon St. Sylvester's College will

play their rivals Vidyarthi College at the same venue in the afternoon. On 13th - Trinity College vs. Kingwood College at Asgiriya Stadium, 15th March - St. Anthony's College vs. Sri Rahula College at St. Anthony's grounds, Katugastota. The two top teams of each group will play in the semi-finals and the winners of the semis will play the final.

Shashika the versatile ruggerite of Kandy Sports Club

(UPANANDA JAYASUNDERA - Kandy Sports Special Correspondent)

Shashika Jayawardena popularly known as 'Java' among friends, an old boy of St. Anthony's College, Kandy is an outstanding rugby player who started rugby in school as an Under 13 player and his first Coach was Nihal Ananda. His Under 17 Coach was Priyantha Gunaratne and the Under 18 Coach was Nihal Gunaratne popularly known as 'Viper' Gunaratne(Jnr.)

Shashika represented his schools first fifteen team for three years since 2005.

He led the school seven-a-side rugby team and he was the Vice Captain of the Under 15 side. In 2006 St. Anthony's Rugby Team won the Schools Rugby Sevens and became runner-up in the All Island 15-a-side Schools Rugby tournament.

In the year 2007 Shashika was selected to the Under 21 Junior National Rugby Team under the coaching of Sanath Martis at Chinese Taipei International Tourney in 2006. In 2007 he took part in the Brunei International Rugby tournament and he joined the champion Kandy Sports Club in the year 2007 and



Sashika Jayawardena, the outstanding rugby player

years at a stretch. Again he toured Japan under the captaincy of Namal Rajapaksa, the present Minister of Sports. He was a member of the Five Nations Champion Sri Lanka side and his Kandy SC Coach is Johan Taylor.

Sashika is intending to play rugby for the Kandy SC team as long as he is physically fit. He is an IRB Level One Strength Trainer and he is thankful to Sean Wijesinghe, Fazil Marija and Lasantha Wijesuriya for the guidance given to him and also thankful to Malik Samarawickrema, for all the support.

GORDONE boost for Colombo Cricket Club

ALTHAF NAWAZ

Colombo Cricket Club (CCC) who are the reigning champs in domestic cricket, has tied up with 'GORDONE' Sri Lanka as their exclusive sportswear partner for a period of one year. This was confirmed at a press briefing held on Thursday at the CCC premises.

Within four years of existence in the local market, this is the first instance GORDONE has managed to sponsor a cricket playing club in the country. They produce a wide range of sports fans collection using quality performing fabric. CCC will benefit with the full range of clothing for their players and the team officials including the casual kit, playing kit, material bag and required clothing for the players and the team officials. GORDONE Sri Lanka has already established itself as a popular brand which cares for the nation, and is passionate about uplifting sports in the country.

Further, the company has



Ashan Priyanjana, Captain CCC team(second from left) receives the sponsorship cheque from Niroshana Samarajeewa, Head of Marketing, GORDONE, Sri Lanka as their sportswear partner. Also in the picture are from left-Taranga Dhammika, Coach CCC, Sudath Silva, General Manager, CCC, Teshan Galhenage, Chairman/ Co-founder, GORDONE, Sri Lanka, (Pic by Dushmantha Mayadunne)

supported many other athletes like body building champion Lucian Pushparaj, Powerlifting Asian Record holder and Commonwealth Gold Medalist Ransilu Jayathilake, National Shot Putt champion and South Asian Bronze medalist Samith Madusanka and

Weightlifting champion Chaturika Weerasinghe as a clothing partner.

"We are delighted to tie up with the domestic cricket champions as the official sports clothing partner. This is the first instance we have supported cricket. Earlier, we

extended our support to some individual athletes. Being a local manufacturer, we have a future vision in becoming one of the top companies, while building trust within the public," said Teshan Galhenage, Chairman/Co-founder of the company.

Sports gear donated to Lucky Sports Club



Lucky Sports Club, Addalaichenai has decided to popularize Hardball cricket in the area. As the first step, sports gear and other required goods worth Rs.100,000.00 were purchased and the training began. Addalaichenai Lucky Sports Club President and senior Journalist S.M.Aroos, Lucky SC Treasurer U.L.Munaff and Organizer of the club M.L.Ansar handed over the gear to players at a ceremony held in Addalaichenai recently. (Text and Picture by: I.L.RIZAN, Addalaichenai Central Correspondent)

Sri Lankan Olympic stars of yesteryear

Williams revolutionised Lankan swimming from 1952 to 1960

Malcolm Anthony Williams alias Tony Williams who represented Sri Lanka at the Rome Olympics in 1960 in swimming events was born on October 28, 1938 in London.

He took to swimming at the age of 10 years while staying with his mother in Australia. Returning to Sri Lanka in 1949, he commenced training under coach Guy Theldaman, and won the 100 yards breaststroke event at the Public Schools Swimming Meet in 1952.

At the Junior Swimming Meet between Bombay and Sri Lanka in 1954, he showed international level potential while swimming

the 200m breaststroke in 3 minutes and 02 seconds.

He was the Captain of the St. Joseph's College Swimming Team in 1955. In 1956, the Josephian Team under his leadership won the Public Schools Swimming Championships.

As a schoolboy he participated in the National Swimming Championships and won the 200 yards breaststroke in 3 minutes 03.02 seconds shattering the existing record of 3 minutes 03.08 seconds.

The same year he was able to reduce the timing to 3 minutes 01 seconds. In 1956 at the Indo-Ceylon Swimming Meet held in Bombay, Williams won the

same event shattering the All-India record.

The St. Joseph's College Swimming Team at the Public Schools Swimming Meet in 1957 under the captaincy of Tony won the V.R. Schokman Shield and the William Jones Shield.

The same year at the Junior Swimming Meet the 100 yards butterfly stroke event was won by Tony while shattering the existing five-year old National record by eight seconds.

In 1958, as Captain of the Kinross Club Swimming Team, he shattered five Ceylon records and five National records at the National Swimming Championships. Among those records



Tony Williams

were the 220 yards breaststroke, 100 yards butterfly stroke and the 4X100 medley relay events.

Due to his huge success,

he was selected to represent the country at the 1958 Asian Games held in Tokyo, Japan. At the Asian Games, he was among the first six in the 100 metres and the 200 metres breaststroke events.

He participated at the Commonwealth Games held in Cardiff, Wales the same year but due to lack of experience in top level international competitions he could not make an impact.

Tony showed his excellence at the National Swimming Meets in 1959. At these meets he shattered 10 existing records. The unmatched record he established in the 220 yards butterfly stroke completing it in

2 minutes 52.2 seconds was among those 10 records.

That year he had established a total of 13 records. These included his records in the 100m, 110m, 200m, 220m freestyle, 200m breaststroke, 100m, 200m butterfly stroke, 4X100m, 4X110m and 4X100m medley.

At the Rome Olympics, Tony swam the 200 metres breaststroke in 2 minutes 59.8 seconds to be placed 6th in the heats and could not qualify for the finals.

Tony Williams who revolutionised the local swimming scene during the period from 1952 to 1960 could be described as a "flower that bloomed and faded in the Jungle." (C.D)

Sports Editor: 011 242 9223

Fax: 94 11 223 2694

email: sports.dailynews@lakehouse.lk www.dailynews.lk

WORLD OF SPORTS

(MARCH 1) LOCAL EVENTS
TENNIS
SSC Open at SSC Courts, Maitland Place
FOREIGN EVENTS
CRICKET (Pakistan Super League): Islamabad United vs Quetta Gladiators at Karachi
FOOTBALL (Premier League): Everton vs Southampton (Spanish League): Real Madrid vs Real Sociedad
TENNIS
Lyon Open at Halle Tony Garnier, France
Rotterdam Open at Rotterdam, Netherlands
Qatar Total Open at Doha
Argentina Open at Buenos Aires



Lankan CC celebrate their win (Pic courtesy SLC)

All-round Lankan CC emerge U-23 champions

DHAMMIKA RATNAWERA

Lankan CC put up a stunning performance to beat the favourites SSC by 59 runs in the SLC Under-23 Major Youth Cricket Tournament final worked off at the SSC Grounds in Maitland Place yesterday.

After compiling a formidable 223 in 49.2 overs, Lankan CC produced a splendid bowling performance on the field to dismiss their opponents to 164 runs in 44.3 overs and claim

their maiden Under-23 title. Lankan CC, showed a lot of determination from the start as they batted quite intelligently to finish with a match winning score after they were invited to bat first.

Kasun Abeyratne played the sheet anchor role with a solid half-century with Kevin Perera (40), Damitha Silva (30) and Lahiru Dilshan (22) providing the back up support.

The season campaigner Sammu Ashan (3/31), Dilum Thilakarathna (3/35) and

Kalana Perera (2/50) shared the wickets for the SSC.

However, the Lankan CC bowlers made run making difficult for the SSC batsmen by claiming wickets at regular intervals through Dunith Wellalage (3/29), Yasiru Rodrigo (2/23), Sawan Kankanange (2/9) and Sandun Sathsara (2/29).

SSC's key player Sammu Ashan was the only batsman to provide any real resistance as he went on to complete a batting half century.

LANKAN CC		SSC	
Vishwa Chathuranga	c Livera b K. Perera 14	Sohan de Livera	c D. Silva b Dilshan 11
Sawan Kankanange	c Ramanayake	Nipun Dhananjaya	c Dilshan b Sathsara 38
b D. Sudeera 14	L. Dilshan	Nuwandu Fernando	b Rodrigo 01
c Sanjula b Wickramasinghe. 22	Kevin Perera	Krishan Sanjula	c Abeyratne b Wellalage. 31
c Sanjula b K. Perera 40	Kasun Abeyratne	Kalana Perera	c Damitha b Sathsara. 00
lbw b Nadeeshan 51	Damitha Silva	Sammu Ashan	c Lakshan b Wellalage 50
b S. Ashan 30	Dunith Wellalage	Lakshitha Manasinghe	c Abeyratne b Rodrigo 05
c Sanjula b S. Ashan 01	Umesh Lakshan	Chamindu Wickramasinghe	c Lakshan b Wellalage 15
c Dhananjaya b S. Ashan 21	Methsith Jayamanne	Kavindu Nadeeshan	c Sathsara b Kankanange. 00
b D. Sudeera. 01	Yasiru Rodrigo	Himesh Ramanayake	c Wellalage b Kankanange 02
b D. Sudeera 11	Sadun Sathsara	Dilum Sudeera	not out 02
not out 01	Extras: (w14, lb2, nb1) 17	Extras: (w9) 09	
Total: (all out, 49.2 overs) 223	Fall: 1-19, 2-58, 3-61, 4-137, 5-173, 6-179, 7-190, 8-191, 9-208	Bowling: Kalana Perera 7-0-50-2, Himesh Ramanayake 5-2-11-0, Dilum Sudeera 10-1-35-3, Chamindu Wickramasinghe 6-0-36-1, Lakshitha Manasinghe 8-0-28-0, Kavindu Nadeeshan 6-0-30-1, Sammu Ashan 7.2-0-31-3	



Ashan Silva celebrates



Jaden Gunawardane in action (Pic by Priyan de Silva)

Ashan and Jaden SET NEW COURSE RECORDS at Eliyakanda

PRIYAN DE SILVA

Ashan Silva driving a Mitsubishi Evo ix set a new course record of 31.26 seconds for the Eliyakanda Hill Climb yesterday while Jaden Gunawardane clocked 33.63s on two wheels to erase the 33.752s mark set by Sangeeth Suriyage last year.

Ashan who has mastered the Eliyakanda track smashed Dilan Seneviratne's 2018 record of 32.422s on his first run with a timing of 31.78s and bettered it by clipping off 0.52s in his second run. Ashan was the fastest at last year's edition as well

Meanwhile, Gunawardane established a new course record clocking 33.63s while Sangeeth Suriyage, the previous record holder could only manage to clock 34.38s to take second place in the Group SM Super Motard Open event.



Angelo Mathews

MATHEWS TO CAPTAIN SRI LANKA in T20Is

Sri Lanka's former Skipper Angelo Mathews will be the team's stand-in captain for the three-match Twenty20 International series in the West Indies after Dasun Shanaka was left stranded by a Visa issue, the country's cricket board said.

Shanaka was named Sri Lanka's new T20I Captain last week but the 29-year-old could not board the flight that left with his teammates on Monday after failing to arrange a new transit visa to the United States.

"Mathews was appointed by the National

Selectors as Dasun Shanaka, who was appointed as the T20I Captain for the tour of West Indies, is yet to join the team owing to a delay in obtaining a U.S. transit Visa," Sri Lanka Cricket said in a statement.

"Shanaka confronted this issue pursuant to the loss of his previous passport, which had a valid Visa for the USA stamped on it. He is expected to join the team once the issue is resolved."



Tom Moody

LUCA AND SAVINI clinch SSC Open tennis titles

Luca Knese and Savini Jayasuriya clinched the Men's and Women's Open Singles titles respectively at the SSC Open Tennis Tournament, which continued at the SSC Courts in Maitland Place yesterday.

Knese defeated Vibuda Wijebandara 3-6, 6-0, 6-1 in the Men's Singles final while Jayasuriya trounced Janali Manamperi 6-1, 6-4 in the Women's Singles final encounter.

The results (All finals)

Girls' Under-12: Gehansa Methnadi beat Movindi Fernando 6-4, 1-6, 10-8.

Women's Open Singles: Savini Jayasuriya beat Janali Manamperi 6-1, 6-4. **Men's Open Singles:** Luca Knese beat Vibuda Wijebandara 3-6, 6-0, 6-1.



Luca Knese celebrates with the trophy

Savini Jayasuriya celebrates with the trophy

Ratnam notch-up FIRST WIN in Pre-League

ALTHAF NAWAZ

Two spectacular goals in the second half helped Ratnam SC edge out Blue Star SC 2-0 in their Pre-League Football Tournament match played at the Sugathadasa Stadium in Colombo yesterday.

A goal early in the second half by V. Jackson followed by another goal few minutes before the final whistle by Rajakumar Shanthan helped Ratnam SC notch-up a well deserved win.

It was Jackson who broke the deadlock, after a barren first half where both teams failed to improve in scoring.

However, off a well-executed pass from the right flank, Jackson chipped in with a left-footer, bisecting the rival goal-keeper Kaveesh Lakpriya to score the first goal.

Then, Shanthan sealed the game for Ratnam SC with a well measured kick in the dying stages of the game.



Meanwhile, in the matches played on Saturday, Colombo FC defeated the star-studded Up-Country Lions SC 3-1 while the Defenders SC beat Red Star SC 2-1.

Trinity EDGE OUT Mahanama at Asgiriya

HAFIZ MARIKAR

Trinity College edged out Mahanama College, Colombo by three wickets in their Inter-Schools Under-19 warm-up match played at the Asgiriya Stadium in Kandy on Saturday.

Mahanama piled up 246 for seven wickets in 50 overs with Pavan Rathnayake stroking a superb 117 inclusive of 14 boundaries.

However, Trinity overtook that score with 11 balls and three wick-

ets to spare thanks to some useful contributions from Thevin Amarasinghe (65), Pawan Pathiraja (55) and Abishek Anandakumar (41).

Chief scores

Mahanama: 246/7 in 50 overs (Pavan Rathnayake 117, D. Sandalidu 40, Matheesha Pathirana 4/60)

Trinity: 247/7 in 48.1 overs (Thevin Amarasinghe 65, Pawan Pathiraja 55, Abishek Anandakumar 41, Achintha Supun 4/40).

Thomian MASTERS TRIUMPH by 57 runs

The Thomian Masters defeated the Royal Masters by 57 runs in their 30-over cricket encounter played for the Sashi Ganeshan Memorial Trophy at the NCC Grounds in Maitland Place yesterday.

The Thomian Masters hit up 225 for three wickets from their 30 overs with Naresh Adikaram strok-

ing a fine century. In reply, the Royal Masters were restricted to 168 for nine in 30 overs with Mahinda Halangoda (2/17), Ishak Sahabdeen (2/40) and Anura Bulankulama (2/15) sharing the wickets.

Chief scores

Thomian Masters: 225/3 in 30

overs (Naresh Adikaram 110, Anura Bulankulama 73, Sajith Liyanage 2/22)

Royal Masters: 168/9 in 30 overs (Shezard Nizar 39, Gihan Shiromal 26 n.o., Nalliah Devarajan 24, Darsha Abeywardena 20, Mahinda Halangoda 2/17, Ishak Sahabdeen 2/40, Anura Bulankulama 2/15).

USJP continue to lead with FULL POINTS

The University of Sri Jayewardenepura (USJP) Team continued their winning form to take the lead after the fourth round of the Sri Lanka Inter-Club Super League Chess Championship worked off at the Sanhida Hall in Nugegoda yesterday.

USJP have already recorded wins against Anandians CC in the third round and Sokiens CC in the fourth round respectively. The Navy Chess

Team is following very closely having seven match points. Navy beat Grand Prix 3 ½ - 2 ½ in the third round while they edged out Kandy YMCA also 3 ½ - 2 ½ in the fourth round.

The standings (After fourth round): 1. University of Sri Jayewardenepura CC - 8, 2. Navy CC - 7, 3. Blue and Gold CC - 6, 4. Anandians CC - 4, 5. Sokiens CC - 4, 6. Grand Prix CC - 3, 7. Kandy YMCA - 3, 8. Maroons CC - 2, 9. Super Knights CC - 2, 10. Black and Gold CC - 1. (D.R)

TOM MOODY APPOINTED SLC Director of Cricket

Sri Lanka Cricket (SLC) yesterday announced the appointment of Tom Moody as the Director of Cricket, effective from today.

His appointment comes following recommendations made by the Technical Advisory Committee of SLC to revamp Sri Lanka's cricket operations.

Moody's role will be on consultancy basis, and he will have to fulfill 300 days of 'Mandatory Assignment' during his contracted three-year period.

Among many of his duties include the Analysis of the Future Tour Programme, focusing on the Domestic Tournament Structure, Player Welfare, Education and Skill Development, Coaching and Support Staff Structure and High-Performance and Data Analytics.

Moody once served SLC as the National Coach and led the team to the World Cup Final in 2007.

Daily News Business

Business Editor : (011) 242 9221 Fax : (011)2343694 e mail : business.dailynews@lakehouse.lk

Financial markets to proactively support growth - CBSL Governor

DINESH PERERA

Financial markets are expected to become more proactive to support the growth ambitions of the government. The relationship between the private sector and the government was envisioned as being a 'co-ordinated growth-oriented approach.' The Central Bank will continue to maintain liquidity in the markets.

Central Bank Governor Prof. W D Lakshman said, "Financial markets will become proactive, maximising funding sources for growth-oriented endeavours of the public as well as private sectors."

"Implementation of these structural reforms, along with the picking up of government revenues and a rationalisation of government expenditures, should ensure sustainability and successful management of public debt in the period ahead."

Lakshman was speaking at the inaugural webinar of the Veemansa initiative on 'The External Debt Situation in Sri Lanka' on February 24.

The Central Bank has already settled sizable foreign currency obligations amounting to US\$ 1.1 billion this year between January and February.

The Governor noted that there will be a decline in the debt servicing pressure on the economy from 2026. The Governor opined that recent reports by ICRA, Standard Chartered, and Barclays coincided with major movements at the UNHRC concerning the country were not by coincidence.

"These critiques in addition to being politically and ideologically motivated, appear to be cries of despair from a group of pessimists. That is what they do."

The Governor said that economic manage-

ment was more competently handled now than it was before.

He said, "When they combine with these numbers, the assumption that things will continue to move in the same way as they did during 2015-19, there cannot be anything but predictions of doom and gloom. I strongly believe that this problem has to be examined in a dynamic manner, in the light of new directions in policy and practice and the likely changes in the tempo of economic activity."

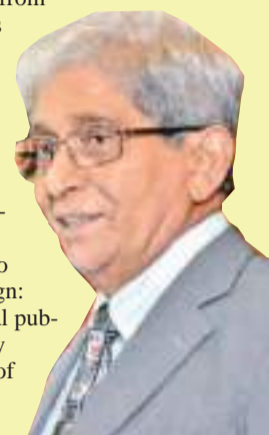
As Sri Lanka migrated to a middle-income status it lost access to concessional financing and had to resort to commercial borrowing. The government now intends to reduce the reliance on foreign borrowing.

He said, "The prospects for external financing has been adversely affected by risk aversion, and volatility found in global financial markets. Despite these challenges, and predic-

tions by many parties who project doomsday scenarios, the country continues with its unblemished record of debt servicing."

The ratio of foreign: domestic debt is expected to improve from 43:57 to 33:67. "This could have been during the 2nd half of the 2010s. Instead, foreign debt volume was increased from US\$ 24.6 billion in 2015 to US\$ 34.7 billion in 2020.

"Now is the time to bring down the foreign: domestic ratio of total public debt and gradually take the country out of the debt trap."



'MAHINDODAYA GAMATA SAVIYA'... PAGE 19

FDA approves Johnson & Johnson C-19 jab

US regulators have formally approved the single-shot Johnson & Johnson coronavirus vaccine, the third jab to be authorized in the country.

The vaccine is set to be a cost-effective alternative to the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines, and can be stored in a refrigerator instead of a freezer.

Trials found it prevented serious illness but was 66% effective overall when moderate cases were included.

The vaccine is made by the Belgian firm Janssen.

The company has agreed to provide the US with 100 million doses by the end of June. The first doses could be available to the US public as early as next week. (BBC)

H'tota Port launches services on East-West Maritime Route

Hambantota International Port (HIP) achieved another milestone in their multi services portfolio when they launched the wholesale supply of Marine Bunker fuels, together with their strategic partner Sinopec Fuel Oil Lanka Limited (SFOL).

Local company Lanka Marine Services (LMS), market leader in the Sri Lankan bunker supply industry, was SOFL's first buyer, carrying out an offshore bunkering operation with the support of HIP. LMS supplied IMO 2020 compliant Very Low Sulphur fuel oil (VLSFO) to their client, crude oil tanker m.v. Suez Hans, which was on route to the Suez from Chennai. The tanker refueled at the Hambantota Port anchorage via oil barge m.v. Kumana, chartered to LMS by HIP, to handle the bunker supply.

"This is a great opportunity for all Sri Lankan licensed Bunker Suppliers who are involved in supplying bunkers for vessels calling at any Port in Sri Lanka or plying the busy East-West Shipping route. Through our partnership with Sinopec, one of the largest global players trading VLSFO, they are well positioned to give competitive prices to attract vessels. This is a new and dynamic change in the bunkering supply market in Sri Lanka. With Sinopec entering the local market as a wholesaler the doors are now open to tap into the economies of scale this global giant can provide," Tissa Wickremasinghe, Chief Operating Officer of HIPG said.



SFOL is a BOI company registered in Sri Lanka under the HUB ACT, with access to privileges and trade con-

cessions its parent company commands. With the backing of Sinopec Fuel Oil, the world's largest refiner with a global bunker supply network, and services offered by HIP, SFOL plans to expand Sri Lanka's share in the regional marine bunker market.

They have already invested over 5 million US Dollars in a fully fledged IMO compliant oil tanker, which sails

under the Sri Lankan flag. "We intend bringing cost-competitive low sulfur fuel to all local players who will in turn bring their global clients to Sri Lanka. We imported 25,000 tons of low sulfur fuel oil to HIP in April 2020, but the port could not begin bunkering operations because of the COVID-19 lockdowns," says Tao Lyu, General Manager of Sinopec Fuel Oil Lanka Limited.

Ray Ren, CEO of HIPG said, "As the world settles down into a new normal, trade and commerce are being re-engineered to create new synergies, which is what HIP is positioning itself for. Any good venture must have dynamic partners, and this is one example of HIPG being inclusive in our approach to developing this multi purpose port."

AIIB approves US\$ 180 mn loan to Sri Lanka for COVID-19 response

Requests more Lankans to apply for jobs' in the bank

China's Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) has approved a US\$180 million loan to Sri Lanka under its COVID-19 Emergency and Crisis Response Facility to be disbursed through Bank of Ceylon and the Peoples Bank.

It was confirmed on Friday by Vice President, Chief Investment Officer, AIIB, Dr. D.J. Pandian to Sri Lankan Ambassador to China Dr. Palitha Kohona at a formal meeting in the Sri Lanka Embassy in China had with him. This was also conveyed to the Sri Lanka government.

"Dr. Pandian wanted the Sri Lankan Embassy to convey this message to the Sri Lankan Private sector to access this extensive funding available for the renewable energy sector, including solar and wind power sectors."

He had indicated that solar power generation costs only US\$ 3 cents per unit and that the AIIB has enough funds to provide assis-

stance to the private sector to develop renewable energy power sources at low rates.

Dr. Pandian said that if such projects were undertaken by the private sector, 35% of the project cost would be covered (by the AIIB) while in the case of a government entity undertaking this project, 80% of the project would be funded by the AIIB.

He further said that finding is also available from the Bank for water projects and electric public transport because the current emphasis at the bank is on renewable energy. "The bank would also be happy to fund the 'Light Trail Transport' project in Sri Lanka. Further he said that he could make a webinar presentation to the private sector along these lines. Ambassador Dr. Kohona urged the Finance Ministry to encourage more Sri Lankans to apply for positions in the bank due to the absence of Sri Lankans on the staff of the AIIB given the fact that Sri Lanka was a founding member of the bank.

