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ALL SET FOR COVID BURIALS

TRANSPORT OF BODIES TO IRANATHIVU AT GOVT. EXPENSE

TWO RELATIVES PERMITTED

GUIDELINES CIRCULAR TO BE ISSUED

ISHARA MUDUGAMUWA
All arrangements have been finalised to commence the burial of those who succumb to COVID-19, Director General of Health Services Dr. Asela Gunawardane said.

the burial of bodies of COVID-19 victims had been finalized and all arrangements were in place to issue the circular containing these guidelines. "Initially, the Health Ministry has identified Iranathivu Island for the burial of those who die of COVID 19 infection. **TO PAGE 06**

IRANATHIVU RESIDENTS PROTEST OVER COVID-19 BURIALS

RASULA DILHARA GAMAGE, Northern Group Corr. Residents of the Iranathivu islands along with a group of Catholic priests yesterday held a protest against the Government's decision to bury COVID-19 victims on the island. **TO PAGE 06**

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COPE to discuss EAR on Plastic Imports, Management

The Environmental Audit Report (EAR) on Plastic Imports, Management of Usage and Post Usage in Sri Lanka is scheduled to be discussed at the Committee on Public Enterprises (COPE) on March 9.

The COPE chaired by Parliamentarian Prof. Charitha Herath has summoned eight State institutions to the Committee in the months of March and April.

The Lanka Mineral Sands Company is scheduled to present itself before the COPE on March 23 and the Performance Report on Evaluation of the Performance on the Process of Establishment of New Export Processing Zones is to be summoned on March 24. **TO PAGE 03**

Indian Visa Application Centre in Jaffna reopens

The Indian Visa Service (IVS) Application Centre at No.145 Temple Road, Jaffna, shut on 13th March 2020 due to COVID-19, has resumed its operations from yesterday. It will function every Wednesday from 0900 hrs to 1300 hrs. **TO PAGE 03**

IGP directed to arrest Police officers involved in assault on law student

Attorney General Dappula de Livera yesterday directed IGP C.D. Wickramaratne to arrest the Peliyagoda Police officers involved in the assault on law student Migara Gunaratne and produce them in Court.

The Attorney General has also instructed that charges be filed against the relevant Police officers under the Torture Act. **TO PAGE 03**

Govt. trying to create Muslim, Tamil rift - Sumanthiran

RASULA DILHARA GAMAGE, Northern Province Corr.

TNA Parliamentarian M.A. Sumanthiran yesterday said that the Government is trying to create a rift between Muslim and Tamil communities by bringing the bodies of COVID-19 victims to Iranathivu for burial.

"The Government's

decision to allocate a land in Iranathivu Island for the burial of Muslims who die of COVID-19 is aimed at creating divisions between the Tamil-Muslim communities," he alleged.

He said that the Tamils joined with the Muslims to protest against the forced cremation of COVID-19 victims and there is unprecedented unity between the two communities.



The Sri Lanka Air Force yesterday held a fly past and an Aerobatic display to mark its 70th anniversary at the Galle Face. Picture shows President Gotabaya Rajapaksa and Air Force Commander Air Marshal Sudharshana Pathirana pointing at an aerobatic display. Fourteen helicopters and jets of the Indian Air Force and 24 helicopters, planes and fighter jets belonging to the Sri Lanka Air Force joined the air display. Commander of the Indian Air Force Air Chief Marshal Rakesh Kumar Singh Bhadauria and First Lady Ayoma Rajapaksa were present. (Inset) An aerobatic display.

Pictures by Sulochana Gamage and Rukmal Gamage

First batch of COVAX vaccines to arrive on March 7

ISHARA MUDUGAMUWA

The first batch of COVID-19 vaccines under the World Health Organisation's COVAX partnership for Sri Lanka is scheduled to arrive on March 7, State Minister of Primary Health Care, Epidemics and COVID Disease Control Dr. Sudharshani Fernando said.

Accordingly, the country will receive 264,000 doses in the first stage. Sri Lanka will receive 4.5 million doses under the COVAX partnership.

The State Minister was speaking at a ceremony held at the Chilaw General Hospital.



The State Minister further said that there is a slight decrease in the spread of COVID-19 globally including Sri Lanka and it is gratifying that Sri Lanka is one of the first countries in the world to initiate vaccination.

"According to the World Health Organisation, 280 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines have been given worldwide so far, of which 75 percent have been given to only 10 countries and another 150 countries have not been able to vaccinate their citizens at all," the State Minister said. **TO PAGE 03**

CEB anticipates Rs.100 bn loss if dry weather continues

LAHIRU FERNANDO

The Ceylon Electricity Board (CEB) anticipates a loss of Rs.100 billion this year if the prevailing dry weather continues, further paving the way for emergency power purchases from the private sector, the CEB Trade Union Collective emphasized yesterday.

Speaking to the media in Colombo the association said the CEB has incurred a loss of



Rs. 85 billion in 2019 due to the external power purchases during the prevailing dry weather. However the amount of loss could be brought down in the following year to Rs. 45 billion not due to the efficiency of the management but if the rains continued.

"Several engineers in the CEB had come up with affordable and effective plans to alleviate this situation. **TO PAGE 03**

Hejaaz Hisbullah, Madrasa Principal further remanded

SHAVINI MADHARA

Attorney-at-Law Hejaaz Hisbullah and the Principal of a Madrasa School in Puttalam Mohammed Shakil, who were arrested by the Criminal Investigations Department (CID), were further remanded till March 18 by Colombo Fort Magistrate Priyantha Liyanage yesterday.

Deputy Solicitor General Dileepa Piries further stated that the suspects have been charged under Section 02 (1) (h) of the Prevention of Terrorism Act and Section 03 (1) of the International Cov-

enant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR).

Attorney-at-Law Hizbullah was detained by the CID for about 10 months under the Prevention of Terrorism Act.

Deputy Solicitor General Upul Seneviratne, Senior State Counsel Lakmini Giriyaagama, Assistant Superintendent of Police Kumarasiri appeared on behalf of the complainant.

Attorney Hijaz Hizbullah was represented by President's Counsel Nalin-dra Indatissa and a group of lawyers, **TO PAGE 03**

Headless body in suitcase: SI found dead

CAMELIA NATHANIEL

The Police Sub-Inspector who had brought the decapitated body of a woman in a luggage case to Dam Street, Colombo, has been found dead.

Police suspect that he

had taken his own life by hanging himself, Police Spokesman DIG Ajith Rohana said.

The Sub Inspector has been found dead hanging near his house in Badal-kumbura. **TO PAGE 03**

Three new DS divisions for Galle

MAHINDA PLIYANAGE, Galle Central Special Corr.

Three new Divisional Secretariats have been established in the Galle District, Galle District Secretary Somaratne Vid-anapathirana said.

The three sub offices

at Rathgama, Madampagama and Wanduramba have been converted into Divisional Secretariats with effect from March 1. Accordingly, the number of Divisional Secretariats in the Galle District which is 19 at **TO PAGE 03**

Alleged Muthurajawela constructions: CA directs AG to get instructions

LAKMAL SOORIYAGODA

The Court of Appeal yesterday directed the Attorney General to get instructions from the respondent parties and report to Court on March 9 regarding alleged illegal constructions and filling of lands

within the Muthurajawela Sanctuary. The Court of Appeal two-judge-Bench comprising Justice (President) Arjuna Obeyesekera and Justice Mayadunna Corea made this direction pursuant to writ petitions filed by **TO PAGE 03**

NPP to support 'Black Sunday' campaign

The National People's Power (NPP) or the Jathika Jana Balawegaya yesterday said that they will support the 'Black Sunday'

campaign organised by the Catholic Council on March 7 demanding justice for the victims of Easter Sunday attacks. **TO PAGE 03**

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Abandoned RDA vehicles, machinery to be repaired

IRANGIKA RANGE

Highways Minister Johnston Fernando yesterday directed Road Development Authority (RDA) Director General to take steps to repair around 40 items of machinery and nearly 100 vehicles

which have been abandoned at RDA regional depots and put them to use for countrywide road development projects.

The Minister said that he has observed that nearly 100 vehicles including cars, cabs, jeeps, tippers, excavators and dozers

valued at millions of rupees and around 40 items of machinery that are used to rehabilitate roads are lying idle at a number of RDA yards and regional depots.

The Minister said that it is a crime to allow the machinery and vehicles to go

in to ruin and instructed the DG to appoint a Technical Committee to look into defects and faults in these vehicles and machinery and repair them so that they can be put back to good use.

The Minister also advised the DG to

submit a full report on the vehicles and machinery including their value.

Minister Fernando also instructed the DG to bring the disused vehicles and items of machinery to the RDA workshop in Angulana in order for repairs to begin.



Houses for landslide displaced under Laksada Sevana Housing Project

CAMELIA NATHANIEL

Public Security Minister Rear Admiral Dr. Sarath Weerasekera handed over houses at the Laksada Sevana Housing Project for those displaced by the Kelani River landslide.

Addressing the gathering he said, "At the last General Election I was invited to contest from the Colombo district. I attended a

meeting in the Meethotamulla area as a regular candidate. But, not everyone was happy and a woman in the crowd told me her grievances."



"Some of the people who had lost their homes on the banks of the Kelani River due to the 2016 floods had been displaced due to the landslide and were now living in a paddy

warehouse where Urea fertiliser was been stored. The living conditions in this place were appalling," he said.

Urban Development Authority officials and asked to provide a solution for this problem as an urgent need and not be considered as an election promise.

"Despite various obstacles, the dream of the innocent people was made possible due to the maximum support of Minister Dr. Nalaka Godahewa and the fullest

cooperation of the UDA officials," Minister Weerasekera said.

Minister Weerasekera said at the handing over ceremony of the Laksada Sevana Housing Project for those displaced by the Kelani River landslide that the main focus of his 35-year Naval service was to work for the betterment of the country and the well-being of the people.

Minister of State Dr. Nalaka Godahewa and Ministry officials were also present on the occasion.



Foreign Minister Dinesh Gunawardena visited the Rukmale Dharma Vijayaramaya Viharaya in Pannipitiya on Tuesday to participate in religious observances to mark the 72nd birthday anniversary of the Chief Incumbent of the temple, Dr. Iththepane Dhammalankara Mahanayaka Thera, who is also the Chief Prelate of the Kotte Sri Kalyani Samagri Sangha Sabha. MP Yadamini Gunawardena was also present on the occasion.

Mother seeks help from kind donors

A forlorn mother from Agalawatta, Mathugama seeks the financial support from the kind-hearted people to look after her ill younger son and the elder child studying for A/Ls amidst great mental and monetary difficulties. The younger son, Kavindu Lakshan has been diagnosed with Sever Encephalopathy, a neurological disorder and treated for seven years since 2014.

The mother, Nilani Pathiraja lives with these two children after her husband left her two years ago. However, she is not in a position to do a job to earn money due to her ill child. Other than public funds, Samurधि allowance and the small income from the domestic tea plants, she does not have any other steady income, she said.



She said doctors at the Lady Ridgeway Children's Hospital, Borella has told her to consult them at the hospital monthly but she cannot

afford it as it costs about Rs. 4,000 only for the hired vehicle. She also has to spend money additionally for medicines purchased from the pharmacy. According to her, all together she has to spend over Rs. 25,000 for the young child for one month in addition to the class fee of Rs. 4,600 for the elder child.

Therefore, she requests philanthropists and the public to provide her with any support so as to make it possible for her to continue treatment for her ailing younger child and support the elder child in his education. Donors can help them via calling on 077 52 63 711 or depositing funds to her account 343952 at the Bank of Ceylon. They live at No. 168, Swarnagama, Beragama, Agalawatta.

Sri Lanka listed as country with worst Internet Quality

LAHIRU FERNANDO

Sri Lanka has been listed as the country with worst Internet Quality by the Surfshark Digital Quality of Life Index 2020.

The survey was conducted covering 85 countries and Singapore tops the list being the country with the highest internet quality.

The speed and stability are considered the key factors in determining the quality of the internet connections. Slow and unstable connections inhibit daily use and diminish work efficiency.

Commenting on the results, the Information Technology Society of Sri Lanka points out the data mafia and the monopoly handled by several Internet Service Providers (ISP) has been the key reason behind the tragic situation.

"This situation is a major hindrance towards the progress of the future digital economy of Sri Lanka," it stressed.

The society further said the ISPs are manipulating their customer bases as per

their will and requirement regardless of the guidelines by the Telecommunication Regulatory Commission of Sri Lanka, which is the key governing body in charge of monitoring the ISPs.

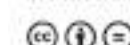
"It is sad to see that the ISPs are moving away from the well known principle 'Net-neutrality' concept when providing services to the customers," the Society said.

The Best & Worst Places for Internet Quality

Countries with the highest and lowest scores on the Internet Quality Index* (2020)



* Index: quality. Takes into account broadband and mobile internet speed and stability. Study of 85 countries. Source: Surfshark Digital Quality of Life Index 2020



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Helping stakeholders, preventing environmental damage Fisheries rules to be amended soon: Douglas



NIMAL WIJESINGHE,

A'pura Additional District Group Corr.

The Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Ministry has planned to amend certain rules and regulations in the sector to help stakeholders and prevent illicit activities, especially those that could cause environmental damage.

Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Minister Douglas Devananda instructed officials to formulate a new framework for the purpose. He added that seine fishing was causing damage to marine life. The minister also highlighted the need for stricter regulations in the crab industry.

Fisheries and Aquatic Resources State Minister Kanchana Wijesekera, Ministry Secretary Indu Ratnayake, State Ministry Secretary Jayantha Chandrasoma, Fisheries Director-General Susantha Kahawaththa, and National Aquatic Resources Research and Development Agency officials were also present.

Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Minister Douglas Devananda and other officials at the meeting.
Picture by Nimal Wijesinghe, Anuradhapura Additional District Group Corr.



Indian Air Force Chief of Staff Air Chief Marshal Rakesh Kumar Singh Bhaduria called on Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa at Temple Trees yesterday. The Air Chief Marshal, who was visiting the country to attend the 70th Anniversary Celebrations of the Sri Lanka Air Force, expressed India's continued support towards Sri Lanka in the Defence field.

SL records highest university admissions since Independence

CHAMIKARA WEERASINGHE

The country has recorded its highest number of university admissions since its Independence, this year, University Grants Commission Chairman Prof. Sampath Amaraturunga said. He added that state universities had admitted 41,000 students by Tuesday.

The UGC accepted its highest university enrollment this year and incorporated 10,588 students into its system in line with President Gotabaya Rajapaksa's 'Vistas of Prosperity and Splendour' Policy. The President had instructed the UGC in 2020 to increase the university intake from 31,000 to 43,000.

Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa has instructed University Vice-Chancellors and the UGC to raise the funds necessary for infrastructure development in order to accommodate the additional 10,588 students.

Prof. Sampath Amaraturunga said that an additional Rs.5 billion would be required to manage physical and human resources in the university system.

PS Councillor arrested for accepting Rs.425,000 bribe

S.M. WIJAYARATNE,

Kurunegala Daily News Corr.

A Pradeshiya Sabha Councillor in Nikaweratiya, Kurunegala, was arrested at a hotel for accepting a Rs.425,000 bribe on Tuesday.

The suspect had accepted the bribe from a businessman in the area who is engaged in illegal sand-mining. Investigations are continuing.

Dengue, rat fever cases hit 1,672, 372 in February

S.M. WIJAYARATNE,

Kurunegala Daily News Corr.

Dengue and rat fever cases in the country during the past month stood at 1,672 and 372, respectively, Kurunegala DMO Dr. S.M.A. Priyadarshana said. He was speaking at a meeting of Public Health Inspectors (PHIs) in Kurunegala yesterday.

The corresponding cases for January were 1,485 and 475, Dr. Priyadarshana said. He added that around 214 PHIs have been deployed to prevent the spread of the diseases in the Kurunegala and Puttalam districts.

The officials have been sent to inspect both public and private institutions in the area, the DMO said. Around 560 family health nurses have also been deployed for the endeavour, he added.

Former PS Councillor arrested with munitions

S.M. WIJAYARATNE,

Kurunegala Daily News Corr.

Udappuwa Police arrested a former Kalpitiya Pradeshiya Sabha (PS) Councillor with a foreign-made revolver and 12 rounds of live ammunition on Tuesday.

He was to be produced before the Puttalam Magistrate yesterday.

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**SRI LANKA AIR FORCE
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CAMELIA NATHANIEL

The Sri Lanka Air Force (SLAF), celebrating its 70th Anniversary as the "Guardians of the Skies", conducted a "Pichcha Mal Poojawa" at the Kelaniya Raja Maha Viharaya on March 1 for the fourth consecutive year under the patronage of Air Force Commander Air Marshal Sudarshana Pathirana to invoke blessings on those who laid down their lives for the Motherland and the entire Air Force. SLAF Seva Vanitha Unit Chair-

person Charmini Pathirana also participated.

On the following day, a troop parade was held at the Katunayake Air Force Base under the patronage of the 18th Air Force Commander Air Marshal Sudarshana Pathirana. From its humble beginnings on March 2, 1951, over a period of 70 years, the SLAF has been serving the country and protecting its third dimension while maintaining territorial integrity and unity.

The Air Force has come a long way and today possesses Kfir and F7 jets, transport craft such as AN 32, C130,

MA 60 and Y12 and helicopters comprising Bell 212, Bell 412, MI17 and MI24 and is geared to face the future as a fully-fledged Air Force.

The events planned in line with the 70th Anniversary include parades, an air show, religious events, sporting events and community projects. The highlight of the celebrations is a special Air Show that is being held on March 3, 4 and 5 at 5 pm at the Galle Face Green under the patronage of the Commander in Chief of the Security Forces President Gotabaya Rajapaksa. Indian aerobatics teams comprising an aircraft

team and a helicopter team also enhance the colour of the air show at Galle Face. The Commander noted that the Indian Air Force has deployed 14 aircraft for the event while 24 aircraft of the Sri Lanka Air Force is displaying their capabilities at the air show which is bound to enthrall spectators.

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

(Pictures by Kelum Liyanage and Mei Ling Hsu)



A special stamp issued in view of the 70th Air Force Anniversary being presented to Air Force Commander Air Marshal Sudarshana Pathirana on Tuesday.



The original CD containing the theme song sung for the Air Force 70th Anniversary by the popular singing duo Bathiya Jayakody and Santhush Weeraman being handed over to the Air Force Commander.



"Pichcha Mal Poojawa" at the Kelaniya Raja Maha Viharaya on March 1





Gampaha Wickramarachchi University of Indigenous Medicine

1st University dedicated to Indigenous Medical Education in Sri Lanka



Message from His Excellency the President of Sri Lanka

Sri Lanka's indigenous medicine which is an integral part of the traditional medicine system of our country is of remarkable value in terms of its therapeutic potential that kept our people healthy for many generations.

The importance of this heritage has been

highlighted in my policy framework — 'Vistas of Prosperity and Splendour' and one of the main objectives included in it is to uplift our traditional systems of medicine based on the right scientific and modern approach.