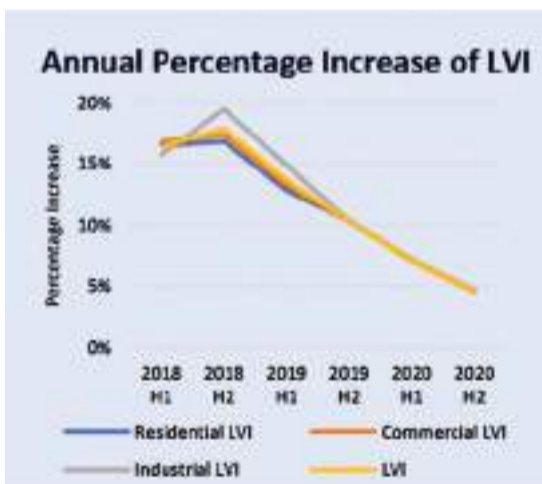
Colombo District LVI increases

Land Valuation Indicator (LVI) for Colombo District increased by 4.6% cent on year-on-year basis to 145.2 during the second half of 2020.

However, the percentage level of increase of LVI was in line with the declining trend observed over the recent periods. In addition, the LVI recorded an increase of 2.5per cent for the second half of 2020 compared to the first half of 2020.

All sub-indicators of LVI, namely Residential LVI, Commercial LVI and

Industrial LVI, contributed to the overall increase. Residential LVI recorded the highest annual increase of 4.7 per cent, followed by Industrial LVI and Commercial LVI.



Nations Trust Bank records resilient performance

Despite the unprecedented circumstances followed by the outbreak of the COVID-19 global pandemic, Nations Trust Bank Group demonstrated a resilient performance with a bottom-line growth of 9%. However, the net interest income fell short by 15% while the interest margins eroded by 80bps due to the combined impact of the lower interest regime, interest rates ceilings imposed and the concessionary interest rates granted on debt moratorium.

The sluggish credit demand from the private sector and the selective lending approach adopted by the Bank amidst the elevated credit risk prevalent in the market throughout the year led to a contraction in the loan book by 7% adding pressure on the interest income growth.

Further, suspending or refunding of certain charges by the Bank,



Gihan Cooray
Chairman



Prigantha Talawatte
Director/Chief Executive Officer

considering the current difficulties faced by customers due to the COVID-19 pandemic, also negatively impacted the Bank's fee-based income resulting in a drop of 12.9% over last year. Cards income resulted in the highest drop of 26% with the drop in card spend due to changes in customer spending pattern owing to the pandemic. The restrictions on non-essential

imports and an overall decline in exports caused a 7% drop in the trade fee.

The collection efforts were disrupted heavily due to the pandemic resulting in the non-performing loans ratio increasing to 7.2% compared to 6.2% reported last year.

The operating expenses were curtailed by LKR 968Mn, a 9% saving over last year. Various cost saving strategies and initiatives along with productivity, efficiency drives and focus on some of the large cost pools were the main reasons for the favorable variance. Accordingly, the cost to income ratio as of December 2020

'Sri Lanka's debt service capability at the height during COVID-19 pandemic'

The Government reiterates that even in the midst of various concerns raised by many parties on Sri Lanka's debt service capability, it was at the height during the COVID-19 pandemic, with the Government able to service its total external debt of around US\$ 4.3 billion in 2020, a statement by Ministry of Money and Capital Markets and State Enterprise Reforms and Central Bank said.

Recent commentary on Sri Lanka's credit outlook ignores the numerous policy initiatives of the Government of Sri Lanka, which have already started yielding results.

The recent research reports indicate different figures of external debt obligations for 2021. The external debt obligations of the Government for 2021 amount to around US\$ 3.7

billion including the amortization payments of USD 2.5 billion. Of this amount, thus far in 2021, the Government has settled over USD 500 million.

Sri Lanka will engage freely with all its investment and development partners and implement the envisaged measures to build up reserves through non-debt creating inflows while reviewing closely the international capital market developments.

The Government of Sri Lanka observes that the concerns expressed in the media in reference to recent reports on Sri Lanka's ability to ser-



vice its debt obligations by international banks are one sided, and do not take into consideration the numerous policy measures that have been introduced to revive the economy and ensure macroeconomic stability. These innovative policy measures are not restricted to traditional debt-based solutions to service the current debt obligations.

Measures to build resources through non-debt solutions, the preservation of foreign currency resources and the gradual phasing down of the relative share of for-

ign debt are already yielding desired results, with a high likelihood of harnessing further improvements during the remainder of the year and beyond.

Certain media reports published recently attempts to raise concerns about Sri Lanka's ability to honour its debt service obligations, based on backward looking and linear assumptions, thus ignoring the expected outcome of the novel policy regime currently in place.

While gross official reserves have moderated somewhat since end December 2020, such moderation is not expected to continue. When all relevant facts are considered, it becomes apparent that the fears raised in certain reports are, in fact, merely hypothetical.

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ComBank ranked 'Strongest Bank in Sri Lanka in 2020' by Asian Banker



Chief Operating Officer/Executive Director Sanath Manatunge with the award

The Commercial Bank of Ceylon has been declared the 'Strongest Bank in Sri Lanka in 2020' by the Asian Banker Magazine, based on the strength of its balance sheet. This accolade was presented to the Bank at a virtual plaque presentation ceremony on 25th February 2021 during which it was recognised as the strongest bank, with 50 places separating Commercial Bank and the second highest placed Sri Lankan bank. Commenting on this international ranking accorded to the Bank, Commercial Bank Managing Director Mr S. Rengana-than said: "This award is a testament not just to our resilience,

but to our ability to grow in the face of adversity. Maintaining a strong balance sheet is crucial to our ability to continue to help our customers survive the effects of the pandemic." The 2020 Asian Banker Strongest Banks ranking which should have been announced between August and September of the year was delayed this time, to enable the Magazine's research team to collate and incorporate the 2020 financial information into the assessment, to appraise performance during the pandemic. As such, this year's ranking reflects some of the impacts of the pandemic on the financial performance of banks, the magazine said.

The rankings for 2020 recognised banks and financial institutions that had stood through the unprecedented disruptions to the global economy caused by the pandemic and are well-positioned to play an important role to help economies recover and to restore livelihoods. The Asian Banker award is based on a detailed and transparent scorecard compiled and analysed after an independent assessment of six areas of balance sheet financial performance – the ability to scale, balance sheet growth, risk profile, profitability, asset quality, and liquidity. The ranking includes the strongest banks in Australia,

Bangladesh, Brunei, Cambodia, China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Laos, Macau, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, New Zealand, Pakistan, the Philippines, South Korea, Sri Lanka, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand, and Vietnam. The Asian Banker has been publishing its annual ranking of the Strongest Banks in the Asia Pacific region on the basis of balance sheet strength since 2007. The first Sri Lankan Bank to be listed among the Top 1000 Banks of the World and the only Sri Lankan bank to be so listed for 10 years consecutively, Commercial Bank operates a network of 268 branches and 887 ATMs in Sri Lanka.

Moose Clothing wins SLIM Brand Excellence Award



Hasib Omar, Executive Director/CEO at Moose Clothing Company (second left) with the company's Head of Sales and Marketing Stefan Schumacher, Head of Supply Chain Vinu Basnayake and Senior Manager Finance Nadeesha Gunawerdsana.

Moose Clothing Company clinched their first bronze award for "Best New Entrant Brand" category at the recently held SLIM Brand Excellence Awards 2020. Moose Clothing believes in creating clothing that's loved by all, allowing everyone to embrace and celebrate their unique personalities. Moose Clothing has over time established itself as versatile brand that creates comfortable quality clothing with the perfect fit. The brand is keen about perfecting every aspect of their clothing and puts in every effort to create a quality garment that will always speak for itself. Hasib Omar, Executive Director/CEO of Moose Clothing Company said, "This is indeed a testimony of our hard work and dedication towards the brand and our customers. We entered the market with that in mind and this award is a clear indication that we are on the right track." Established in 2018, the brand's

journey is all about celebrating the free-spirited personality of the wearers with versatile clothing that's suitable for work, dance and play. The SLIM Brand Excellence Awards is a celebration of brand excellence at the national level which recognises and rewards the outstanding efforts of outstanding marketers. SLIM endeavours to encourage best practices in branding and raise local brands to global standards, thereby enhancing the image of marketing in the country. Each year the panel of judges evaluates the applicants for each category of award, seeking the qualities that elevate brands beyond the normal realm. Moose Clothing Company is a result of a 50-year long expertise in the apparel industry and the brand passionately strives to craft quality clothing through innovation that will always evolve with the wearer and resonate their lifestyles making them feel their best.

JB Vantage Money Market Fund affirmed A+ by ICRA

JB Financial (Pvt) Ltd, a specialist asset manager, investing in a range of investment grade debt instruments, equity and gilt-edged securities received a credit risk rating of [SL]A+ mfs (pronounced as Sri Lanka A plus m f s) for its JB Vantage Money Market Fund (JBMMF) recently from ICRA Lanka Limited. The fund is the second largest Money Market Fund in terms of assets under management (AUM) in Sri Lanka with Rs.18.82 billion as at December 2020.

The fund was initiated on August 4, 2011 and has been in existence for nearly a decade consistently outperforming the benchmark (NDBIB CRISIL91-day T-bill Index). Christine Dias Bandaranaike (CFA), CEO of JB Financial (Pvt) Ltd and Fund Manager of the JBMMF said, "The rating reflects our solid position as a leading specialist investment manager. We have over the past few years grown the Fund's AUM while maintaining a robust risk management framework and sound financial met-

rics in line with the investment mandate." "The rating further signifies the relative prudence of the fund which only invests in companies which are willing to subject themselves to an external rating and are therefore transparent with their financials. As part of our investment mandate, we only invest in companies that are considered Investment Grade, that is rated BBB- and higher by an external rating agency. Investments in the BBB rated category is further restricted up to an average

of 30%, while the remaining is invested in A rated and above companies in order to manage and mitigate credit risk more prudentially." Deutsche Bank AG acts as the trustee of the JBMMF, and ensures that the fund manager operates according to the investment mandate to achieve the goals and objectives while safeguarding investors' interests. The fund is regulated by the Securities and Exchange Commission on a regular basis to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements.



Christine Dias Bandaranaike (CFA), CEO

Ocean Lanka Service Awards honours 39 Long-Serving Pioneers



Ocean Lanka Managing Director, Dr. Austin Au and Senior Management team with a 25-year honoree

Ocean Lanka, Sri Lanka's largest weft knitted fabric manufacturer, honoured a large cohort of staff marking employment milestones at the Ocean Lanka Service Awards, where cash prizes were presented to 12 employees who have served for 25 years and 27 staff members who have served for 20 years. Addressing the staff,

Managing Director of Ocean Lanka, Dr. Austin Au, described the honorees as "pioneers" whose contributions have made Ocean Lanka the foremost textile manufacturer in the region. "For the past 25 years, the company has thrived on the passion, perseverance and dedication of our staff. We continue to shape an environment that values

communication, transparency, respect and trust – while embracing a growth mindset. This is our DNA and the long years of service are ample proof of those core values being vibrantly lived, every day." Dr. Au said. The Ocean Lanka Service Awards is a culminating activity of company's 25th anniversary celebrations and is considered as one of

the most important employee recognition events, along with the 'Sewa Abhiman Loyalty Awards'. The company remains committed on the professional development of staff and the allocation of various incentives and employee engagement activities to further motivate them to deliver the best of their ability.

ACL Cables launches 'ACL shop online'

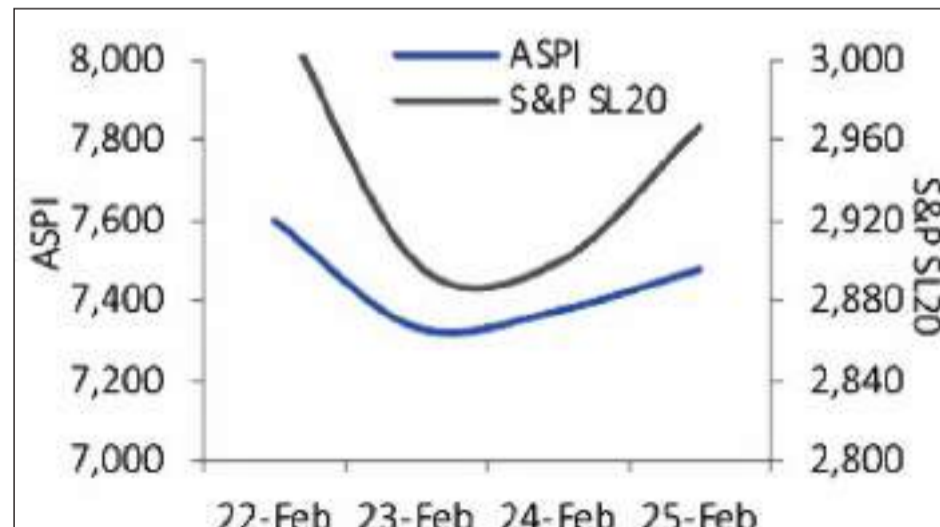
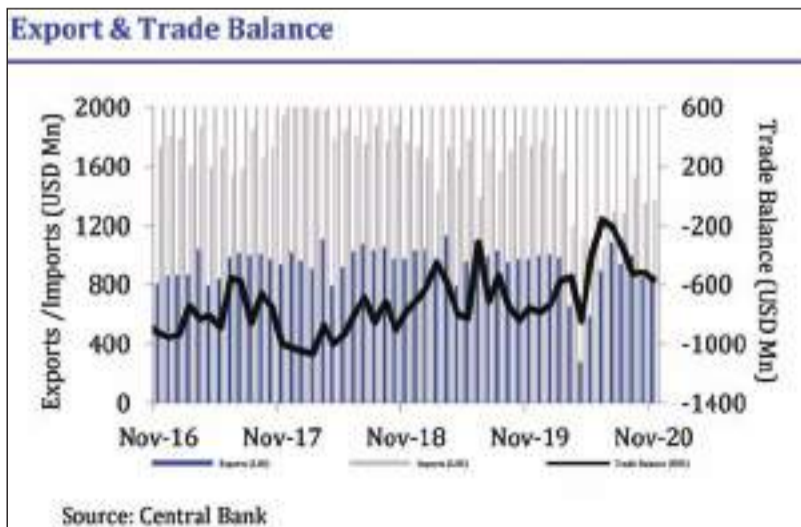
Creating another revolution in the cable industry, ACL Cables PLC, Sri Lanka's no.1 cable manufacturer, launched its own e-commerce platform designed to help customers personalize their buying experience. The "ACL shop online" e-commerce platform can be accessed through the ACL corporate website. This paves way for the company to reach its customers more conveniently and efficiently and also provides a novel way of digitalizing its sales effort. The inaugural online sales order was placed by two of the key account dealers of ACL, namely: Sunil Kumarage and Lasith Karunatilake. For ACL it is a landmark event, as this is the first time creating their own online space, ensuring customers have easy access to the wide range of products. Previously, ACL products were available online only via third party listed e-commerce platforms. With the new e-commerce platform, all ACL customer segments namely dealers, consumers (house builders), electricians etc., can obtain all their product requirements at one location. Customers are required to register their details on the ecommerce portal prior to shopping. This will ensure



users to fulfill their requirements with ease during recurring visits and a seamless shopping experience. Nevertheless a general customer is given the option to access the shopping portal and purchase their requirement without a registration as well. Commenting on the launch of the site, "Suren Madanayake, Managing Director ACL Cables PLC noted, "As the industry's innovator we always open doors for novel concepts and innovative platforms. This is one such occasion. With the prevailing situa-

tion within the country we believe that this will be helpful for our customers, especially to continue their usual construction activities without any delay." Notably, this e-commerce platform is positioned as a separate sales channel for ACL apart from its usual dealer and distribution sales channels, which is the core sales operation of the company. ACL Cables own 70% of the cable market share and revenue over Rs. 18 billion as a group.

Market dips with partial rebound - Acuity Stockbrokers



The Bourse ended the week on a negative note this week with ASPI decreasing by 321.60 points (or 4.12%) to close at 7,476.34 points, while the S&P SL20 Index also decreased by 131.49 points (or 4.24%) to close at 2,966.63 points. Expo Lanka was the highest contributor to the week's turnover value, contributing LKR 1.36Bn or 12.55% of total turnover value. Sampath followed suit, accounting for 12.21% of turnover (value of LKR 1.32Bn) while Browns Investments contributed LKR 1.15Bn to account for 10.60% of the week's turnover. Total turnover value

Liquidity (Value & Volume)

The Banks Industry Group was the highest contributor to the week's total turnover value, accounting for 22.46%

amounted to LKR 10.81Bn (cf. last week's value of LKR 20.44Bn), while daily average turnover value amounted to LKR 2.70Bn (-33.91% W-o-W) compared to last week's average of LKR 4.09Bn. Market capitalization meanwhile, decreased by 4.13% W-o-W (or LKR 140.88Bn) to LKR 3,269.43Bn cf. LKR 3,410.31Bn last week. (or LKR 2.43Bn) of market turnover. Industry Group's turnover was driven primarily by Sampath, & Commercial Bank which accounted for 83.70% of the sector's total turnover. Capital Goods Industry Group meanwhile accounted for 19.61% of the total turnover value while Materials Industry Group contributed 17.56% to the weekly turnover. The Food, Beverage & Tobacco Industry Group dominated the market in terms of share volume, accounting for 46.70% (or 206.17Mn shares) of total volume, with a value contribution of LKR 1.48Bn. The Materials

Dividend Announcements

Company, DPS (Rs.), Dividend Type, Date (XD); VALLIBEL ONE PLC, 0.5, First interim, 04/03/2021; COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT COMPANY PLC, 3.5, Final dividend, 01/04/2021; SEYLAN DEVELOPMENTS PLC, 1.2, First and Final dividend, 31/03/2021; COMMERCIAL

BANK OF CEYLON PLC (VOTING), 4.5, First and Final dividend, 31/03/2021; CHEVRON LUBRICANTS LANKA PLC, 2, Fourth interim, 09/03/2021; NATIONS TRUST BANK PLC (VOTING), 2, First and Final dividend, 09/03/2021; NATIONS TRUST BANK PLC (NON-VOTING), 2, First and Final dividend, 09/03/2021. Key Economic Indicators January Prime Lending Rate-5.82%; Ave. Wtd. Deposit Rates-5.58%; Ave. Wtd. Fixed

Dep. Rates-6.88%; CCPI Inflation Y-o-Y % (Base 2013)-3%. **Net Foreign Position** Foreign investors were net sellers this week with total net outflow amounting to LKR 1.29Bn relative to last week's total net outflow of LKR 0.88Bn (46.3% W-o-W). Total foreign purchases decreased by 35.6% W-o-W to LKR 0.28Bn from last week's value of LKR 0.44Bn, while total foreign sales amounted to LKR 1.57Bn relative to LKR 1.32Bn recorded last week (19.1% W-o-W).

FEATURE/NEWS

Private sector job opportunities for rural folk under 'Mahindodaya Gamata Saviya'

SHIRAJIV SIRIMANE in Kurunegala

In a bid to assist the job creation initiatives done by the private sector especially in rural areas, a novel program 'Mahindodaya Gamata Saviya' was launched under the Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa guidance last week.

The first two project launches under this program were held last week in Kurunegala District involving two leading private sector companies, Cargills Ceylon Limited at Kurunegala and 'The Lover Accessories Pvt. Ltd' at Giribawa under tight health regulations.

"No single government anywhere in the world can provide 100% employment to its population and hence all governments look at the private sector towards job creation. However, these initiatives done by the private sector over the past years have been conducted without much assistance/recognition from the government," Prime Minister's Private Secretary, Rohitha Rajapaksa told 'Daily News Business' while launching the project.

"Under the newly launched 'Mahindodaya Gamata Saviya' program the government will not only assist these private sector driven job creation projects but will also invest in terms of providing the much needed infrastructure," he said. He noted that this will see the private sector getting more involved with the government and not going on their own and working together rather than going two different ways which was the common scenario up to now.

"We have also noted that several private sector companies have folded their investment plans due to long procedures in approvals, licensing, lack of a venue and other red tape issues. We will get involved in ironing out these issues and fast track these clearances."

Rajapaksa said that this program was initially launched from the North Western Province since they found out after a survey that there was a lot of unemployment especially



Project Designer and Coordinator Prabath Ariyaratne presenting the 'Mahindodaya Gamata Saviya' proposal to Prime Minister's Private Secretary, Rohitha Rajapaksa.

among women. In addition, the social fabric of the area is also 'disturbed' with several women migrating for 'house maid' jobs in the Middle East.

'Mahindodaya Gamata Saviya' will ensure that the employees will be given sufficient pay and most importantly skilled training which will allow her to create her own self-employment project in the future if she desires.

One such project now linked under the 'Mahindodaya Gamata Saviya' program that was launched at Giribawa last Saturday was 'The Lover Accessories Pvt. Ltd' production facility

which produces ladies shoes under the brand name Fashion-Nova to the local market.

This facility in Giribawa employs over 105 female workers but it is housed in a temporary 'Praja Shalawa' (Community Hall) and Rajapaksa promised to offer them a permanent building with funds from the government. He also presented Rs. 1 million as an initial payment towards this to Giribawa Pradeshiya Sabha and instructed its Chairman Ananda Rupasinghe to provide a suitable government land/building permanently to house this shoe producing facility.



Prime Minister's Private Secretary, Rohitha Rajapaksa visiting the shoe making facility of The Lover Accessories in Giribawa

Rajapaksa said that since they plan several other ventures with the private sector under the 'Mahindodaya Gamata Saviya' the government is ready to provide more infrastructure facilities to new private sector initiatives of this nature.

"We have observed that the IQ levels of women in the Giribawa area are very high and we believe that they after receiving their basic training will move out and start their own self-employment project sourcing shoe materials to manufacturers from their home. This can be done through the proposed 'collation houses' which we will also initiate soon. Hence we aim for over 2,000 women to find employment from this area alone in less than 6 months."

Kurunegala District feeds the highest number of female's house maids overseas from Sri Lanka and it has created a series of social issues. He said under this job creation initiative women should be able to earn around Rs. 45, 000 which is almost equal to what a 'house maid' gets when they go overseas leaving their families behind.

"Under 'Mahindodaya Gamata Saviya' program women can stay home, look after their family and earn the same 'pay'. We will soon 'pin' a pension scheme to this 'private sector based work scheme', a luxury a house maid is not entitled to. "The second project

launched in Kurunegala last week was with Cargills Ceylon PLC where we are creating an out grower self-employment model with women farmers."

Under this program, selected women farmers would be given all assistance including seeds, fertilizer and technical know-how by Cargills and most importantly will also enter into a 'forward buying agreement' with them ensuring that the produce is purchased by Cargills.

The government will also identify baron land and offer them to farming on long term leases and through the Government Agriculture Graduates, technical assistance too would be provided for them.

He said that the 'Mahindodaya Gamata Saviya' program will also look towards issues that these women farmers face and intervene to solve them. "In a bid to upskill the knowledge of NWP province student's ICT skills we will present 1,000 computers with internet connection to schools," he said.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister's Coordinating Secretary and Designer of this Project, Prabath Ariyaratne said that under the first phase of these two programs over 1,500 new jobs would be created.

"We have drawn bigger plans to create over 20, 000 new jobs in the next two years." Outlining the concept he said that they have already talked to



Some of the workers at the 'the Lover' shoe making facility in Giribawa Pictures by Shirajiv Sirimane

Cargills who will be extending their out grower model to more areas.

"In addition, Cargills will also invest in two milk processing plants in the area generating more direct employment in their factories and also in the dairy industry."

In addition two other fruit and vegetable export processing plants are to be built by Sanmik an Australian owned organic and natural food product manufacturer and exporter.

He said another plan is to create 6,000 self-employment opportunities where government will provide seed and other assistance and most importantly create a model linking State owned enterprises like Sathosa and Laksala to purchase their products such as

handlooms, coir and fabric and other similar products along with fruit and vegetables and even mushrooms.

'Mahindodaya Gamata Saviya' has also identified a series of CSR initiatives and one such is providing Rs. 100,000 each to 100 selected temples.

In a bid to provide legal assistance 'one day' mobile clinics will be held in several areas where people could get 'legal aid' free of charge from a panel of 20 lawyers that will be assigned to this initiative.

The Prime Minister is really keen to expedite this 'Mahindodaya Gamata Saviya' program which will be spread out to other districts in the future ensuring that the less privileged people are not overlooked.

'Sri Lanka's debt service capability... From page 17

At the same time, authorities will continue to take measures to build up official reserves with the help of measures already implemented and further measures as necessary in the period ahead. It is noteworthy that the Government has launched a major drive towards promoting real inflows of foreign exchange through actively facilitating various merchandise and services exports, in both traditional and non-traditional sectors. The import curtailment measures and the steady recovery in export earnings would continue to improve liquidity in the domestic foreign exchange market. Further, envisaged equity investment flows through the Colombo Port City and Industrial Zones and the prioritization of project financing would help reduce the share of foreign debt notably in the period ahead, thereby dispelling concerns about debt sustainability.

In this context, settling the maturing ISBs of US dollars 1.-1.5 billion, per year, over the medium term, need not be viewed as a major source of concern, given the entire stock of outstanding ISBs account for only 16.7 per cent of Sri Lanka's total government debt as of end

February 2021. It is also stressed that lenders in the majority of 83.3 percent of the debt stock have raised no concern whatsoever about Sri Lanka's ability to honour debt obligations. The authorities remain committed to honoring all upcoming debt obligations, leaving zero probability of any form of default on any obligation, which would jeopardise the longstanding relations with stakeholders and the impeccable credit history of the country.

The engagement with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) continues at staff level and as a member state in technical exchanges of know-how. Exploration of liquidity facilitation arrangements with regional central banks is also continuing, with some discussions are at an advanced stage.