With the launch of Gampaha Wickramarachchi University of Indigenous Medicine which marks a turning point in the 77 year long history of this institute, I am confident that we can achieve the said targets aiming further development of indigenous medicine in Sri Lanka and hope that the cultural, medical and economical potential of this native health care system can be fully exploited.

While ensuring the preservation of age old knowledge in the respective field it is also vital to enhance the capabilities of this ancient wisdom, impart it to present and future generations and take it to the outside world.

I earnestly hope that the launch of Gampaha Wickramarachchi University of Indigenous Medicine will help us to reach this goal.

Gotabaya Rajapaksa



Message from the Hon. Prime Minister

It is indeed my pleasure to send this message for the launch of the Gampaha Wickramarachchi University of Indigenous Medicine, which will be the 16th national university in our higher education system.

Sri Lanka has a very rich history of indigenous medicine, and I hope that with the launch of a

dedicated university for this purpose, we will be able to educate our young minds, preserve the valuable knowledge of indigenous medicine and share it with the entire world.

In recent times, due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, there has been an emerging interest towards indigenous medicine, which provides the perfect opportunity for the Gampaha Wickramarachchi University of Indigenous Medicine to become the centre of excellence in indigenous medicine not only in the South Asian region but globally as well.

I extend my heartfelt congratulations to the entire staff of the Gampaha Wickramarachchi University of Indigenous Medicine, and I wish you all the best in taking our treasured medical knowledge and practices to the world.

Mahinda Rajapaksa



Message from the Hon. Minister of Education

Higher education is the key to national development. Indigenous knowledge, recognition and development of an avenue for the future generation to learn about the country's indigenous medicine are undeniably a milestone in our country.

The establishment of this new University for Indigenous Medicine can be considered as a key step taken for

enhancing an important and authentic aspect of our country. I am delighted that I could contribute to this national effort as the Minister of Education. The Gampaha Wickramarachchi University of Indigenous Medicine is indeed one of the pioneering Universities in the country that has a solid foundation to prepare our future generations to preserve and practice the timeless Indigenous Medicine methods.

To commemorate this occasion, I am pleased to send this message and highly appreciate the steps taken to add more Academic courses as a step towards the enrichment of indigenous knowledge. Our government has already given opportunities for all Indigenous medicine efforts in this field and I believe this University will play a lead role in this exercise very soon.

I extend my sincere wishes to the Gampaha Wickramarachchi University of Indigenous Medicine to start strong and grow faster with its valuable national contributions. I would also like to extend my support for the future development of this prestigious University.

Professor G.L. Peiris



Message from the Secretary of the Ministry of Education

Expansion of higher education with more openings to educate the young generation is one of the key objectives of our government. In this exercise, opening avenues for long-standing indigenous medicine of the country and its practices are vital.

In line with the government's manifesto and its objectives, giving more recognition to native

thoughts, knowledge and practices are a timely step forward so we can share our valuable knowledge not only inside Sri Lanka but also with the entire world.

On this momentous occasion, while extending my heartfelt congratulations, I also request all parties to get together to support this valuable initiative to groom the future generation on the timeless value of indigenous medicine of Sri Lanka.

I extend my fullest cooperation as the Secretary of the Ministry of Education in the future as I had done for the launch of the Gampaha Wickramarachchi University of Indigenous Medicine and extend my sincere blessings for the success of academic efforts and other initiatives of the University.

Sr. Professor K. Kapila C.K. Perera



Message from the Chairman of University Grants Commission

I take great pleasure in writing this congratulatory message on the occasion of the launching ceremony of the Gampaha Wickramarachchi University of

indigenous medicine. This can be considered a great milestone in the history of Ayurveda medicine in Sri Lanka and it comes during a time when the nation is at great need of the assistance of our indigenous medicine.

The roots of this latest university can be traced back to the establishment of the Gampaha Wickramarachchi institute in 1929 by the Ayurveda Chakravarthi Pandith G.P. Wickramarachchi. Later, it was affiliated to the University of Kelaniya. The institute was initially established as the centre of learning of Siddhuryveda tradition of medicine.

Today, it has grown to be an institution with great significance to Sri Lanka and with the impending launch it would become the first University of its kind in Sri Lanka. Currently it is offering the Bachelor of Ayurveda Medicine and Surgery

(BAMS) degree, a six year course including one year internship training in state hospitals. Further, the institute provides the facility for Ayurveda graduates to upgrade their administrative capabilities by conducting Postgraduate Diploma in Hospital Management.

It gives me great pride to note that we were able to grant University status to this prestigious institute in a short time which was one of the foremost wishes of His Excellency the President, Gotabaya Rajapaksa in order to contribute to his vision of developing the Nation's Ayurvedic and indigenous medicine culture.

In the current global scenario, it has become more and more evident that the Ayurvedic culture of many countries should be revived to meet the demands of global society. Being a proud nation, which has inherited a rich Ayurvedic culture, it is our duty to

preserve it and engage in research so that it will be able to compliment Western medicine while standing on its own.

We have also seen that regulation of Ayurvedic practices is a timely necessity as there will always be those who prey on goodwill. Thus, it is my firm belief that the newly launched Gampaha Wickramarachchi University will be a pinnacle of success that will lead the country to become a leader in Ayurvedic medicine.

I wish the University every success.

Sr. Prof. Sampath Amarathunge



Message from the Vice Chancellor of the University

It is indeed my privilege to pen this message down for the opening of the 1st Indigenous Medical University of Sri Lanka as its 1st Vice-Chancellor.

Since its inception, it has educated many local and international students over the years and we look forward to transform this University into a global centre of excellence in indigenous medical education especially at a time where Indigenous Medicine has gained global popularity.

While we strive to preserve the methods of indigenous medicine in Sri Lanka, we also look forward to introduce many other indigenous

medical related programmes as an initiative to promote and educate the country on Indigenous Medical related areas.

I would also like to extend my sincere gratitude to everyone who supported us in transforming this prestigious Ayurveda Institute into a fully-fledged University and look forward to turning this University into an Indigenous Medical education hub in the South Asian region soon with the support of my dedicated team.

Sr. Professor Janitha A. Liyanage

'Skills Sri Lanka' programme launched under President & PM's patronage

President Gotabaya Rajapaksa and Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa on Tuesday inaugurated the 'Skills Sri Lanka' programme designed under the theme 'A Generation with Competencies' at the Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall (BMICH) in Colombo.

The State Ministry of Skills Development, Vocational Education, Research & Innovation

implements this programme with the objective of creating a skilled workforce to cater to the needs of an increasingly globalized and interdependent world economy.

Overall, 70% of the total unemployed population is in the "unskilled" category. In this context, it is essential to make them a demand-driven workforce that meets present day requirements in the job market.

The 'Skills Sri Lanka' programme plans to establish an island-wide broad network of social infrastructure for school dropouts and for the unskilled sections among both the unemployed and employed categories. Skills development will be carried out under eight categories through long and short term courses.

The President unveiled the official logo of 'Skills Sri

Lanka'. The President also inaugurated the programme to provide a monthly stipend of Rs.4,000 for all students who pursue courses in the fields they choose.

Five buses designed as mobile vocational training units will be operated island wide from today in parallel to the implementation of the programme.

President Rajapaksa officially

handed over the buses to the Chairman of the National Apprentice and Industrial Training Authority.

State Minister Sita Arambepola presented the first copy of the 'Skills Sri Lanka' newspaper to the President.

The Prime Minister presented protective clothing to students who are selected to pursue vocational training.

Addressing the gathering,

Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa stated that it is the responsibility of the government to clear the path for future generations to enrich their lives, regardless of failures in examinations. The Prime Minister further said that the Government will fulfill its responsibilities with utmost commitment to equip the youth of this country with professional skills that needed to match

with the advanced society in the modern world.

Private firms Piza Hut and Orange handed over their letters of intent to Minister of State Sita Arambepola acknowledging their contribution to the 'Skills Sri Lanka' programme.

The event was attended by the Maha Sangha, other religious leaders, Ministers, Secretaries to Ministries and Government officials.

All set for... From page 01

In the circular we clearly instruct the relevant provincial heads to decide a most suitable land for the burial of COVID dead bodies through a committee comprising of Chief Secretary of the Provincial Council, District Secretaries, Provincial Director General of Health Services and relevant authorities and submit their proposals for the approval of the Director General of Health," Dr Gunawardana said.

He said that the transportation of the dead bodies will be done at Government expense and measures have already been taken to provide transport facilities from the Colombo Judicial Medical Officers' office and Welikanda Base Hospital.

Two relatives of COVID 19 victims will be allowed to come to the burial ground. The burial will be

conducted under the supervision of the Medical Officer of Health or the Public Health Instructor of the area. Although it is mainly the Muslim community which agitated for this facility, members of any community can opt for it. The authorities were also reported to be looking at other burial sites around the country.

The bodies of COVID victims to be buried were, meanwhile, kept in cold storage until the proper procedures for burial are finalised.

The Extraordinary Gazette notification allowing the burial of COVID victims was published on February 25, amending the regulations made by the Minister of Health under Sections 2 and 3 of the Quarantine and Prevention of Diseases Ordinance (Chapter 222).

Iranathivu residents... From page 01

They said that over 160 families are presently living on the island and people belonging to 120 families come to the island as migratory fishermen.

They said that more than 160 families have been resettled in the island. The protestors said that the health of inhabitants in the island will be in danger if burial of COVID-19 victims is allowed on the island.

"This island is very small and there is a strong possibility of it being contaminated with the virus, if COVID-19 victims are allowed to be buried on the island," they said.

First batch of COVAX... From page 01

"The leadership commitment of the President to commence vaccination in Sri Lanka should be specially mentioned here and it was with his special intervention that the vaccination was launched in January," the State Minister added.

The donation of 16 ICU beds to the Cardiology Unit of the Chilaw General Hospital, the donation of multi-parameter monitors, the opening of the Medical Laboratory built in response to COVID-19 and the opening of the Obstetrics and Gynaecology Clinic Unit were also held at the event. The emergency beds were donated by the Rotary Club of Rotary International and the Rotary Club of Colombo in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

COPE to discuss... From page 01

The Postgraduate Institute of Science of the University of Peradeniya is scheduled to be summoned on March 26.

The Geological Survey and Mines Bureau was summoned to the COPE on April 6 and the Land Reform Commission was summoned on April 7. On April 20, the COPE Committee will inquire into past irregularities of the Sri Lanka National Film Corporation.

In addition, the People's Bank and the Development Lotteries Board will be summoned before COPE on April 21 and 23 respectively.

CEB anticipates... From page 01

But, action was taken against them by the organization instead of giving them an opportunity", said the Chairman of the Trade Union Unity Malaka Wickremesinghe. Chief Secretary of the Collective A.G.U. Nishantha said the proposed hybrid power plants in the Northern islands would be an unnecessary regional geopolitical issue. Therefore, the project should be given to the CEB for implementation.

The selected company's estimate for these three power plants which generate less than one Mega watt is Rs 2.3 billion. An engineering estimate would further reduce this amount, he added.

"This is an unnecessary issue. The CEB which has thousands of engineers is capable of conducting this project. We have the knowledge and resources," he stressed.

Hejaz Hisbullah... From page 01

while Attorney-at-Law Chaminda Athukorala appeared for the principal Mohamed Shakeel.

The Criminal Investigation Department (CID) submitted a report including a summary of statements recorded by the suspects and the witnesses related to the matter.

DSG Peiris further stated that there was a separate report including the confidential statements recorded by the witnesses and the suspects.

President's Counsel Nalindra Indatissa appearing on behalf of Hizbullah requested the Magistrate to issue copies of the further reports submitted by the prosecution.

The President's Counsel further stated that after studying the further reports submitted by the Criminal Investigations Department, it was necessary to make submissions regarding the possibility of

the Court having the remand of the suspects. Attorney-at-Law Chaminda Athukorala appearing on behalf of the second suspect Mohammed Shakeel also made the same request.

DSG Dileepa Piries raised objections towards the request made by the defense counsels. DSG Dileepa Piries noted that the reports contained sensitive information as well as confidential information.

Considering the submissions presented by both parties the Magistrate informed that firstly he has to refer to the reports and then he would allow a Counsel from the defendants' party to check the reports.

The Magistrate further directed that he would provide the opportunity to check the facts which directly related to the suspects to relevant Counsel.

Headless body... From page 01

The suspect SI had worked in the security detail of MP Harin Fernando and MP Heshha Withanage. DIG Ajith Rohana told the Daily News that the suspect SI had met the 30-year-old victim while he was attached to MP Withanage's security.

A letter had been found, believed to have been left by the suspect SI who had said that he had met the victim and had an affair with her. As he was unable to get away from the relationship he had committed the crime.

He was married and a father of three children who are around 21, 17 and eight years of age.

The headless corpse has been identified

as that of a 30-year-old woman from Theppanawa in the Kuruvita Police area. The suspect SI had been attached to the Buttala Police, but at the time of the incident had been on leave.

The Police spokesman said that special Police teams had gone to the area of the SI's residence near the 5th Mile Post area in Badalkumbura and the suspect had left the house by then and fled to the forest area in the vicinity. Thereafter, Police teams were deployed to search for the suspect and arrest him. However, yesterday morning one of the Police teams had discovered the body of the SI hanging from a tree and a bottle of poison was also found near the

body of the SI's body. DIG Ajith Rohana said, "a letter had been traced by the Badalkumbura Police in respect of the death of Sub Inspector who had committed suicide in the Badalkumbura area. He has been identified as the suspect of the brutal murder in respect of a headless body found in the Dam Street area in a suitcase on March 1. The Magisterial inquest of the suspected SI was held yesterday by the Monaragala Magistrate's Court and thereafter an autopsy would be conducted on the body at the Sirigala Hospital by the JMO of the Sirigala Hospital."

Investigations revealed that the Policeman and the woman had moved into a

guest house in Hanwella on February 28. On March 1, the suspect had been seen leaving the guest house with a travelling bag in which the headless corpse of the woman was apparently stuffed.

DIG Ajith Rohana said that investigations revealed the murder was committed in the guest house.

The corpse was found inside a travelling bag abandoned at Dam Street in Colombo on Tuesday. The suspect had travelled to Colombo on a bus and the driver and the conductor of the bus were also questioned and they had confirmed that the suspect had travelled in that bus. Further investigations are underway.

Alleged Muthurajawela... From page 01

Colombo Archbishop Malcolm Cardinal Ranjith and the Centre for Environmental Justice.

President's Counsel Shamil Perera appearing for Archbishop of Colombo Malcolm Cardinal Ranjith moved Court to issue an Interim Order since illegal constructions and filling of lands are continuously taking place within the sanctuary.

However, Additional Solicitor General Priyantha Nawana appearing for the Attorney General told court that the Supreme Court has already issued an order preventing the authorities from dumping garbage in the Muthurajawela Sanctuary.

Shamil Perera PC submitted to the court that the order made by the Supreme Court was to prevent

dumping of garbage. He said this matter relates to a wide range of issues including illegal constructions, filling of lands and destruction of the environment.

Meanwhile, the Attorney General sought further time to get instructions from the respondent parties and thereby the two petitions were fixed for support on March 30.

President's Counsel Shamil Perera with Counsel Duthika Perera under the instructions of Counsel Sandun Nagahawatta appeared for Archbishop of Colombo Malcolm Cardinal Ranjith.

In their petition, the Centre for Environmental Justice and its Executive Director Withanage Don Hemantha Ranjith Sisira

Kumara named the Central Environmental Authority, Minister of Environment, Minister of Wild Life and Forest Conservation and nine others as respondents.

The petitioners are seeking an Interim Order directing the respondents to stay any further dumping of waste and the filling of lands within the Muthurajawela Sanctuary.

Filing this petition through Counsel Ravindranath Dabare, the petitioners alleged that a land filling racket has been going on for years mainly due to the fact that the said sanctuary is situated at a prime location, close to the Port City, highway, other development projects and Colombo City. This illegal land reclamation had become a large-scale racket with

the blessings of certain politicians and Government officials.

Petitioners further state that it has been brought to their attention that recently an extent of approximately 50 acres within the Muthurajawela Sanctuary, situated in the Grama Niladhari Division of Wawala and within the Ja-Ela Divisional Secretariat has been demarcated for reclamation by a private development company that had earlier attempted to illegally acquire 406 acres from the Sanctuary for the construction of a housing scheme, with the acquiescence of the Agrarian Services Department.

The petitioners state that Muthurajawela and the Negombo Lagoon Wetland Complex are located 10km North of Colombo

in the Gampaha District of the Western Province. The Muthurajawela Marshes and Negombo Lagoon are two adjacent and interdependent ecological systems covering about 6,000 Ha and forming one contiguous Wetland. The Wetland represents a large area of brackish marshes, mangrove swamps and freshwater marshes merging into an estuarine lagoon to the North-West. The lagoon opens to the sea at its Northern end and receives fresh river water input from the Ja-Ela and Dadugam Oya.

The petitioners state that Muthurajawela functions as the 'Green Lung' for the metropolitan area, and should be preserved as an important landscape amenity for present and future generations.

Development projects should fulfill people's needs - PM

The primary objective of any development project should be to fulfill the needs of the people, Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa stated yesterday (03).

The Prime Minister also pointed out that development projects that do not meet the needs of the people should be confined to history.

The Prime Minister was speaking while chairing a discussion held at the Ministry of Finance regarding the First Phase of the proposed railway project aimed at reducing traffic congestion in the City of Colombo.

Under the First Phase of the project, three railway lines have been identified for construction covering Colombo and suburbs.

"It is proposed to construct one railway line from Ragama to Kirulapone via Colombo Fort, another line to Kelaniya via Moratuwa, Piliyandala, Narahenpita and the third to Kottawa, Pannipitiya and Hunupitiya via Thalawathugoda," Urban Devel-



opment Authority officials informed the Prime Minister during the discussion.

Prime Minister Rajapaksa advised officials that the inclusion of Maharagama, one of the most populous cities, in the project would be more beneficial.

The Prime Minister pointed out that a large number of people from the outlying areas travel to Maharagama and that the project will also alleviate severe traffic congestion in the area.

Following the discussion, Urban Development Authority officials informed the Prime Minister that Maharagama can be included in the project by connecting it to the 21.5 km long Kottawa-Hunupitiya railway line.

Pointing out that development should be done for the benefit of the people, the Prime Minister emphasised that the country does not need development projects that do not benefit the public. The daily economic loss to Sri Lanka due to traffic

congestion in 2019 was estimated at Rs.1000 million. As a solution to this, the City Bus project which was recently launched by the Government is now being implemented successfully. The aim of this railway project is to connect the people who come to Colombo in their private vehicles to the railway transportation facility by using the city bus service.

The project which will be operated as a Public Private Partnership is expected to be completed in four years. The project will receive USD 5,000 million as a Foreign Direct Investment. It is also proposed for the Government to contribute 6% for this project. This railway project alone is expected to save around Rs.550 million daily.