As indicated in the Budget 2021, the Government has adopted a novel approach in relation to foreign financing, while enhancing the effectiveness of already secured financing channels, aimed at reducing the share of foreign financing of the budget deficit over the medium term. Reflecting the impact of measures already put in place by the Government, the relative share of outstanding external debt has already declined notably.

The Government aims to reduce its external debt over the medium term to around 1/3 of the total debt, and already the share of external debt has declined to around 40 per cent by end 2020 from over 48 per cent at end 2019.

The measures introduced to manage non-essential imports helped ease the trade deficit to USD 5,978 million in 2020 from USD 7,997 million in 2019. The trade deficit is further expected to shrink in 2021 to around USD 4 billion. Export facilitation is expected to continue through allowing intermediate goods imports unhindered and promoting domestic value chain improvements, which would result in export earnings of about USD 13 billion in 2021.

Additionally, despite the projections of downturn in workers' remittances, Sri Lanka recorded an increase of over USD 400 million remittances in 2020 with an aggregate of USD 7.1 billion. The policy measures to further incentivise remittances flows were facilitated with the Budget 2021 announcement of an additional Rs. 2 for conversion of per USD remittance, and the banks were required to sell 10 percent of such remittance conversion to

the Central Bank. The Central Bank has already commenced such absorption of conversions into its foreign exchange reserve. Further arrangements to improve foreign currency liquidity have been introduced, including a mandatory conversion of 1/4 of export proceeds.

The Government is also in the process of channeling in official credit sources, with priority being envisaged for policy loans with a significantly high liquidity component. In addition, the commercial external financing component of the already lined-up term financing facility and other market financing components are envisaged in line with Budget 2021.

Sri Lanka Development Bonds (SLDBs) and loans of Overseas Banking Units (OBUs) also remain sources of foreign currency financing mainly from domestic foreign currency earning entities. The recently introduced measures to entice foreign investors to the government securities market and the real economy through an attractive foreign exchange swap arrangement are also likely to help enhance foreign currency inflows in the near term.

Real investment flows to the country remain a prom-

ising source based on the Colombo Port City related developments. The land reclamation work had been completed and the required legislation is being finalised. In December 2020, the Sri Lankan conglomerate, LOLC Group, signed an agreement with the Port City developers for a Mixed Development Project valued at USD 1 billion, which is set to break ground in mid-2021.

In this context, the Government reiterates its utmost commitment on meeting its external debt obligations, which will be facilitated not only through direct and indirect financing arrangements but also through highlighted policy measures and the current work plan to increase non-debt creating forex inflows.

Investors are invited to approach the Sri Lankan policy authorities at the highest levels who always remain open for constructive dialogue and will welcome any one-on-one engagement or roadshow discussions, without being dissuaded by premature one-sided opinion expressed without factoring the ground realities and the actual outcomes of policy measures introduced by the Government of Sri Lanka.

Nations Trust Bank records... From page 17

During the Pandemic, the bank strengthened its digital essentials in order to keep its customers constantly connected and facilitated all banking services digitally.

The Bank recognised the importance of contributing to assisting adversely affected businesses with a view to supporting the revival of

the national economy and rebuilding livelihoods. Towards this cause, the Bank allocated Rs. 7 Billion for 2020, of internally generated funds under the 'Nations Diriya' scheme.

However, gains on trading FX

increased as a result of FX funding swaps with the depreciation of the rupee during the current period in contrast to the appreciation experienced during the same period last year. The Bank continued to benefit from the low cost funding

Swaps compared to the cost of rupee deposits. The bank also benefited with trading profits on its' fixed income securities portfolio with the drop in market rates resulting in an overall growth in Non-Fund Based Income by 18% over last year despite the drop-in fee-based income.



DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA

ISSUE OF TREASURY BILLS

Rs. 45,000 million Treasury Bills are to be issued through an auction on 03rd March 2021

The Details of Treasury Bill issues are as follows :

Maturity Period	91 Days	182 Days	364 Days	Total
ISIN*	LKA09121F044	LKA18221I037	LKA36422C040 ***	
Amount Offered (Rs. Mn.)	7,500	12,500	25,000	45,000
Maximum yield rate for acceptance (%)**			5.10	

Date of Auction : 03rd March 2021
 Date of Settlement : 05th March 2021
 Date of Issue : 05th March 2021
 Closing date and time of bid submission : Wednesday 03rd March 2021, at 11.00 a.m.
 Minimum amount of a bid : Rupees five million (Rs. 5,000,000/=) and multiples of Rupees one million (Rs. 1,000,000/=) there onwards.

Bids are invited from the Primary Dealers in Government Securities. Bids should be made only through the electronic bidding facility provided by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka (CBSL).

The CBSL may accept a higher or lower amount than the offered amounts for each maturity by reallocating amounts between the maturities, depending on the market conditions, but without exceeding the total amount on offer at this auction.

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

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

* International Securities Identification Number

** The yield rates of 91 day and 182 day maturities will be decided below the level of 364 day maturity at the auction.

*** New holiday treatment for Treasury Bill maturities applies, i.e. effective from 2022, in the event the maturity falls on a bank holiday, payments will be made on the immediate following business day.

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

Issuing Office

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

APFASL honours Public Sector Institutions

At Best Annual Reports & Accounts Awards 2020

The Coconut Research Board, Buddhist and Pali University of Sri Lanka and the University of Sri Jayewardenepura were adjudged as the overall winners at the Best Annual Report and Accounts Awards 2020 organised by the Association of Public Finance Accountants of Sri Lanka (APFASL), the Public Sector Wing of CA Sri Lanka at the BMICH with State Minister of Money, Capital Markets and State Enterprise Reforms Ajith Nivard Cabraal and Secretary to the Treasury, S.R. Attygalle as special invitees.

The Public Sector Best Annual Reports and Accounts Awards is an initiative aimed at helping improve the quality of annual reports and accounts issued by public sector organisations to help enhance transparency and accountability within the sector, while also promoting the underlying need to develop high-quality financial reporting.



State Minister Ajith Nivard Cabraal presents an award to one of the public sector organisations which excelled in high-quality financial reporting.

A total of nine public sector institutions including the Buddhist and Pali University of Sri Lanka, Coconut Research Board, Employee Trust Fund Board, Ministry of Road and Highways, Sri Lanka Air Force, Office of the Chief Secretary North Central Province, Urban Council Balangoda, Dehiwala-Mount Lavinia Municipal Council and Karuwalagawewa Pradeshiya Sabha were the main winners under a total of nine categories.

The awards were given

under nine categories classified under Ministries, Departments, Universities, Non-Commercial Statutory Boards, Research Institutions, Provincial Councils, Municipal Councils, Urban Councils and Pradeshiya Sabhas.

A total of 24 public sector organisations were honoured at the awards ceremony while certificates of compliance were awarded to 32 public sector organisations.

The first runners up were the University of Sri Jayewardenepura, National Science Foundation, Coconut Cultivation Board, National Intellectual Property Office of Sri Lanka, Chief Secretary's Secretariat - Northern Province Council, Urban Council - Kalutara, Colombo Municipal Council and Nattandiya Pradeshiya Sabha.

The second runners up were: University of Colombo, National Engineering Research and Development Center of Sri Lanka, State Pharmaceuticals Manufacturing Corporation of Sri Lanka, Department of Buddhist Affairs, Chief Secretary's Office Southern Province, Urban Council Mannar and Puttalam Pradeshiya Sabha.

The awards were held alongside the CIPFA Membership Certificate Awarding Ceremony, where public sector accountants and auditors were conferred with the membership from the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA), London.

Manil Jayasinghe, President of CA Sri Lanka said that the Institute has always been conscious of the critical anchor role the public sector plays in the economic development of Sri Lanka.

"Therefore, in our standing as the National Body of Accountants, CA Sri Lanka through our Public Sector Wing rolled out a series of groundbreaking initiatives aimed at enhancing the public sector and strengthening the skills and expertise of public sector accountants and auditors."



Representatives of D Samson Industries, Ajith Hemantha - Executive - Supply Chain, Renuka Bandara - Chief Finance Officer, Bhatiya Amarakoon - Executive Director, Lakmal Dharmaratne - Chief Operating Officer, Dilshan Rajapaksa - Executive Director, Kulatunga Rajapaksa - Emeritus Chairman of DSI Samson Group and Kasun Rajapaksa - Managing Director of DSI. Representatives of the Karapitiya Hospital Dr Vigeetha Withanage - Consultant Virologist, Dr Harshanie Ubeseekara - Deputy Director, Dr Nishanie Ubeseekara - Deputy Director, Dr Priyanka Jeewarathna - Director and Dr Bhagya Piyasiri - Consultant Microbiologist

DSI donates PCR Unit to Karapitiya Teaching Hospital in Galle

D Samson Industries to alleviate the effects of the Coronavirus pandemic which has hit the country hard donated a PCR unit to the Karapitiya Teaching Hospital in Galle. The gesture reflects DSI's solidarity with its stakeholders as they seek to meet basic needs and mitigate the effects of COVID-19.

Representatives of D Samson Industries, Doctors at Karapitiya Teaching Hospital and representatives of Analytical Instruments were present at the occasion.

"We recognized the needs of our disaster-impacted community and hope to contribute towards recovery from this pandemic and build resiliency among the community.

DSI's mission is to transform lives by providing hope, dignity, and a sense of renewed possibility to individuals, families, and communities impacted by disasters or other challenging life circumstances," expressed DSI Managing Director, Kasun Rajapaksa.

"To help fight the epidemic, a coordinated effort was made by our project team to procure and deliver this much-needed unit to the Karapitiya Teaching Hospital," "As part of our responsibility to be good corporate citizens, we stand by our employees and customers in good times and in challenging times, and hope the worst of the pandemic's impact passes over Sri Lanka quickly," stated Executive Director of DSI Dilshan Rajapaksa.

D. Samson Industries is the largest footwear manufacturer in Sri Lanka with over 3,000 employees in the footwear plants; while DSI Samson Group provides over 10,000 direct jobs. The group also provides over 5,000 indirect jobs by way of sub-contracting and support services across its 25 companies.

Sunshine's Watawala Tea Ceylon rebrands as 'Sunshine Consumer Lanka'

Aligning with the diversification and expansion goals of the Group, Watawala Tea Ceylon Limited (WTCL), a 100% owned subsidiary of Sunshine Holdings PLC (CSE: SUN) announced that the business has been renamed as 'Sunshine Consumer Lanka Limited'.

The rebranding marks a new strategic direction with an ambitious vision to expand its presence beyond branded tea leveraging its leadership position and stepping into more categories in the competitive and rapidly-growing FMCG (Fast-Moving Consumer Goods) sector of Sri Lanka.

In August 2020, Sunshine Holdings marked the first step in this journey by completing the acquisition of a leading Sri Lankan confectionery company, Daintee Limited, adding several prestigious brands to its portfolio. The transaction was valued at Rs.

1.7 billion, and the acquisition was in line with the Group's strategy to expand beyond tea. Today, Sunshine Consumer Lanka leads in the tea categories and toffees and sweets segment of the confectionery category with some of the country's most-loved brands Watawala, Zesta, Ran Kahata, Daintee and Milady.

The company's branded tea business is currently Sri Lanka's largest, with a significant market share of 37%. The three brands Watawala, Zesta and Ran Kahata cater to three distinct market segments, and all the brands have reaffirmed their recognition among Sri Lankan consumers.

The confectionery business boasts an extensive product range consisting of toffees, sweets, jellies, chocolates, cocoa-based confectionery, bubblegum, desserts, biscuits and

snacks where Daintee maintains more than 40% market share in toffees and sweets. The products are marketed under the brand names such as Daintee, Milady, Bensons, Chito, Chix, X-tra and Bitz.

Commenting on the rebranding, Sunshine Consumer Lanka's Chief Executive Officer Surith Perera said, "Over the last few years, we have been making waves in the FMCG sector with our tea brands, where we enjoy the market leader position in branded tea. The first significant step in our goal to expand beyond tea has been the acquisition of Daintee Limited, even at a time where the entire business landscape of the country was affected by a raging pandemic. Furthermore, while expanding



Sunshine Consumer Lanka Limited Managing Director Shyam Sathasivam and Chief Executive Officer Surith Perera celebrates the rebranding with staff members

within the FMCG market, we will be leveraging on our strengths of branding and distribution which has enabled us to be the market leader in Tea. Under the new company name, we envision an ever-growing portfolio and hope to achieve the vision we have for every one of our brands to be No. 1 in their sector of influence."

Port City Colombo donates school bags valued at Rs. 1 mn to schoolchildren in Moneragala

Port City Colombo recently made a donation of 1,000 school bags valued at nearly Rs. 1 million to schoolchildren of low income families in the Moneragala District who are entering their first year of schooling in 2021.

The donation was handed over to Vijitha Berugoda, State Minister of Dhamma Schools, Pirivenas and Bhikkhu Education, as a contribution to the State Ministry program 'Dinamu'.

The donation was made at the Port City Colombo premises. Also present at the event were officials from the State Ministry of Education, Raja Edirisuriya Executive Project Director of Port City Colombo, Yue Yeqing Assistant Managing Director of Port City Colombo, Yamuna Jayaratne Director Sales and Marketing of Port City Colombo and Kassapa Senarath Head of Public Relations of Port City Colombo.

Following the donation, Vijitha Berugoda expressed



Vignettes of the donation

his appreciation for Port City Colombo's contributions and acknowledged the company's efforts in preparing a world-class financial city for Sri Lanka. He commended Port City Colombo's initiatives to prepare Sri Lanka's next generation to be globally competitive, forward thinking and fully equipped to face future challenges. Port City Colombo pledged to continue its commitment in supporting the 'Dinamu' program and continue other initiatives that benefit the next generation.

Port City Colombo is a brand new city development built as an extension of the existing Colombo CBD with an initial investment of US\$1.4 billion and an expected US \$ 15 billion overall investment when completed. Spanning 269 hectares, it is a sea reclamation project joined to the current central business district.

Port City Colombo is made up of five different precincts which comprises of Financial District, Central Park Living, International

Island, The Marina and Island Living.

When completed, Port City Colombo is estimated to have some 5.7 million square metres of build up space, boasting some of the best in design in terms of Grade A offices, Medical Facilities, Educational Facilities, Integrated Resort, Marina, Retail Destinations, Hotels and various Lifestyle Developments. Using the latest sustainable city design and smart city concepts, Port City Colombo will be the hub of South Asia.

HNB Finance relocates branch in Anuradhapura

HNB Finance recently shifted its branch in Anuradhapura to four-storey premises located at Abhaya Place, New Town.

To coincide with the relocation of the branch, a special awareness campaign was launched in Anuradhapura to increase awareness of HNB Finance's extensive and reliable portfolio of services amongst the public. The branch is serviced by a team of experienced staff members fully geared to offer customers an efficient, fully-fledged

portfolio of exceptional and comprehensive financial services, including gold loans, business loans, personal loans, leasing facilities, fixed deposits as well as micro and home loans.

The facility is aimed at further strengthening customer relationships in a much more comfortable and efficient manner that is in line with the current health directives enforced in the country. With HNB Finance's time tested, trusted product portfolio and proven track record of



Chaminda Prabhath addresses the event

excellent customer dealings, the company hope to

continue to uplift the living standards in this culturally rich and highly valued community in Anuradhapura, by enabling access to a world-class financial experience.

Ceremonially declared open under the patronage of HNB FINANCE Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer Chaminda Prabhath, the inauguration was conducted under the stringent health guidelines being enforced in Sri Lanka under the directive of the Ministry of Health.

SLT-Mobitel introduces Spotify; a music streaming platform in Sri Lanka

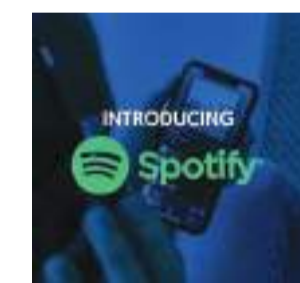
SLT-Mobitel, the nation's ICT and Telecommunications Service Provider recently partnered with Spotify, to mark their launch in Sri Lanka.

Spotify is a paid premium music streaming app which allows subscribers to listen to music to their heart's content. Both, SLT-Mobitel Post-Paid and Pre-Paid customers will now be able to enjoy Spotify by activating a monthly recurring subscription or one-time subscription plan and access unlimited music streaming and downloading facilities.

The subscription charges

will get added to the user's customary billing, where payment will be deducted in real-time. Starting from the payment date, the user will be able to access Spotify and download their favourite songs, for the next 30 days. Users who sign up for their first monthly subscription will receive an additional one month, courtesy of Spotify.

The one-month subscription plan is not applicable to one-time subscription plans. SLT-Mobitel data rates, depending on the user's respective broadband charges, will apply.



Spotify also has some exciting features that will provide SLT-Mobitel customers with the opportunity to listen to ad-free music, access millions of uninterrupted music under one platform, play any song they like, anywhere they go, and

also be able to enjoy their music offline.

SLT-Mobitel customers can select their preferred premium package under four categories: Individual, Duo, Family, Student.

Each category has recurring and non-recurring plans. After one month of free streaming, the package will activate once the offer period terminates. While both, the Individual and Student premiums are limited to one account user, the Duo package offers two accounts and the Family premium is accessible through six accounts.



Officials of Apeksha Hospital Maharagama and LB Finance officials

LB Finance donates ventilators to Apeksha Hospital Maharagama

LB Finance donated a high quality US Brand Hamilton C3 model mechanical ventilator manufactured in Switzerland, to the Apeksha Hospital Maharagama on February 24.

The ceremony was graced by AGM Human Resources Prasanna Kalinga, Senior National Manager Credit and Branch Operations Chanaka Alexander and other senior staff members of LB Finance with the presence of the Director Apeksha Hospital Maharagama Dr Wasantha Dissanayaka, Senior Consultant Dr Chandani Sooriyarachchi and staff of the hospital.

This will also enable the expansion of operations conducted by the health authorities to aid the patients of vari-

ous other ailments and ensure the community is served.

"With this initiative, we at LB Finance are honoured to offer support to the health sector to combat COVID-19 pandemic and various other ailments by strengthening the availability of medical facilities that are scarce while thanking the efforts made by the health sector," said Sumith Adhithetty Managing Director of LB Finance Adhithetty further expressed that LB Finance intends to donate more of these ventilators in the near future to facilitate the battle against the current pandemic.

"On behalf of the Medical fraternity we highly appreciate the contribution made by LB Finance at this criti-

cal juncture and undoubtedly this ventilator donated will not only help combat the COVID-19 pandemic and cancer patients but will also be beneficial in order to treat patients with other ailments," said Dr Wasantha Dissanayaka, Director Apeksha Hospital Maharagama.

Dr Dissanayaka further explained that the Hamilton C3 model mechanical ventilators are of very high standards which is the most preferred ventilator brand by the health sector. This compact high-end ventilator consists of unique intelligent ventilation modes.

With these high-tech user-friendly features, the Hamilton C3 model mechanical ventilator is suitable for

all adult, pediatric, and neonatal ventilation provides better safety for the patients receiving treatment while helping reduce the duration for recovery.

The holistic engagement in corporate social responsibility under a highly demanding circumstance was initiated by the Health 1st CSR pillar of the company. Hence, it is acknowledged as a timely initiative to support the community as a responsible corporate citizen.

LB Finance remains committed to uplifting Sri Lankan lives and with this goal, the organization constantly and consistently engages in many projects and initiatives that can benefit the country.

T'ing

To re-ignite the
passions of town
& country folk

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

Faith *and* Redemption

WORDS
ON WORDS

ADITHA DISSANAYAKE

It has been almost ten years since I listened to the audio book of 'Adam Bede.' I remembered almost absolutely nothing about the story except for the vague recollection Adam was a carpenter and my disappointment he was not as famous as those like Darcy and Rochester perhaps because he did not belong to the manor born. Then the other day, quite out of the blue I came across the book on Project Gutenberg and decided to read the story again.

First published in 1859, George Eliot's 'Adam Bede' is set in the rural farming community of Hayslope in 1799. The plot centres around four characters and the entangling relationships among them. There is Adam, in love with the pretty Hetty Sorrel. Hetty in turn is in love with the rich Arthur Donithorne who returns her feelings but has no honourable intentions. Dinah Morris, Hetty's cousin and a Methodist preacher, is introduced early on and becomes a pivotal character near the end of the novel.

As I moved from page to page on my screen, I realised Adam Bede lacked the flows I saw in Darcy and Rochester. In the opening chapters he comes across as a character too good to be true. He is young and strong, has a sharp sense of criticism, and a healthy sense of duty towards his family. He is well liked and highly respected by everyone in town, and lives according to a strong and sturdy sense of good morals. Not surprisingly, therefore, almost until I reached the first half of the book I could not find a single negative quality in Adam. Eventually, however, it becomes clear his highly acute sense of right and wrong leads him to outbursts of rage, excessive pride, and a frequent absence of sympathy for those who can't seem to escape temptation and wind up doing wrong.

His mother continually compares him with his younger brother, Seth, but miraculously Seth is always ready to admit that Adam is far superior to him, and that without Adam's physical and emotional strength, the family would have fallen apart long ago, with their father contributing nothing of his own to the upbringing of his children. Adam gets the distinction of a confident independent thinker, given his mother's and many others' points of view on his piercing, righteous, character. As Eliot describes him: "he had that mental combination which is at once humble in the region of mystery, and keen in the region of knowledge: it was the depth of his reverence quite as much as his hard common-sense, which gave him his disinclination to doctrinal religion,

and he often checked Seth's argumentative spiritualism by saying 'Eh, it's a big mystery; thee know'st but little about it.' And so it happened that Adam was at once penetrating and credulous."

As fate would have it, his righteousness contrasts sharply with that of Hetty Sorrel's shallowness. Hetty is beautiful, shallow, and self-obsessed. Not surprisingly, several men are attracted to Hetty including Adam. But it is Adam who ever so often wonders if he should take her as his wife. Hetty's caretakers, her aunt and uncle, reinforce this idea every time Adam comes around. Arthur the grandson of the squire, however, also takes a liking to Hetty, and since a person of his high class and standing is commonly assumed to be out of her league, Hetty heavily reciprocates his playful advances, and the hopes of him taking her as a wife infect her every waking thought with Adam hardly ever entering her mind leave alone her heart.

Although Arthur comes across as the bad guy in this situation, he is genuinely not aware that Hetty is planning to marry him. He flirts with her assuming that she too understands the impossibility of their marriage, that all of this is just for fun. Yet, even as he does not hope to marry her, he romanticises the initiation of ideal, uncomplicated, inconsequential love: "Love is such a simple thing when we have only one-and-twenty summers and a sweet girl of seventeen trembles under our glance, as if she were a bud first opening her heart with wondering rapture to the morning. Such young unfurrowed souls roll to meet each other like two velvet peaches that touch softly and are at rest; they mingle as easily as two brooklets that ask for nothing but to entwine themselves and ripple with ever-interlacing curves in the leafiest hiding-places."

Later on, when Adam stumbles upon Hetty and Arthur as they emerge from a tryst in the forest, he lashes out at Arthur in both moral indignation and violence, saying, among other things, "you're acting the part of a selfish light-minded scoundrel." As the story unfolds, it becomes apparent not only Arthur and Hetty but Adam too is punished for possessing at least an ounce of that which he abhors in Arthur - vanity. Arthur's concern is for his own pleasure, achieved through an abuse of power, the image of him that Hetty is attracted to. Hetty is simply vanity personified. She has only one ritual - to look at herself in a mirror for hours on a nightly basis. By the happy ending of the novel she and Arthur are both repenting for their immoral ways.

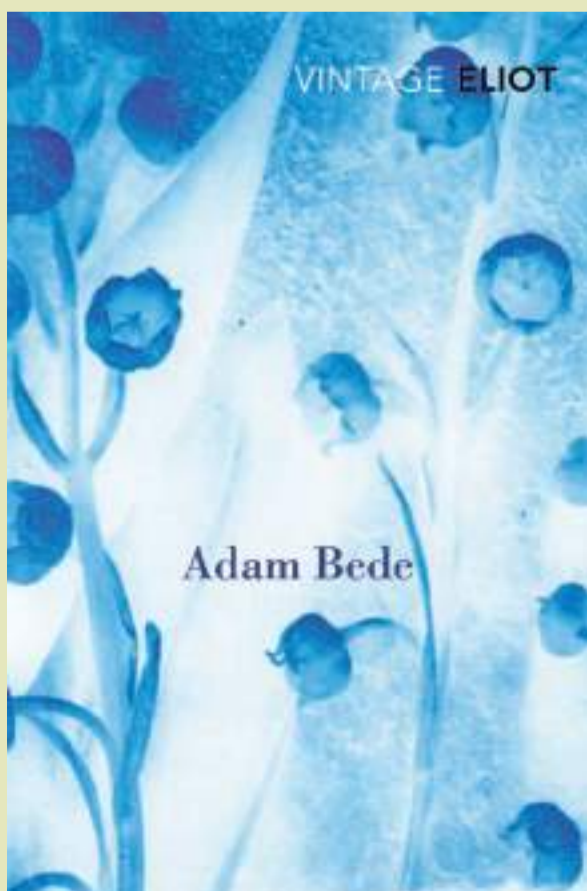
Adam, as the focus of the novel, is the victim of circumstance, while not completely innocent, and acts as the site of moral development by his eventual overcoming of the similar quality in his own character that drew himself to Hetty. Just as Dinah says to Hetty, when letting her know that she's always there for her if suffering happens to plague her, "trouble comes to us all in this life: we set our hearts on things which it isn't God's will for us to have, and then we go sorrowing." Adam experiences this 'sorrowing' as a result of the slightest bit of vanity he holds, and the suffering he experiences is simply the killing off of this ignorant impulse within him. When he knocks out Arthur he is "sickened at the vanity of his own rage," and, as Eliot later narrates, "The horror that rushed over Adam completely mastered him, and forced upon him its own belief."