The Prime Minister advised the UDA to consider all the requests forwarded by foreign investors who are willing to invest in the project carefully.

State Minister Ajith Nivard Cabraal and Secretary to the Treasury R. Attygalle were also present at the meeting.

Indian Visa... From page 01

It will accept all categories of visa applications except tourism, which remains suspended due to COVID-19. Applicants have the option of receiving their serviced passports by courier by paying the prescribed fee at the IVS Application Centre or they

can collect the serviced passport only when the IVS Application Centre opens on Wednesdays or from the Consulate directly from 1700 to 1730 hrs. Applicants can submit visa applications directly at the Consulate from 0900-1200 hrs on other days in

the case of emergencies. Please visit the "visa" menu at the Consulate's website "cgjaffna.gov.in" for information on online visa application, documentation required for various categories of visas and other requirements.

NPP to support... From page 01

The NPP in a release yesterday urged the Government to bring the masterminds behind the Easter Sunday attacks to book.

"Over 300 people were killed and 500 persons injured by a series of suicide bombs targeting several churches and hotels in the country on Easter Sunday. It is no secret that these attacks could have been averted if the leaders and officials of the then Government were able to take prompt action," the statement said.

Three new DS... From page 01

present will be increased to 22. Until March 1, Rathgama and Madampagama were administered by the Hikkaduwala Divisional Secretariat while Wanduramba belonged to the Baddegama Divisional Secretariat.

"The Rathgama Divisional Secretariat has 32 Grama Niladhari Divisions while the Madampagama Divisional Secretariat has 38 Grama Niladhari Divisions and the Wanduramba Divisional Secretariat 22 Grama Niladhari Divisions," the District Secretary further said.

Zahran's wife, five others further remanded

SHAVINI MADHARA

Abdul Carder Fathima Sadia, the wife of the mastermind of the 2019 Easter Sunday attacks Zahran Hasim and five others have been further remanded till May 5 by Colombo Fort Magistrate Priyantha Liyanage yesterday.

This was when the relevant case was taken up before the Colombo Fort Magistrate's Court via Skype technology.

Accordingly, the remanded suspects were identified as Abdul Cader Fathima Hadiya, Asarudeen Mohammed Ilym, Abdul Hameed Mohomed Rifhas, Mohommadu Mashnuq Muhammadu Rila, Mohommadu Ameer M. Ayathulla and Mohome Mubarak Mohammed Rifail.

IGP directed to... From page 01

The Peliyagoda Police are conducting investigations into a complaint regarding the assault on law student Migara Gunaratne and two other incidents in which Migara Gunaratne allegedly obstructed the duties of police officers.

Obituaries

HERATH - PADMINI PRABHA LAKSHMI (Retired Deputy Principal - Rathnawali Balika Vidyalaya - Gampaha). Beloved wife of J.P. Herath (Retired Assistant Director General NIE), beloved mother of Lalanika (DFCC), beloved daughter of late Mudliyar U.B. Disanayake and Mrs. Leela Disanayake and daughter-in-law of Mr. H.M.K. Bandara & Mrs. D.A. Herath, expired. Remains lie at **31/1, 1st Lane, Kalyani Road, Gampaha**. Cremation at 6.00 p.m. on Thursday March 04th, 2021 at Kasagahawatte General Cemetery. 016792

SIRIMANE RAVI - Dearly beloved husband of Piyum, loving father of Supun and dearest brother of Gita, passed away. Funeral was held February 28 according to his wishes. 016932

THAMBAYAH - MERCY MALATHIE - Dearly beloved wife of the late Reginald Balasingham Thambayah, precious mother of Jennifer and Jeremy, loved mother-in-law of Prasanna Weerawardana and Amirtha, loving grandmother of Marishka & Yan Tao and Ramendra, passed away peacefully at home on March 1, 2021. A private funeral was held in accordance with her wishes. 016604



**PANEL DISCUSSION
ON
FINANCIAL INCLUSION**



**Hon. State Minister
Ajith Nivard Cabraal**
State Minister, Money and
Capital Markets and State
Enterprise Reforms



**Deshamanya Prof.
W D Lakshman**
Governor
Central Bank of Sri Lanka



Mr. Channa De Silva
GM/CEO
LankaClear



Mr. J P R Karunaratne
Assistant Governor
Central Bank of Sri Lanka



**Ms. Samadanie
Kiriwandeniya**
Managing Director
SANASA International
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Mr. M Ramamoorthy
Director General (Planning)
State Ministry of Samurdhi,
Household Economy, Micro Finance,
Self Employment, Business
Development and Underutilised State
Resources Development

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A justifiable stand

The Catholic Church and its followers are poised for a mass protest at the failure of ongoing investigations to unravel the real contours of the Easter Sunday Massacre, which is nearing its second anniversary, and the main actors and the masterminds behind the whole episode.

Speaking to the media at the Archbishop's House in Borella, His Eminence Malcolm Cardinal Ranjith stated that the "Black Sunday" planned for March 7 where Catholics attending Sunday Services in Churches throughout the country have been told to do so dressed in black, was only the beginning of their agitations and if by April 21 (the second anniversary of the tragedy) positive results are not shown, all homes in the country would be asked to hoist black flags as a mark of protest to register the dismay and opposition at the delay in delivering justice on behalf of the victims.

The Cardinal, flanked by some of the loved ones and survivors of the Easter Sunday church attacks opined that the Catholic Church was in no way impressed by the turn the investigations were taking and that there were indications of investigations being influenced by certain forces to protect individuals linked to the attacks. He noted that the authorities have failed to take into custody those who funded the terrorist outfit responsible for the massacre and those responsible for stifling and sabotaging the investigations into the attacks.

His Eminence also spoke of deals being cut in order to sweep things under the carpet, adding that the Presidential Commission of Inquiry had failed to meet the expectations of the Church in throwing light on the whole operation and identifying the true perpetrators and facilitators of the ghastly crime.

Of course the PCoI is not an investigative arm and is only a fact finding body tasked with unearthing the lapses that occurred leading to the tragedy and for identifying the persons who permitted the attacks due to their negligence of duty. It is now left to the various investigative arms of the law enforcement to act on the findings of the Report under the guidance of the Attorney General and also by following on the revelations made in the Commission Report to trace and act against those behind the attacks including the individuals, if any, who attempted a cover-up.

The moving scene at the media briefing where a parent, a Buddhist, who lost both his children in the attack on the Kochchikade shrine, no doubt, catalyzed the feelings and state of mind of the Cardinal in his determination to ensure justice. The scene, no doubt, would also have greatly influenced the authorities to pursue the case in earnest until all actors responsible for the tragedy are rounded up and justice delivered to the anguished families and loved ones of the victims who perished.

For one thing, there was great expectation not only among the families of the victims but also all Catholics that the present Government would ensure that all those responsible for the Easter Sunday carnage would be brought to justice. The massive mandate it received in the Roman Catholic electorates bears testimony to this. In his Independence Day speech, President Gotabaya Rajapaksa was unequivocal in his determination to bring to book all those involved in the tragedy.

Not just those directly responsible for the massacre, but even those who turned a Nelsonian eye to the warnings received especially those in high authority and holding the levers of power too should undoubtedly be held accountable as the Cardinal has been reiterating. A lot is owed to His Eminence for his role in reining in his flock amidst the greatest of provocations and preventing what would certainly have been a bloodbath that would have not only sparked communal tensions all round but also dealt a severe blow on the economy.

This was largely due to His Eminence's undertaking to the Catholic community that he would not rest until all those responsible are unravelled and punished to ensure justice is done. In this mission he was also greatly assisted by the Maha Sangha whose support has not waned with the passage of time and who no doubt would enjoin the Buddhists to come out in solidarity by hoisting black flags in their homes which is the next stage of the Church's protest on the second anniversary of the tragedy, if by then the current status were to remain unremedied.

One recalls how the Maha Sangha rallied behind His Eminence Malcolm Cardinal Ranjith not only in commiserating with him at his hour of great grief but also in offering their moral and material support to rebuild the devastated Churches by even personally getting involved in the rebuilding tasks. Perhaps it is as a tribute to this generous gesture that His Eminence has taken exception to the recommendation of the PCoI to ban a Buddhist movement led by a vociferous monk. According to His Eminence, the Church did not expect the Commission to recommend a ban on any Buddhist Organisations but to ascertain the real perpetrators of the attack on that fateful Easter Sunday.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

The first duty of society is justice.
- Alexander Hamilton



People light candles in Colombo to remember the victims of the 2019 Easter bomb attacks.

Intense scrutiny of Easter PCoI Report



Archbishop of Colombo, His Eminence
Malcolm Cardinal Ranjith



Former President
Maithripala Sirisena



Former Prime Minister
Ranil Wickremesinghe



Former Defence Secretary
Hemasiri Fernando

Hindsight

LAKDEV LIYANAGAMA

The findings of the Presidential Commission of Inquiry (PCoI) into the Easter Sunday bomb attacks on April 21, 2019 were handed over to President Gotabaya Rajapaksa recently and have become the subject of intense scrutiny and debate due to the potential political implications of the report.

Sri Lanka had experienced relative peace and quiet since the conclusion of the Eelam War in May 2009. This tranquility came to a terrifying halt on the morning of April 21 two years ago when a series of bombs ripped through several churches and Colombo hotels in a coordinated terror attack.

The first bombs exploded at St. Anthony's Church in Kochchikade, Colombo at half past eight in the morning. Less than half an hour later, a blast occurred at St. Sebastian's church at Katuwapitiya in Negombo. Some 20 minutes later another bomb ripped through the Zion church in Batticaloa.

This was followed by a series of well-timed attacks, within twenty minutes of each other at three leading Colombo hotels, the Cinnamon Grand Hotel, the Kingsbury Hotel and the Shangri-La Hotel, all of them situated in the heart of Colombo. Several hours later there was a blast at a motel in Dehiwela.

The attacks left 269 people dead and shocked the entire world, generating sensational headlines and effectively crippling Sri Lanka's tourist industry which had seen a remarkable resurgence since the conclusion of the war. The attackers belonged to a radicalised Islamic terror group.

Aftermath of the attack

The initial Government reaction following the attacks was to impose a curfew, declare a State of Emergency and implement a ban on social media for a few days. In the immediate aftermath of the attack, there was also considerable anti-Muslim sentiment with fears of a retaliatory backlash.

Then President Maithripala Sirisena was overseas at the time of the attack and was on a personal visit to Singapore. He returned to the country shortly afterwards and this became a controversial issue later, with accusations that he did not return to Sri Lanka on the first available flight to Colombo.

The attacks must also be viewed in the political climate of that time. It was in October 2018, six months earlier, that then President Maithripala Sirisena had sacked Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe and appointed Mahinda Rajapaksa as Premier and sworn in a new Cabinet.

This Government lasted 52 days. Ranil Wickremesinghe was sworn in again as Prime Minister after the Supreme Court declared that President Sirisena's actions in dissolving Parliament were unconstitutional. However, the relationship between the two was irrevocably strained by then.

The President was the Minister of Defence but the other vital Cabinet portfolios were held by ministers of the United National Party (UNP). There was an apparent disconnect between the President and the Cabinet with the President and ministers being publicly critical of each other.

In such a political environment, the actions of President Sirisena as well as Cabinet ministers came under close scrutiny. Minister Harin Fernando publicly stated that he was warned by his father not to attend Easter services, giving rise to speculation that there were warnings of the impending attack.

On the day after the incidents, then President Sirisena appointed a three-member committee to probe the attacks. It comprised of Supreme Court Judge Vijith Malalgoda, former Inspector General of Police N. K. Ilangakoon and former Law and Order Ministry Secretary Padmasiri Jayamane.

As this committee began work, a month after the attacks, then Speaker of Parliament Karu Jayasuriya appointed a separate Parliamentary Select Committee (PSC) to probe the attacks. This was interpreted as a manifestation of the lack of trust between the President and the ruling UNP at that time.

The eight-member PSC was chaired by Deputy

Speaker Ananda Kumarasinghe and comprised of Parliamentarians Rauff Hakeem, Field Marshal Sarath Fonseka, Ravi Karunanayake, Kavinda Jayawardana, Ashu Marasinghe, Jayampathy Wickramaratne and M. A. Sumanthiran.

The committee appointed by the President handed over its final report a few weeks later, on June 10, 2019. While the report offered insights into the attack and the prevailing security climate at that time, it stopped short of making any specific recommendations regarding any individuals or institutions.

Sittings of the PSC were conducted in public and, from what transpired at these hearings, it became evident that there was a significant lack of communication and cooperation between the various Government agencies tasked with ensuring the safety and security of the nation, enabling the attacks.

For instance, Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe described how he was not invited to meetings of the National Security Council (NSC) after the constitutional crisis six months earlier. Then Defence Secretary Hemasiri Fernando recalled the difficulties he had in meeting with President Sirisena.

Security lapses

As a result, there was a public demand both to know the facts regarding the security lapses that led to the attacks and to identify those responsible. Leading the call for this was the Archbishop of Colombo, His Eminence Malcolm Cardinal Ranjith who was quite vocal in his condemnation of the handling of the disaster.

Previously, Cardinal Ranjith had been credited with being a voice of reason in the days after the attack. The Cardinal was widely commended for playing a key role in appealing for calm in the Catholic community, thereby possibly preventing a possible backlash against Muslims.

As there was a perception in a section of the Government that the proceedings of the PSC were being conducted with a view to tarnish the image of then President Sirisena, the President appointed a five-member Presidential Commission of Inquiry (PCoI) on September 22, 2019 to probe the attacks.

The five-member Commission was chaired by Justice of the Court of Appeal Janak de Silva. Its other members included Justice Nissanka Bandula Karunathna, Retired Justice Nihal Sunil Rajapaksa, Retired

Justice Bandula Kumara Atapattu and retired Ministry Secretary Ms. W.M.M.R. Adikari.

The appointment of the five-member PCoI came a day after the PSC probing the attacks recorded the testimony of then President Sirisena. The PCoI was mandated by the President to identify those responsible for attacks, both in carrying out the attacks and through negligence of duty.

In the gazette notification appointing the PCoI, then President Sirisena noted that "a large number of complaints and allegations have been made against persons, who were public servants or officers, who are alleged to have direct or indirect connections with the April 21 suicide bomb attacks".

PCoI report

This PCoI has concluded its hearings and submitted its report. The election of President Gotabaya Rajapaksa in late 2019 meant that the PCoI report was submitted to its appointing authority who is now President Rajapaksa. Former President Sirisena however remains a ruling party Parliamentarian.

In an ironical move, the PCoI appointed by former President Sirisena has now recommended criminal proceedings against him, holding that the then President was guilty of 'criminal liability' for his part in the acts or omissions which resulted in the tragedy. This carries major political implications.

The PCoI recommended that the Attorney General consider instituting criminal proceedings against the former President under "any suitable provision in the Penal Code". Among the issues the PCoI held the then President liable was the non-appointment of an acting Minister of Defence.

"No doubt, in terms of the Constitution, there appears to be discretion for the President in the making of an acting appointment. Nevertheless, given the circumstances, President Sirisena should have made the acting appointment," the PCoI said, noting that Sirisena had information of a possible attack.

The Commission also recommended that the Attorney General consider criminal proceedings against several others including former Police Chief Pujith Jayasundara, former Defence Secretary Hemasiri Fernando and senior Police officers Nandana Munasinghe and Deshabandu Tennekoon.

The PCoI also faulted former Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe for keeping neither Cabinet nor Parliament informed that he was being kept out of National Security Council meetings since October 2018. However, the PCoI refrained from recommending any legal action against Wickremesinghe.

The Government has responded to the PCoI report with President Gotabaya Rajapaksa appointing a ministerial committee to study the recommendations. The Committee been entrusted with identifying "the overall process including the measures that need to be taken by various agencies and authorities".

This ministerial committee is headed by Minister Chamal Rajapaksa. Johnston Fernando, Udaya Gammanpila, Ramesh Pathirana, Prasanna Ranatunga and Rohitha Abeygunawardena are the other members. Minister Rajapaksa has assured that justice will be done and there will be no 'cover-up'.

Former President Sirisena has opted not to comment on the findings of the PCoI, taking up the position that he will "not to respond to the allegations in the Report at this stage". It is uncertain as to what course of action Sirisena will pursue, should criminal proceedings be instituted against him. The SLFP has already rejected the PCoI Report.

With the former President being a part of the ruling coalition and the leader of the Sri Lanka Freedom Party (SLFP), a question mark hangs over whether the Government can continue to rely on the support of SLFP Parliamentarians, should criminal proceedings be instituted against Sirisena.

Former Prime Minister Wickremesinghe meanwhile has stated that the findings of the PCoI raises serious concerns regarding the state of security at the time of the attacks but argued that there are "many unanswered questions" which merit further inquiry and investigation.

The coming weeks should provide some clarity to these issues. The country awaits answers to the vital questions of how the Easter attacks eventuated, whether it was due to the negligence of some and if so, what action would be taken against them- if only to prevent a recurrence of such calamities.

Sittings of the Parliamentary Select Committee were conducted in public and, from what transpired at these hearings, it became evident that there was a significant lack of communication and cooperation between the various Government agencies tasked with ensuring the safety and security of the nation, enabling the attacks.



UNEMPLOYMENT: CAUSES AND REMEDIAL MEASURES

Part I

MANOJA ALWEERA

Almost all the countries strive to acquire a rapid economic development. Therefore, we should understand what economic development is, and in this regard, the questions asked by Professor Dudley Seers are important. They are: over a period of time what has been happening to poverty; what has been happening to unemployment; and what has been happening to inequality? If all these issues have declined from a high level, then beyond doubt, he says it has been a period of development for the country concerned. Out of these three issues unemployment is more vital because lessening unemployment automatically reduces other two problems as well. Job aspirants are unemployed for many reasons, and policy makers usually worry more about some types of unemployment over the other types. As such we find frictional unemployment, seasonal unemployment, structural unemployment and demand deficient unemployment.



THE LABOUR MARKET IS IN CONSTANT FLUX OR INSTABILITY. AT ANY POINT OF TIME, SOME SECTORS OF THE ECONOMY ARE GROWING, WHILE OTHER SECTORS ARE DECLINING. SOME WORKERS QUIT THEIR JOBS WHILE OTHER ARE LAID OFF. SOME FIRMS CUT EMPLOYMENT WHILE OTHER FIRMS EXPAND EMPLOYMENT. NEW PERSONS ENTER THE LABOUR MARKET AFTER COMPLETING THEIR EDUCATION, AND SOME OTHERS RE-ENTER AFTER SPENDING SOME TIMES IN THE NON-MARKET SECTOR. THUS, AT ANY POINT IN TIME, MANY WORKERS ARE IN BETWEEN JOBS.

sector has failed to generate skill jobs and contribute to acquire a higher economic growth although this sector has been considered as the engine of growth after 1977 economic reforms.

Next, it is appropriate to consider other hypotheses to understand the diverse sources for appearing a high level of unemployment throughout the past years. In this sense, we can identify a number of alternative hypotheses such as: 1) Queuing up for government jobs as explained by Glewwe (1987) and Dickens and Lang (1996). Accordingly, until some job aspirants obtain government jobs they prefer to be unemployed, 2) The model presented by Rama (1994) is another Queuing up model which says due to the wedge between good and bad private sector jobs arising from the job security laws, some job aspirants are queuing up or waiting for more secured jobs; 3) Slow Economic growth Hypothesis highlighted by a number of economists say inadequate economic growth so far experienced is responsible for less job generation; 4) Factor market distortions hypothesis particularly highlighted by the Ten-Year plan (1958-1967) and Five year Plan (1972-76) and subsequent writers. They say due to factor market distortions caused by rigid labour laws, union influence and low labour productivity, labour has become more expensive than machinery (capital) for which various incentives are given to promote industrialization. But, this is true only in case of unskilled labourers since such labour and machinery are substitutable. But it is not true for skilled labour since machineries and skill labour are complementary and as a result, capital intensity increases employment generation for skilled labour, and it seems that these advocates of distortions view have not understood the idea of capital skill complementary hypothesis and 5) lack of innovation and retardation of technology development.

In Sri Lanka, the importance of investment in R & D (Research and Development) and in-house research have not been realized by both public and private sectors. Although the prescribed ratio with regard to R & D for developing country is 1% of country's GDP Sri Lanka's ratio is only around 0.1% and this is also mainly related to the public sector. As a result, business expansions are highly limited resulting in less employment generation.

priyankamanoja@gmail.com
(The writer is a visiting lecturer and research consultant)

To be continued

Different types of unemployment

The labour market is in constant flux or instability. At any point of time, some sectors of the economy are growing, while other sectors are declining. Some workers quit their jobs while other are laid off. Some firms cut employment while other firms expand employment. New persons enter the labour market after completing their education, and some others re-enter after spending some times in the non-market sector. Thus, at any point in time, many workers are in between jobs. This type of unemployment can be identified as frictional unemployment.

Frictional unemployment arises because both workers and firms need time to locate each other to grasp the information about the value of the job. The existence of frictional unemployment does not suggest that there is a fundamental structural problem in the labour market, such as having an imbalance between the number of persons looking for work and the number of jobs available. As such, by its very nature, frictional unemploy-

ment leads to appear short unemployment spells. As a result, frictional unemployment is not viewed with alarm by policymakers. Frictional unemployment is also productive to some extent because the search activities of workers and firms improve the allocation of resources. There are also easy policy solutions for reducing frictional unemployment. Different to this, many workers are experiencing seasonal unemployment. Spells of seasonal unemployment are usually very predictable, and it is also not much serious.

Most of the unemployed workers will return to their former employers once the employment season started. Besides those two types of unemployment the policymakers are much serious of structural unemployment that creates a great deal of concern. Suppose the number of persons looking for jobs are equal the number of jobs available, then, there is no imbalance between the number being supplied and demanded. Structural unemployment can still arise if kinds of persons looking for work do not fit the jobs available. If skills are perfectly transferable across sectors, the laid-off workers can quickly move to the growing sectors. Skills however, might be specific to the worker's job or industry, and laid-off workers lack the qualifications that expanding firms are looking for. As a result, the unemployment spells of the displaced workers might last for a long time because they must retool their skills.

Structural unemployment thus arises because of a mismatch between the skills that job aspirants are supplying and the skills that firms are demanding. Even if skills were perfectly portable/moveable across sectors, structural unemployment still arises if there is an imbalance between the number of workers looking for jobs and the number of jobs available. Although there is an excess supply of job seekers, the market does not

clear this because the wage is sticky and cannot be adjusted downward. Union-mandated wage increases and government-imposed minimum wages introduce rigid wages into the labour market and prevent the market from clearing.

Sticky wages can explain the large fluctuations in unemployment rates over the business cycle as well. If the real wage is rigid, firms respond to a decline in demand for their products by cutting employment and generating demand-deficient unemployment. Taking this theoretical background of unemployment into consideration we can consider the Sri Lanka's current incidence of unemployment.

Current level of unemployment

According to the latest data, the overall unemployment rate or the open unemployment rate has increased to 4.8% in 2019 from 4.4% experienced in 2018. Educated youths' level of unemployment is as large as twice of the open unemployment rate of the country. Also, female level of unemployment is higher than that of male. When more than 20% of the under or hidden employment is added to the rate of open unemployment, even currently about 25% of the labour force does not have proper and continuous jobs. This rate of unemployment is extremely high compared to that of most of the countries in the Asian region, which have been following open market policies similar to Sri Lanka.

Causes for unemployment

A number of hypotheses have been presented by researchers to explain the Sri Lanka's high level of unemployment. Rama (1994) says that out of these alternative

hypotheses, the 'skills mismatch' or 'structural mismatch' hypothesis, first articulated by the ILO Mission led by Professor Dudley Seers to Sri Lanka in 1971, is most influential in explaining the issue of high level of unemployment.

The mismatch hypothesis highlights that although the economy has employment opportunities jobs expected by a large amount of job seekers are not adequately found or they do not fit the prevailing jobs. This skills mismatch concept has been further extended to cover vertical mismatch and horizontal mismatch by later researchers. If more qualified persons work in jobs which do not require that much of qualifications is identified as having a vertical mismatch. On the other hand, horizontal mismatches apply if a person qualified in a particular discipline works in a job in some other or unrelated area. As such, if a person with engineering degree works in a job that requires no engineering knowledge at all is a good example for understanding a horizontal mismatch.

In the Sri Lankan labour market, types of vertical and horizontal mismatches are also common due to insufficient generation of higher value added jobs. In this setting, particularly, the private sector business leaders attribute this mismatch to the weaknesses of the system of higher education, complaining that the quality and the content of education are weak to inculcate the required skills, aptitude, and job orientation in the labour force. As such, many are of the opinion that the education system of the country is mainly responsible for creating such issues of mismatch. Also, at the same time some other researchers such as Patandige (2006) and Kiribanda (1994) do not highlight this hypothesis as a major reason for appearing a high level of unemployment in the country, and they say that the private

HUMANS VS. CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF WILD ELEPHANTS

BERNARD FERNANDO

It was reported in the press, that President Gotabaya Rajapaksa has prioritized a quick and durable solution to protect both humans and elephants vis-a-vis the Human-Elephant Conflict (HEC).

However, we note with much sorrow and distress, the continuous reporting of the raging Human/Elephant Conflict that is currently destroying the lives of poor humans and wild elephants in Sri Lanka. It is equally disturbing to witness the damage being done to property, harvest and laboriously cultivated plots of those helpless, poor people whose sole livelihood is farming. Their tales of woe deserve immediate attention of the authorities. The elephant chasing crackers and electrical fences are fast becoming wasted investments in the face of these hungry, wily and wild elephants.

Last year, the Wild Life Conservation Department published a policy statement in the press on the above subject requesting public views and I promptly sent my views and proposals. As the latter appear to have fallen on the deaf ears, I repeat below, the relevant proposals which seem quite appropriate in the present context.

The road map of the department should *inter-alia* focus on the following home truths and remedial action.

- As Sri Lanka is a small island nation, the available habitat for human beings, fauna and flora is very limited and therefore highly critical.
- The ever growing populations of humans and elephants who occupy this small land mass; together consume its limited food and



environmental resources, converting the HEC to a perennial problem.

- Since Elephant Conservation (EC) is also of crucial importance, a delicate equilibrium has to be struck between human and wild elephant populations.
- In the absence of effective birth control programmes for humans and elephants, the research priority would be to ascertain the existing area-wise, elephant population (Both tame and wild) and thereafter determine the country's optimum area-wise carrying capacity of elephants considering the main variables such as growing elephant and human population and mortality rates and their food and habitat availability. Factors such as clearing of jungles for increasing human habitat and food cultivation (as is increasingly happening at present) including reforestation too have to be reckoned with in this context.



This research finding should lead to the determination of the optimum number of elephants required for country's EC at least for a period of 10 years. In the event of elephant population exceeding this number, the excess numbers can be exported to other countries which can care for our elephants without culling them.

More importantly, the following benefits will accrue to the people and the country.

- Redeeming those poor farmers from their present plight of misery as a result of a short term relocation exercise of the elephants when conducting the research.
- Additional availability of safe

IT IS DISTURBING TO WITNESS THE DAMAGE BEING DONE TO PROPERTY, HARVEST AND LABORIOUSLY CULTIVATED PLOTS OF THOSE HELPLESS, POOR PEOPLE WHOSE SOLE LIVELIHOOD IS FARMING. THEIR TALES OF WOE DESERVE IMMEDIATE ATTENTION OF THE AUTHORITIES. THE ELEPHANT CHASING CRACKERS AND ELECTRICAL FENCES ARE FAST BECOMING WASTED INVESTMENTS IN THE FACE OF THESE HUNGRY, WILY AND WILD ELEPHANTS.

habitable and cultivable land to the increasing human population in the medium and long term.

- Saving considerable volumes of jungle vegetation and food crops, as well as allowing expansion of food crop production and improvement of the economy of rural poor arising from a calculated preservation of the forest cover combined with reforestation programmes.
- Reduction of wasteful foreign exchange on electrical fences, elephant chasing crackers, anes-

thetics and manpower etc. which are inimical to wild life.

- The savings can partly be utilized to Catch, Tame and Export (CTE) the elephant surplus.

I am confident that the above mentioned export strategy can contribute towards solving many of the practical problems of HEC and EC while helping to alleviate the country's main food and habitat requirements as well as debt repayment problems in the medium and the long term.



THE CHALLENGE OF MAKING SRI LANKA SELF-SUFFICIENT IN MILK

DESHAMANYA GUNAPALA JANADHI WITHARANA

In order to achieve President Gotabaya Rajapaksa's concept of ushering prosperity in the country, we can meet those needs ourselves without importing dairy products and animals.

The history of importing cattle to Sri Lanka dates back to the Second World War. The cattle were brought to supply meat for the consumption of foreign soldiers. Cattle brought from Cape Town, South Africa were called "Keppa" cattle. Following the end of the war, nearly 200 such animals were left at the Race Course in Nuwara Eliya and the troops left. Prime Minister Mahamanya D.S. Senanayake ordered the cattle not to be killed and sent them to Bopaththalawa and Ambewela. Kikuyu grass

imported from Africa was planted in those lowlands and those places were started as animal farms.

In 1966, 700 Jersey heifers from New Zealand were brought to three units in Ambewela at once and quarantined. Subsequently, the farm was renamed as 'New Zealand Farm'. At that time, I was working as the Deputy Manager of the Ambewela Farm after my first appointment. There I cooperated with Upali Jayasekara, Veterinary Research Officer (Former Chairman, NARA) in the animal quarantining process. The then Farm Manager was D.B. Samarakoon. In one day, those heifers gave birth to about 20-25 calves, all of which were called Jersey animals. How immoral is it to import animals that are not rightly bred and call them Jersey? There is not a single Jersey animal among them. The farms were handed over to businessman Harry Jayawardena by the Government in 2003. They are at present managed more formally and successfully.

At present, the animals on the farm are impregnated with artificial insemination by importing sperms known as 'Sexed semen' produced in laboratories in developed countries. Its speciality is that 100 percent of the offspring are females. A pregnant cow gives birth to a calf in 288 days. The cow can conceive again after 16-18 months. In the third breeding generation, 35-40 litres of milk can definitely be taken. All cows on the island with a fertile uterus must be fertilized by the sexed semen method.

Our incumbent President Gotabaya Rajapaksa is a great Head of State who used the military to combat the global health problem of Corona, which even the most powerful Heads of States in the world, could not do. In the same way, he can solve this national problem of milk cows. That is my belief. It is also a hum-



NO COUNTRY IN THE WORLD IMPORTS ANIMALS FOR BREEDING DAIRY COWS. SRI LANKA CAN BE SELF-SUFFICIENT IN DAIRY CATTLE IN ABOUT 4-5 YEARS BY IMPORTING SEXED SEMEN OR PRODUCING THE SAME LOCALLY IN ORDER TO BREED ONLY FEMALE ANIMALS. INEVITABLY, 35-40 LITRES OF MILK CAN BE OBTAINED FROM ONE DAIRY COW IN THE THIRD GENERATION OF THE BREED

ble pride for me as an individual who has undergone military training. The officers who are entrusted with these insemination duties should be given an incentive after receiving each calf.

Despite such a system, 2,500 non-breed hybrid so-called Jersey animals from Australia were imported as part of a massive import order of 20,000. On farms in the dry zone such as Ridiyagama, they were detained, sprayed with water using electric fans and cooled. Certainly, it was a degradation of cattle farming. It was boasted that the animals would give 20 litres of milk a day but received only 8-10 litres a day. In addition, a large number of these animals have already died due to the presence of a deadly disease which is not found in Sri Lankan animals. But animals are brought to the island despite the objection of the farm officers.

The Government recently stopped the import of cars, spices and foodstuffs to save foreign exchange. Nevertheless, the money spent on importing these animals is more of a crime than the Central Bank robbery. The only thing that happened during the bank robbery was that they broke into the bank and took the money. Calculating the cost of importing these animals, the death of sick animals and damage caused to the local animals by the imported cows is a more serious crime than the notorious bank robbery.

No country in the world imports animals for breeding dairy cows. Sri Lanka can be self-sufficient in dairy cattle in about 4-5 years by importing sexed semen or producing the same locally in order to breed only female animals. Inevitably, 35-40 litres of milk can be obtained from one dairy cow in the third generation of the breed.

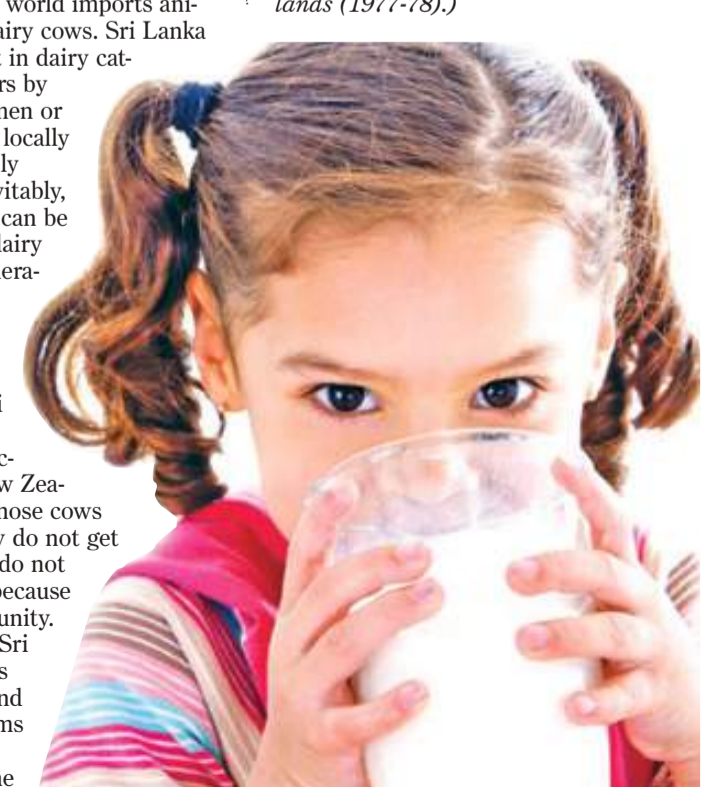
More dairy products can be produced and obtained from Thora/Thorati and local buffaloes sooner and more successfully than in New Zealand or Australia. Those cows eat bitter food. They do not get ticks like cattle and do not die from tick fever because they have high immunity. In that perspective, Sri Lanka with buffaloes will beat New Zealand and Australia in terms of milk production. Also according to the

topographical features of Sri Lanka, it can be divided into three main zones. These three regions have a natural environment where cattle of any country in the world can be raised.

The milk and dairy products currently sold in the market are known as A1 and A2. Milk obtained from local cattle is called A1. Dairy products imported from Europe, New Zealand and Australia are branded as A2. Medical researchers say that the use of A2 milk may increase the risk of diabetes, cancer and high blood pressure. Consumption for A1 products, including milk, is very suitable and healthy and we should use more of those dairy products.

Therefore, as a Government retired senior citizen with expertise in the subject, I request the authorities to stop the decision to import these animals and to increase the milk production by breeding local cattle.

(The writer is a retired agriculture officer who holds a Diploma in Animal Husbandry and Animal Health from the Sri Lanka College of Agriculture, Peradeniya. He has worked as the Manager of Ambewela, New Zealand, Bopaththalawa, Ridiyagama, Polonnaruwa, Pelwaha and Bata-Atha Animal Farms. He is also an animal husbandry specialist who has earned a Degree in Animal Husbandry and Animal Health (specialized in Cattle Management) from International Faculty of Agriculture, Netherlands (1977-78).)



VACANCIES

Sri Lanka Cricket is looking for experienced auditing candidates to expand the Internal Audit division based at Head Office in Colombo. Applicants are invited for the following vacancies from suitable male/ female candidates.

Assistant Manager - Internal Audit (1 Vacancy)

Key Responsibilities :

1. Ensure compliance with policies, procedures and regulations
2. Evaluating risk and recommending improvements
3. Ensure periodic reviews/audits are conducted
4. Developing standard operating procedures relevant to the division
5. Monitor post audit follow-up of the audit report and ensure compliance with recommendations

Qualifications and requirements :

1. The ideal candidate should be a past finalist in Chartered Accountancy (CA) or equivalent
2. Have a minimum of 02 years' experience in a reputed Audit Firm
3. A good team player with excellent communication, leadership & interpersonal skills
4. Excellent computer literacy & ability to prioritize and manage multiple tasks
5. Preferably below 35 years
6. Willingness to be flexible in working arrangements

Supervisors - Internal Audit (2 Vacancies)

Qualifications and requirements :

1. Should have good communication and interpersonal skills
2. Preferably below 30 years
3. Have a minimum of 01-year experience in a reputed Audit Firm
4. Should possess a part qualification in Chartered Accountancy (CA) or equivalent
5. Having a fair knowledge of computerized accounting packages will be an added advantage
6. Should be able to work using Ms-Excel and Ms-Office

An attractive and negotiable remuneration package with other fringe benefits will be offered based on qualifications, experience and competence

All applicants should forward their applications to vacancies@srilankacricket.lk along with the names of two non-related referees within 7 days from the date of this advertisement.

Human Resources Dept. Sri Lanka Cricket,
No. 35, Maitland Place, Colombo 7 | Tel: 0112 691439

Buddhist TV donates Rs.50 mn to Deegawapiya Aruna Fund



The Buddhist TV Director Board handing over the cheque to the President.

Buddhist TV donated Rs.50 million to the Deegawapiya Aruna Fund on Tuesday. The Director Board of the channel handed over a cheque for the donation to President

Gotabaya Rajapaksa at a special ceremony held at the Presidential Secretariat. The Deegawapiya Restoration Project was the first project

launched in the Eastern Province by the Presidential Task Force on Archaeological Heritage Management. The Deegawapiya Aruna Fund

was inaugurated on February 12. A rest house is also being set up near the stupa under the same project, which, in total, is estimated to cost Rs.75 million.