Along with this revelation, I believe it is time for me to agree with many others who have read the novel to observe that the story is too densely packed with valuable material, and the breadth of intricacies anyone wishes to focus on could fill twice as many

paragraphs as have already been written. To quote writer Josh Coblenz, "The brevity with which Eliot explored many sides of the situation cannot be easily accomplished when analysing the story of Adam Bede. But this much is clear. She promoted the need for individual responsibility in the face of the inevitable situation in which we too often define ourselves as casualties. What she shows is that sometimes innocence is the false veil of ignorance, and by unmasking that painful guise, the scope and understanding of ourselves will widen through personal experience and inspection. Or, as she puts it much more eloquently: "It is our habit to say that while the lower nature can never understand the higher, the higher nature commands a complete view of the lower. But I think the higher nature has to learn this comprehension, as we learn the art of vision, by a good deal of hard experience, often with bruises and gashes incurred in taking things up by the wrong end, and fancying our space wider than it is."

As critic Laura McDonald says, "Adam Bede, though flawed, hints of the masterpieces Eliot went on to create. True to her style it takes her until about halfway through before things get interesting, but if you stick with it, you are well rewarded."

aditha.dissanayake@gmail.com



Iain Glen in Adam Bede (1992)

Susannah Harker in Adam Bede

Patsy Kensit in the movie



Health WATCH

Covid vaccine in a pill?

Exercise can help prevent cancers, new research finds

Obesity could soon overtake smoking as the main preventable cancer risk

Taking regular exercise is going to become increasingly important in helping to prevent cancers as the UK emerges from lockdown, say scientists. Since the pandemic began a year ago, growing numbers of people have reported gaining weight after cutting down on physical activity while others say they have been eating more junk food. Being overweight or obese leaves individuals vulnerable to tissue damage and the development of tumours, with more

than a dozen types of cancer having been linked to excess weight in recent research studies. "We need to eat better food, but it is equally clear that regular exercise is also very important in cancer prevention," said Prof Linda Bauld of Edinburgh University. Bauld, who is chairing sessions at a virtual conference, Cancer Prevention – Physical Activity, to be held from 23 to 25 February, said that while tobacco and smoking remained the main cause of cancer in the UK, obesity was now the second highest risk and in future is likely to become the main cause. **To page 23**

Britons could get their Covid vaccine in the form of a pill in the future, according to the lead scientist behind Oxford University's jab. Professor Sarah Gilbert told MPs her team were focusing their efforts on new, injection-free ways to deliver the vaccine and stimulate a better immune response. The group are exploring delivering the jab using nasal sprays, in the same way the flu jab is given to children, or in tablet form, used in polio vaccination. Not only would it be great news for people who have a fear of needles, it could help alleviate supply issues that have hindered rollouts internationally. Professor Gilbert said using pills or nasal sprays may better target immune cells in the lungs, throat and nose, making them even more effective. She told the House of Commons Science and Technology Committee: "As you know all the vaccines have been given at the moment as intramuscular injections. That is not necessarily the best way to provide protection against a respiratory virus infection, where we want the immune system to be active in the upper respiratory tract and then in the lower respiratory tract, which is where the virus is causing the infection."

"We have flu vaccines that are given by nasal spray and this could be a very good approach in the future to use vaccines against coronaviruses. It's also possible to consider oral vaccination where you take a tablet, that will give you that immunisation, and that would have a lot of benefits for vaccine rollout if you didn't have to use the needles and syringes." She added: "Both of those approaches which we are beginning to assess, they will take time to develop, they will have to be tested for safety and then for efficacy as well. The immune responses that will be generated by both of those approaches will be a little bit different to what we get from an intramuscular injection, but they have potentially large advantages. And so that's where we're going to be focusing our attention on working out if we could use different delivery routes in the future for these vaccines." Last month, trials run by a British biotech company found oral Covid vaccines given to monkeys were highly effective in immunising them. Sussex-based Iobio and California's ImmunityBio are applying for regulatory approval to run tests in Britain as clinical trials of the pill began on Americans in January. And a nasal spray Covid vaccine is currently being trialled on dozens of Brits. New York-based Codagenix launched human studies of its experimental vaccine, COVI-VAC, in London in the first week of January. The UK Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) green-lit the trials after positive safety data in animal studies. Meanwhile, Britain's vaccine minister earlier this month raised the prospect of Covid vaccines eventually being administered orally. Speaking to Times Radio, Nadhim Zahawi said: "There are technologies with pills and others being developed around the world and we will continue to look at those. But we're making sure the UK will always have the capability and capacity to manufacture the variant vaccines that will deal with any variant virus." Meanwhile, Professor Gilbert also told MPs today it's unlikely a new variant will completely undo the current Covid vaccines. Professor Gilbert said there were good signs that coronavirus variants will not suddenly start escaping from the effectiveness of vaccines. "Certainly what we're seeing at the moment is a reduction in efficacy against variants rather than falling off a cliff edge," she said.

"That is not necessarily the best way to provide protection against a respiratory virus infection, where we want the immune system to be active in the upper respiratory tract and then in the lower respiratory tract, which is where the virus is causing the infection."



The coronavirus vaccine could be taken as a pill in the future, according to the lead scientist behind Oxford University's jab.

Clogard: The Goodness of Nature Brought Back to Oral Care

Teeth are a human being's precious pearls. The quality and vigor of one's teeth impacts the individual's oral health which in turn determines their health and well-being. Preserving one's teeth through oral care therefore, is of utmost importance for conserving health and more so when it could be secured via an oral health solution that packs a vitalizing condiment of classical medicine fame: *SyzygiumAromaticum*...the clove.

With the arrival of health conscious trends and renewed interest in wellness, today's consumer demands more than the basic functions from their oral health products. They now seek natural care solutions with a slew of nature-derived components. Clogard, fortified with a host of natural ingredients, brings clove's restorative power and freshness to the smiles of countless families in Sri Lanka. This Sri Lankan made toothpaste is not merely a powerful oral care solution but rather a restorative oral care solution powered by the zing of a classic spice, *SyzygiumAromaticum*. The clove, stands out among other spices as a powerful antioxidant and antimicrobial candidate. Scientific research has shown that cloves have a higher content of polyphenols – the plant based micro-nutrients that have a huge impact on digestion and antioxidant compounds. Still, Clogard's protective sparkle is ultimately derived by Eugenol – the oil of cloves – scientifically known for its antiseptic and anti-inflammatory qualities. Eugenol is also known for its fat-soluble antioxidant clout. Cloves are the richest plant source of Eugenol.

In fact, the clove is so effective on teeth, it has been used as a home remedy for centuries to relieve toothache (such as inserting a whole clove directly on the affected teeth) where its anesthetic power is activated, swiftly ending the throbbing dental pains, known to be one of the most intense pains felt by humans. Since its introduction in 1992, Clogard has today become reputed as a well-known oral care solution made in Sri Lanka, protecting the critical oral hygiene aspects of local families. It is no surprise that Clogard has become the leading brand in the herbal category in the local market. These developments were made possible since Clogard packs an advanced formula of trusted clove oil and other scientifically tested ingredients. Clogard is the first clove-based toothpaste to be endorsed



Clogard's winning edge comes from its formulation which was created by studying market needs in Sri Lankan oral care segment. The studies showed that this market was ready for an oral care product rich with nature's remedial goodness. Therefore, Clogard decided to integrate clove –the heritage ingredient used for centuries to treat dental ailments passed down through generations- as its key remedial ingredient.

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–the heritage ingredient used for centuries to treat dental ailments passed down through generations- as its key remedial ingredient. Clogard, as a powerful oral healthcare solution has been unleashing the clove's

famed remedial force with its family of clove based products in such a way that today Clogard has become a leading herbal oral care solution brand reputed to safeguard the hygiene of entire families who are also benefitting from Clogard's

family of other oral care solutions. Clogard Fresh Blast Gel is the first Sri Lankan gel toothpaste and serves the oral care needs of the youth. Clogard Mouthwash packs the clove power of Clogard but complements it further by mint and Indian gooseberry (neeli). This mouthwash fights up to 99% of germs to provide long lasting fresh breath. The Clogard toothbrush with its 360 degree grip power and angled high quality DuPont Tynex bristles penetrate the hard-to-reach back teeth. The same protective power is extended to kids and juniors with ClogardChooty toothbrush. Available in four colors to create fun, its handle is designed to be wide for little fingers to hold while the bristles are softened for the tender teeth of growing children. Clogard therefore is a total oral wellness promise to Sri Lankans of all standings.

Healthy diet, a must

Be healthy at home!

Eating a healthy diet is very important during the COVID-19 pandemic. What we eat and drink can affect our body's ability to prevent, fight and recover from infections.

While no foods or dietary supplements can prevent or cure COVID-19 infection, healthy diets are important for supporting immune systems. Good nutrition can also reduce the likelihood of developing other health problems, including obesity, heart disease, diabetes and some types of cancer.

For babies, a healthy diet means exclusive breastfeeding in the first six months, with the introduction of nutritious and safe foods to complement breastmilk from age 6 months to 2 years and beyond. For young children, a healthy and balanced diet is essential for growth and development. For older people, it can help to ensure healthier and more active lives.

Tips for maintaining a healthy diet:

1. Eat a variety of food, including fruits and vegetables

- Every day, eat a mix of wholegrains like wheat, maize and rice, legumes like lentils and beans, plenty of fresh fruit and vegetables, with some foods from animal sources (e.g. meat, fish, eggs and milk).
- Choose wholegrain foods like unprocessed maize, millet, oats, wheat and brown rice when you can; they are rich in valuable fibre and can help you feel full for longer.
- For snacks, choose raw vegetables, fresh fruit, and unsalted nuts.

2. Cut back on salt

- Limit salt intake to 5 grams (equivalent to a teaspoon) a day.
- When cooking and preparing foods, use salt sparingly and reduce use of salty sauces and condiments (like soy sauce, stock or fish sauce).
- If using canned or dried food, choose



varieties of vegetables, nuts and fruit, without added salt and sugars.

- Remove the salt shaker from the table, and experiment with fresh or dried herbs and spices for added flavor instead.
- Check the labels on food and choose products with lower sodium content.

3. Eat moderate amounts of fats and oils

- Replace butter, ghee and lard with healthier fats like olive, soy, sunflower or corn oil when cooking.
- Choose white meats like poultry and fish which are generally lower in fats than red meat; trim meat of visible fat and limit the consumption of processed meats.
- Select low-fat or reduced-fat versions of milk and dairy products.
- Avoid processed, baked and fried foods that contain industrially produced trans-fat.
- Try steaming or boiling instead of frying food when cooking.

4. Limit sugar intake

- Limit intake of sweets and sugary drinks such as fizzy drinks, fruit juices and juice drinks, liquid and powder concentrates, flavoured water, energy and sports drinks, ready-to-drink tea and coffee and flavoured milk drinks.
- Choose fresh fruits instead of sweet snacks such as cookies, cakes and chocolate. When other dessert options are chosen, ensure that they are low in sugar and consume small portions.
- Avoid giving sugary foods to children. Salt and sugars should not be added to complementary foods given to children under 2 years of age, and should be limited beyond that age.

5. Stay hydrated: Drink enough water

Good hydration is crucial for optimal health. Whenever available and safe for consumption, tap water is the healthiest and cheapest drink. Drinking water instead of sugar-sweetened beverages is a simple way to limit your intake of sugar and excess calories.

6. Avoid hazardous and harmful alcohol use

Alcohol is not a part of a healthy diet. Drinking alcohol does not protect against COVID-19 and can be dangerous. Frequent or excessive alcohol consumption increases your immediate risk of injury, as well as causing longer-term effects like liver damage, cancer, heart disease and mental illness. There is no safe level of alcohol consumption.

7. Breastfeed babies and young children

Breastmilk is the ideal food for infants. It is safe, clean and contains antibodies which help protect against many common childhood illnesses. Babies should be breastfed exclusively during the first 6 months of life, as breast milk provides all the nutrients and fluids they need.

• From 6 months of age, breast milk should be complemented with a variety of adequate, safe and nutrient-dense foods. Breastfeeding should continue under babies at 2 years of age or beyond.

Women with COVID-19 can breastfeed if they wish to do so and should take infection prevention and control measures. Please see Q&A on breastfeeding and COVID-19

Tips for Food Safety during COVID-19

There is no evidence that COVID-19 can be spread through contact with food or food packaging. COVID-19 is generally thought to be spread from person to person. However, it's always important to practice good hygiene when handling food to prevent any food-borne illnesses.

Follow WHO's Five keys to safer food:

- Keep clean
 - Separate raw and cooked
 - Cook thoroughly
 - Keep food at safe temperatures
 - Use safe water and raw materials.
- WHO



MAGICAL STAR FRUIT



HIRAL PATEL

Star fruit is both sweet and sour based on the variety you choose. Some sour varieties even turn sweet over time as they ripen. In addition to these many characteristics, the fruit possesses several nutrients that will not only provide the body with essential nutrients but also keep you healthy for the long run.

Nutritional value of star fruit

Star fruit is a low-calorie but high-fibre food that makes it exceptionally healthy. It is also low on fat but loaded with Vitamin B, Vitamin C, sodium, potassium, iron and several important antioxidants making it an all-round healthy snack.

For every 100g of serving, you consume:

- Fat 0.3g
- Carbohydrates 7g
- Dietary Fiber 2.8g
- Protein 1g

Health benefits of star fruit

Star fruit is both delicious and nutritious at the same time. Its sweet and tangy taste can be savoured without any guilt because it comes power-packed with several health-enhancing nutrients. Below are some of the advantages of consuming star fruit.

Prevents inflammation

The star fruit is a good source of vitamin C. A single serving of this fruit can take care of 57% of your daily recommended vitamin C intake. Vitamin C cleanses your body toxins, and its anti-inflammatory qualities help with skin conditions like dermatitis. It also helps your body to fight against flu and common colds. Consuming such a rich source of vitamin C can significantly build up your tolerance for cold and strength against infections.

Furthermore, vitamin C is also required by the body to make collagen found in bones, muscles and cartilages. It also helps in absorbing another essential nutrient – iron. Deficiency of vitamin C can lead to scurvy, bad skin, slow tissue healing and fatigue. Incorporating star fruit in your diet will ensure your vitamin C levels are always optimal.

Good for the heart

Star Fruit is loaded with important minerals like sodium and potassium that regulate your blood pressure. Healthy levels of both these minerals will ensure that your blood pressure never fluctuates radically and your heart-beat rhythm stays stable. It also contains calcium that is again very beneficial for your heart. Healthy amounts of calcium in the body can lower the risk of cardiovascular diseases like strokes and cardiac arrests. It ensures robust blood circulation and fluid balance in the body, thus reducing your chances of developing heart diseases.

Fights diabetes and high cholesterol

100g of star fruit contains 2.8g of fruit fibre that helps check your blood sugar level. Fruit fibre curtails glucose-release that happens after you eat something. By doing this, it helps regulate your blood sugar and insulin levels. Eating food that is high in fibre can prevent diabetes and can also actively help people already suffering from diabetes.

Since star fruit is so easy to eat and rich in fibre, it makes for a healthy, guilt-free snack for both diabetic and non-diabetic people.

Being high in fibre also helps in tackling high cholesterol and resulting in susceptibility to heart ailments. Moreover, every 100g of this fruit contains just 0.3g of fat, making it extremely suitable for maintaining healthy cholesterol levels.

Better digestion and metabolism

The rich presence of dietary fibre in this fruit has another health advantage – it improves your digestion. It helps in regulating the size and softness of your stool, making it easy to pass through your system. People suffering from constipation will find relief as this fruit stimulates your digestion and betters your bowel health. Good bowel health will also ameliorate other symptoms of poor digestion like cramps and bloating.

The fruit is also a rich source of Vitamin B that is crucial for normal cell functioning and development. Star fruit contains two types of Vitamin B – riboflavin and folate also referred to as folic acid in dietary supplements. Both these vitamins regulate your metabolism and make sure that your hormone and enzyme levels stay within the normal range.

Healthy hair and skin

The rich presence of antioxidants along with vitamin B and C in starfruit aids healing of skin and hair cells which in turn leads to shining hair and glowing skin. More particularly antioxidants like gallic acid and quercetin display immense anti-inflammatory and antihistamine properties.

Regulates weight

Being low in sugar makes the star fruit an ideal snack to munch on without worrying about gaining weight. The high fibre content also makes your metabolism work fast, ensuring you burn your calories quickly. Foods that are higher in fibre are also more filling than their low fibre counterparts, thereby making you satiated for long.

Can star fruit be consumed by anybody?

Despite its numerous health benefits, star fruit should be avoided by people suffering from kidney ailments. It contains neurotoxins that are harmless to people with normal functioning kidneys but not so much for people suffering from kidney ailments. Such people are unable to flush the neurotoxin out of the body resulting in severe illness.

However, the rest can enjoy this fruit without any compunction.



Exercise can help prevent cancers... From Page 22

This is being driven by two factors. More and more people are giving up smoking while rising numbers are becoming overweight and obese – and lockdown has speeded up that process. As a result, it is expected that by 2040 obesity will have overtaken smoking as the leading preventable cause of cancer in women, a pattern that men will follow a few years later.

Among the cancers that have been shown to benefit from improved physical activity are breast and bowel can-

cers. Those who have been treated for primary tumours have better chances of their cancers not returning if they exercise more often and have improved diets, it has been found.

However, recent research has also highlighted links between exercise and other cancers. In one recent experiment using mice, scientists, funded by Cancer Research UK, compared a group that led sedentary lives with another group that was placed on treadmills for 30 minutes, three times a

week. The scientists found gentle exercise reduced the levels of liver inflammation, which can lead to tumours, and improved the metabolism of older mice, even in those that had advanced liver disease.

In addition, the study, which was led by Prof Derek Mann, from the Newcastle University Centre for Cancer, found that exercised mice had less fat in their liver and moved more quickly. "We wanted to see if exercise in mice – crucially, a gentle routine that may mirror

exercise achievable for frailer people – could help throw immune decline into reverse and help reduce the risk of liver tumours developing," said Mann.

The research is important because liver cancer rates in humans have increased by three-fifths in the UK in the last decade, with 17 new cases being diagnosed every day, and rates are projected to continue increasing. "Understanding how to best to prevent some of those cases could have a huge impact for people at risk of the disease,"

Mann added.

Another recent study by Cancer Research UK showed that more than 135,000 cases of cancer – about four out of 10 British cases – could be prevented each year largely through lifestyle changes, with increased physical activity of any kind playing a key role.

The crucial point is that extra fat does not just sit quietly around our bodies, say researchers. It is active, sending out signals to other organs and tissue which can affect growth,

metabolism and reproductive cycles. These signals can tell cells to divide more often, which can lead to cancer.

"The real problem is having too much fat in our bodies," added Bauld. "However, there is a lot of evidence that helping people to become more active can do a lot of good. And this area is under-researched so it is very likely that there may be more benefits for cancer prevention through increased physical activity that we don't know about yet."

The tooth protecting power of clove



Clogard



275

Rs. 20/- Upwards

Stand In

DOUBLE DUTY!



DREW BARRYMORE THE BARRYMORE

STAND IN



RUWINI JAYAWARDANA

Drew Barrymore in a double role itself tempts the eyes and mind but despite her impressive commitment to the project, the 'Stand In' satire misfires mainly due to its inability to bring in the laughs.

Though it juggles between creating comedy and drama, director Jamie Babbit never manages to turn it into either. Five years after a drunk Candy blinded a co-star during a booze-fueled on-set rage, effectively ending her career, 'The Stand In' finds her very much on the outs, though her "stunning fall from grace" is still analyzed by every E! News chat show. Likened to a modern-day Howard Hughes, Candy is still at the mercy of one last scandal and now must attend court-mandated rehab.

That puts a pin in the last good thing in her life: a secret romance with a shaker furniture-obsessed love interest whose adoration for classic wood furniture eventually feels just kind of icky and who has no idea who Candy really is and why she would need to disappear for two to three months.

You can see why someone like Candy might need a stand in. The set-up itself is amusing and full of promise, a black comedy life-switching Hollywood send-up with a talent leading lady jumping between very different parts. The entire cast in 'The Stand In' is constantly taking the stupidest, cruelest possible way out of any situation, and the result is nothing but pain and zero laughs!

Barrymore plays both the cynically vulgar Candy and the naïve wallflower Paula with equal aplomb. She is saddled with a horrible prosthetic nose when playing Paula, plus a bad wig and the worst kind of baby voice. Yet everyone just buys it. Considering their drastically opposing demeanors, the Stand In's switched-identity plot is initially dubious. But that's exactly the point: Nobody cares that the new and improved Candy is radically different, so long as she apologizes and gets back to the business of being funny. However despite all her efforts this film just flows by as a wasted possibility. A majority of the film involves both her personas talking and interacting with each other and it simply doesn't work. No one involved in this production gets away unscathed. Their only saving grace is hardly anyone will see it as it did not unspool in theaters due to the pandemic.

By the time the credits roll, 'The Stand In' only really asserts itself as something which would have benefited from being trimmed down into a situational parody for an episodic television show.

CYPRUS International Film Festival to unfurl soon

The Government of Cyprus has made plans to host an international film festival and is calling for applications from talented filmmakers through the Foreign Ministry.

The 2nd edition of Dot.on.the.map Industry Days, organised by the Cyprus Film Days International Festival, the Cyprus Ministry of Education, Culture, Sport and Youth and the

Rialto Theatre, will be held online between April 21 to 23, 2021, in the framework of the 19th Cyprus Film Days International Festival (April 16 to 24, 2021).

Dot.on.the.map Industry Days launched online in the year 2020, and it is a co-production, training and networking platform that brings producers, directors and scriptwriters from countries bordering the Mediterranean Sea, from across the three

neighbouring continents of Cyprus, together with international film professionals. It provides an opportunity to filmmakers from these countries to present their new feature film projects and network with international industry professionals.

Due to the current restrictions brought on by the pandemic, the event will be held online. Producers/directors will "pitch" their new feature film projects, to representatives of the international film industry. Following group works and individual meetings, the filmmakers will take steps towards forming future collaborations between other filmmakers, international producers, financiers, sales agents, broadcasters, distributors, festival and film fund representatives.

The organisers' vision is the development of this initiative into a dynamic platform for artistic and financial collaborations, which will contribute to the development of the art of filmmaking in Cyprus and the wider region, serving as a hub for films originating from countries bordering the Mediterranean Sea.

The application process began on January 19. Interested parties must read the terms of participation and submit their application online.



REEL REVIEWS



Blessed with a baby boy



Last year Kareena Kapoor Khan and Saif Ali Khan had announced their pregnancy. Ever since then their fans have been waiting with bated breath to know more details about the couple's pregnancy. Today Times of India reports that Kareena has delivered a baby boy. The actress was admitted at Breach Candy hospital on February 20 night and in the wee hours of the morning the couple welcomed their second son.

This is truly a big news and the perfect way to kickstart the week. This means paparazzi's favourite and social media's darling boy Taimur Ali Khan turns elder

brother to his new sibling. We congratulate the couple and the Khan and the Kapoor family for their newest arrival in their family.

Kareena Kapoor Khan and Saif Ali Khan have bought a new house so that with the family of now being of four, they have more space and more playing area for the young ones. Kareena and Saif had welcomed Taimur in 2016 and soon after the couple had shared pictures of their tiny tot and even gone ahead and let paparazzi have a field day clicking the young one. Now that Saiieena is blessed with their second kid, we wonder if the couple or their friends will release any pictures soon.

Filmfare



'All of us just want to be accepted'

"All of us are funny boys and girls, we all just want to be accepted, whether for our choices, sexuality, race or cultures. The film is finally a plea for tolerance," says Indo-Canadian filmmaker Deepa Mehta on her latest film 'Funny Boy', which centres on the coming of age of a young Tamil boy in Sri Lanka who is coming to terms with his homosexuality against the backdrop of the increased tensions between Tamil and Sinhalese communities before the breakout of the Sri Lankan terrorism.

Based on Sri-Lankan author Shyam Selvadurai book of the same name, for which she first approached the writer 20 years back, Mehta insists that though first published in 1994, the novel is politically relevant even now.

"The oppression of minorities, the changes taking place globally -- especially in the US, and the depleting sense of humanity. To me, the novel speaks of humanity and embracing 'the other'. It is about acceptance and the importance of love. The Black Lives Matter movement and the pandemic happened, and nothing felt more right in these troubled times," says the filmmaker who plans to work on a horror film and the movie adaptation of Madhuri Vijay's award-winning 'The Far Field' once the vaccine rolls out and it's safer to shoot.

For a long time, the filmmaker had been asked when she would make 'Air', to round out the elemental trilogy -- 'Fire', 'Water' and 'Earth'. "And I had no plan to do so. While completing 'Funny Boy', I realised that it had invariably become the fourth -- 'Space' rather than 'Air'. To me, 'Funny Boy' represents the need for space -- to be ourselves in a world that has always tried to push us into a box based on our race, sexuality, gender and culture," she tells IANS.

Stressing that the India premier of the film during the opening night at the I-View World Human Rights Film Festival in Delhi was extremely special to her, she says that Selvadurai's support was instrumental to get the nuances right. "The first draft of the script was solely written by Shyam and I remember telling him, 'It is too long. We must

make it more cinematic.' And he was totally on board. From then on we worked through the scripting process together."

The director, who has also worked with authors like Salman Rushdie and Bapsi Sidhwa remembers that while the latter entrusted her with her story and gave the freedom to paint the picture as she wished, with Salman, there was a sense of balance. "We looked at the story individually and then came together to share our visions of what we thought the film should look like. With Shyam, it was total collaboration from day one. I wouldn't call any of them 'possessive'."

As the conversation shifts towards the Tamil community in Canada feeling that there are not enough Tamil actors in the movie, she quotes James Baldwin - "I imagine one of the reasons people cling to their hates so stubbornly is because they sense, once hate is gone, they will be forced to deal with pain." "I think that's really relevant here. Of course representation is important and we did try our best. But in the end, it's up to everyone to decide if this is more important than the plight of the Tamils coming to the surface and a chance for healing. In fact, at an early private screen-

ing in Sri Lanka, some people in the audience were apprehensive about how the Sinhalese Government would react to the film since they felt it was so pro-Tamil. So it was a surprise for us when the Tamils reacted and said we were anti-Tamil."

Though the film has not been released in Sri Lanka yet, the response from the few who have seen it during underground screenings has largely been positive. "Especially from those who had lived through the conflict in the 80s, for whom seeing their pain reflected on screen was a major moment, and from major Tamil activists like Paikasothy Saravanamuttu. They also gave us notes on the dodgy Tamil, which we were already planning to fix. As a filmmaker, I know how important that is. Even in Water, Lisa's voice was dubbed. But finally what's important is the bigger picture."

Adding that it was a huge shock to her that no Sri Lankan Tamil director had ever approached Selvadurai to make 'Funny Boy', she feels that it is high time that more films were made around that conflict.

While the film was shot before the pandemic began, Covid stuck during the post-production phase. "The only way I can describe it is to use the word 'rollercoaster'. David and myself were editing with the incredible Teresa Font in Madrid, when we heard of an impending lockdown and managed to leave for Toronto on the last flight. Doing post-production reviews over Zoom calls and back and forth emails was quite frustrating. However, considering we were all in isolation, all our attention and focus was directed at making the film the best we could.

"In an ideal world, our plan was to go back to Sri Lanka to dub for the Indian actors and even had studios booked, but due to the pandemic we could not do so. We also missed out on celebrating the final film with the entire team, which is a sad reality of the circumstances we're living in today. We're still working on our release for South Asian markets," says the director who says she has always been driven by curiosity. "I do films on subjects that interest me, ones I would like to know more about," she concludes. ANI



Deepa Mehta

DISNEY'S ICONIC VILLAIN BROUGHT TO LIFE



Why play a Disney princess when you can play the feisty villain? Emma Stone has gone where few other

actresses go -- into the dark side- to bring us the origins story of the iconic Disney villains of our childhood, Cruella de Vil.

After dropping the first look poster, the makers released the first trailer that gives us a peek into the backstory of the Villain we never really came to love. The clip starts off with glimpses of a red-head Cruella trying to make her way in the world, only to be told otherwise.

"I guess they were all scared that I'd be a... Psycho" she says as her sinister laugh echoes through the hallways of her mansion.

Packed with powerful dialogues, the clip gives us glimpses of three Dalmatians and some trademark Disney animation. The trailer also sees the character going "mad" and embracing her dark side with her signature two-toned hairstyle.

The makers also confirmed a 28 May 2021 release for the film. The upcoming prequel will explore how Cruella, who started out as a designer, turned into a woman obsessed with wearing a coat made of puppy skin.

The famed villain was originally played by American actor Glenn Close in 1996's '101 Dalmatians' and in the 2000 hit film '102 Dalmatians'. She also serves as an executive producer on this new adaptation. IANS



CONSIDERING A PRESIDENTIAL RUN

Hollywood actor and former pro-wrestler Dwayne 'The Rock' Johnson has said that he is still considering running for president of the United States.

According to media source, the 'Fast and Furious' star said, "I would consider a presidential run in the future if

that's what the people wanted. Truly I mean that, and I'm not flippant in any way with my answer. That would be up to the people... So I would wait, and I would listen. I would have my finger on the pulse, my ear to the ground."

Johnson has spoken about his interest in politics for a handful of years, noting that he has strongly considered it in the past. During a 2017 appearance

on show, the star said that he was "seriously considering" a run for president.

Despite having years' worth of projects lined up in Hollywood, the star still hasn't ruled out one day vying for the Oval Office.

The former professional wrestler is currently out promoting his new series. ANI



GOVERNMENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA

Ministry of Highways

ROAD DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

**INVITATION FOR BIDS****NOTICE FOR THE EXTENSION OF THE BIDDING PERIOD AND RESCHEDULED DATE OF THE PREBID MEETING OF****Widening of bridge no. 3/1 on Orugodawatta - Ambatale road - B435****(Contract no. RDA/DC/WP/IR-GOSL/2021/05)****Reconstruction of bridge no. 3/2 on Orugodawatta - Ambatale road - B435****(Contract no. RDA/DC/WP/IR-GOSL/2021/06)**

1. Bidding period in the Invitation for Bid of the above projects which has been published on **10.02.2021** has been extended from **03.03.2021** until **12.03.2021**.
2. The Pre-Bid meeting has been rescheduled to 10:00 hrs on **04.03.2021** at the office of the Project Director (Western Province), Road Development Authority, 1st floor, "Sethsiripaya", Battaramulla (T.P.: 011 - 2876600 and Fax no.: 011 - 2877226) and a site visit will be arranged immediately thereafter if necessary.
3. Each Bid- Security shall be valid up to **10.07.2021**.
4. Bids shall be delivered in **duplicate** to the Chairman, Road Development Authority Procurement Committee, C/o Director General, Road Development Authority, 1st Floor, "Maganeguma Mahamedura", Denzil Kobbekaduwa Mawatha, Battaramulla on or before 14:00 hrs on **15.03.2021**. Late bids will be rejected. Bid will be opened soon after the closing, in the presence of the bidder's representatives who choose to attend.
5. Bids shall be valid up to **12.06.2021**.
6. **Other conditions of the Invitation for Bid** which is published on **10.02.2021** remain unchanged.

The Chairman,
Road Development Authority Procurement Committee
Road Development Authority
1st Floor, 'Maganeguma Mahamedura',
No. 216, Denzil Kobbekaduwa Mawatha, Battaramulla.

**APPOINTMENT OF DISTRIBUTING AGENTS FOR THE "SUPOSHA" PRODUCT**

Sri Lanka Thripasha Limited, a fully Government owned company is in the process of appointing, distributing agents to the regions mentioned below for their product "Suposha" which is produced and distributed by them.

District Level	Regional Level
Galle District, Anuradhapura District	Kegalle, Marawila.

Requirements to be fulfilled by you.

- ❖ A cash deposit of Rs. 1.5 million as guarantee.
- ❖ Experience of 03 years regarding distribution of consumer goods and the employees required for this purpose (Drivers and Marketing Officers)
- ❖ Should be a permanent resident in the relevant area of authority
- ❖ A suitable vehicle for transportation (covered vehicle)
- ❖ Should have suitable storage facilities of 300 sq.feet located within the relevant region for storage (Should be a location for access of large lorries)

Institutions / Individuals fulfilled the requirements mentioned above could apply.

Detailed application prepared by the institution could be obtained after paying a fee of Rs. 1000.00 or could be downloaded through our website: www.thripasha.lk/tender and the application form thus obtained should be duly completed and sent along with a copy of the receipt obtained after paying the application fee mentioned above to the Ja-ela branch of the Bank of Ceylon in favour of Sri Lanka Thripasha Limited - Account No. 80306903 and sent by registered post to be received at or before 15th March 2021 or could be hand delivered.

The words "Application for Sales Agent (mention the relevant name of the Region or District)".

Sri Lanka Thripasha Limited,
P.O. Box 17, Kapuwatta,
Ja-ela.

Contact for further details:
Sales Manager
Telephone : 0702572775
Fax : 011-2237363



State Ministry of Skills Development,
Vocational Education, Research &
Innovation.



Vocational Training Authority of Sri Lanka

Registration of Computer Suppliers on Rent out Basis

Applications are invited from eligible suppliers and contactors who wish to register themselves with the Vocational Training Authority for supplying of Computers (Desktop, Laptop, Tab etc...) **on rent out basis.**

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. Every supplier should agree to provide a credit facility as the payment is done after the delivery.
2. Suppliers who fail to quote or fail to make delivery on time or in conformity with the order will be deleted from the Registration of Suppliers list without giving any notice.
3. The vocational Training Authority has the authority to accept or not the application. Registration will be done after inspection of the applications.
4. The Vocational Training Authority has the authority power to decide whether the contract is awarded or not as needed.
5. Relevant Organization should process a valid Business Registration obtained from relevant authority and certified copies of this document should be attached with the application.
6. Incomplete applications and applicant without supporting documents will not be considered for registration.
7. Registered Suppliers those who have not responded (For bid invitations) two times will be black listed by the Authority.
8. All the requested documents and details should be correct and clear.
9. Registration documents can be obtained from the Procurement unit of the VTA on submission of a written application to the Chairman, Vocational Training Authority of Sri Lanka from 01.03.2021 to 15.03.2021 between 9.00 am to 3.00 pm on working days upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Rs.1,000.00. The method of payment will be cash.
10. Applicants should mention on left hand of the envelope as "Registration of Computer Suppliers on Rent out Basis". Sealed Application shall be delivered by registered post to the Chairman, Procurement Committee Vocational Training Authority of Sri Lanka, "Nipunatha Piyasa", 4th Floor, 354/2, Elvitigala Mawatha, Narahenpita, Colombo 05 to reach on or before 16.03.2021, by 10.30 am or can be deposited in the Tender box kept at the Procurement Unit of the VTA on or before 16.03.2021 by 10.30 am and late application will be rejected.
11. Any further clarification with regard to the registration can be obtained from the Procurement Unit prior to the closing of Bids.

Chairman,
Vocational Training Authority of Sri Lanka,
354/2, "Nipunatha Piyasa", 4th Floor, Elvitigala Mawatha,
Narahenpita, Colombo 05.
Tel. 011-2596516/17, 011-2352150, 071-9476753

INVITATION FOR BIDS**Western Provincial Department of Education****Construction of Mathu/ Yattapatha Junior School New Upstair Classroom Building and Selection of Suppliers for Building Materials, Electrical Accessories, Pre-mixed Concrete and Aluminium**

Sealed bids are invited by the Procurement Committee of the Provincial Director of Education of the Western Provincial Department of Education from **2nd March 2021** up to **10.00 a.m. on 24th March 2021** from registered building material suppliers for the works mentioned above. Labour contribution for this purpose will be provided by the Sri Lanka Army and quotations could be supplied separately for the lots mentioned below and the bidder could submit quotations for one or more lots according to his ability. Bid evaluation will be done according to lots and it is mandatory to submit quotations for all items in the lot.

No.	Lot.
01.	Building Material
02.	Electrical Installation
03.	Aluminium Materials

N.B.

All materials supplied will be subject for inspection by a Committee under the supervision of the Mathugama Regional Engineer and thereafter the materials should be delivered to an institution nominated by this institution.

Materials should be delivered according to the specifications of the Western Provincial Building fees schedule. Unsuitable items will be rejected and the supplier is bound to replace them with suitable material according to specifications.

Samples of all items to be supplied should be submitted to a Technical Evaluation Committee.

Orders for materials will be placed according to requirements during construction process and these materials should be delivered to the worksite within 07 days of placing the orders. (Transport charges should be included in the quotations).

Procurement Specimen forms could be obtained from 02nd March, 2021 up to 3.00 p.m. on 23rd March 2021 from the Administration Division on the Second Floor of this office after paying a non-refundable fee of Rs. 5000/- to the shroff of the Provincial Department of Education located at 89, "Ranmagapaya", Kaduwela Road, Battaramulla.

The receipt obtained after paying Rs. 250,000/= as bid security to the shroff of the Provincial Department of Education located at 89, Ranmagapaya", Kaduwela Road, Battaramulla or an unconditional Bid Bond for Rs. 500,000/= obtained from a recognized bank/ financial institution in favour of Western Provincial Division of Education, valid for 180 days from the date of bid opening should be submitted with the bids. Bid documents submitted without these receipts will be rejected. One bid security is sufficient for all lots.

Bid prepared in two copies and marked as "Original" and "Duplicate" should be enclosed in separate envelopes and sealed and marked with the words "Construction of New upstairs classroom building for Mathu/ Yattapatha Junior School" should be marked on the top left-hand corner of the envelope and sent by registered post addressed to the Chairman, Procurement Committee of the Western Provincial Director of Education, Western Provincial Department of Education, 89, "Ranmagapaya", Kaduwela Road, Battaramulla to be received at or before 10.00 a.m. on 24th March, 2021 or could be hand-delivered to the Tender Box kept in the Chief Accountant's Official room on the Third Floor of the Western Provincial Department of Education. Bids will be opened at 10.00 a.m. on 24th March, 2021 immediately after closing of accepting bids and the bidder or his authorized representative could participate.

A Pre-bid meeting for bidders regarding this matter will be held at 10.30 a.m. on 15.03.2021 at the official room of the Provincial Director of Education of this Department.

P. Srilal Nonis,
Chairman,
Procurement Committee of the Western Provincial Director of Education,
Western Provincial Department of Education,
89, "Ranmagapaya" Kaduwela Road,
Battaramulla.
25.02.2021.

The Housewives' companion
Classifieds on
Daily News

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

(Please note that this is an amendment to the Invitation for Bids published on 25.01.2020 on the following procurement)

STATE MINISTRY OF VEHICLE REGULATION, BUS TRANSPORT SERVICES AND TRAIN COMPARTMENTS AND MOTOR CAR INDUSTRY

SUPPLY OF PRIVATE SECURITY SERVICES TO SLTB DEPOTS, REGIONAL OFFICES, DRIVING TRAINING SCHOOLS AND PROVINCIAL WORKSHOPS

Procurement No : MT/04/09/MT/579

1. The Chairman, Ministry Procurement Committee of the State Ministry of Vehicle Regulation, Bus Transport Services and Train Compartments and Motor Car Industry will receive sealed Bids from eligible Security Service Providers for the Supply of Private Security Services to SLTB Depots, Regional Offices, Driving Training Schools and Provincial Workshops as per the details given below, up to 2.00 p.m. on 08.03.2021 under National Competitive Bidding procedure. Bids should be submitted on the forms available with the Secretary, Procurement Committee, Sri Lanka Transport Board, 200, Kirula Road, Colombo 05. Bidding documents will be issued from 25.01.2021 to 05.03.2021 on payment of a non-refundable application fee of Rs. 20,000/= on working days between 9.00 a.m. and 3.00 p.m.

Sr. No.	SLTB Region	Depots, Regional Offices, Driving Training Schools and Provincial Workshops in the Region	Total No. of Security Officers required (for 12 hr. shifts)	Bid Security for the Region (Rs.)
1.1	Colombo	Angoda, Katubedda, Kesbawa, Udahamulla, Moratuwa, Meethotamulla, Mattakkuliya, Rathmalana, Thalagama Depots	78	430,000.00
1.2	Kalutara	Aluthgama, Horana, Kalutara, Panadura Depots & Driving Training School (Kalutara)	40	220,000.00
1.3	Gampaha	Gampaha, Ja-ela, Kirindiwella, Kadawatha, Kelaniya, Negombo, Welisara Depots, Gampaha Provincial Workshop & Gampaha Regional Office	72	395,000.00
1.4	Nuwara-Eliya	Gampola, Hatton, Hanguranketha, Kothmale, Nawalapitiya, Walapane Depots, Kurunduwatta Sub-Depot & Nuwara-eliya Regional Office	56	310,000.00
1.5	Kandy	Kandy North, Kandy South, Matale, Teldeniya, Ududumbara, Wategama Depots, Kaludewala Provincial Workshop & Kandy Regional Office	58	320,000.00
1.6	Southern	Ambalantota, Ambalangoda, Akuressa, Hakmana, Udugama, Koggala Depots, Gintota Provincial Workshop & Southern Regional Office	66	365,000.00
1.7	Sabaragamuwa	Balangoda, Deraniyagala, Embilipitiya, Kahawatta, Godakawela, Kalawana, Mawanella, Rambukkana Depots, Warakapola Sub-Depot & Sabaragamuwa Regional Office	66	365,000.00
1.8	Wayamba	Alawwa, Chilaw, Giriulla, Kuliyaipitiya, Kurunegala South, Kurunegala North, Mahawa, Puttalam, Wariyapola Depots, Anamaduwa & Rideegama Sub-depots & Driving Training School (Pothuhera)	82	450,000.00
1.9	Uva	Bandarawela, Keppetipola, Mahiyanganaya, Wellawaya, Thanamalwila Depots	46	255,000.00
1.10	Rajarata	Horowpothana, Kebithigollewa, Kanthale, Kekirawa, Polonnaruwa Depots & Medawachchiya Provincial Workshop	42	230,000.00
1.11	Eastern	Akkaraipattuwa, Eravur, Kalawanchikudy, Valachchenai, Kattankudy Depots, Pothuvil, Kinniya, Vakara, Rideethenna Sub-depots, Ampara Tyre Factory & Eastern Regional Office	62	340,000.00
1.12	Northern	Jaffna, Mannar, Point Pedro, Karainagar, Kilinochchi, Mullaitivu Depots & Mallakam Provincial Workshop	42	230,000.00

10. Only Registered Security Service Providers with a valid license from the Ministry of Defence and over 03 years experience in providing Security Services, are eligible to bid.
11. Bids shall be valid up to 08.07.2021, but the prices quoted shall be fixed for a period of one year.
12. Bidders may quote for one Region or several Regions. Bids must be accompanied by Bid Bond/s for the total relevant value for the regions quoted for as mentioned above, valid till 08.08.2021, irrevocable & unconditionally encashable upon the first written request by SLTB and issued by a registered commercial bank approved by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka or an Insurance Agency registered with the Insurance Regulatory Commission of Sri Lanka. Any Bid not accompanied by a valid Bid Security will be rejected.
13. (a) Any person who acts as an Agent, Sub agent, Representative or Nominee for or on behalf of a Bidder should register with Registrar of Public Contracts, "Samagam Medura", D. R. Wijewardene Mawatha, Colombo 10. in terms of Contracts Act Number 3 of 1987 before submitting the bid.
- (b) Bidders shall also register themselves immediately after the submission of bids and prior to the award of the procurement in terms of the Public Contracts Act. No. 03 of 1987. The procurement shall not be awarded to any bidder unless such bidder has submitted the Certificate of Registration issued in terms of the Public Contracts Act to the relevant Procurement Committee.
14. All pages of the Bid Document shall be initialed by the bidder and his seal affixed.
15. Bids should be deposited in the Tender box maintained for this purpose at the Accounts Division of the State Ministry of Vehicle Regulation, Bus Transport Services and Train Compartments and Motor Car Industry, No.01, D.R. Wijewardene Mawatha, Colombo 10 at or before 2.00 p.m. on 08.03.2021. The sealed cover in which the Bid is enclosed should be marked "Supply of Private Security Services to SLTB Depots, Regional Offices, Driving Training Schools and Provincial Workshops" at the top left hand side corner of the envelope.
16. Bids will be opened immediately after the closing of Bids at the Accounts Division, State Ministry of Vehicle Regulation, Bus Transport Services and Train Compartments and Motor Car Industry, No. 01, D.R. Wijewardene Mawatha, Colombo 10. Bidders or their authorized representatives are requested to be present at the opening of bids.

**The Chairman,
Ministry Procurement Committee,
State Ministry of Vehicle Regulation, Bus Transport Services and Train Compartments and Motor Car Industry, No.01, D.R. Wijewardene Mawatha,
Colombo 10.**

**Inquiries : Secretary, Procurement Section, Sri Lanka Transport Board
Tel: 011 7706110, Tel/Fax: 011 2588457**



GOVERNMENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA

Ministry of Highways
ROAD DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY



INVITATION FOR BIDS

NOTICE FOR THE RESCHEDULED DATE OF THE PREBID MEETING OF WIDENING OF BRIDGE NO. 15/2 ON PELIYAGODA - PUTTALAM ROAD (JA- ELA BRIDGE) - AA003 (Contract no. RDA/DC/WP/IR-GOSL/2021/11)

1. The Pre-Bid meeting of the above project has been rescheduled to 10:00 hrs on 03.03.2021 at the office of the Project Director (Western Province), Road Development Authority, 1st floor, "Sethsiripaya", Battaramulla (T.P: 011 - 2876600 and Fax no.: 011 - 2877226) and a site visit will be arranged immediately thereafter if necessary.
2. **Other conditions of the Invitation for Bid** which is published on 12.02.2021 remain unchanged.

**The Chairman,
Road Development Authority Procurement Committee
Road Development Authority
1st Floor, 'Maganeguma Mahamedura',
No. 216, Denzil Kobbekaduwa Mawatha, Battaramulla.**



GOVERNMENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA

MINISTRY OF HIGHWAYS

ROAD DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY



INVITATION FOR BIDS

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

Contract No.	Contract Name	Engineer's Estimate exclu. Contingencies (Rs.Mn)	Bid Security (Rs.Mn)	Duration (Days)
RDA/DC/WP/IR-GOSL/2021/16	RECONSTRUCTION OF BRIDGE NO. 53/1 AND CULVERT NO. 53/2 ON COLOMBO - GALLE - HAMBANTOTA - WELLAWAYA ROAD (A002)	238.1	3	455

2. The work consists of reconstruction of bridge no. 53/1 & culvert no. 53/2, and construction of approaches including incidental works.
3. Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding Procedure.
4. To be eligible for the contract award, the successful bidder shall be currently registered with the Construction Industry Development Authority (CIDA) in **C3 or C2 grades in Bridges specialty**.
5. Interested bidders may obtain further information from the following offices and inspect the bidding document via www.rda.gov.lk from **04.03.2021**
- a) Project Director (Western Province), Road Development Authority, 1st floor, Sethsiripaya, Battaramulla
T.P.: 011 - 2876600 and Fax no.: 011 - 2877226
- b) Director (Construction), Road Development Authority, 3rd Floor, "Maganeguma Mahamedura", Denzil Kobbekaduwa Mawatha, Battaramulla
T.P.: 011 - 2864388, Fax No.: 011 - 2861821
6. The Pre-Bid meeting will be held at **10:00 hrs on 15.03.2021** at the office of Project Director (Western Province), Road Development Authority, 1st floor, Sethsiripaya, Battaramulla and a site visit will be arranged immediately thereafter if necessary.
7. A complete set of Bidding Document in English language shall be purchased by interested bidders on submission of a written application to the Director (Construction), RDA, 3rd Floor, "Maganeguma Mahamedura", Denzil Kobbekaduwa Mawatha, Battaramulla from **04.03.2021 until 24.03.2021** during **09:00 hrs to 15:00 hrs** upon a payment of non - refundable tender fee.

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

- a. Account Name : Director General - RDA
b. Account Number : 0000001943
c. Bank Name : Bank of Ceylon - Corporate Branch

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

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

8. Bid shall be accompanied by a Bid- Security for an amount given in the table. Bid Security shall be valid up to **22.07.2021**.
9. Bid shall be valid up to **24.06.2021**.
10. Bid shall be delivered in duplicate to the Chairman, Ministry Procurement Committee, Ministry of Highways, Procurement Division, 7th Floor, "Maganeguma Mahamedura", Denzil Kobbekaduwa Mawatha, Battaramulla on or before **14:00 hrs on 25.03.2021**. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened soon after the closing, in the presence of the bidder's representatives who choose to attend.