Fishermen in the Batticaloa District are flocking to the Batticaloa Lagoon as prawn season has started in the district. White prawns cost between Rs.600 and Rs.900 per kilogram, while black prawns cost Rs.1,000 to Rs.1,200 per kilogram. Picture by Sivam Packiyathan, Batticaloa Special Corr.



Estate Superintendents staged a silent protest in Hatton yesterday, demanding the authorities to take action against those who assaulted the Olton Estate Superintendent recently. Picture by Chandana Jayaweera, Hatton Group Corr.



Mahaweli Zone Canals and Common Settlement Infrastructure State Minister Siripala Gamalath recently inaugurated a weekly fair in Bisopura, Medirigiriya. The complex for the fair was set up at a cost of Rs.14 million. Eighty-four traders would be selling fruits, vegetables, and seafood at its stalls. Picture by Vajira Poojitha Gunawardena, Thelijaawila Group Corr.



Power Minister Dulas Alahapperuma inaugurated the newly-constructed Sugishwara Wickramasinghe Library in Kamburupitiya, recently. Picture by Vajira Poojitha Gunawardena, Thelijaawila Group Corr.

FROM 05TH
FROM THE EXECUTIVE PRODUCER OF KILLERS BY
"A FRESH, TOTALLY WILD, REVENGE THRILLER WITH A BITE"
CAREY MCGAN
PROMISING YOUNG WOMAN
Imported by Liberty Cinemas Ltd

NHDA to set up 1,610 houses in NWP

ARIYAPALA WANSHATHILAKE,
Kurunegala Central Special Corr.

The National Housing Development Authority (NHDA) has planned to construct 1,610 houses for homeless families in the Northwestern Province (NWP). Each family would be provided with Rs.600,000 for the purpose. The NHDA has also requested assistance from philanthropists for the project.

TRADE MARK CAUTIONARY NOTICE (In the Territory of the Maldives)

Notice is hereby given that our Clients Maaza International Co. L.L.C a Limited Liability Company of P.O. Box 6081, Dubai, UAE are the Owners and Sole Proprietors of the following Trade Mark (Maaza and Device):-



The said Trade Mark is used in international Class 32 in respect of the following goods:-

"Mineral and aerated waters and other non-alcoholic beverages; fruit beverages and fruit juices; syrups and other preparations for making beverages"

Our abovementioned clients have instructed us and wish to bring to the notice of the trade and the public that they attach singular importance to their above mentioned trademarks and reserves the right to take legal action against any person or persons who act in infringement of their rights.

Any enquiry relative thereto may be referred to the following:-

JULIUS & CREASY
Attorneys-at-Law & Notaries Public
No. 371, R. A. De Mel Mawatha
Colombo 03
Republic of Sri Lanka
pts1@juliusandcreasy.lk

ADA KOTIPATHI - Thursday
Draw No.: 1212 Colour: Dark Blue
Date: 04.03.2021
Today's Jackpot
Rs. 113,727,495/-
Winning tickets are valid for 6 months.
Development Lotteries Board
356, Dr. Colvin R. De Silva Mawatha, Union Place, Colombo 2
Tel: 2 333 546-47 Fax: 2 333 545 Website: www.dib.lk
Hotline - 0114 824 824, 0112 333 778

TRADE MARK CAUTIONARY NOTICE (In the territory of the Maldives)

Notice is hereby given that our Client Beiersdorf AG located at Unnastrasse 48 20253 Hamburg, Germany is the Owner and Sole Proprietor of the following Trademark;



The said Trademark is used in international Class 3 in respect of the following goods:-

"Cosmetics, cosmetic lip care preparations"

Our abovementioned client has instructed us and wishes to bring to the notice of the trade and the public that they attach singular importance to their above mentioned trademark and reserve the right to take legal action against any person or persons who act in infringement of their rights.

Any enquiry relative thereto may be referred to the following:

JULIUS & CREASY
Attorneys-at-Law & Notaries Public
No. 371, R. A. De Mel Mawatha,
Colombo 03,
Republic of Sri Lanka.
pts1@juliusandcreasy.lk

TUESDAY Draw No.: 3540
Date: 02.03.2021 Colour: LIGHT BLUE
Total Value of Prizes
Rs. 4,705,360/-
Winning Numbers
32 | 37 | 40 | 66
English Letter
W
Winning tickets are valid only for six months

English Letter & Winning Numbers
Draw No: 697 Colour: PINK
Date: 02.03.2021 Tuesday
J | 14 | 35 | 53 | 58
Total Value of Prizes
Rs. 3,592,740/-
Next Super Jackpot
Rs. 76,499,055/-
Yellow, Pink and Green coloured tickets are valid on Sundays, Tuesdays and Fridays respectively. Winning tickets are valid for 6 months.

ලේඛ වාසනාව
Lagna Wasaniya
Date : 02-03-2021
Draw Number : 3091
Colour : Red
The winning ticket will be valid for 6 months.
SUPER JACKPOT
Rs. 2,228,331/-
Winning Numbers
05 | 25 | 47 | 54
Pieces

TOTAL VALUE OF PRIZES
Rs. 11,543,300/-

ADA KOTIPATHI
අද කොටපති අද කොටපති
Date: 02.03.2021
Draw No.: 1210
Colour: LIGHT BLUE
Total Value of Prizes
Rs. 5,053,620/-
Winning Numbers
12 | 39 | 71 | 72
English Letter
J
Winning tickets are valid only for six months

SUPER BALL
සුපර් බෝල්
Draw Number ▶ 1384 Colour ▶ Light Blue
Draw Date ▶ 02.03.2021 Date ▶ Tuesday
Winning English Letter and Numbers
J | 01 | 56 | 61 | 66
The winning tickets will be valid for 6 months.
Total Value of Prizes
Rs. 3,882,860/-
Development Lotteries Board
356, Dr. Colvin R. De Silva Mawatha, Union Place, Colombo 02
Tel: 0112 333 546-47
Hotline: 0114 824 824, 0112 333 778 or 1919
SMS: DLB-space-LOT-space-KK & send to 1919
For Results www.dib.lk For Interactive Voice Response Service - Call 0114 825 825

Association of Accounting Technicians of Sri Lanka
EXAMINATION NOTICE
The **January 2021 Examination**
(Held in March 2021)
Conduct in
**Colombo | Gampaha | Kalutara | Matara | Galle
Ratnapura | Kandy | Kurunegala | Badulla | Anuradhapura
Polonnaruwa | Ampara | Batticaloa | Jaffna** Cities as follows:

Date	Time	Level of Examination
Saturday 13 th March 2021	Morning 08.45 - 12.00	Level-I & Business Communication
	Afternoon 01.45 - 05.00	
Sunday 14 th March 2021	Morning & Afternoon	Level-I
Saturday 20 th March 2021	Morning & Afternoon	Level-II and Level-III
Sunday 21 st March 2021	Morning & Afternoon	Level-II and Level-III

Admission cards showing examination centre, index number and subject numbers allowed have been posted to qualified candidates, together with time table and instructions.
It is not possible to sit for the examination without an admission card. Those who do not receive admission card should obtain duplicates from the Examinations Division of AAT Centre or any of AAT Branches situated in Kurunegala, Matara, Kandy, Rathnapura, Anuradhapura, Jaffna & Ampara between 9.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. on 9th and 10th of March 2021.
For that purpose, AAT student registration card valid for the year 2020 and the NIC should be produced.

Senior Manager (Examinations)
Association of Accounting Technicians of Sri Lanka
AAT Centre, No. 540,
Ven. Muruththettuwe Ananda Nahimi Mawatha,
Narahenpita, Colombo 05.
Tel : [Direct] 0741 504 738, 011 2559 669 (Ext: 508, 509, 510)
Web site : www.aats.lk

MASSIVE VEHICLES AUCTION SALE

12th of March
MIHILAKA MEDURA, BAUDHDHALOKA MAWATHA, COLOMBO 07
BMICH
On View - 08th to 11th March 2021
Between 9.00 am - 5.00 pm (Vehicles cannot be inspected on the day of Auction)

- NO. 162, MAIN STREET, AMBALANTHOJA - KAVINDU 0475118080
- NO. 42/5, GOTHATHUWA GANSABHA RD, GOTHATHUWA - MAHESH 0773493535
- NO. 260, GRANDPASS RD, COLOMBO 14 - HASITHA 0767951885
- NO. 99 /1, AVISSAWELLA RD, MAHABUTHGAMUWA, WELAMPITRA JAYANTHA - 0773242324
- NEAR THE PEOPLE'S BANK, WUANA MAWATHA, MATHUGAMA - PRAMODA 0776634245
- NO 472 F, MALAWA, KURUVITA - ISHANKA 0772762097

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

14th of March
GALWETIYAYA ROAD, SAMPATH WATTA, DAMBULLA
HOTEL GOLDEN RAY
On View - 09th to 13th March 2021
(Including salvage Cabins)

- ETHABENDIYERA ROAD, THALAKIRIYAGAMA, DAMBULLA - CHAMIRDA 0965118181
- NO 223, NANDI ROAD, AMPARA - SAMANTHA 063-5780880/881
- NO 363, MANNAR ROAD, VEPPANKULAM, VAVUNYA - THIMOTHY 0766582329
- NO. 161 A, KEPPETIPOLA ROAD, BADULLA - LAHIRU 0554549548

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

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Row over who represents coup-hit Myanmar at UN



A protester holds a homemade shield during a demonstration against the military coup in Yangon, Myanmar on Wednesday. - AFP

UN: Myanmar's military junta and the envoy sent by its toppled civilian government have launched contradictory claims over who represents the country at the United Nations, officials said Tuesday.

Ambassador Kyaw Moe Tun spectacularly broke with the junta before the General Assembly on Friday in an emotional plea for help to restore ousted civilian leader Aung San Suu Kyi. The next day, the junta said the envoy had been sacked, but on Monday, Kyaw Moe Tun sent a letter to the president of the UN General Assembly to say that he still holds the post.

"The perpetrators of the unlawful coup... have no authority to countermand the legitimate authority of the president of my country," said the letter obtained by AFP, referring to Suu Kyi. "I wish therefore to confirm to you that I remain Myanmar's permanent repre-

sentative to the United Nations," he added. On Tuesday, Myanmar's Foreign Ministry sent a note verbale to the UN, also obtained by AFP, claiming Kyaw Moe Tun had been removed.

"The ministry of foreign affairs... has the honour to inform that the state administration council of the republic of the Union of Myanmar terminated the duties and responsibilities of ambassador Kyaw Moe Tun," the note said.

"At present, Tin Maung Naing, deputy permanent representative ambassador, has been assigned as the charge d'affaires ad interim of the permanent mission," the note added.

UN spokesman Stephane Dujarric told a press briefing that the body had received the two "contradictory" letters.

"We are taking a look at those letters, where they came from and what we will do," he said. - AFP



Myanmar's Ambassador to the UN Kyaw Moe Tun making a three-finger protest salute on February 26, 2021 at the UN Headquarters in New York. He has rejected the junta's claim he has been sacked.

Biden's first Cabinet defeat signals Senate hazards ahead

US: US President Joe Biden suffered his first Cabinet defeat Tuesday as he pulled an ill-fated nomination, the clearest signal yet that immensely powerful moderates in the deadlocked Senate can imperil his administration's ambitious agenda.

Biden was forced to abandon his push to make Neera Tanden the White House budget director after centrists on both sides of the political aisle made it clear they would not support her.

The opposition centered around several of Tanden's previous tweets in which she disparaged lawmakers.

"I have accepted Neera Tanden's request to withdraw her name from nomination for Director of the Office of Management and Budget," Biden said in a statement.

"I have the utmost respect for her record of accomplishment, her experience and her counsel, and I look forward to having her serve in a role in my administration."

The 50-year-old Tanden, who heads a progressive think tank, wrote the president to say she was withdrawing because she did not want debate over her nomination to be "a distraction from your other priorities."

Several other Biden picks have made it into their posts with bipartisan support, including Secretary of State Antony Blinken and Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen.

Two more nominees were confirmed Tuesday: Council of Economic Advisors chair Cecilia Rouse, the first Black person to serve in the position, and Commerce Secretary Gina Raimondo.

But the Tanden setback comes amid growing recognition that substantial political power now rests in the hands of moderates, and one in particular: Senate Democrat Joe Manchin, who opposed Tanden. - AFP



President of the Center for American Progress Action Fund Neera Tanden withdrew her nomination to be White House Budget Director after it became clear she did not have sufficient support in the divided US Senate.

Brazil records 1,641 COVID-19 deaths in 24 hours

Biden sees faster US vaccine timeline

BRAZIL, US: Brazil on Tuesday registered a record 1,641 COVID-19 deaths in 24 hours, health authorities announced, as the country endures a further worsening of the pandemic.

The country of 212 million inhabitants has recorded a total of 257,361 COVID-19 deaths, according to the health ministry, and has the second-highest national death toll after the United States.

Several cities and states last week began imposing a new round of restrictions in a bid to avoid overwhelming their already stretched hospitals. Meanwhile, US President Joe Biden said Tuesday the United States would have enough

vaccine for its entire adult population by the end of May, as he announced a deal for pharma giant Merck to produce the shot developed by rival Johnson & Johnson.

"This is the type of collaboration between companies we saw in World War," said Biden in announcing the pharmaceutical accord.

"We're now on track to have enough vaccine supply for every adult in America by the end of May," he said.

"That's progress. Important progress. But it is not enough to have the vaccine supply," Biden said, stressing that a "wartime effort" still lay ahead to administer the vaccines once acquired. - AFP

REGGAE great BUNNY WAILER dead

JAMAICA: Reggae icon Bunny Wailer, who co-founded The Wailers with Bob Marley in the 1960s and helped make the catchy Jamaican beat a global phenomenon, died on Tuesday. He was 73.

No cause of death was given but the Jamaican culture ministry said Wailer had been hospitalized in Kingston since December.



Bunny Wailer.

Wailer, who was born Neville Livingstone in the Nine Mile district, where Marley also came from, suffered a stroke in 2018 and another in July of last year.

He was the last surviving original member of the Wailers.

Marley died of cancer in 1981, and Peter Tosh was murdered in 1987.

Wailer, who was a childhood friend of Marley, won three Grammys over the course of his career and in 2017 he was awarded Jamaica's Order of Merit, one of the country's highest honors.

"We remain grateful for the role that

Bunny Wailer played in the development and popularity of Reggae music

across the world," Culture Minister Olivia Grange said in a statement.

"We remember with great pride how Bunny, Bob Marley and Peter Tosh took Reggae music to the four corners of the earth," Grange added.

Marley and Tosh acted as The Wailers' primary singers and songwriters but Wailer played a key role in providing harmonies and percussion to the trio's songs, according to Rolling Stone magazine.

"The Wailers are responsible for the Wailers sound. Bob, Peter, and myself: We are totally responsible for the Wailers sound, and what the Wailers brought to the world, and left as a legacy," Wailer told Afropop in 2016.

The band's debut album on a major label, "Catch a Fire," released in 1973, helped propel the group to international fame.

At one point that record was ranked 126th on Rolling Stone's 500 Greatest Albums list.

The band's biggest hits include "Simmer Down" and "One Love."

After leaving the band in 1974, Wailer went on to enjoy a prolific solo career as a writer, producer and singer of what is perhaps Jamaica's best known export.

He drew much praise for his album "Blackheart Man," which included the song "Burning Down Sentence," which drew on Wailer's experience doing a one-year prison sentence for marijuana possession.

"The tracks that were done in 'Blackheart Man' were very symbolic and significant to this whole development of reggae music," Wailer told Reggaeville in 2017.

"I really consider 'Blackheart Man' to be one of those albums

that the universal reggae world should be focused on," Wailer said.

Wailer, a Rastafarian like Marley, won the Grammy for best Reggae album three times in the 1990s.

Tributes to Wailer poured in Tuesday.

"In my view, Bunny Wailer was a more potent musician than even Bob Marley," said Karyl Walker, a veteran Jamaican entertainment journalist. "He played instruments, more than one, and he wrote very good songs."

Walker noted that the wildly popular line dance song "Electric Boogie" from 1983 was written by Wailer.

"Now all the Wailers are dead and it is incumbent on the younger Jamaican entertainers to raise the bar and carry on this rich legacy," Walker told AFP. - AFP



An aerial view of a tractor digging graves in a new area of the Nossa Senhora Aparecida cemetery reserved for COVID-19 victims, in Manaus, Brazil. - AFP

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World won't vanquish COVID virus this year - WHO

SWITZERLAND: It is unrealistic to think the world will be done with the COVID-19 pandemic by the end of the year, the World Health Organization warned Monday.

WHO Emergencies Director Michael Ryan said it might however be possible to take the tragedy out of the coronavirus crisis by reducing hospitalisations and deaths.

But the virus remains in control, he added, especially given that global new case numbers increased last week after six consecutive weeks of decline.

"It will be very premature, and I think unrealistic, to think that we're going to finish with this virus by the end of the year," Ryan told journalists.

"But I think what we can finish with, if we're smart, is the hospitalisations, the deaths and the tragedy

associated with this pandemic."

Ryan said that vaccinating front-line health care workers and those most vulnerable to severe disease would "take the fear... out of the pandemic".

But he added that recent progress could not be taken for granted and "right now the virus is very much in control".

WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said new case numbers rose last week in Europe, the Americas, southeast Asia and the eastern Mediterranean.

"This is disappointing, but not surprising," he said. "Some of it appears to be due to relaxing of public health measures, continued circulation of variants, and people letting down their guard."

"Vaccines will help to save lives, but if countries



WHO Emergencies Director Michael Ryan

rely solely on vaccines, they're making a mistake. Basic public health measures remain the foundation of the response."

Maria Van Kerkhove, the WHO's COVID-19 technical lead, added: "If the last week tells us anything, it's that this virus will rebound if we let it - and we cannot let it."

Tedros wants COVID-19 vaccination under way in every country within the

first 100 days of 2021 - meaning there are 40 days left to go.

He welcomed Monday's first injections of doses delivered through the global Covax vaccine-sharing facility, which were administered in Ghana and the Ivory Coast.

"It's encouraging to see health workers in lower-income countries starting to be vaccinated, but it's regrettable that this comes almost three months after some of the wealthiest countries started their vaccination campaigns," he said.

"And it's regrettable that some countries continue to prioritise vaccinating younger, healthier adults at lower risk of disease in their own populations ahead of health workers and older people elsewhere," he said, without naming them.

A further 11 million vaccine doses will be delivered to countries this week through the Covax programme, with 237 million doses to be allocated to 142 participating economies between now and the end of May.

The final allocation breakdown for the first wave of Covax doses is to be released on Wednesday.

As for the notion of COVID-19 vaccine passports proving travellers have been immunised, Ryan said that in the absence of universal access to the jabs, "there are serious human rights and ethical issues regarding the application of restrictions on travel on that basis".