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

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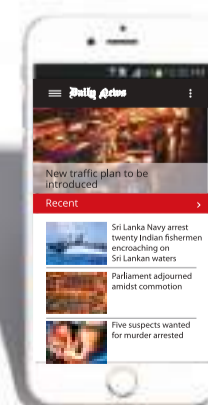


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LOLC FINANCE VEHICLES FOR SALE

AMBALANTHOTA

THREE WHEELER

BAJAJ	198CC	2013	SP	AAMXXXX
BAJAJ	145CC	2005	SP	QD XXXX
BAJAJ	173CC	2008	SP	QO XXXX
BAJAJ	173CC	2010	UP	QX XXXX
BAJAJ	173CC	2010	UP	YB XXXX
BAJAJ	200CC	2011	SP	YF XXXX
BAJAJ	198CC	2011	SP	YI XXXX
BAJAJ	200CC	2012	SP	YW XXXX
BAJAJ	198CC	2012	SP	YY XXXX

LOLC VEHICLE FACILITY CENTRE, NO. 162, MAIN STREET, AMBALANTHOTA
KAVINDU - 0475118080

AMPARA

FOUR WHEEL TRACTOR

TAFE 45DI	2500CC	2015	EP	RE	XXXX
MASSEY FERGUSON	2955CC	2017	EP	RF	XXXX

MOTOR BIKE

DEMAK DTM-150	150CC	2017	EP	BGN	XXXX
TYS APACHE	160CC	2019	EP	BJE	XXXX

THREE WHEELER

BAJAJ	200CC	2012	EP	AAA	XXXX
BAJAJ	198CC	2013	EP	AAG	XXXX
BAJAJ	198CC	2013	EP	AAL	XXXX
BAJAJ	145CC	2006	UP	QH	XXXX
BAJAJ	173CC	2007	NE	QJ	XXXX
BAJAJ	173CC	2009	EP	OS	XXXX
BAJAJ	173CC	2009	NE	OS	XXXX
BAJAJ	173CC	2009	EP	OT	XXXX
BAJAJ	173CC	2009	EP	OV	XXXX
BAJAJ	173CC	2010	EP	OW	XXXX
BAJAJ	173CC	2010	EP	OZ	XXXX
BAJAJ	173CC	2010	EP	YA	XXXX
BAJAJ	173CC	2010	EP	YB	XXXX
BAJAJ	173CC	2010	EP	YD	XXXX
BAJAJ	198CC	2011	EP	YP	XXXX
BAJAJ	196CC	2011	EP	YQ	XXXX
BAJAJ	196CC	2011	EP	YT	XXXX
BAJAJ	200CC	2012	EP	YZ	XXXX
PIAGGIO APE	395CC	2011	EP	YR	XXXX

LOLC AUTO MART, NO. 223, KANDY ROAD, AMPARA
SAMANTHA - 063-5780880/881

BADULLA

CAR

TATA INDICA	1396CC	2007	CP	KH	XXXX
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THREE WHEELER

BAJAJ	198CC	2013	CP	AAH	XXXX
BAJAJ	198CC	2014	CP	AAP	XXXX
BAJAJ	198CC	2015	CP	ABB	XXXX
BAJAJ	198CC	2015	UP	ABH	XXXX
BAJAJ	173CC	2007	SG	QM	XXXX
BAJAJ	173CC	2009	CP	QV	XXXX
BAJAJ	173CC	2010	UP	YA	XXXX
BAJAJ	173CC	2010	CP	YD	XXXX
BAJAJ	198CC	2011	CP	YI	XXXX
BAJAJ	198CC	2011	CP	YJ	XXXX
BAJAJ	198CC	2011	CP	YR	XXXX

LOLC VEHICLE FACILITY CENTRE, NO. 361 A, KEMPPUPOLA ROAD, BADULLA
LAHIRU - 0554549948

DAMBULLA

CAR

HONDA BAW-323 INSIGHT	1330CC	2009	NWKS	XXXX
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FOUR WHEEL TRACTOR

HOLLAND	2700CC	2018	NWRF	XXXX
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HARVESTER

DSL AGRI CHAMP

THREE WHEELER

BAJAJ	198CC	2014	EP	AAN	XXXX
BAJAJ	198CC	2015	NWAA	XXXX	
BAJAJ	198CC	2015	CP	AAZ	XXXX
BAJAJ	198CC	2015	NWABA	XXXX	
BAJAJ	145CC	2006	NWQF	XXXX	
BAJAJ	173CC	2007	CP	QK	XXXX
BAJAJ	173CC	2006	SG	QJ	XXXX
BAJAJ	173CC	2008	NWQQ	XXXX	
BAJAJ	173CC	2009	CP	QS	XXXX
BAJAJ	173CC	2009	NC	QS	XXXX
BAJAJ	173CC	2009	NWQV	XXXX	
BAJAJ	173CC	2009	SG	QV	XXXX
BAJAJ	173CC	2009	NC	QX	XXXX
BAJAJ	173CC	2010	NWQX	XXXX	
BAJAJ	173CC	2010	CP	QZ	XXXX
BAJAJ	173CC	2010	NWYA	XXXX	
BAJAJ	173CC	2010	EP	YB	XXXX
BAJAJ	198CC	2010	SG	YG	XXXX
BAJAJ	198CC	2011	CP	YN	XXXX
BAJAJ	198CC	2011	NWYD	XXXX	
BAJAJ	198CC	2011	NWYS	XXXX	
BAJAJ	198CC	2011	WP	YU	XXXX
TYS KING	200CC	2014	NC	AAQ	XXXX

LOLC VEHICLE FACILITY CENTRE, ETRAGODIYERU ROAD, THALANGAMA, DAMBULLA
CHAMINDA - 0665118181

MALAMBE

THREE WHEELER

BAJAJ	173CC	2007	WP	QM	XXXX
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LOLC AUTO SMART, THALANGAMA NORTH, MALAMBE
NALAKA - 0772642872

VAVUNIYA

THREE WHEELER

TYS KING	200CC	2015	NC	ABI	XXXX
BAJAJ	173CC	2010	WP	YC	XXXX

MOTOR BIKE

MAHINDRA GUSTO	110CC	2017	NC	BHA	XXXX
HERO APRILIA	125CC	2018	NC	BHS	XXXX
BAJAJ PULSAR	199CC	2019	NP	BIT	XXXX

LOLC VEHICLE FACILITY CENTRE, NO. 363, MAMMAR ROAD, VEPPANKULAM, VAVUNIYA
THIMOTHY - 0766582329

GOTHATUWA

THREE WHEELER

BAJAJ	198CC	2012	WP	AAB	XXXX
BAJAJ	198CC	2012	WP	AAB	XXXX
BAJAJ	198CC	2012	WP	AAF	XXXX
BAJAJ	198CC	2014	WP	AAQ	XXXX
BAJAJ	198CC	2015	WP	AAZ	XXXX
BAJAJ	198CC	2015	WP	ABD	XXXX
BAJAJ	150CC	2003	WP	HH	XXXX
BAJAJ	150CC	2003	WP	HH	XXXX
BAJAJ	150CC	2003	WP	HN	XXXX
BAJAJ	150CC	2003	WP	HO	XXXX
BAJAJ	150CC	2003	WP	HU	XXXX
BAJAJ	145CC	2005	WP	JA	XXXX
BAJAJ	145CC	2006	WP	QD	XXXX
BAJAJ	145CC	2006	WP	QE	XXXX
BAJAJ	145CC	2006	WP	QF	XXXX
BAJAJ	145CC	2006	WP	QG	XXXX
BAJAJ	145CC	2006	WP	QH	XXXX
BAJAJ	173CC	2007	WP	QK	XXXX
BAJAJ	173CC	2008	WP	QP	XXXX
BAJAJ	173CC	2008	NW	QQ	XXXX
BAJAJ	173CC	2009	WP	QT	XXXX
BAJAJ	173CC	2009	WP	QW	XXXX
BAJAJ	173CC	2010	WP	QX	XXXX
BAJAJ	173CC	2010	WP	QY	XXXX
BAJAJ	173CC	2010	WP	YA	XXXX
BAJAJ	173CC	2010	WP	YB	XXXX
BAJAJ	173CC	2010	WP	YB	XXXX
BAJAJ	173CC	2010	WP	YC	XXXX
BAJAJ	173CC	2010	WP	YD	XXXX
BAJAJ	200CC	2010	WP	YF	XXXX
BAJAJ	198CC	2011	WP	YM	XXXX
BAJAJ	200CC	2011	WP	YN	XXXX
BAJAJ	200CC	2011	WP	YO	XXXX
BAJAJ	198CC	2011	WP	YS	XXXX
BAJAJ	198CC	2011	WP	YT	XXXX
BAJAJ	198CC	2011	WP	YU	XXXX
PIAGGIO	395CC	2015	WP	AAJ	XXXX
PIAGGIO	395CC	2010	WP	QX	XXXX
PIAGGIO	395CC	2011	WP	YR	XXXX
PIAGGIO	395CC	2011	WP	YS	XXXX
TVS KING	200CC	2010	WP	YI	XXXX

NO. 42/5, GOTHATUWA GAMSABHA RD, GOTHATUWA
MAHESH - 0773493535

GRANDPASS

BUS

ASHOK LETLAND COMET MINOR	6000CC	1997	62	XXXX
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TRUCK

TATA ACE	700CC	2005	WP	LC	XXXX
TATA ACE	702CC	2010	WP	PP	XXXX

LOLC VEHICLE FACILITY CENTRE, NO. 260, GRANDPASS RD, COLOMBO 14
HASITHA - 0767951865

KURUWITA

CAR

PERODUA KELISA	989CC	2002	SG	KC	XXXX
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THREE WHEELER

BAJAJ	173CC	2008	SG	QR	XXXX
BAJAJ	173CC	2009	SG	QV	XXXX
BAJAJ	145CC	2010	SG	YA	XXXX
BAJAJ	173CC	2006	SG	QJ	XXXX
BAJAJ	173CC	2008	SG	QR	XXXX
BAJAJ	2008	SG	QR	XXXX	
BAJAJ	173CC	2010	SG	QX	XXXX
PIAGGIO	395CC	2010	SG	OZ	XXXX
PIAGGIO	395CC	2013	SG	AAN	XXXX
PIAGGIO	395CC	2015	WP	AAK	XXXX
PIAGGIO	395CC	2010	SG	YI	XXXX

LOLC VEHICLE FACILITY CENTRE, NO. 472 F, MALANA, KURUWITA
ISHANKA - 0772752097

MATHUGAMA

THREE WHEELER

BAJAJ	198CC	2013	WP	AAH	XXXX
BAJAJ	198CC	2014	WP	AAO	XXXX
BAJAJ	198CC	2015	WP	ABL	XXXX
BAJAJ	173CC	2005	WP	OB	XXXX
BAJAJ	145CC	2005	WP	OB	XXXX
BAJAJ	173CC	2007	WP	OB	XXXX
BAJAJ	173CC	2006	WP	OD	XXXX
BAJAJ	173CC	2008	WP	OP	XXXX
BAJAJ	173CC	2008	WP	QQ	XXXX
BAJAJ	173CC	2008	WP	QQ	XXXX
BAJAJ	173CC	2008	WP	QQ	XXXX
BAJAJ	173CC	2008	WP	QR	XXXX
BAJAJ	173CC	2008	WP	QS	XXXX
BAJAJ	173CC	2009	WP	QT	XXXX
BAJAJ	173CC	2009	WP	QU	XXXX
BAJAJ	173CC	2009	WP	QV	XXXX
BAJAJ	173CC	2009	SP	QV	XXXX
BAJAJ	173CC	2010	WP	QW	XXXX
BAJAJ	173CC	2010	WP	QX	XXXX
BAJAJ	173CC	2010	WP	QZ	XXXX
BAJAJ	173CC	2010	WP	QZ	XXXX
BAJAJ	173CC	2010	WP	YB	XXXX
BAJAJ	200CC	2010	WP	YE	XXXX
BAJAJ	198CC	2010	WP	YF	XXXX
BAJAJ	198CC	2010	WP	YH	XXXX
BAJAJ	198CC	2010	WP	YI	XXXX
BAJAJ	198CC	2011	WP	YJ	XXXX
BAJAJ	198CC	2011	WP	YK	XXXX
BAJAJ	198CC	2011	WP	YL	XXXX

LOLC VEHICLE FACILITY CENTRE, NEAR THE PEOPLE'S BANK, WURUA MAWATHA, MATHUGAMA
PRAMODA - 0775634245

WELLAMPITIYA

CAR

MARUTI	1197CC	2012	WP	PKT	XXXX
NISSAN SUNNY VB11	1300CC	1985	15	XXXX	
MERCEDES BENZ	1998CC	2002	WP	GR	XXXX

THREE WHEELER

BAJAJ	173CC	2010	CP	QW	XXXX
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VAN

HONDA ACTY	650CC	1998	CP	JA	XXXX
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LOLC VEHICLE FACILITY CENTRE, NO. 98/1/1, MISSAWELLARU
MAHABUTHGAMA, WELLAMPITIYA
JAYANTHA - 0773242324

MATARA MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

PROCUREMENT NOTICE

Bids are invited up to 3.00 p.m. on 16.03.2021 from eligible contractors subject to conditions appearing below for the work shown in the schedule below, proposed to be implemented by the Matara Municipal Council.

Details	Registration required (CIDA)	Refundable Tender Deposit (Rs.)	Non-refundable Tender Fee (Rs.)
Construction of Hunu Kotuwa Public Market - Stage II	C5 or above	7,500.00	5,000.00

- Bid documents could be obtained up to 3.00 p.m. on 15.03.2021 from the Engineering Department of the Matara Municipal Council. Contracts will be awarded to Contractors registered at the Construction Industry Development Authority (CIDA) and at the National Construction Contractors Association of Sri Lanka (NCCASL).
- Further details regarding this matter could be obtained on working days of the week during normal office hours from the Engineering Department of the Matara Municipal Council (Inquiries:- Municipal Engineer, Tel. No. 041-2223015).
- A bid guarantee to the value of Rs. 275000.00 should be submitted with every bid when submitting bids. This bid guarantee should be an unconditional, payable on demand and obtained from a reputed bank approved by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka. This guarantee should be according to the specimen form mentioned in the Bid documents. Further, the Bid guarantee should be valid up to 118 days from the date of opening of bids.
- Bids should be submitted separately in two copies, marked as original and duplicate and thereafter they should be inserted in a single envelope and sealed and marked with the name of the work on the top left-hand corner of this envelope and sent to the Municipal Commissioner, Municipal Council, Matara by registered post to be received before 3.00 p.m. on 16.03.2021 or should be inserted in the tender box kept in the Matara Municipal Council. The bidder or an authorized representative on his behalf is requested to be present at the bid opening. Incomplete bids will be rejected and the tender deposit will be forfeited. The tender deposit of those who fail to submit bids will also be forfeited.
- The line indicating the unit price, the total amount and the discount should be covered with transparent cellulose tape and submitted.
- Bids will be opened at 3.30 p.m. on 16.03.2021 at the Matara Municipal Council meeting hall.
- Bids are valid for 03 months.
- The Matara Municipal Council retains the right of the final decision regarding all tenders.
- A pre-bid meeting will be held at 10.30 a.m. on 10.03.2021 at the Mat

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

STATE MINISTRY OF WILDLIFE PROTECTION, PROTECTIVE MEASURES INCLUDING CONSTRUCTIONS OF ELEPHANT FENCES AND TRENCHES AND REFORESTATION AND FOREST RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

Department of National Zoological Gardens

Supply and delivery of accessories for blow Pipe & air pressure injector guns for Department of National Zoological Gardens

IFB No: DNZG/A/10/20/09

1. The Chairman, Department Procurement Committee on behalf of the Department of National Zoological Gardens now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for supply and delivery of accessories for blow pipe & injector guns as follows:

No.	Accessory	Total Requirement
Syringes for Blow Pipe		
1	Syringe 1.5 ml. blow pipe dart syringe included needle 1.2 x 38mm for Blow pipe	60
2	Syringe 3.0 ml. blow pipe dart syringe included needle 1.2 x 38mm for Blow pipe	120
Syringes for Dan Injector Gun/pistol - 13 mm barrel		
3	10ml dart syringe mount with stabilizer, to be used in 13mm (13mm Ø) Nylon barrel.	12
4	5ml dart syringe mount with stabilizer, to be used in 13mm (13mm Ø) Nylon barrel.	20
Syringes for Dan Injector Gun/pistol - 11 mm barrel		
5	1.5ml dart syringe mount with stabilizer, to be used in 11mm (11mm Ø) Nylon barrel.	50
6	3ml dart syringe mount with stabilizer, to be used in 11mm (11mm Ø) Nylon barrel.	150
Blow pipe Needles		
7	Injection Needle 1.1 x 25 mm needle for Blow pipe	50
8	Injection Needle 1.2 x 38mm Alu needle (much stronger) for Blow pipe	120
Needles to be used in Dan Injector Rifle and Pistol.		
9	Injection needle, Stainless Steel, sharp tip, side pore, Needle shaft diameter 1.5mm, length 25 mm. (1.5 x 25mm plain)	50
10	Injection needle, Stainless Steel, sharp tip, side pore, Needle shaft diameter 1.5mm, length 30mm. (1.5 x 30 mm, plain)	60
11	Injection needle, Stainless Steel, sharp tip, side pore, Needle shaft diameter 2.0mm, length 30mm. (2.0 x 30 mm, plain)	30
12	Injection needle, Stainless Steel, sharp tip, side pore, Needle shaft diameter 2.0 mm, length 40mm. (2.0 x 40 mm, plain)	20
13	Injection needle, Stainless Steel, sharp tip, side pore, Needle shaft diameter 2.0mm, length 60mm. (2.0 x 60 mm, plain)	20
14	Injection needle, Stainless Steel, sharp tip, side pore, Needle shaft diameter 2.2 mm, length 60mm. (2.2 x 60 mm, plain)	20
15	Injection needle, Stainless Steel, sharp tip, side pore, Needle shaft diameter 2.2 mm, length 100mm (2.2 x100 mm, plain)	20
Other Accessories		
16	CO2-cartridge, 72 grams, for Model JMS25 Injection Rifle	150
17	Replacement stabilizer for 1.5 and 3 ml dart syringes, RED	50
18	Replacement stabilizer for 5 and 10 ml dart syringes, RED	50
19	DVP Venting Pin	10
20	Silicone Oil 10 ml to be used to lubricate the black plunger inside the dart syringe for better dart maintenance	12
21	Sealing sleeves only, Colour red for needle diameter: 2.0 and 2.2 mm (50 pcs in a pack)	80
22	Sealing sleeves only, Colour green for needle diameter: 1.5mm, (50 pcs in a pack)	25

2. Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding.
3. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from the office of the Director General, **The Department of National Zoological Gardens, Anagarika Dharmapala Mawatha, Dehiwala. Tel -011-2712751** and inspect the bidding documents at the address given below on working days from **9.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. from 01st March 2021 to 21st March 2021.**
4. Documents to be furnished with the Bid are as follows:
1. Certification of Business Registration
 2. Registration Certificate of Cosmetics, Devices and Drugs Regulatory Authority of Sri Lanka or Department of Animal Products and Health.
 3. Documents to prove sales history of the offered item (Minimum for 3 years)
 4. Audited final accounts for last year
 5. Bank statements for last 6 months
5. A complete set of bidding documents in English language may be purchased by interested bidders on the submission of a written application to the address given below and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Rupees Three Thousand (Rs. 3,000/-). The method of payment will be in cash.
6. Bids must be delivered to the address below at or before 2.00 p.m. on 22nd March 2021. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend in person or on-line at the address below at 2.00 p.m. on 22nd March 2021. All bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security of Rs. 46,000/-
7. The decision of the Department Procurement Committee shall be the final.

The Chairman
Department Procurement Committee
Department of National Zoological Gardens
Anagarika Dharmapala Mawatha, Dehiwala.



CEYLON PETROLEUM STORAGE TERMINALS LIMITED

TENDER NOTICE

THE SALE OF USED / UNSERVICEABLE TYRES AND BATTERIES

TENDER NO: KPR - 10/2021

The Chairman, Department Procurement Committee (Lower Minor) Ceylon Petroleum Storage Terminals Limited (CPSTL), will receive sealed tenders for the sale of following Used/ Unserviceable Tyres & Batteries.

TYRE SIZE	QTY	BATTERY SIZE	QTY	BATTERY SIZE	QTY
315/80R 22.5 Tyre	25	06 V small	06	12V 115 AMP	03
295/80R 22.5 Tyre	258	12 V small	16	12V 120 AMP	171
1100x20 Tyre	829	05 V AMP	01	12V 150 AMP	42
1000x20 Tyre	36	12V 35 AMP	12	12V 200 AMP	11
900x20 Tyre	117	12V 65 AMP	21	Sealed Battery 6V (UPS Battery)	130
Light Vehicle Tyre	77	12V 70 AMP	33	Sealed Battery 12V (UPS Battery)	15
Motor Cycle Tyre	52	12V 90 AMP	01	12V - 75 AMV	67
		12V 95 AMP	60	12V - 26 AMV	32
		12V 100 AMP	06	12V - 09 AMV (UPS Battery)	82

Interested parties may refer the tender document (*only for viewing purpose*) and obtain necessary information through the website www.cpstl.lk and the original tender documents (full set) could be obtained on submission of a written request via an email to procure@cpstl.lk during working days from **0900 hrs. to 1600 hrs. from 01.03.2021 till 15.03.2021**. If the email request received to CPSTL, Manager Procurement may send the CPSTL account details via email for depositing the non-refundable tender document fee, if appropriate.

Accordingly, the tenderer shall deposit a non-refundable tender document fee of **Sri Lankan Rupees five hundred (LKR 500.00)** to the CPSTL account and shall submit the payment receipt to CPSTL in order to obtain the original tender documents (full set) via email.

The interested parties could inspect the above items which are kept at CPSTL Auction Yard, Kolonnawa by making a prior appointment with the Deputy Stores Manager on **Tel: 011 - 5750751**.

Duly filled tender documents may be sent by post/courier under registered cover or sealed cover to reach the Chairman, Department Procurement Committee, C/o Manager Procurement, Ceylon Petroleum Storage Terminals Limited, Procurement Function, 01st Floor, New Building, Oil Installation, Kolonnawa, Wellampitiya or could be deposited in the tender box kept at the main entrance of CPSTL, at or before **1400 hrs. on 16.03.2021**.

In case, the tenderers are unable to submit the original tenders as above, they could submit the scanned copy of the duly filled original tender documents in PDF format via email to tenders@cpstl.lk to reach at or before **1400 hrs. on 16.03.2021**, at their own discretion. However all original tender documents should reach Manager Procurement immediately.

Tenders will be closed at 1400 hrs. on 16.03.2021 and will be opened immediately thereafter at the office of Manager (Procurement). Due to the prevailing COVID-19 pandemic situation in the country, the authorized representatives of the tenderers may be allowed to participate /witness the tender opening procedure via video conferencing method.

Tenders shall be valid until **16.06.2021**.

Tenders shall be accompanied by a bid security of Rs.10,000.00 and shall be valid until **16.07.2021** and beyond any extension subsequently requested.

For further details of clarifications, tenderers may contact the Procurement Manager on **Tel. Nos. 011-2572156 or 011-5663121**.

The Chairman,
Department Procurement Committee
C/o Manager Procurement
Ceylon Petroleum Storage Terminals Limited
Procurement Function
01st Floor, New Building
Kolonnawa, Wellampitiya
Sri Lanka.

Fax / Telephone : 011 2572155/5663121
Email: procure@cpstl.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.



STATE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

DISTRICT SECRETARIAT, ANURADHAPURA

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

Construction of New Building for Divisional Secretariat in Nuwaragam Palatha Central and Mahawilachchiya at Anuradhapura District (Stage II)

The District Secretary Anuradhapura on behalf of the District Procurement Committee now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the following projects.

- 01: Construction of New Building for Divisional Secretariat, Nuwaragam Palatha - Central. - Stage II
02: Construction of New Building for Divisional Secretariat, Mahawilachchiya - Stage II.

Se. No.		Project 01	Project 02
1	Contract number	ANU/DIST/2/18/G/05	ANU/DIST/2/18/G/06
2	Non Refundable Bid Fee	Rs. 15,000.00	Rs. 25,000.00
3	Eligibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Only CIDA C-3 & C4 (Building Construction) ● Registration of Public Contract Act No. 03 of 1987 for the relevant Contract. 	
4	Estimated Cost for Construction (Excluding VAT)	Rs. 64 Million	Rs. 127 Million
5	Contract Period (Days)	240	365
6	Bid Security (valid upto 19.07.2021) (From bank operated in Sri Lanka approved by the Central Bank or Construction Guarantee Fund)	Rs. 650,000.00	Rs. 1,500,000.00
7	Pre-bid meetings	On 15.03.2021 at 13.30 hrs at Divisional Secretariat of Nuwaragam Palatha - Central.	On 15.03.2021 at 10.00 hrs at Divisional Secretariat of Mahawilachchiya.

1. Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding Procedure.
2. To be eligible for contract award, the successful bidder shall not have been blacklisted and shall meet the requirements given in No. 03 of above table and valid until the date of award.
3. Interested bidders may obtain further information from **Chief Accountant, District Secretariat - Anuradhapura** and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address of **Government Agent/District Secretary, Chairman, District Procurement Committee, District Secretariat, Anuradhapura** from 09.00 hrs to 15.00 hrs. on working days. (Tel 0710545714 / 0718145148)
4. A complete set of bidding Documents in English Language may be purchased on submission of a written application to the **District Secretary, Chairman, District Procurement Committee, District Secretariat - Anuradhapura** from **02.03.2021** until **22.03.2021** from **09.00 hrs. to 15.00 hrs.** upon payment of a non refundable fee as above. The method of payment will be by cash only.
5. The value of the bid security is stated in the above table and be addressed to **District Secretary, District Secretariat - Anuradhapura**.
6. Bids shall be delivered to the address of **Government Agent/District Secretary, Chairman, District Procurement Committee, District Secretariat, Anuradhapura**, at or before **10.00 hrs on 23.03.2021**. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened soon after closing of Bids in the presence of the bidders' representatives. Title of the Job should be mentioned on the left-hand corner of the envelope.
7. Bidder's previous performance and the liquidity position (Ministry and other Government organizations) are strictly evaluated on selection of the bidder.
8. Procurement Committee reserves the right to accept a suitable bid out of the bids received or reject all bids. The decision of the Procurement Committee is final.

R.M. Wanninayaka
Chairman of District Procurement Committee,
Government Agent / District Secretary,
District Secretariat,
Anuradhapura.



STATE MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY AND DISASTER MANAGEMENT

DISASTER MANAGEMENT DIVISION

PROCUREMENT NOTICE

Quotations are hereby invited from the Service Providers / Suppliers in Sri Lanka, to obtain under mentioned services, for the Disaster Management Division of the State Ministry of National Security and Disaster Management.

Procurement No.	Procurement	Closing Date and Time of Receiving Bids
DMD/PRO/14/2021-03/MPC	Contract agreement for Air-conditioning, Maintenance Services - 2021/2022	Up to 3.00 p.m. on 22.03.2021
DMD/PRO/17/2021-04/MPC	Contract agreement for the Electrical and Mechanical System Maintenance Services - 2021/2022	Up to 2.00 p.m. on 22.03.2021

Bidding documents regarding air-conditioning maintenance services and electrical and mechanical system maintenance services could be obtained from the Finance Division of the Disaster Management Division of the State Ministry of National Security and Disaster Management, 2nd Floor, Vidya Mawatha, Colombo 07, from 01.03.2021 to 19.03.2021 upon payment of a **non-refundable fee of Rs. 1,000/-**, per set of Procurement Forms.