However, as doses become more widespread, "clearly there will need to be considerations around how public health measures... can be adapted", he added. - AFP

Over 400 acts of violence against COVID health workers in 2020: Report

US: Insults, beatings, arrests - health workers battling the coronavirus were subjected to more than 400 acts of violence related to COVID-19 worldwide in 2020, according to a report published Tuesday by a health NGO.

The Safeguarding Health in Conflict Coalition unveiled an interactive map that shows 1,172 violent acts and attacks occurred against health workers or facilities last year, "a minimum estimate," according to the NGO.

More than a third (412) of the acts are directly related to COVID-19, it said, citing several examples including in Mexico, where a nurse was attacked and injured by a group accusing her of spreading the virus.



Colombian health workers carry containers with doses of the Sinovac vaccine against COVID-19 at La Colonia, at a hospital in Sibate, Colombia on Monday. - AFP

In Dakar, three social workers had stones hurled at them by residents who refused to have a coronavirus victim buried near their homes.

In Birmingham, England, a health worker was

spat at and insulted by a neighbor.

The vast majority, 80 percent, of the perpetrators of the violence were civilians, but threats also came from public authorities. - AFP

Just 4% of COVID research relevant to Africa - Study

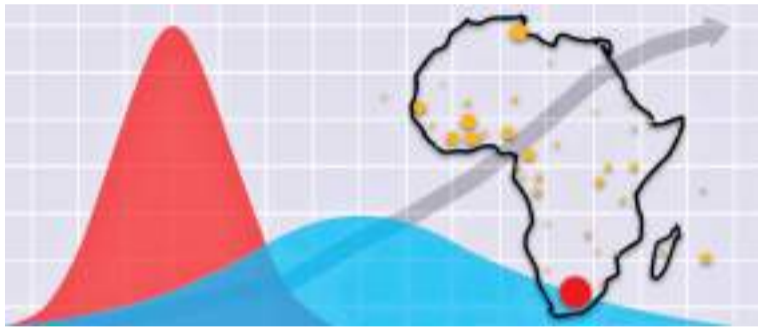
FRANCE: Just four percent of scientific research published on COVID-19 is relevant to Africa despite the continent containing close to a fifth of humanity, according to an analysis published Tuesday.

With nearly four million confirmed cases across the continent, the authors of the study said the relative lack of research on Africa or authored by Africans added to the growing body of "evidence of coloniality in global health research and decision-making".

Researchers analysed more than 2,000 peer-reviewed articles published in the 10 leading health and medical journals between January 1 and September 30, 2020.

Just 94 out of 2,196 articles studied - around four percent - contained content related to Africa or a specific African country, the analysis found.

In the articles relevant to Africa,



There have been over four million confirmed COVID-19 cases in Africa since the start of the pandemic.

just 210 out of 619 listed authors who were African - 34 percent.

That means that two-thirds of the authors of COVID-19 research related to the continent were non-African, compared with African authors making up three percent of the authors of non-Africa-focused research.

Africa is home to 17 percent of the world's population.

The authors of the analysis, published in the online journal BMJ Global Health, said the results were not surprising given how African authors have historically been under-represented across scientific research.

"Health policy is not only informed by original research; sensible, contextually appropriate guidelines,

opinions and commentary are also essential to improving the functioning of healthcare systems," they wrote.

"This is especially true during times of surge, when original research can be challenging to produce in low resource settings, like those in Africa.

"African voices and research are needed to guide the local pandemic response," they concluded.

The authors called for governments to increase research funding, particularly into infectious diseases, and said that scientific journals had a role to play in ensuring their studies are more representative of the global population.

"The time has come that authoritative journals need to turn to authors and ask where local representation is on papers describing health systems in regions that are not their own," they wrote. - AFP

One in four people will have hearing problems by 2050 - WHO

SWITZERLAND: One in four of the world's population will suffer from hearing problems by 2050, the World Health Organization warned Tuesday, calling for extra investment in prevention and treatment.

The first-ever global report on hearing said that the causes of many of the problems - such as infections, diseases, birth defects, noise exposure and lifestyle choices - could be prevented.

The report proposed a package of measures, which it calculated would cost \$1.33 per person per year.

Against that, it set the figure of nearly a trillion US dollars lost every year because the issue was not being properly addressed.

"Failure to act will be costly in terms of the health and well-being of those affected, and the financial losses arising from their exclusion from communication, education and employment," said the report. One in five people worldwide have

hearing problems currently, it said. But the report warned: "The number of people with hearing loss may increase more than 1.5-fold during the next three decades" to 2.5 billion people - up from 1.6 billion in 2019.

Of the 2.5 billion, 700 million would in 2050 have a serious enough condition to require some kind of treatment, it added - up from 430 million in 2019.

Much of the expected rise is due to demographic and population trends, it added.

A major contributor to hearing problems is a lack of access to care, which is particularly striking in low-income countries where there are far fewer professionals available to treat them.

Since nearly 80 percent of people with hearing loss live in such countries, most are not getting the help they need.

Even in richer countries with better facilities, access to care is often uneven, said the report. - AFP

02.03.2021 - TOTAL PRIZE WINNERS PRODUCED BY NATIONAL LOTTERIES BOARD 763,774
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DHANA NIDHANAYA Official Results
Date - 02/03/2021
Draw Number - 451

English Letter: **D** Winning Number: **16 20 40 54**

COMBINATION	PRIZE	NO. OF WINNERS
1st Prize (If all 4 numbers are correct)	Rs. 1,000,000.00	-
2nd Prize (If 3 numbers and 3 numbers are correct)	Rs. 100,000.00	05
3rd Prize (If any 3 numbers are correct)	Rs. 3,000.00	97
4th Prize (If English Letter and 2 numbers are correct)	Rs. 1,000.00	217
5th Prize (If any 2 numbers are correct)	Rs. 100.00	5,577
6th Prize (If English Letter and 1 number is correct)	Rs. 60.00	3,667
7th Prize (If 1 number is correct)	Rs. 20.00	92,961
8th Prize (If only English Letter is correct)	Rs. 20.00	17,387

Total prize money won in this draw Rs. 3,992,680.00
 Number of Prize Winners in this draw 119,911

Next Draw Super Prize **Rs. 85,241,943.60**

Prizes of Over Rs. 5 lakhs are subject to the government tax regulations
 Winners must produce National Identity Card to receive prizes.
 Winning tickets are valid from the draw for a period of 6 months only.

DRAW NUMBER : 4414 OFFICIAL RESULTS
MAHAJANA SAMPATHA
DATE:02-03-2021

WINNING LETTER: **O** WINNING NUMBERS: **8 5 0 9 1 4**

Prize structure - from right to left

1st Prize	2nd Prize	3rd Prize	4th Prize	5th Prize	6th Prize
8 5 0 9 1 4	5 0 9 1 4	0 9 1 4	9 1 4	1 4	4
Rs. 2,000,000/-	Rs. 100,000/-	Rs. 10,000/-	Rs. 1,000/-	Rs. 100/-	Rs. 20/-
02	13	130	1,304	13,087	129,849

Prize structure - from left to right

7th Prize	8th Prize	9th Prize	10th Prize	11th Prize
8 5 0 9 1	8 5 0 9	8 5 0	8 5	0
Rs. 10,000/-	Rs. 1,000/-	Rs. 100/-	Rs. 50/-	Rs. 20/-
12	138	1,312	12,982	51,973

Value of prizes won in this draw - Rs. 13,887,440.00

The Super Prize of next draw **Rs. 18,899,228.00**

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DRAW NUMBER : 779 OFFICIAL RESULTS
Mega POWER
DATE: 02.03.2021

English Letter: **M** Super Number: **16** Winning Numbers: **19 21 27 60**

PRIZE STRUCTURE	PRIZE MONEY RS.	NO. OF WINNERS
1st PRIZE: If all 4 Numbers are correct	1,000,000.00	-
2nd PRIZE: If only 3 Numbers with English Letter is correct	100,000.00	03
3rd PRIZE: If all 3 Numbers are correct	1,000.00	109
4th PRIZE: If only 2 Numbers with English Letter is correct	500.00	239
5th PRIZE: Only 2 Numbers are correct	100.00	5,760
6th PRIZE: If only 1 Number with English Letter is correct	40.00	3,699
7th PRIZE: Only 1 Number are correct	20.00	92,444
8th PRIZE: Only English Letter are correct	20.00	16,996

Value of prizes won in this draw - Rs. 119,872,751.60

Next Mega Super Prize **Rs. 119,872,751.60**

Next Power Super Prize **Rs. 20,938,204.80**
 Next Grand Super Prize **Rs. 32,869,777.60**

Total Prizes Won In This Draw **Rs. 3,441,260.00**

OFFICIAL RESULTS
Govisetha
DRAW NUMBER 2709 DRAW DATE 02/03/2021

ENGLISH LETTER: **Q** WINNING NUMBERS: **29 31 53 65**

COMBINATION	PRICE	NO. OF WINNERS
1 PRIZE: IF ALL 4 NUMBERS CORRECT	Rs. 1,000,000.00	-
2 PRIZE: IF LETTER & ANY 3 NUMBERS CORRECT	Rs. 100,000.00	09
3 PRIZE: IF ANY 3 NUMBERS CORRECT	Rs. 2,000.00	212
4 PRIZE: IF LETTER & ANY 2 NUMBERS CORRECT	Rs. 1,000.00	410
5 PRIZE: IF ANY 2 NUMBERS CORRECT	Rs. 100.00	10,370
6 PRIZE: IF LETTER & ANY NUMBER CORRECT	Rs. 40.00	6,828
7 PRIZE: IF ANY NUMBER CORRECT	Rs. 20.00	170,447
8 PRIZE: IF ONLY THE LETTER IS CORRECT	Rs. 20.00	31,209

TOTAL WINNERS OF THIS DRAW **219,485**

TOTAL PRIZE MONEY WON IN THIS DRAW **Rs. 7,077,240.00**

SUPER PRIZE FOR THE NEXT DRAW **Rs. 69,438,457.60**

Winning tickets are valid for a period of six months from the date of the draw. Prizes over Rs. 500,000/- are liable to government taxes. To obtain prizes, Presenting National Identity card is a must.

OFFICIAL RESULTS
Govisetha
DRAW NUMBER 1579 DRAW DATE 02/03/2021

ENGLISH LETTER: **15** WINNING NUMBERS: **07 28 32 33**

PRIZE	PRIZE MONEY	NO. OF WINNERS
1 PRIZE: ALL 4 NUMBERS ARE CORRECT	Rs. 500,000.00	01
2 PRIZE: SUPER NUMBER & 03 NUMBERS ARE CORRECT	Rs. 20,000.00	06
3 PRIZE: 03 NUMBERS ARE CORRECT	Rs. 1,000.00	149
4 PRIZE: SUPER NUMBER & 02 NUMBERS ARE CORRECT	Rs. 200.00	359
5 PRIZE: 02 NUMBERS ARE CORRECT	Rs. 100.00	5,503
6 PRIZE: SUPER NUMBER & 01 NUMBER IS CORRECT	Rs. 60.00	4,740
7 PRIZE: 01 NUMBER IS CORRECT	Rs. 20.00	67,271
8 PRIZE: ONLY THE SUPER NUMBER IS CORRECT	Rs. 20.00	16,297

TOTAL PRIZES WON IN THIS DRAW **Rs. 3,346,860.00**

Winning tickets are valid for a period of six months from the date of the draw. Prizes over Rs. 500,000/- are liable to government taxes. To obtain prizes, Presenting National Identity card is a must.

SUPER PRIZE OF THE NEXT DRAW **Rs. 2,952,724.40**

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More than 200 underage migrants housed at US border



A city worker gives instructions to migrants at a bus station in Brownsville, Texas before travelling to meet relatives or sponsors on Monday. - AFP

US: Faced with surging numbers of unaccompanied minors at the southern US border, President Joe Biden's administration reopened a temporary reception facility that on Tuesday housed more than 200 teenagers, the Department of Health and Human Services said.

The facility, located in Carrizo Springs, Texas, was initially intended to house oil workers and was used to accommodate young migrants for a month in July 2019, under Donald Trump's administration.

Dealing with "increasing numbers" of unaccompanied children, as well as restrictions on structures due to the coronavirus pandemic, the Biden administration re-

opened the facility on February 22.

As of Tuesday, 214 teenagers between the ages of 13 and 17 were living there, HHS said in a statement.

The number of underage migrants arriving alone at the border with Mexico had fallen to a low of 741 in April 2020 and has been rising steadily since, to 5,871 in January.

The arrivals represent "a challenge at the border that we are managing," interior secretary Alejandro Mayorkas said Monday, denying that there was a border crisis.

The opening of the Carrizo facility, capable of housing 700 people, has raised eyebrows among migrant rights activists and organizations.



FBI Director defends actions ahead of US Capitol riot



FBI Director Christopher Wray testifies during a hearing before Senate Judiciary Committee at Hart Senate Office Building on Capitol Hill in Washington, DC on Tuesday. - AFP

US: FBI Director Christopher Wray on Tuesday defended his bureau's handling of intelligence ahead of the January 6 US Capitol riot, while telling lawmakers of an alarming recent spike in domestic terrorism cases.

Wray faced a grilling from members of Congress in his first testimony since the deadly insurrection by supporters of then-President Donald Trump, particularly over whether the Federal Bureau of Investigation underestimated the danger.

As he sought to show the bureau was taking the threat seriously, he said it has dramatically increased its probes of domestic extremist groups including those advocating white supremacy, and that his agents were now pursuing 2,000 extremism cases - double the number since he became FBI director in 2017.

Wray stood by his agency's handling of raw intelligence gathered on the eve of the Capitol unrest, after law enforcement personnel testified to Congress last month that they were not sufficiently briefed by the intelligence community of the January 6 threat.

"The way in which it was handled at least as I understand it strikes me as consistent with our normal process," Wray told a Senate Judiciary Committee hearing.

Wray was referring to a report of raw, unverified intelligence compiled by the FBI's Norfolk, Virginia field office on January 5 and emailed to US Capitol Police and other security offices.

The intelligence report cited social media chatter warning that Trump supporters were planning to storm the Capitol, with extremists "ready for war."

Wray said police were also verbally briefed about the threat, and it was posted on a portal made available to law enforcement personnel in the national capital region and around the country.

He said the email went to multiple US Capitol Police task force officers.

When asked why the report did not flow up to police leadership ahead of the riot, Wray said "I don't have a good answer for that" and acknowledged that he himself did not see the report until days after January 6.

California SUV, truck collision leaves 15 dead

US: At least 15 people were killed in southern California on Tuesday when a vehicle packed with passengers collided with a large truck in a "chaotic scene" close to the Mexico border, officials said.

The accident occurred when the SUV carrying more than two dozen people - including minors - and a semi-truck full of gravel crashed near El Centro, California, Judy Cruz, an official from El Centro Regional Medical Center said.

The area of the state is a thoroughfare for Mexican immigrants and farmworkers headed north towards California's rich agricultural center, but officials said it was still unknown whether the passengers were migrants.

"It's too early in the investigation to say what they were

doing and where they were coming from," Omar Watson of the California Highway Patrol said during a Tuesday afternoon press briefing.

A total of 25 occupants, including a driver, were traveling in the SUV at the time of the crash, he told reporters earlier in the day.

"We had 15 fatalities on scene, one person passed over at the hospital, a total of 13 people passed away," he said. Among the dead was the SUV's 22-year-old driver.

Those killed ranged in age from 20 to 55, but at least one of the injured was a minor age 16.

The collision occurred on State Route 115 near the town of Holtville, about 10 miles (16 kilometres) north of Mexico.



Police at the scene where the SUV, truck collision took place near El Centro, California.

Israel Army faces 'BATTLE OVER BEARDS'



Bar Pinto and Gilad Levi are campaigning for Israeli soldiers to be allowed to grow beards

ISRAEL: Israel's military is facing a challenge on the home front unrelated to traditional threats against the Jewish state: it's over facial hair, and activists say the Army's future is at stake.

Bar Pinto and Gilad Levi, two red-bearded 29-year-olds, have founded "Beard Exemptions for All" ("Ptor Zakan Lekulam" in Hebrew), a campaign challenging Israeli military rules compelling all male troops to be clean-shaven.

Pinto and Levi have taken issue with a system that grants exemptions to that rule on religious grounds, while the faces of secular troops must remain smooth.

They argue this exacerbates tensions within the

ranks. "There is an obvious discrimination between religious and secular," Pinto said. "It's not legal," Levi added. Military duty at age 18 is mandatory in Israel, with young men compelled to serve for nearly three years and women for two.

But increasing numbers are seeking exemptions, citing psychological conditions and other factors as grounds to avoid service. Defence Minister Benny Gantz recently said that more than half of young Israelis were not serving in the military.

Pinto and Levi told AFP that they view military service as a sacred part of Israeli citizenship, but that with the army struggling to attract young people, rigid

rules governing facial hair are counterproductive.

"We want the army to focus on what really matters: investing time and resources to defend the country," not the facial hair of its soldiers, said Pinto.

"Why complicate the lives of these young men who are making an effort to serve their country and give the best years of their lives?"

Beard Exemptions for All is bolstered by a nearly 4,000-member Facebook group, an online video campaign, and merchandise, including t-shirts and stickers featuring the army's logo, branded with a beard.

Israeli army rules state that "all soldiers are required to shave their faces". A

group of 17 soldiers who agree with that assertion filed a supreme court petition in January seeking to force the army to grant exemptions to anyone who makes a request.

Levi said 1,600 troops had contributed money from their own pockets to fund the legal challenge, which had so far raised 120,000 shekels (\$36,000). Facial hair, they argued, is crucial to many young Israeli men, regardless of their level of devoutness.

"Religious and secular are brothers in arms, we live together in this country," Pinto said. "Beards should not be an issue that divides us."

UK news group to pay legal costs to Meghan

UK: The UK newspaper group that published a letter written by Meghan Markle should pay interim legal costs following her high-profile privacy claim victory last month, a judge ruled on Tuesday.

Markle, who is formally known as the Duchess of Sussex and is married to Queen Elizabeth II's grandson Prince Harry, won a comprehensive victory in February against Associated Newspapers after extracts of the 2018 letter were published in 2019.

The letter to her estranged father Thomas Markle was written a few months after she married Harry, and asked him to stop talking to tabloids and making false claims about her in interviews.

At a remote hearing at the High Court in London on Tuesday, judge Mark Warby ordered Associated Newspapers to make an "interim payment" of

£450,000 (\$627,000, 520,000 euros) to cover legal costs.

But the figure stopped short of the £750,000 requested by Meghan's lawyer Ian Mill.

Following the ruling, lawyers

for the publishers of the Mail On Sunday weekly and MailOnline website indicated they would appeal. Further details are due to be outlined in a later written ruling. - AFP



Meghan Markle

All 279 kidnapped Nigerian students released

NIGERIA: All 279 girls kidnapped from their boarding school in northern Nigeria have been released and are on Government premises, the local governor told AFP on Tuesday.

Nigerian President Muhammadu Buhari expressed "overwhelming joy" over the release of the girls from days of captivity, vowing tougher action against kidnappers.

Nigeria has been rocked by four mass abductions of students in less than three months, sparking widespread anger against the government and memories of the 2014 kidnapping of hundreds of schoolgirls in Chibok, in the country's east, that shocked the world.

"I am happy to announce that the girls are free," Dr. Bello Matawalle, Governor of Zamfara State, told an AFP journalist early Tuesday. "They



A soldier stands next to a group of girls on Tuesday previously kidnapped from their boarding school in northern Nigeria at the Government House in Gusau, Zamfara State upon their release. - AFP

have just arrived in the government house and are in good health."

An AFP reporter saw hundreds of girls wearing hijabs, gathered at the government

premises. Authorities initially said 317 girls were abducted in the raid by hundreds of gunmen on the Government Girls Secondary School in remote Jangebe village on Friday.

But Matawalle said the "total number of female students abducted" was 279.

In December, more than 300 boys were kidnapped from a school in Kankara, in President Muhammadu Buhari's home state of Katsina, while he was visiting the region.

The gangs are largely driven by financial motives and have no known ideological leanings.

But there are concerns they are being infiltrated by armed Islamists.

The jihadists' decade-old conflict has killed more than 30,000 people and spread into neighbouring Niger, Chad and Cameroon.

Roshan Mahanama wins top title in back-to-back years



DINESH WEERAWANSA

The Observer-Mobitel School Cricketer of the Year 2021 will be launched next week with the commencement of the inter-school matches from later next week.

The Observer-Mobitel School Cricketer of the Year 2020 awards ceremony which has been postponed due to Covid-19 pandemic is likely to be held later next month after Sinhala and Tamil New Year.

However, only a few two-day matches will be played as non-tournament encounters as this year the Sri Lanka Schools Cricket Association (SLSCA) will confine its matches to a championship decided by one-day matches only.

Up to a maximum eight tournament matches including five in the qualifying round league will be played by a team. The final round matches will be from the quarter final knockout stage.

The Observer-Mobitel School Cricketer of the Year had a humble start in 1979. Even in the previous 1978, there had been a similar event in Galle. In both 1978 and 1979, the present Chief ICC Match Referee Ranjan Madugalle emerged as the Observer Schoolboy Cricketer of the Year.

After Arjuna Ranatunga of Ananda won the Observer School Cricketer of the Year for the second time in 1982, another champion cricketer from the adjoining Nalanda created history, winning the back to back Observer School Cricketer of the Year titles in 1983 and 1984.

Nalanda captain Roshan Mahanama was well popular even from his schoolboy days. He was a born star who marked his presence from school level to international world as a former Sri Lanka captain and ex-ICC Match Referee.

Having first made his mark at Nalanda, he is a classic example to all as one of the stylish top order batsmen. Looking back at school cricket, Mahanama believes that there should be a balance in the number of matches a school team has to play during a season if the quality of the game is to be maintained.

In a recent interview on school cricket, he agreed that more opportunities should be given to outstation teams.

However, it should not be done at the expense of quality. He said that the country's first premier school cricket award - Observer Schoolboy Cricketer of the Year, has always motivated schoolboy cricketers as they look forward to being rewarded and recognized at the end of each season.

"Events of this nature motivated us as emerging cricketers. It is always a great feeling when you know that your achievements are being recognized," he said.

He said it was a great encouragement to be adjudged the best schoolboy cricketer and be honored for the hard work during the season.

It was one of my dreams and I was privileged to receive this wonderful



Roshan Mahanama, the first to win Observer Schoolboy Cricketer of the Year in successive years in 1983 and 1984.

award at the end of my school career," Mahanama recalled.

"Winning the Observer Schoolboy Cricketer of the Year in successive years was a memorable occasion. It was a great feeling to win that and step into club cricket and thereafter to the national team. When I was crowned the best Schoolboy Cricketer, it gave me even more determination to work harder at top level," he added.

"Unlike today, we had packed houses to witness the inter-school matches. I had watched some of the former Nalanda cricketers such as Bandula Warnapura in action. It was a passion and the school authorities too encouraged the boys to watch matches."

Mahanama said there are no shortcuts to success and one must go through the hard process. "Young schoolboy cricketers must have a genuine willingness and desire to work towards their targets with dedication.

They must remember that there are no shortcuts for success", said Mahanama who was also an exceptionally clever fielder during his days.

"During our era, we did not get many opportunities to play international matches at school level. I had played for Nalanda for five First XI seasons, but got only two overseas tours. "In contrast, the present day players had more and more opportunities until 2019. Players must make full use of these tours," he said.

Mahanama urged schoolboys to work hard to achieve their targets in a disciplined manner, maintaining the high traditions of the game - instead of being 'remote-controlled'.

The stylish top order bat, recalling his days as a schoolboy cricketer at Nalanda, said that it was a great feeling to have their names on the team's fixture card.

Mahanama said even their old boys made it a point to skip all other engagements to watch their school team in action, adding it was a great honour to see their names in the fixture card - first as a player, then as a coloursman and later as vice-captain or captain.

Though former Ananda captain Arjuna Ranatunga won the Observer Schoolboy Cricketer of the Year titles in 1980 and 1982, it was Mahanama who became the first schoolboy to win the prestigious title in successive years in 1983 and 1984.

He first won the 'Observer Schoolboy Cricketer of the Year' title in 1983 with a rich harvest of runs with the willow. He continued to let his willow to do the talking in the following year too and his superb form won him the title for the second successive year in 1984.

Besides Ranatunga and Mahanama,

the others to win the title twice were Thilan Samaraweera (1994 and 1995), Lahiru Peiris (2004 and 2005), Bhanuka Rajapakse (2010 and 2011) and Charith Asalanka (2015 and 2016).

It was his late father Upali Mahanama who had been a tower of strength behind the celebrated cricketer's success story. "My late father was a great source of encouragement. He stressed the importance of adding values and discipline to our lives. Then I was lucky to come under the watchful eyes of Lionel Sir (Lionel Mendis)"

"He set us targets as young players and groomed us well. Most importantly, we were taught to respect the game, its culture and to follow team ethics. Even the coaches and masters in charge during our time conducted themselves in an exemplary manner to earn respect. We also had the highest respect and regard for umpires," said Mahanama, recalling the early part of his distinguished career.

He said the deteriorating standards in school cricket has prevented youngsters from directly marching into the national team like in the past.

"In the past, there were players such as Ranjan Madugalle who earned their places in the national team directly from school level and even made it to the World Cup. Unfortunately, we do not often find consistent players in school cricket, ready to face that challenge," he said.

Mahanama is of the view that his crowning glory as the 'Observer Schoolboy Cricketer of the Year' in 1983 and 1984 was a major milestone in his career.

"To be adjudged the best schoolboy cricketer and be honored for the hard work during the season was a great encouragement. I was privi-

leged to achieve it as one of my dreams," he said.

Mahanama, who turns 55 on May 31, represented Sri Lanka in 52 Tests with an aggregate of 2576 runs with four centuries and 11 fifties. His career-best double century (225) was registered against India in 1997.

In the same match Sri Lanka posted the highest Test innings total as Mahanama shared a record partnership of 576 runs with Sanath Jayasuriya (340) at the Premadasa Stadium in Colombo.

In a creditable move in his last Test for Sri Lanka - against South Africa at Centurion Park in 1998, he scored a half century.

Mahanama played in 213 One Day Internationals for Sri Lanka to enjoy an aggregate of 5,162 runs with four centuries and 35 half centuries.

Meanwhile, Chairman of Sri Lanka Telecom and SLT Mobitel, Rohan Fernando has given every possible assistance to the Mega Show which will march forward with more power and strength.

SLT Mobitel is sponsoring the show for the 14th successive year, at a time when the company is heading towards new horizons under the dynamic leadership of Fernando, the former Thomian ace rower.

The management of Lake House has strongly backed the Mega Show. Its current Chairman, W. Dayaratne and the team of Board of Directors - Dharma Sri Kariyawasam (Editorial), Rakhitha Abeygunawardhana (Legal and Administration), Janaka Ranatunga (Finance) and Canishka Witharana (Operations) have always been a tower of strength to take the Observer-Mobitel School Cricketers of the Year forward.

Saroj Nilakshana, a budding karateka

DILWIN MENDIS

Moratuwa Sports Special Corr.

Twelve-year-old karate gold medalist and up and coming karateka T. M. Saroj Nilakshana Peiris has brought honour and fame to his Alma Mater St. Joseph Vaz College, Wennappuwa. He joined this prestigious Catholic educational institution in 2014 when Rev. Fr. Janaka Nishantha was the head of the Primary Section and his first class teacher was Mrs. Dhammika Chandrasekera.

His parents Nalin Sanjewa Peiris and Rameshika Fernando directed their son to Sandil Fernando in 2016 and he was the karate coach and Master in Charge of the same to enhanced his skills in karate. In addition to school practices they admitted their son to ISKU Karate Academy under Sugath Kumara.

Saroj's first attempt was at the 30th Karate Championship held in Colombo and competing in under seven age category Saroj won a gold for Kata. Maintaining his consistency he went on to bag a silver in Kata representing under eight age category at the Puttalam District Karate Meet in the following year.



Saroj Nilakshana receiving his award from the guest of honour at the Puttalam District Karate Award Ceremony. (Picture by Dilwin Mendis, Moratuwa Sports Special Correspondent)



T. M. Saroj Nilakshana Peiris

He grabbed a bronze medal in Kata in the same year at the North Western Provincial Meet and continued his medal hunt by clinching a bronze at the All Island National Karate Championship Meet in the same year.

As an under eight competitor in the Puttalam District Meet he won golds

for Kata and Kumite and in the same year in the North Western Provincial meet he got a Bronze for Kumite and in the All Island Nationals he won a gold for Kumite.

He kept away from sports in 2019 as he had to sit for the grade five scholarship examination.

SLC updates scorers on new ICC rules, regulations

Text and pictures by PRIYAN DE SILVA

With the Major Club T20 cricket tournament scheduled to commence today (04), T H Wijewardena the umpires and Match Refrees' educator at Sri Lanka Cricket (SLC) updated members of the Sri Lanka Cricket Scorers Association on the new rules and regulations that have been introduced by the International Cricket Council (ICC) and playing conditions of the tournament.

The workshop was held at the Western Prov-



SLC's Educator of Umpires and Match Refrees, T H Wijewardena stresses a point.



A section of SLCSA's premier scorers who attended the workshop.

ince Cricket Association Auditorium at Khetarama on Wednesday (03) morning.

Among the ICC rules and regulations dis-

cussed were Covid regulations, player replacement, onfield injuries and use of surgical plaster.

Among the tournament rules Wijewardena

stressed on the importance of scorers being conversant with the time allowances and discussed various scenarios that may take place and how they should be recorded.

SLSCA conducts workshop on online registration

Text and pix by UPANANDA JAYASUNDERA

Kandy Sports Special Corr.

A one-day workshop to introduce online registration of cricket players and schools by the Sri Lanka Schools Cricket Association (SLSCA) was held at the Kandy Co-operative Auditorium on March 1.

Cricketer coaches and teachers' In-charge of cricket in the Central Province with the boys and girls school cricketers of the area



Section of the teachers-in-charge and school cricketers who attended the workshop

were present on the occasion. Lanka Schools Cricket Association, Kamal Indrajith conducted the

workshop with the assistance of Praveen Milinda, R.C.Manatunge, Nuwan Samaranyake, Kanishka Perera and K.Ganeshkumar.

The Central Province cricket coach, Amila Pinduduwa and district coaches, Ananda Bandaranayake, Jagath Wasantha and Harsha Edirisuriya were also present at the workshop. Certificates were given to cricketers who attended the workshop.

Leslie Donovan Perera, first Lankan to win Olympic bout

HAFIZ MARIKAR

The first Sri Lankan to enter an Olympic ring and win a bout was Leslie Donovan Perera Handunge, from Kandy and also the second son of Kandy to blaze the Olympic trail. He was known as Perera at school. He was remembered by all sports lovers in Kandy, specially by the Boxing, Cricket and Rugby. He was one of the finest sportsmen Kandy has ever produced.

He became the best Director of Physical Education at the Peradeniya University, yet to be replaced by his class of work. When he was in charge of all the grounds at Peradeniya, they were in perfect condition, even international cricket matches were played before Sri Lanka got Test status. Leslie Handunge represented Ceylon at the 1948 Olympic Games and was the first Ceylonese to enter an Olympic ring and win an Olym-

pic bout by beating Mexican Tello in the men's - flyweight, ranking 9th at the 1952 Olympic Games.

He joined Trinity College as a schoolboy from Matale, and was guided in the correct path by the coaches. He excelled at Trinity College in four major events - cricket, boxing, rugby and athletics. After leaving school, he played inter-club hockey and football for Kandy Rovers and was rated as one of the finest center forwards in hockey. In football he played as left-inside. Leslie played rugger for Kandy Sports Club and Up-Country. He was a master in every sport he played.

Later Leslie became one of the top class rugby referees and officiated the Trinity-Royal under 17 game as referee for four years. When Kandy Lake Club was playing in the 'B' division, he was the only referee



HAFIZ MARIKAR

from Kandy to handle the games played in Kandy. He was famous for his lectures when at refereeing matches, he used to halt the game and deliver brief lectures. He also refereed football games and was a cricket and hockey umpire.

When Leslie was handling the University playgrounds at Peradeniya as Director of Physical Education, it was the only facility in Kandy with four sports fields together (Tennis court, Hockey, Athletics, Cricket grounds with turf wicket). After he left the office, a matting was laid by the side of the turf and constructed football and rugby grounds, all in-a-row. He maintained and kept the

grounds in perfect condition. The Bradby Shield Rugby game was most looked forward annual event and few cricket matches with the participation of foreign teams played at this grounds. At that time the pavilion was made of GI sheets. Leslie was a diploma holder in

Physical Education from Loughborough College, UK. He is the first Sri Lankan to achieve this feat and later obtained Masters Degree in Physical Education from Springfield, USA. He also has served in both these institutions.

In Boxing, he won his first



The Ceylon Olympic team at the Olympic camp in Richmond Park, London 13th June 1948. (From left) Edward Gray, Albert Perera, Duncan White, John de Saram, Mr. Perera (team manager), George Peiris, Leslie Handunge and Alex Obeyesekera.

title in 1944 in the Flyweight Class and also won the best boxer's award at the Intermediate, Albert Perera Fairwell Meet and National Championships. He represented the University of Ceylon at Boxing and Rugby and was the British and Irish Universities' Bantam Weight Champion when he was at Loughbropugh College.

He was invited by the ABA of Sri Lanka to participate in the final boxing trials for the 1950 - Empire Games, but was unable to leave UK. He retired as undefeated Flyweight boxing champion of Sri Lanka in 1952. In the 1960's, 70's and 80's, Leslie was the most experienced and highest qualified sports administrator and physical educationist. He was a firm believer that sports should serve masses rather than confine to a gifted few who are in competitive sports. His ring philosophy is to out-

wit and out-think his opponent and not merely to out punch him. In keeping with the thinking of boxing greats like Sugar Ray Robinson, Mohamed Ali, whom Leslie met once and Jack Johnson and Jim Corbett. Leslie Handunge was always wanted to see youth and adults engaged in sports.

He held office at Kandy Football, Hockey, Boxing, Cricket and Athletics Associations and helped every sport with ground facilities. It was he who helped schools to play cricket at Peradeniya and also gave a big hand to hockey at school and club level. A gentleman with principals, a strict disciplinarian and a great promoter of all sports and a willing helper to any sportsman during the times of difficulty by way of valuable advise, sports equipments and financial assistance when required.

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WORLD OF SPORTS

(MARCH 4) LOCAL EVENTS CRICKET

(Inter-School):
Royal vs Trinity at Reid Avenue (1st day)

TENNIS

SSC Open Tournament at SSC Courts, Maitland Place

FOREIGN EVENTS CRICKET

India vs England (4th Test) at Ahmedabad (1st day)
Afghanistan vs Zimbabwe (1st Test) at Abu Dhabi (3rd day) (Pakistan Super League):
Lahore Qalandars vs Islamabad United at Karachi (Australian Sheffield Shield):
Victoria vs Tasmania at Melbourne

FOOTBALL

(Premier League):
Fulham vs Tottenham Hotspur
West Bromwich vs Everton
Liverpool vs Chelsea

TENNIS

Lyon Open at Halle Tony Garnier, France
Rotterdam Open at Rotterdam, Netherlands
Qatar Total Open at Doha
Argentina Open at Buenos Aires Lawn Tennis Club

BADMINTON

Swiss Open at Basel, Switzerland

GOLF

Arnold Palmer Invitational at Bay Hill Golf Club, Florida
Drive On Championship at Golden Ocala Golf and Equestrian Club, Florida

ATHLETICS

European Indoor Championship at Torun, Poland

Six of the best for Agar as Australia down NZ



Ashton Agar bowls during the third Twenty20

WELLINGTON, WEDNESDAY: Spinner Ashton Agar produced the best bowling performance in Australia's Twenty20 international history in a 64-run win over New Zealand in Wellington yesterday.

Agar's match-turning six for 30, including three in one over, derailed a New Zealand fightback as Australia avoided a series loss in the third Twenty20 international.

Under-fire skipper Aaron Finch hit 69, his best T20 international score for more than two years, and Glenn Maxwell smashed 70 from 31 balls.

The result leaves the five-match series at 2-1 in New Zealand's favour with two games to go.

Only four players have taken six wickets in a T20 international before, none of

them from Australia. In the face of the Australian onslaught, the Black Caps lacked the swagger of the opening two matches, with shellshocked all-rounder Jimmy Neesham conceding 28 runs in a single over as Maxwell ran riot.

Opener Martin Guptill's 43 and a Devon Conway knock of 38 were highlights for New Zealand.

But Agar snuffed out hopes of a home victory with six consecutive wickets that took the New Zealanders from 109 for four to 144 for nine.

Chief scores
Australia: 208/4 in 20 overs (A. Finch 69, J. Philippe 43, G. Maxwell 70, I. Sodhi 2/32)

New Zealand: 144 in 17.1 overs (M. Guptill 43, D. Conway 38, Meredith 2/24, Agar 6/30). **AFP**

Not too late to appoint Cricket Selectors - Minister

DHAMMIKA RATNAWEERA

Sports Minister Namal Rajapaksa yesterday said that a full National Cricket Selection Committee will be appointed in due course in the proper manner on a long term basis.

The Minister made these observations during a media briefing held at the Sports Ministry Auditorium in Colombo.

"We are not too late to appoint the Cricket Selection Committee. The Chairman of the Selection Committee has already resigned but the other two members are already performing their task well."

"We have to appoint the National Cricket Selection Committee in the correct way and with a long term plan in mind, and not up to six months."

"We have seen in the past



Sports Minister Namal Rajapaksa addressing the media. Also in the picture are Sports Ministry Secretary Anuradha Wijekoon, National Sports Council Chairman Mahela Jayawardene, Kumar Sangakkara, Julian Boling and Sports Director General Amal Edirisooraya (Pic by Roshan Fernando)

where we have gone wrong and been unsuccessful after having taken some quick decisions.