Bids in duplicate, duly completed, marked the name and the No. of the Procurement, on the top left-hand corner of the envelope should either be sent by registered post addressed to the Chairman, Ministry Procurement Committee (Minor), State Ministry of National Security and Disaster Management, Vidya Mawatha, Colombo 07 or deposited in the Tender Box, kept at the Finance Division at the Second Floor of the Ministry to be received on or before the relevant **closing time on 22.03.2021**. Late Bids will be rejected.

Bids thus received will be opened immediately after the closing time of bids and hence bidders' authorized agents will be allowed to be present on this occasion of opening of bids.

Chairman,
Ministry Procurement Committee (Minor),
State Ministry of National Security and Disaster Management,
Disaster Management Division,
Vidya Mawatha,
Colombo 07.
Telephone No.: 011-2665086

Sri Lanka State Trading (General) Corporation Ltd
 No:100, Nawam Mawatha, Colombo 02.

Expressions of Interest to Develop Web Application / Mobile Application For STC Duty free Operations

- STC invites expressions of interest from registered, experienced, local vendors to develop a web based application / mobile application of our Duty Free operations.
- Expressions of interest submission format could be downloaded from our website www.stc.lk/straden and registration fee of Rs 5000 to be deposited to our bank account before submission of EOI document
- Sealed covers of Expression of Interest in duplicate addressed to the Manager Procurement to be sent by registered post or deposited to the tender box kept at the Procurement Department of STC, No 100, Nawam Mawatha, Colombo 02 (during work days) on or before 10.30 am on 19th March 2021.
- Any EOI received after the closing date and time will be rejected and kept unopened.
- STC reserves the right to reject any or all Expression of Interest and the right of accepting any EOI without assigning any reason.

Expression of Interest should be submitted only on information format downloaded from www.stc.lk tenders/ and completed forms with relevant documents along with cash deposit slip of Rs 5000/- to be submitted to the following address on or before 10.30am on 19th March 2021. Please indicate identification caption "EOI Web / Mobile App 2021" on top left corner of the envelope.

Accounts Name : Sri Lanka State Trading General Corporation.
 Bank Name : People's Bank
 Branch : Corporate Banking Division
 Account Number : 098-1-001-2-0210918
 reference : web app 2021

TEL : 011 2425341/2640880
 FAX : 011 2447970
 E-MAIL : sarkagen@stnet.lk
 WEB : www.stc.lk

Chairman
 Sri Lanka State Trading
 (General) Corporation Ltd,
 No. 100, Nawam Mawatha,
 Colombo 02.

Invitation for bids
Ante LECO Metering Company (Pvt) Ltd
Supply of Corrugated Cardboard Packing Material for
Year 2021 Semester 1

Tender No: ALMC/FM/PROC/2021/T01

- Ante LECO Metering Company (Pvt) Ltd invites sealed tender bids from suppliers for corrugated cardboard boxes for first semester of 2021
- Bidding documents as well as samples could be obtained from the factory premises at mentioned below from 02.03.2021 to 12.03.2021 between 9.00 am and 4.00 pm.
- Completed bids must be delivered through registered post or dropped into the tender box at the below mentioned address before closing the bid at 2.00 pm on 15.03.2021.
- Bids will be opened immediately after closing the bid in the presence of bidders who wish to attend.

Chief Executive Officer,
Ante LECO Metering Company (Pvt) Ltd
Gonapola Road, Gammanpila,
Bandaragama
Tel: 038-2291484

CANCELLATION OF THE POWER OF ATTORNEY GIVEN TO PARANIRUBASINGHAM ARULRAJASINGHAM

We, Subramaniam Maheswaran, Manimegalai Maheswaran and Rajarajeswaran Thirumalmarugan all of Sakkadathar Valavu, Kopai Maththi in the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka being the Grantors of the Special Power of Attorney No.1565 dated 12th March, 2014 and attested by Ehambaram Nadesan, Notary Public do hereby inform the public and its people that the said Special Power of Attorney No.1565 dated 12th March, 2014 and attested by Ehambaram Nadesan, Notary Public appointing the said Paranirubasingham Arulrajasingham of No. 1, 6, Ground Floor, Government Flats, Bambalapitiya, Colombo-04 to deal with the premises No.16, Siripala Road, Mount Lavinia as our Power of Attorney has been revoked, annulled and cancelled and we further hereby revoke, annul and cancel the said Power of Attorney.

We further hereby inform that we will not be held responsible for any transaction or act performed by the said Paranirubasingham Arulrajasingham of No. 1, 6, Ground Floor, Government Flats, Bambalapitiya, Colombo-04 as our Attorney in the future in respect of interalia. No. 16, Siripala Road, Mount Lavinia.

We further inform that the said Special Power of Attorney holder, Paranirubasingham Arulrajasingham of No. 1, 6, Ground Floor, Government Flats, Bambalapitiya, Colombo 4 is not entitled to act or deal with or do any transaction with any person in respect of premises No. 16, Siripala Road, Mount Lavinia.

Subramaniam Maheswaran,
 Manimegalai Maheswaran,
 Rajarajeswaran Thirumalmarugan,
 all of Sakkadathar Valavu, Kopai Maththi.

CANCELLATION OF POWER OF ATTORNEY

I, **Mr Sellathurai Thuthipalasundaran** presently of **No. 7, John Clifford House, Drylands Road London N8 9HW United Kingdom** do hereby revoke and cancel, and make null and void the "POWER OF ATTORNEY" dated 15th day of September 2020 attested by P. Suresh - Solicitor & authorized to administer Oaths No. 150A, Ealing Road, Wembley, Middlesex, HA0 4PY appointing Mr Thambiah Nadarajah of Neeravali Center, Neeravali, Jaffna as my Attorney is cancelled from 25.02.2021.

The Housewives' companion
Classifieds on
Daily News

REVOCATION OF POWER OF ATTORNEY

I, RANAROLE MANIULA LAKMAL alias RANAROLE PRASAD MANIULA LAKMAL (Nic No: 782630130V), of Chitragala, Nawa Koggala Road, Ambalantota, wish to notify the Government of Sri Lanka, and the General Public and all concerned that, the power of attorney, bearing No. 1472, dated 15.05.2019, attested by Mrs. M.K.A. Priyadarsani, Notary Public of Beliatta, granted by me to Mr. Kumarapperuma Arachchige Buddhika Dharmawardena, appointing him, as my lawful attorney, is hereby cancelled and revoked and made nullified, to be effective from 25.02.2021, and I shall henceforth, be held responsible for any act, or dead, done or entered into my aforesaid Mr. Kumarapperuma Arachchige Buddhika Dharmawardena, the said attorney, for or on my behalf, hereinafter.

(Ranarole Manjula Lakmal alias Ranarole Prasad Manjula Lakmal)

LAND ACQUISITION (AMENDMENT) ACT NO. 28 OF 1964 (CHAPTER 460) NOTICE UNDER SECTION 7

Reference No. යොමුවේ අංක 3/101/MOJ
 Land Min's Ref No. 4/3/5/2018/J/302

It is intended to acquire the land described in the schedule below. where (a part) of the Assessment No. 21, Belmont Street and Sanchi Arachchige Watte situated, to the State for Construction of the new courts complex Colombo. Please see the Gazette Extra Ordinary No. 2211/63 dated on 22.02.2021 of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka for more details.

Schedule

District : Colombo
 Divisional Secretary's Division : Divisional Secretariat - Colombo.
 Grama Niladari Division : Aluthkade East
 Name of Village : Aluthkade East
 Name of land : (A part) of the Assessment No. 21 as mentioned in the relevant Preliminary Plan.
 Plan No. : P.P. Co. 9872
 Extent of Land : 2.4281 hectares
 Lot No. : Allotments of lands from Lot No. 01 to 04.

Nalaka Rathnayake
 Divisional Secretary
 Acquisition Officer.

Divisional Secretariat
 24.02.2021

My No. :- 06/04/2/93
 Reference No. of Ministry of Lands :- 4-3/6/2017/HW/155

Notice Under Section 07 of the Land Acquisition Act (Chapter 460) as amended by the Land Acquisition (Amendment) Act No. 28 of 1964

It is intended to acquire the land described in the schedule below to the Government. Please see the Gazette Extraordinary of the Government, No: 2017/23 dated 23.01.2019 for further details.

SCHEDULE

Province : Western
District : Kalutara
Divisional Secretary's Division : Millaniya
Village : Pelpola
Preliminary Plan No. : 0. 4718
Lot No. : 1 to 115

Divisional Secretary,
Millaniya

Divisional Secretary,
Millaniya.
 31.12.2020

Marriage Proposals
 in the
Sunday Observer
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Department of Health Services Southern Province
DOG STERILIZATION PROGRAMME 2021
BID NOTICE

Bids are invited by the Chairman, Department Procurement Committee of the Southern Provincial Department of Health Services, from institutions registered in the Southern Province for implementing the Dog Sterilization Programme in the Southern Province for the year 2021.

- Institutions and individuals fulfilling the basic qualifications mentioned below could submit applications.
 - The relevant applicants should be qualified veterinary Surgeons. (Degree in Veterinary science, possess veterinary Council Registration certificate).
 - The applicants should have participated in relevant programmes for a minimum of 05 years for performing the relevant activities.
- Bid applications could be obtained on working days of the week from 03.03.2021 up to 17.03.2021 between 9.00 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. from the office of the Provincial Director of Health Services at No. 15A, located at the address below. A non refundable fee of Rs. 2500.00 and a refundable deposit of Rs. 50,000.00 should be paid in cash to the Chief Accountant of this Department and the receipt thus obtained should be submitted along with the documents mentioned above.
- Duly completed bid documents should be sent by registered post to the address below to be received before 2.00 p.m. on 19.03.2021 or should be inserted in the tender box kept in the office of the Director of Health Services. The words "Dog Sterilization Programme - 2021" should be marked on the top left hand corner of the envelope containing the tender. Bids received late will be rejected.
- Bids will be opened at 2.00 p.m. on 19.03.2021 immediately after closing of accepting same and the bidder or his authorized representative could be present at the bid opening. Further details could be obtained from the Provincial Director of Health Services / Chief Accountant (Telephone Nos. 091-2234980 / 091-2224609 / 091-2231620).
- The selected suppliers are bound to provide sterilization services to dogs in the Southern Province.
- The Procurement Committee retains the right to accept the relevant bids in entirety or as a part of same or accepting or rejecting bids.
- The relevant facilities and the staff for sterilization activities is the responsibility of the applicant.

Chairman,
Provincial Procurement Committee,
Department of Health Services,
No. 15A, Lower Dickson Road, Galle.

State Ministry of Production and Supply of Fertilizer and Regulation of Chemical Fertilizer and Insecticide Use
Invitation for registration of supplying Chemical Fertilizers and Compound Fertilizers and allied products.
Colombo Commercial Fertilizers Ltd. (CCF) for the period of 2021/22

- This is further to our press notification dated 1st February 2021 regarding the Registration of Suppliers for Chemical Fertilizers and Compound Fertilizers and Allied Products,
- The Chairman, Department Procurement Committee (DPC) on behalf of the Colombo Commercial Fertilizers Ltd., invites eligible suppliers to submit applications to be registered for the supply of the following types of chemical and compound fertilizers for the period of 2021/22. Items listed are for non-subsidies category.
 - NPK compounds (varied nutrient formulas - Organic based)
 - NPK (varied nutrient chemical Formulas)
 - Granula Single Super Phosphate (GSSP) 17% to 19% P₂O₅
 - Natural Organic compost material with proven Microbial Inoculant
 - DAP N 46% - P18
 - Bentonite Sulpher fortified/ Gran S
 - CuSo4 (Cuso4.5H2O)
 - Gran Sulphur
 - Boron.
- Eligible Applicants will be included in a list of registered Suppliers for the year 2021/2022 subsequent to an evaluation and such suppliers who are entitled to submit bids. Bids will be invited from time to time during the period of 2021/22, for the supply of above fertilizers and allied products range for a period of two years commencing from the date of registration.

Application for registration will be issued from 1st March 2021 up to 15th March 2021 by the Procurement and Supplies Division, Colombo Commercial Fertilizers Ltd, Hunupitiya, Wattala, Sri Lanka. Tel /Fax: 94-11-2949091 or 94-77-3721190, www.ccf.gov.lk, E-mail: commercialpohora@gmail.com, on payment of a non-refundable document fee of Rs, 10,000/= should be made to the Cashier, Finance Department, Colombo Commercial Fertilizers Ltd, Hunupitiya, Wattala, Sri Lanka. For further details please contact the Manager, Procurement & Supplies, Colombo Commercial Fertilizers Ltd to the above mentioned contact nos.

Application could be obtained during the period of 2021/22, this system of rolling application is maintained during 02 (two) years valid until 31.12.2022.

The Chairman,
Department Procurement Committee (DPC)
Colombo Commercial Fertilizers Ltd.,
Hunupitiya,
Wattala, Sri Lanka.
 Date: 01.03.2021

SRI LANKA ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE ASSOCIATION (SASA)
38th Annual General Meeting
Notice Issued Under Section 10.4 of the Constitution of SASA

Notice is hereby served to the membership that the 38th Annual General Meeting (AGM) SASA will be held in Colombo on 31st March 2021 (The venue, and time will be informed in due course).

Under Section 10.5 of the Constitution of SASA, proposed names for the election of office bearers for the prospective year should be notified in the prescribed nomination form to Sri Lanka Administrative Service Association in writing by registered post or fax at or before **3.00 p.m. on 15th March 2021.**

In the event of any SLAS member who has not obtained the membership of SASA yet, but wishes to participate in the AGM and to vote in the election, should obtain membership before 15th March 2021.

The nomination form (application) could be downloaded from SASA official website www.sasa.lk

Contact
Tel : 0115766855
Fax : 0112058027
Secretary : 0714899608
Address : 23C, Summit Flats, Keppetipola Mawatha, Colombo 05.

Aruna Devendra
Honorary Secretary
Sri Lanka Administrative Service Association (SASA)

DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL PRODUCTION & HEALTH
EASTERN PROVINCE PROCUREMENT NOTICE

Bid are invited by the Chairman, Department Procurement Committee to purchase following items for Department of Animal Production and Health, Eastern Province.

- Veterinary Drugs & Vaccines
- Poultry Feed
- Livestock

❖ **Local Goats (male/Female)**

- All the bids should be submitted in the bidding documents Purchased from the Accountant of Provincial Director Office, Department of Animal Production & Health, Eastern Province, Bidding Documents Can be Purchased from 2021.03.01 to 2021.03.20 on working days of the week from 9.30 a.m. to 3.30 p.m. on producing the bank receipt for depositing following amount to the People's Banks A/C No.: 066-1-001-6-7200601 for each bidding document for each type of item, a separate set of bidding documents should be submitted.
 - Veterinary Drugs & Vaccine and Poultry feed - 1.000/-
 - Livestock - 5,750/-
- Sealed bid document marked as "Supply of on the top left-hand corner and may be dispatched either by registered post or hand delivered to the Chairman, Department Procurement committee, Department of Animal Production & Health, Eastern Province, inner Harbour Road, Trincomalee, to be received at or before 3.00 p.m. 2021.03.21.
- Bids will be opened on 2021.03.21 at 3.00 p.m. in the conference hall of Provincial director's office, Eastern province. Bidders or their authorized representatives are requested to be present at the opening of bids.
- All bids shall be accompanied by a bid security of 1 % of total quoted value and valid from 2021.03.21 - 2021.06.21.
- Bid documents which are incomplete and not according to the required conditions and which are received after the dead line, will be rejected.

Further details could be obtained from the account's branch of Department of Animal Production and Health, Eastern Province directly or through following contact Number.

Telephone: 026- 2223058

Chairman,
Department Procurement Committee,
Department of Animal Production and Health,
Eastern Province,
Inner Harbour Road,
Trincomalee.

Employment Opportunities



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VACANCIES

01. Post of Factory Manager

Number of Vacancies - 03
Locations - Lunuwila, Weerawila & Jaffna
Salary Scale - MM 1-1 2016- Grade II -53,175 - 10x1375 -15x 1910- 95,575/-
Age - Age should be not less than 22 years and not more than 45 years.
 The upper age limit will not apply to the internal candidates.

Qualifications & Experience

External candidate (1 or 2 Below)

1. A degree in the field of B.Sc. Engineering (Mechanical) recognized by the U.G.C And
 A Minimum of one year post qualifying experience in the relevant field to the post, after obtaining the first degree.
2. Having passed the Intermediate Examination of a recognized professional Engineering Institute of which the subject area is relevant to the post and a minimum one year post qualifying experience in the relevant field to the post.

Internal Candidate (1 or 2 below)

1. Having obtained the qualifications required by the external candidates above.
2. Completion of minimum of 5 years satisfactory service in a post in the Junior Manager Category (JM 1-1) in the subject area relevant to the Post.

Nature of the Appointments

The above post shall be on a permanent basis subject to a three-year probation period with entitlement to EPF & ETF.

General Conditions

- Applications are invited from citizens of Sri Lanka who are physically and mentally fit to discharge the duties with excellent moral.
- Candidates who are employed in Government Departments /State Corporations/ statutory Boards should forward their applications through relevant Heads of the Institutions.
- Applicants who come from Mechanical Engineering background are preferred.

Applications should be sent with their full bio data with contact details of two non-related referees along with the educational /professional qualifications with previous work experience by registered post on or before **15th March 2021** and indicate the post applied for on the top left-hand corner of the envelope, addressed to The Chairman, Northsea Ltd, No.450, D.R. Wijewardene Mawatha, Colombo 10.

Chairman
Northsea Ltd

Notice under Section 7 of the Land Acquisition Act (460 Notice) as amended by the Land Acquisition (Amendment) Bearing Number 28 of 1964

My No. 6/3/1/518

It is intended to acquire the land detailed in the schedule hereunder to the Government. For further details refer to the Extraordinary Gazette Notification of Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, bearing No. 2143/18 dated 02.10.2019.

SCHEDULE

District : Kaluthara
Divisional Secretariat : Horana
Name of the Village : Millewa/Kindelpitiya
Name of the Land : Millewa waththa
Plan Number : 04732
Lot Nos. : 1-5
Land in extent : 26.7833 Hectares

Divisional Secretary,
Land Acquiring Officer,
Horana.

Address:
Divisional Secretariat
Horana.

Date: 24.02.2021

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in the

Sunday Observer

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

STATE MINISTRY OF WILDLIFE PROTECTION, PROTECTIVE MEASURES INCLUDING CONSTRUCTIONS OF ELEPHANT FENCES AND TRENCHES AND REFORESTATION AND FOREST RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

Department of National Zoological Gardens

PROCUREMENT NOTICE

(NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING)

Pinnawala Elephant Orphanage and Dehiwala National Zoological Gardens Development Projects

The Chairman, Departmental Procurement Committee (DPC), Department of National Zoological Gardens, invites sealed Bids under National Competitive Bidding procedure from eligible and qualified Bidders for the following Construction works.

Item No.	Contract No.	Description	Non-Refundable Tender Fee per set of a Bidding Document (Rs.)	Bid Security Amount (Rs.)	CIDA / ICTAD Minimum Grade Field of Registration
01	Mas.pl/D/ME/2020	Renovation of macaw Enclosure at National Zoological Gardens, Dehiwala (Estimated value is Rs. 25.9 Million excluding VAT)	5,000.00	332,000.00	Building Construction Work-Grade C5 and C4 only
02	DNG/DEV/2/8/PEO/95	Construction of Elephant sheds at Pinnawala Elephant Orphanage (Estimated value is Rs. 26.3 Million excluding VAT)	5,000.00	342,000.00	Building Construction Work-Grade C5 and C4 only

Bidders who have the grade and field of registration under the CIDA/ ICTAD scheme of registration mentioned in the above table against the work only will be eligible for bidding.

A complete set of Bidding Documents in English language may be purchased by interested bidders on submission of a written application to the Director General, Department of National Zoological Gardens, Anagarika Dharmapala Mawatha, Dehiwala on normal working days from 1st March 2021 to 21st March 2021 from 9.00 hrs to 15.00 hrs on working days, on payment of a non-refundable tender fee as given above per set of bidding documents for each bid. Bidders are free to bid more than one tender but selection will be made according to the capacity limits of the bidders. The method of payment will be by cash.

Sealed bids with duplicate clearly marked the contract name and the number on the top left corner of the envelope shall be deposited in the Tender Box made available at the office of the Director General, Department of National Zoological Gardens, Anagarika Dharmapala Mawatha, Dehiwala on or before **2.00 p.m. 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.

All bids shall be accompanied by a Bid Security of Sri Lankan Rupees, as mentioned in the above table, obtained from a commercial bank licensed by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka or from Construction Guarantee Fund to the Employer.

Pre-Bid meeting will be held on

Item No.	Contract No.	Description	Date	Time	Location
01	Mas.pl/D/ME/2020	Renovation of macaw Enclosure at National Zoological Gardens, Dehiwala	12/03/2021	10.30 a.m.	Dehiwala Zoo
02	DNG/DEV/2/8/PEO/95	Construction of Elephant sheds at Pinnawala Elephant Orphanage	15/03/2021	11.00 a.m.	Pinnawala Elephant Orphanage

For further details, please contact Director General, Department of National Zoological Gardens, Anagarika Dharmapala Mawatha, Dehiwala on Tel. 011-2729790, 011-2712752, Fax.011-2734542

The Chairman
Departmental Procurement Committee (DPC)
Department of National Zoological Gardens
Anagarika Dharmapala Mawatha,
Dehiwala

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.

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STATE MINISTRY OF RURAL AND SCHOOL SPORTS INFRASTRUCTURE PROMOTION INSTITUTE OF SPORTS MEDICINE

Applications are invited from Sri Lankan citizens who possess following qualifications for the post of **NUTRITIONIST** existing in the Institute of Sports Medicine affiliated to the State Ministry of Rural and School Sports Infrastructure Promotions.

1. **Recruiting Grade** : Grade II
2. **Educational Qualifications** :
 - i. Having obtained a First Class or Second Class Special Degree with Chemistry as a subject from a reputed University recognized by the University Grants Commission
 or
 - ii. Having obtained a BSc General Degree with Chemistry as a subject with a First or Second Class
 and
 - iii. Should have followed a Postgraduate Diploma or a higher course in food nutrition
 - iv. Having obtained the Agriculture Science Special (Food Technology and Nutrition) with a First or Second Class from a University recognized by the University Grants Commission
 or
 - v. Having obtained a Special Degree in Nutrition from a University recognized by the University Grants Commission
 or
 - vi. Having obtained a BSc Degree in Food Science and Technology or a BSc Degree in Applied Food Technology or BSc degree in Food Production and Management Technology (Special) or BSc (Special) Degree in Food Science and Nutrition obtained from a University recognized by the University Grants Commission.

3. **Professional Qualifications** :
 Having been registered as a Nutritionist in Sri Lanka Medical Council.
4. **Salary Scale** :
 MN5 - 2016 - 34,605 - 10x660 - 11x755 - 15x930 - 63,460 (as per Public Administration Circular 03/2016).

5. **Age Limit:**
 Should not be less than 21 years and not more than 35 years as at the last date of receiving applications. The maximum age limit will not apply to those who are already in Public Service with permanent and personable appointment.

6. Method of Recruitment: Through a written test

Subjects	Maximum Marks	Pass Marks
I.Q. Test	100	40 %
General Paper	100	40 %

- No. of Posts : 01
7. **Nature of the Post** : Permanent with Pension
8. **Physical Qualification** :
 Every applicant should be of good physical and mental fitness to serve in any part of Sri Lanka and to perform duties relevant to the post.
9. **Other Matters** :
 - i. Applicants who have submitted applications completed in all aspects will only be called for the structured interview.
 - ii. The validity date of relevant Degree or Diploma should be a date prior to the date of closing date of receiving applications.
 - iii. Applicants should have all qualifications as at the last date of receiving applications.
 - iv. Applicants should be of good moral character.
10. **Method of Applying** :
 - i. The application should be prepared using A-4 size paper according to the format given (Items No. 01 to 11 should be on the First Page and No. 12 to 14 on the Second page respectively).
 - ii. The signature of the applicant should be attested by a Government Principal / Justice of the Peace / Commissioner for Oaths / Attorney-at-Law or a Commissioned Officer of the Armed Forces or a gazetted officer of the Police or a Staff Officer of Public or Provincial Public Service receiving a consolidated salary of over Rs. 334,452/- per annum.
 - iii. Duly perfected application inserted in a 9x4 envelope marked "Recruitment for the post of Nutritionist" on the top left hand corner, should be sent to reach the "Director General, Institute of Sports Medicine, No. 33, Maitland Place, Colombo-07" on or before 23.03.2021 by registered post.

Dr. G.L.K. Ekanayake
Director General
Institute of Sports Medicine

Institute of Sports Medicine
No. 33, Maitland Place,
Colombo-07.

STATE MINISTRY OF RURAL AND SCHOOL SPORTS INFRASTRUCTURE PROMOTIONS Application for the recruitment to the post of Nutritionist in the Institute of Sports Medicine

01. (i) Last Name with Initials: Mr/Mrs/Miss
 in English Capital letters (Eg: A.B.C. Silva)
 (ii) Name in Full:
 (In English Capital letters)
 (iii) Name in Full:
 (Sinhala / Tamil)
02. Postal Address: Sinhala / Tamil English
03. Permanent Address: Sinhala / Tamil English
04. Telephone No.: [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []
 Mobile: [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []
05. Sex: Female Male (Mark '✓' in the relevant cage)
06. National Identity No.: []
07. Date of Birth: Year [] [] [] [] Month [] [] Date [] []
08. Age as at Years Months Days
09. Civil Status: Married Unmarried
 (Mark '✓' in the relevant cage)
10. Have you ever been convicted in a Court of Law of any offence?
11. Yes No (Mark '✓' in the relevant cage)
 If the answer is 'Yes' give details:
12. Educational & Professional Qualifications:
13. Certification of Applicant
 - (a) I do hereby declare with respect that I did read and understood the contents of this notice well and perfected the application subject to conditions therein and that the particulars supplied by me are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.
 - (b) I am aware that I will be liable to be dismissed from service if this statement or any information provided by me is found to be false.
 Date:
 Signature of Applicant
14. Attestation of Applicant's Signature
 Mr/Mrs/Miss who submits this application is well known to me personally and I certify that he/she placed his/her signature before me on this day of 2021.
 Date:
 Signature of Attester
 Name of Certifying Officer
 Designation:
 Address:
 (Should be confirmed with an official stamp)
15. If the applicant is an employee of Public Provincial Public Service, the certificate of the relevant Head of Department.
 - (i) I do hereby certify that Mr/Mrs/Miss holds the post of in this Department.
 - (ii) While stating that the information mentioned in the application is true, I do inform that he/she could be / not be released from the post if he/she is elected.

 Signature of the Head of the Department

STATE MINISTRY OF RURAL AND SCHOOL SPORTS INFRASTRUCTURE PROMOTION
INSTITUTE OF SPORTS MEDICINE

Applications are invited from qualified Sri Lankan citizens for the post of **PHYSIOTHERAPIST** under Para-Medical Science Segment, vacant in the Institute of Sports Medicine affiliated to the State Ministry of Rural and School Sports Infrastructure Promotion.

- Method of Recruitment :**
Applicants who obtain highest marks on the results of a structured interview conducted by a Board of Interview.
- Salary Scale :**
MT6 2016 - Rs. 32,080 - 10x445 - 11x660 - 10x730 - 10x750 - Rs. 58,590 (As per State Administration "Circular No. 03/2016)
- Grade of Recruitment :** Grade III
- Educational and Professional Qualifications :**
 - Having passed the General Certificate of Education (Ordinary Level) Examination in six subjects with Four Credit passes including Sinhala / Tamil, Mathematic, Science at one sitting and should have passed English language at General Certificate of Education (Ordinary Level) Examination in not more than two sittings **and**
 - Having passed the General Certificate of Education (Advanced Level) Examination in 02 subjects out of Combined Maths, Biology, Physics and Agricultural Science with a Credit pass for Physics at one sitting **and**
 - Should have followed the full-time Diploma Course in Physiotherapy conducted by the Ministry of Health and registered in Sri Lanka Medical Council as a Physiotherapist **or**
 - Having obtained a Degree in Physio Therapy from a university recognized by the University Grants Commission or an institute recognized by the University Grants Commission as a degree awarding centre **and**
 - Being registered as a Physiotherapist in Sri Lanka Medical Council
- No. of Vacancies :** 01
- Experience :**
At least one year service experience as a Physio Therapist (after obtaining registration at the Sri Lanka Medical Council (Having served as a Sports Physiotherapist will be an additional qualification)
- Age Limit:**
Should not be less than 18 years and not more than 35 years as at the last date of receiving applications. The maximum age limit will not apply for those who are already in Public Service with permanent and pensionable appointment.
- Nature of Posts :** Permanent with Pensionable.
- Structured Interview :**

Headings for which marks / points are given	Maximum Marks	Minimum Marks that effect Selection
1. Additional Educational Qualifications	20	Not applicable
2. Language Proficiency	20	
3. Computer Literacy	20	
4. Additional Professional experience	35	
5. Merits shown at the interview	05	
Total	100	

- Physical Qualifications :**
Every applicant should be in good physical and mental eligibility to serve in any part of Sri Lanka and to perform duties relevant to the post.
- Other Matters :**
 - Applicants who have submitted applications completed in all aspects will only be called for the structured interview.
 - The validity date of relevant Degree or Diploma should be a date prior to the date of closing date of receiving applications.
 - Applicants should fulfill all qualification as at the last date of receiving applications.
 - Applicants should be of good moral character.
- Method of Applying :**
 - The application should be prepared using A-4 size paper according to the format given (Items No. 01 to 11 should be on the First Page and No. 12 to 14 on the Second page respectively).
 - The signature of the applicant should be attested by a Government Principal / Justice of the Peace / Commissioner for Oaths / Attorney-at-Law or a Commissioned Officer of the Armed Forces or a gazetted officer of the Police or a Staff Officer of Public or Provincial Public Service receiving a consolidated salary of over Rs. 334,452/- per annum.
 - Duly perfected application inserted in a 9x4 envelope marked "Recruitment for the post of Physiotherapist" on the top left hand corner, should be sent to reach the "Director General, Institute of Sports Medicine, No. 33, Maitland Place, Colombo-07" on or before 23.03.2021 by registered post.

Dr. G.L.K. Ekanayake
Director General
Institute of Sports Medicine

Institute of Sports Medicine
No. 33, Maitland Place,
Colombo-07.

STATE MINISTRY OF RURAL AND SCHOOL SPORTS INFRASTRUCTURE PROMOTION
INSTITUTE OF SPORTS MEDICINE

Applications are invited from qualified Sri Lankan citizens who possess following qualifications for the post of **MEDICAL LABORATORY TECHNOLOGIST** under Para-Medical Science Segment vacant in the Institute of Sports Medicine affiliated to the State Ministry of Rural and School Sports Infrastructure Promotions.

- Method of Recruitment :**
Applicants who obtain highest marks on the results of a structured interview conducted by a Board of Interview.
- Salary Scale :**
MT6 2016 - Rs. 32,080 - 10x445 - 11x660 - 10x730 - 10x750 - Rs. 58,590 (As per State Administration "Circular No. 03/2016)
- Grade of Recruitment :** Grade III
- Educational and Professional Qualifications :**
 - Having passed the General Certificate of Education (Ordinary Level) Examination in six subjects with Four Credit passes including Sinhala / Tamil, Mathematic, Science at one sitting and should have passed English language at General Certificate of Education (Ordinary Level) Examination in not more than two sittings **and**
 - Having passed the General Certificate of Education (Advanced Level) Examination in 02 subjects out of Combined Maths, Biology, Physics and Agricultural Science with a Credit pass for Physics at one sitting **and**
 - Should have followed the full-time specialized Diploma Course in Medical Laboratory Technology conducted by the Ministry of Health and registered in Sri Lanka Medical Council as a Medical Laboratory Technologist **or**
 - Having obtained a Degree relevant to the part of Medical Laboratory Technologist from a university recognized by the University Grants Commission or an institute recognized by the University Grants Commission as a degree awarding centre **and**
 - Being registered as a Medical Laboratory Technologist in Sri Lanka Medical Council
- No. of Vacancies :** 01
- Experience :**
At least one year service experience as a Medical Laboratory Technologist.
- Age Limit:**
Should not be less than 18 years and not more than 35 years as at the last date of receiving applications. The maximum age limit will not apply for those who are already in Public Service with permanent and pensionable appointment.
- Nature of Posts :** Permanent with Pension.
- Structured Interview :** (According to above 01)

Headings for which marks / points are given	Maximum Marks	Minimum Marks that effect Selection
1. Additional Educational Qualifications	20	Not applicable
2. Language Proficiency	20	
3. Computer Literacy	20	
4. Additional Professional experience	35	
5. Merits shown at the interview	05	
Total	100	

- Physical Qualifications :**
Every applicant should be in good physical and mental fitness to serve in any part of Sri Lanka and to perform duties relevant to the post.
- Other Matters :**
 - Applicants who have submitted applications completed in all aspects will only be called for the structured interview.
 - The validity date of relevant Degree or Diploma should be a date prior to the date of closing date of receiving applications.
 - Applicants should have all qualification as at the last date of receiving applications.
 - Applicants should be of good moral character.
- Method of Applying :**
 - The application should be prepared using A-4 size paper according to the format given (Items No. 01 to 11 should be on the First Page and No. 12 to 14 on the Second page respectively).
 - The signature of the applicant should be attested by a Government Principal / Justice of the Peace / Commissioner for Oaths / Attorney-at-Law or a Commissioned Officer of the Armed Forces or a gazetted officer of the Police or a Staff Officer of Public or Provincial Public Service receiving a consolidated salary of over Rs. 334,452/- per annum.
 - Duly perfected application inserted in a 9x4 envelope marked "Recruitment for the post of Medical Laboratory Technologist" on the top left hand corner, should be sent to reach the "Director General, Institute of Sports Medicine, No. 33, Maitland Place, Colombo-07" on or before 23.03.2021 by registered post.

Dr. G.L.K. Ekanayake
Director General
Institute of Sports Medicine

Institute of Sports Medicine
No. 33, Maitland Place,
Colombo-07.

STATE MINISTRY OF RURAL SCHOOL SPORTS INFRASTRUCTURE PROMOTION
Application for the recruitment to the post of Physiotherapist in the Institute of Sports Medicine

- (i) Last Name with Initials: Mr/Mrs/Miss
in English Capital letters (Eg: A.B.C. Silva)
- (ii) Name in Full:
(In English Capital letters)
- (iii) Name in Full:
(Sinhala / Tamil)

02. Postal Address: Sinhala / Tamil English

03. Permanent Address: Sinhala / Tamil English

04. Telephone No.: [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []
Mobile: [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []

05. Sex: Female Male (Mark '✓' in the relevant cage)

06. National Identity No.: [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []

07. Date of Birth: Year [] [] [] [] Month [] [] [] Date [] [] []

08. Age as at Years Months Days

09. Civil Status: Married Unmarried
(Mark '✓' in the relevant cage)

10. Have you ever been convicted in a Court of Law of any offence?

11. Yes No (Mark '✓' in the relevant cage)
If the answer is 'Yes' give details:

12. Educational & Professional Qualifications:

13. Certification of Applicant

(a) I do hereby declare with respect that I did read and understood the contents of this notice well and perfected the application subject to conditions therein and that the particulars supplied by me are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

(b) I am aware that I will be liable to be dismissed from service if this statement or any information provided by me is found to be false.

Date: Signature of Applicant

14. Attestation of Applicant's Signature
Mr/Mrs/Miss who submits this application is well known to me personally and I certify that he/she placed his/her signature before me on this day of 2021.
Date: Signature of Attester

Name of Certifying Officer
Designation:
Address:
(Should be confirmed with an official stamp)

15. If the applicant is an employee of Public Provincial Public Service, the certificate of the relevant Head of Department.

(i) I do hereby certify that Mr/Mrs/Miss holds the post of in this Department.

(ii) While stating that the information mentioned in the application is true, I do inform that he/she could be / not be released from the post if he/she is elected.

..... Signature of the Head of the Department
Date:

Name of the Signatory:
Designation:
Address:
(Should be confirmed with an official stamp)

STATE MINISTRY OF RURAL SCHOOL SPORTS INFRASTRUCTURE PROMOTIONS
Application for the recruitment to the post of Medical Laboratory Technologist in the Institute of Sports Medicine

- (i) Last Name with Initials: Mr/Mrs/Miss
in English Capital letter (Eg: A.B.C. Silva)
- (ii) Name in Full:
(In English Capital letters)
- (iii) Name in Full:
(Sinhala / Tamil)

02. Postal Address: Sinhala / Tamil English

03. Permanent Address: Sinhala / Tamil English

04. Telephone No.: [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []
Mobile: [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []

05. Sex: Female Male (Mark '✓' in the relevant cage)

06. National Identity No.: [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []

07. Date of Birth: Year [] [] [] [] Month [] [] [] Date [] [] []

08. Age as at Years Months Days

09. Civil Status: Married Unmarried
(Mark '✓' in the relevant cage)

10. Have you ever been convicted in a Court of Law of any offence?

11. Yes No (Mark '✓' in the relevant cage)
If the answer is 'Yes' give details:

12. Educational & Professional Qualifications:

13. Certification of Applicant

(a) I do hereby declare with respect that I did read and understood the contents of this notice well and perfected the application subject to conditions therein and that the particulars supplied by me are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

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..... Signature of the Head of the Department
Date:

Name of the Signatory:
Designation:
Address:
(Should be confirmed with an official stamp)

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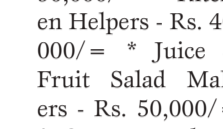


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Ltd., 187, Katugas-
tota Rd, Kandy. TP:
0812200272. 015667

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personnel for Ha-
wai Restaurant.
Basic salary (per
month). * Rice &
Curry Cooks - Rs.
90,000/= * Kitch-
en Helpers - Rs. 40,
000/= * Juice &
Fruit Salad Mak-
ers - Rs. 50,000/=
* Counter Helpers
- Rs. 40,000/= *
Kottu & Rotty Mak-
ers - Rs. 65,000/=
- Rs. 70,000/= *
Cleaning Staff - Rs.
40,000/= - Com-
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as well as 04 days
off per month.
Please kindly call
for interviews.
0773658648. 011865



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able on lease. with
all goods. Contact
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INVITATION FOR BIDS

STERILIZATION OF DOGS IN THE KURUNEGALA DISTRICT 2021

Bids are invited from eligible persons for sterilization of female dogs in all MOH Divisions of the Kurunegala District in the North Western Province.

- Bid documents and other details for this propose could be obtained from this office on working days from 01.03.2021 up to 19.03.2021 between 9.00 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. after paying a non refundable fee of Rs. 1000.00 and a refundable deposit of Rs. 50,000.00 to the Shroff at the Office of the District Director of Health Services and submitting the receipt thus obtained.
- The words "Sterilization of dogs - 2021" should be marked on the top left hand corner of the envelope containing the bids. Bids should be prepared in two copies and inserted in separate envelopes marked as original and duplicate and submitted.
- Your quotations should be inserted in the sealed box kept in this office from 01.03.2021 up to 2.00 p.m. on 22.03.2021 or should be sent by registered post to "District Director of Health Services, Office of the District Director of Health Services, Kurunegala".
- The procurement board will not be responsible for applications misplaced in post or for those not received within the specified time.
- The relevant details including conditions for this purpose will be issued as mentioned in Para 01 above under other details.
- Quotations will be opened immediately after closing of accepting quotations and the applicant or an authorized representative could be present on this occasion.
- The Procurement Board retains the right of the final decision regarding this matter.

**Chairman,
Regional Procurement Board,
Office of the District Director of Health Services,
Kurunegala.**

037-2222416 / 037-2222589

24.02.2021

NOTICE UNDER SECTION 7 OF THE LAND ACQUISITION ACT (CHAPTER 460) AS AMENDED BY THE LAND ACQUISITION (AMENDMENT) ACT NO. 28 OF 1964

My No. ATU/LAD/04/DO 46
Land Min's Ref No. 4-3/2/2016/HA88

The Government intends to acquire the land described in the schedule below. For further particulars, please see the Gazette (extra ordinary) No. 2212/15 dated 26.01.2021 of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.

SCHEDULE

District : Matara
Divisional Secretary's Division : Athuraliya
G.N. Division : Ihala Athuraliya
Name of Village : Ihala Athuraliya
Name of land : Ambalangodella
Plan No. : Preliminary Plan No. 2818.
Lot No. : 01

**Nirosha S. Gamage
Divisional Secretary
Athuraliya.**

**Divisional Secretariat
Athuraliya**
19.02.2021

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Proposals*

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LAND ACQUISITION ACT (CHAPTER 460)

Notice Under Section 07

I do hereby give notice for the information of the public that the lands stated in the schedule has been acquired for a public purpose

To Conduct the Section 09 inquiries may submit the relevant documents regarding the ownership of the said Lands by the owners. For further information please see the Extraordinary gazette no. 2210/15 of 2021.01.13.

Schedule

- Lot Nos.01 to 109 of the Preliminary plan no Ku. 2478 Prepared by the Surveyor general in the village of Pallegattuwana in No. 717 Pallegattuwana Grama Niladari Division.
- Lot Nos. 223 to 232 of Cadastral Map no. 420202 Block no. 07 Sheet no. 08 Prepared by the Surveyor general in village of Mehiella of No. 713 Mehiella North Grama Niladari Division.
- Lot 42 of Cadastral Map no. 420213 Block no 01 Sheet no. 04 prepared by the Surveyor general the village of Yaggapitiya in No. 727 Yaggapitiya Grama Niadari Division.
- Lot nos 81, 85 and 88 of Cadastral Map no 420203 block no 05 sheet no 04 Prepared by the Surveyor general in the village of Mehiella of 714 Mehiella North Grama Niladari Division.
- Lot nos 336 to 390 of Cadastral Map No. 420204 Block No. 01 Sheet No. 16 in the village of Hewanawatta in No. 715 Hewana Grama Niladari Division.
- Lot nos 19 to 21 of Cadastral Map no 420213 Block no. 04 Sheet no 02 Prepared by the Surveyor general in the village of Yaggapitiya in No. 727 Yaggapitiya Grama Niladari Division.

All in Mallawapitiya Divisional Secretary's Division Kurunegala District, North Western Province.

**Divisional Secretariat,
Mallawapitiya.**
17.02.2021

NOTICE

In accordance with Section 9(1) of the Companies Act No. 7 of 2007, We hereby notify that Safe Dock (Pvt) Ltd., was incorporated as a private limited company as detailed below.

Company Name:
SAFE DOCK (PVT) LTD
Registered Date:
11th Feb. 2021.
Registered Number:
PV00234615
Address of registered office:
34/4, Vijaya Road, Kolonnawa
**Seyd Sajad Alavi
Director**

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TENDER NOTICE

Sealed Tenders are invited for the sale of following vehicle.

SP LN-5486 - JAC HFC1085KE - YOM 2017
SP PU-2950 - DFSK EQ1020DR - YOM 2012

Location: 165/B, Pattivila Road, Gonawala Kelaniya

Vehicle inspection time 8.30 am to 5.00 pm on week days.
Tender closing date 15-03-2021

Multi Finance PLC,

No. 100, Bulthgamuwa Road, Rajagiriya. Tel : 0114 645 555

071-872 9989, 071-531 2682

The Housewives' companion

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INVITATION FOR BIDS

**MINISTRY OF HIGHWAYS
ROAD DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF
SRI LANKA**

**NEW BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION PROJECT
OVER KELANI RIVER
CONSTRUCTION OF NAWALOKA BUDDHIST SHRINE
NEAR THE EXTRADOSED BRIDGE
ACROSS KELANI RIVER**

Contract No: RDA/NKBP/W4-NBS

The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee of the New Bridge Construction Project Over Kelani River invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the Construction of Nawaloka Buddhist Shrine, which was temporarily shifted due to the construction activities of New Bridge Construction Project over Kelani River as described below.

Brief Scope of Work	Contract Period
Construction of Nawaloka Buddhist Shrine, near the Extradosed Bridge across Kelani River being constructed.	120 days

The proposed work consists of Construction of Nawaloka Buddhist shrine including raft foundation, earth work, masonry work, Concreting, providing reinforcement, formwork, waterproofing, plastering, painting and supply and fixing Buddha Statue etc. as specified in the Tender Document. Specific details are provided in the Specifications, Drawings & Bill of Quantities

- 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 have valid CIDA registration **C6 and C7 grades** in building construction speciality.
- Qualification requirements to be eligible for award of a contract includes experience in similar works, availability of specific qualified technical personnel, equipment, and financial capability, all as described in the Bidding Documents.
- Interested bidders may obtain further information and inspect the bidding documents at the office of the **Project Director, New Bridge Construction Project Over Kelani River, Road Development Authority (RDA), No. 18A, Ashoka Circle, Gemunu Mawatha, Sri Subuthipura, Battaramulla, from 01.03.2021 until 17.03.2021** during working hours from 0900 hours to 1500 hours. (Tele : 0112867146 Fax : 0112867264).
- A complete set of Bidding Documents in English language may be purchased by interested bidders on submission of a written application to the Project Director, New Bridge Construction Project over Kelani River (RDA), No. 18A, Ashoka Circle, Gemunu Mawatha, Sri Subuthipura, Battaramulla from 0900 hrs to 1500 hrs on normal working days upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Sri Lankan Rupees Three Thousand (including VAT) (Rs. 3,000.00). The method of payment will be by cash.
- The Pre-Bid meeting will be held at 1000 Hours on 08.03.2021 (Monday), at the New Bridge Construction Project Over Kelani River (RDA), No. 18A, Ashoka Circle, Gemunu Mawatha, Sri Subuthipura, Battaramulla and a site visit will be arranged immediately after the Pre- Bid meeting.
- Bids shall be valid for a period of 60 days from the date of bid opening and shall be accompanied by a bid security for the sum of Sri Lankan Rupees **One Hundred and Fifty Thousand (Rs. 150,000.00)**, and shall be a bank guarantee in the given format and valid up to 20.05.2021
- Bids must be delivered to the address given below. Receiving of bids will be closed at 1400 hours on 22nd March 2021. Late bids will be rejected. Electronic bidding shall not be permitted.

**Chairman,
Project Procurement Committee,
New Bridge Construction Project Over Kelani River,
Road Development Authority,
No. 18A, Ashoka Circle, Gemunu Mawatha,
Sri Subuthipura, Battaramulla.**

- Bids will be opened immediately after closing of bids, in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend in person at the address given above.
- Road Development Authority will not be responsible for any costs or expenses incurred by bidders in connection with the preparation of bids, attending pre-bid meeting and delivery of bids.

**The Chairman,
NKB Project Procurement Committee,
Road Development Authority.**

BE BETTER INFORMED!

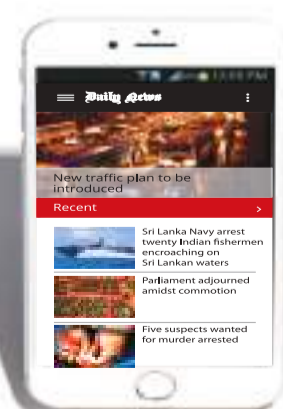


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கமத்தொழில் அமைச்சக

Ministry of Agriculture

Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

Ministry of Agriculture

Agriculture Sector Modernization Project

IDA Credit No: 5873 LK

PROCUREMENT NOTICE

Construction of 05 Nos. of Agro Wells in Ullalai and Sethukuda in Kathiraveli Cluster in Batticaloa District, Eastern Province

PP NO: LK-MOA-PMU-145578-CW-RFB

- The Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka has received a Credit from the International Development Association (IDA) in various currencies equivalent to US\$ 58.63 Million towards the cost of the Agriculture Sector Modernization Project of the Ministry of Agriculture and it intends to apply portion of the proceeds of this credit to eligible payments under the Contract for the following works as described in the table below.
- The Chairman of Project Procurement Committee (Minor) - Eastern Province, Agriculture Sector Modernization Project invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the following works as described in the table below.

Contract No.	Description of works	Estimated Cost Excluding VAT Rs. (Mn)	Contract Period	Required Grade	Required Bid Security	
					Bid Security Amount Rs.	Validity Period
LK-MOA-PMU-145578-CW-RFB	Construction of 05 Nos. of Agro Wells in Ullalai and Sethukuda in Kathiraveli Cluster in Batticaloa District, Eastern Province.	9.4	3 Months	C7 or Above in irrigation and Land Drainage	160,000.00	05.07. 2021

- Bidders are allowed to quote for the above works with each Bid Security for **Rs. 160,000.00** and the validity period up to **05.07.2021**. One bidder is allowed to quote only one bid. To be eligible for contract award, the successful bidder shall not have been blacklisted and shall have been registered in the field of respective construction for the grade mentioned in the table above with the Construction Industry Development Authority (CIDA)
- Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding (NCB) procedure approved by the World Bank.
- Qualification requirements are indicated in Section 4 of the Bidding document. Additional details are provided in the Schedule (Section 5) of the bidding document.
- Interested eligible Bidders may obtain further information from Provincial Deputy Project Director, Agriculture Sector Modernization Project, Agriculture Quarters Lane, Kallady, Batticaloa (T.P: 071-4435036 / Fax No: 065 2059190) and inspect the bidding documents at the same place on any working day **from 09:00 hrs to 15:00 hrs. between 01st March 2021 & 22nd March 2021.**
- Pre-Bid meeting will be held on **15th March 2021 at 10.00 a.m.** at the ASM Project Office, Agriculture Quarters Lane, Kallady, Batticaloa.
- Bids shall be valid up to **07th June 2021.**
- Bids shall be accompanied by a Bid security as per the information given in the Table.
- A complete set of Bidding Documents in English language may be purchased by interested bidders on submission of a written application to the Provincial Deputy Project Director, Agriculture Sector Modernization Project, Agriculture Quarters Lane, Kallady, Batticaloa **from 01st March 2021 to 22nd March 2021 from 09:00 hrs to 15:00 hrs** upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **Rs 3,500.00**. The method of payment should be by cash.
- Bids must be delivered to the **Provincial Deputy Project Director, Agriculture Sector Modernization Project, Agriculture Quarters Lane, Kallady, Batticaloa** at or before **15:00 hrs. on 22.03.2021**. Electronic bidding will not be permitted. Late bids will not be accepted. Bids will be opened in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend in person at the mentioned address at **15:00 hrs on 22.03.2021.**
- Complete bids should be separately forwarded in two copies as the original and the duplicate. The original and the duplicate should be enclosed separately and marked as 'original' and 'duplicate' respectively in sealed envelope. Both envelopes enclosed in a sealed single envelope and marked contract number and name of the contract on top left-hand corner of the envelope.

**Chairman,
Project Procurement Committee (Minor) Eastern Province
Agriculture Sector Modernization Project,
Agriculture Quarters Lane, Kallady, Batticaloa.**

Date: 01.03.2021