So, we are looking at naming a good selection committee as they will be performing a responsible

job." "We have a short term, mid-term and long term plan for sports development in the country and the National Sport Council is always focusing on this to achieve the highest standard on

the field," the Minister added. The Sports Minister further said that the existing Sports Law, which was established in 1973, has to be amended to develop sports in this country.

Royal-Trinity U-19 clash at Reid Avenue from today

HAFIZ MARIKAR

The annual Inter-School Under-19 cricket encounter between Royal College and Trinity College will be worked off today and tomorrow at Reid Avenue. The Royal-Trinity

game is one of the oldest school cricket matches played in Sri Lanka having started the series way back in 1893.

The first game between the two schools was won by Royal and Trinity's first win

came in the year 1896. The match is one of the most looked forward Inter-School cricket fixture and a close encounter is expected with both teams blessed with some talented players.



Wenuka Kithnula celebrates with the trophy

Kithnula clinches U-16 tennis title

Wenuka Kithnula clinched the Boys' Under-16 Singles title at the SSC Open Tennis Tournament, which continued at the SSC Courts in Maitland Place yesterday.

Kithnula lived upto expectations as the favourite and went on to beat Zahid Zihar in straight sets 7-5, 6-4 in the final encounter.

The results:

(Boys' Under-16 final): Wenuka Kithnula beat Zahid Zihar 7-5, 6-4.

(Girls' Under-14 quarter-finals): Oneli De Silva beat Inuki Jayaweera 1-6, 6-2, 13-11. Dulcini Ranasinghe beat Akeesha Silva 3-6, 6-4, 10-8. Arushi Thomas beat Melesha Randini 7-5, 6-4. Jayami Thambugallage beat Brinda Fernando 6-3, 6-1.

(Girls' Under-16 semi-finals): Dinara de Silva beat Anithra Dharmarathne 6-2, 6-4. Saajida Razick beat Denethya Dharmarathne 6-2, 6-3.

NOCSL supports 13 National Federations

In their endeavour to support National Federations (NFs), the National Olympic Committee of Sri Lanka (NOCSL) requested NFs to submit their requirements for equipment and sought assistance from The Association of National Olympic Committees (ANOC) through the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) for funds to meet the requirements.

After making a request from their higher authority and obtaining approval, ANOC distributed the requested funds through OCA to NOCSL to fulfill the requirements of the NFs.

13 of the 15 NFs who responded within the NOCSL deadline received their requests at a ceremony held at the 'Hemasiri Fernando' Auditorium recently.

"It is done for the first time with the assistance of the ANOC. We are here to support the NF's in whatever way possible, and in principle, to run their day-to-day activities. All these are done for the betterment of the sports and not to canvas for our elections," said Maxwell de Silva, General Secretary NOCSL.

The Equestrian, Gymnastic, Handball, Judo, Karate, Roller Skating, Surfing, Table

Tennis, Taekwondo, Triathlon, Wrestling, Yachting and Baseball Federations received laptops.

The Weightlifting Federation received a washing machine for the use of the National Pool Athletes while Basketball Federation requested for financial assistance for their administration expenses.

NOCSL had also requested for additional funding through the same project to assist the following athletes who are targeting the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games:

Training cost for Chamara Dharmawardana (Judo) in Slovenia for six months and Olympic Qualifiers; training cost for Chamara Milinda in Mongolia for six months and two Olympic Qualifiers; training cost for W. K. L. Nimal (athletics 800m) locally for six months and Olympic Qualifiers; six months overseas training for Sumedha Ranasinghe (Javelin Throw) and two Olympic Qualifiers; Assistance for Niluka Karunaratne (Badminton) to participate in eight Olympic Qualifiers; six months overseas training for Indika Dissanayake for Weightlifting and Olympic Qualifiers. **(AN)**



The recipients of the NFs standing while the NOCSL officials are seated (from left): Nishantha Jayasinghe (Assistant Treasurer), Asanga Seneviratne (Vice-President), Suresh Subramaniam (President), Maxwell de Silva (General Secretary), Gamani Jayasinghe, Treasurer and Dampath Fernando (Committee Member)

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Daily News Business

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Automated system to curtail long-room Customs procedures

An automated system has been developed to curtail the long-room Customs procedures and a pilot project has been started with selected exporters. Director General of Sri Lanka Customs, Major-General (Retd) Vijitha Ravipriya mentioned that Sri Lanka Customs has linked with Sri Lanka Tea Board, Department of Motor Traffic, Sri Lanka Ports Authority, Terminal Operators and National Medicines Regulatory Authority (NMRA) to deliver an automated system.

He was speaking at the European Chamber of Commerce of Sri Lanka hosted webinar on 'Paperless and Contactless Procedures at the Port of Clearance' recently. He also mentioned that the



Daya Ratnayake

Department of Immigration and Emigration, Duty Free shops and courier services will also be taken onto a single platform using the ASYCUDA system. Currently, Sri Lanka Customs accepts export or import invoices electronically and customers are given the advantage of the e-pay platform since April 1, 2020. Seventy percent of Sri Lanka Customs process is



Vijitha Ravipriya

automated to date and by addressing the difficulties and challenges faced by Sri Lanka Customs such as lack of human resources and infrastructure facilities, it can be brought up to 100% functionality. "Sri Lanka Customs will conduct awareness programs with the financial facilities obtained from the line ministries and encourage officers' contribution to func-



Upul Jinadasa

tion the system." Addressing the webinar, Chairman of Sri Lanka Ports Authority (SLPA), General (Retd.) R. M. Daya Ratnayake highlighted the importance of eliminating bottlenecks in Ports and Customs procedures in Sri Lanka and increasing the ease of doing business throughout the supply chain. Meanwhile, Sri Lanka Ports Authority has

introduced new arrangements to facilitate Full Container Load (FCL), Less than a Container Load (LCL) and Multi-country Consolidation (MCC) container operations smoothly by accepting electronic manifests. Moreover, an electronic payment facility is available for Cargo Management System (CMS) in Container Freight Station (CFS) 1, CFS IV and BQ Warehouse Complex and partially implemented CMS at CFS Peliyagoda which will be fully functioning in the near future. Meanwhile, documents for rework operations (rework applications and guarantee letters) and acceptance of empty container removal applications are operating electronically. General Manager - Opera-

tions of South Asia Gateway Terminals (Pvt) Ltd (SAGT), Upul Jinadasa explained that the paperless system at SAGT is process driven, adaptation of right technology, establishing accuracy, standardization and discipline across all related data and processes.

"Although digitalisation has been established at the SAGT since 2003, a digital paperless delivery processing including payments has been introduced in June 2020." Under the paperless system, vehicle booking system is introduced to minimise truck waiting times, traffic and optimise utilisation and costs where current average truck turnaround time including entry queuing is less than 45 minutes. **(SS)**



CBL GROUP IN TOP 10 MOST ADMIRABLE COMPANIES PAGE 20

Record revenue of Rs. 38.2 bn for 2020 from Cinnamon exports

Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, Cinnamon exports notched a record turnover of Rs. 38.2 billion for 2020. This is by exporting 18,722 tonnes. Chairman Cinnamon Training Academy Sarada de Silva said that more than 62% of the value of Spice exports comes from Cinnamon.

Lankan firms provided guidelines for export to EU

DINESH PERERA

The Delegation of German Industry and Commerce (AHK) in Sri Lanka has released a guideline in partnership with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization on how to export agricultural products to the European Union. New and existing regulations will require that exporters ensure traceability of their supply chains.

Organic certification will also require additional checks and registration both locally and internationally. The guide also deals with local regulation. Use of the lion trademark along with the Ceylon Tea or Spice logos will require approval from the relevant agency. AHK released the guidelines to its stakeholders and on its website on March 2 via a webinar.

Sri Lankan firms are advised to refrain from using cheques for payment as they have been phased out in Europe. Germany is currently the second-largest market for organic produce in the world. To export organic products into Europe Sri Lankan businesses need to be registered and certified through a registered control body. In Sri Lanka, there are currently 7 approved certifications bodies, the Control Union, Sri Lanka, The Netherlands; Ecocert, India, France; NASAA Certified Organic (NCO); Australia, Lacon, Germany; QAI, Quality Assurance International, USA; OneCert, USA; MayaCert, Guatemala. When a Sri Lankan company is certified organic by an EU approved certification body, it is allowed to use the EU organic logo on its products, and it is eligible to export organic products to the EU.

FCCISL, Embassy of Sri Lanka in Beijing gift Ceylon Tea to CICCPS

The Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry of Sri Lanka (FCCISL) in collaboration with the Embassy of Sri Lanka in Beijing gifted a consignment of Ceylon Tea to Party Secretary of the China International Chamber of Commerce for the Private Sector (CICCPS) and Executive President of APTA, CCI headquartered of Beijing, Wang Yanguo.

Yanguo was instrumental in gifting much needed

medical supplies to Sri Lanka during the early days of the Covid-19 pandemic (2020). Wang spoke at length about enhancing the bilateral economic and trade relationship. He also proposed holding the next meeting of the CICCPS in Sri Lanka and leading a large delegation of business people to Sri Lanka. He was particularly interested in the opportunities available in the Hambantota Industrial Zone.



Sri Lankan Ambassador to China Dr. Palitha Kohona making the token presentation of consignment of Ceylon Tea to Wang Yanguo

Tourism, factory workers to get Covid vaccine priority - Minister

President Gotabaya Rajapaksa has agreed to give priority to those engaged in the field of tourism and factory workers, from the next stock of Covid vaccines to arrive in the island, Tourism Minister Prasanna Ranatunga said.

The Minister expressed his belief that it would be possible to vaccinate persons in the field of tourism and employees of all factories in the country at a special discussion held at the Ministry of Tourism on yesterday to determine the progress of procedures of bringing in tourists to the country.

Tourist institutions which had been responsible for bringing in the largest number of tourists prior to the Covid-19 pandemic had been summoned for this discussion. This meeting was held to discuss problem faced by them in this present situation. Minister Ranatunga said that the second phase of the Covid-19 vaccination drive was being implemented now. During this instance, people over 30



Tourism Minister Prasanna Ranatunga with officials yesterday.

years of age are being vaccinated in the Western Province where the disease was most reported from based on Grama Sewa Divisions.

The Minister said that by yesterday, 553,821 persons had been vaccinated. The Minister also said that lists of names of approximately 20,000 persons including tourist guides, drivers and employees of hotels registered under the Tourism Development Authority have already been sent to the Ministry of Health. He said further that in addition, steps are underway to give the vaccine to others engaged in the field of tourism, as well. There are 14 Free Trade Zones throughout the

island belonging to the Board of Investment. In addition, there are industrial parks too. The Minister said that there are more than 250 factories located within the Free Trade Zones only.

The number of employees working in these exceeds 130,000. Minister Ranatunga said that in the future they intend to provide the vaccination employees working at more than 1,700 factories across the island. The Minister also focused his attention on several problems faced by representatives of institutions organizing tours to Sri Lanka.

Attention was focused on the fact that many countries from

which large numbers of tourists arrived here had not been granted permission to visit Sri Lanka and the difficulties tourists had to face when obtaining visas for arrival was also discussed. Minister Ranatunga said that he will discuss this matter with the Department of Immigration and Emigration and an expedited solution will be provided. In addition, a lengthy discussion was held on restrictions in place when bringing down tourists to this country. It was decided during this instance to draw the attention of the Covid Committee and health authorities to this issue. Secretary to the Ministry of Tourism S. Hettiarachchi was also present at this discussion.

Laxapana Batteries to invest Rs 1.1bn to enter renewable energy space

Laxapana Batteries PLC is entering the renewable energy business. The company has stated its intentions to invest over one billion rupees in generating renewable energy from rooftop solar projects.

To fund the investment, the company proposes raising Rs 540 million (Mn) by way of a rights issue and also intends to lock-in in long-term debt to benefit from the prevailing low-interest rate regime. At an Extraordinary General Meeting held on February 10, 2021, the Shareholders of Laxapana Batteries PLC approved the Rights Issue to offer 36,000,000 ordinary shares, which is in the proportion of 12 new ordinary shares for every 13 existing ordinary shares held at Rs 15 per share. With a Rs 1.1 billion investment to develop rooftop solar projects, Laxa-



pana is well positioned with a sustainable business model to contribute towards the government's policy of increasing the share of renewable energy production in the nation's total energy needs.

Despite the challenging economic environment that began with the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, Laxapana has delivered a resilient performance in the FY2020/21 period. During these uncertain times, the Company witnessed growth in Q3 FY2020/21 with a revenue increase by 14%, over Q3 FY2019/20 and profit before tax growing by Rs.

29.4 Mn. The Company recorded revenue of Rs 206.2 Mn and Rs 552.7 Mn in Q3 FY2020/21 and nine months ended 31st

December 2020 respectively. These compare to Rs 180.4 Mn and Rs 506.2 Mn to corresponding periods in FY2019/20.

Cumulative profit before tax of Rs. 100.4 Mn for the nine months ended December 31, 2020, is a notable year-on-year increase of 113% over Rs. 47.2 Mn recorded last year nine months despite numerous challenges encountered in the business environment.

The new investment initiative further diversifies the company's business portfolio and is expected to contribute positively to earnings going forward.

VIASL seeks redress to vehicle import ban issues

The Vehicle Importers Association of Sri Lanka (VIASL) requested a meeting with President Gotabaya Rajapaksa to discuss a survival plan put forward by its association. It also intends to discuss challenges faced by the industry due to the ban imposed on motor vehicle imports which has been in effect since March 2020, which the association claims has adversely impacted the economy of vehicle importers and all related industries.

VIASL Secretary Arosha Rodrigo addressing the media in Colombo last week said vehicle importers as well as related service providers were facing severe difficulties maintaining their business premises and paying off bank loans, rent and the salaries of their employees.

He said now a large number of importers in the country have run out of stocks and some don't have a single vehicle in their showrooms and were struggling to survive and pay



Arosha Rodrigo

their employees. Rodrigo cautioned that if the ban is to continue further, they will be forced to close down their business and make all their employees redundant. He said around 100,000 direct and indirect employees will have to be made redundant, while 350,000-400,000 dependents of these employees will lose their livelihood.

He said vehicle importers, as well as government permit holders, who had opened letters of credit prior to the import ban, and should be provided

with the opportunity to import these vehicles.

Since all circulars regarding clearing of imported vehicles from Sri Lankan ports were published on a retrospective basis, there are several permit holders as well as importers who are struggling to import the vehicles they have ordered and confirmed legally through a valid letter of credit.

Local manufacturing and assembling has been portrayed as a solution to the foreign exchange issue, but Rodrigo alleged that this would not benefit the coffers as the value addition of the process was minimal and it has been merely designed for tax evasion and higher profit margins for a few companies.

He said that the general public would be the ultimate victim as a result consequences of the ban being forced to purchase low-quality products sans adequate safety and emission standards at an inflated price. **MFJ**

'Increase in petroleum prices to exert stress on financial position of utility companies'

Increase in petroleum prices will exert stress on the financial position of utility companies in the short-run predicted ICRA Lanka in their 'Insights' for March 2020.

"Energy price revision may have a cascading effect on many sectors of the economy. Most importantly, it could trigger a broad-based rise in general price levels. Downstream sector products such as kerosene,

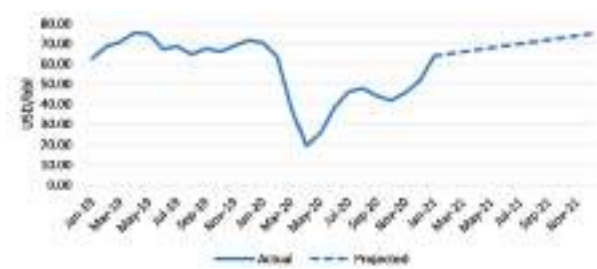
heating oil, fuel oils, lubricants, waxes, asphalt, and other petrochemicals would also revise prices affecting multitude of industries, the report said.

Many large-scale construction contractors are less likely to experience margin erosion due to raw material price increases. However, small-to-medium scale contractors who generally enter into fixed price contracts may have to absorb

some losses. When the global metal prices collapsed in 1Q 2020, the local importers did not drop the prices but in fact increased due to import restrictions. Hence, they may have developed some loss absorbing capacity to hold the prices in the medium term. The year 2020 marks the lowest global commodity prices in the recent history as a result of extraordinary events that unfolded with

the onset of COVID outbreak towards the end of 1Q.

The oil prices plummeted to historic lows, even turning negative momentarily for the first time in history. Other commodities met with similar fate with base metal prices steeply declining as major industrial powerhouses scaled down operations. Sri Lanka was able to exploit the low oil prices that prevailed during



2020, amidst weaker domestic demand to ease some pressure off the rupee by cutting the

petroleum import costs by around 30% in 2020 compared to 2019.

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BOC and DRP sign MoU to strengthen digital road map

Bank of Ceylon sets an example by complying with the customer identifying regulations requested by the Central bank of Sri Lanka to ensure a healthy maintenance of the country's financial system. In this regard BOC joined with the Department for Registration of Persons (DRP) through an online system to scrutinize the validity of identification of documents and obtain the validity of the customer national identification number (NIC) at the part of customer onboarding and as when required. With the signing of the MoU, Bank of Ceylon will involve itself with the DRP's road map for "Central Data base for Citizen Information".

"Being a responsible Government Financial

Institution, it is a responsibility of the Bank of Ceylon to align itself with other Government institutions and join in the initiative of developing the Country through the carefully planned digital road map laid by the Government of Sri Lanka. BOC identifies this initiative introduced by DRP as one such very important part of the overall development plan," stated the Deputy General Manager Sales & Channel Management Priyal Silva.

This initiative will improve the process of obtaining accurate customer identification on time which is an essential requirement in undertaking banking transactions. It will benefit the customer by ensuring banking transactions are

met on timely basis on proper identification of the customer. This will enable the BOC to view data and images of documents related to the National Identity Card submitted by any customer with his or her consent in order to verify the authenticity of the particulars of the National Identity Card, of the person who intends to open a BOC Account via the BOC Digital/Manual Account Facilities and the other banking services provided by BOC. This is an industry-wide solution formed in accordance to the requirements of the CBSL and bank has been permitted to access the Web Based System developed by DRP for authentication and verification of the correctness of particulars of the NICs.



BOC's Deputy General Manager Sales and Channel Management Priyal Silva and Commissioner General of the Department for Registration of Persons P. V. Gunathilaka and other officials from the bank and DRP exchange the MoU at the DRP premises at Suhurupaya, Battaramulla

Nations Trust Bank signs MoU with DRP to enable Digital KYC

Nations Trust Bank and the Department for Registration of Persons (DRP) recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), enabling the Bank to digitally verify the customers' identity through the information held by the DRP upon the consent of the customer. The progressive digital customer verification process will take away the cumbersome traditional Know Your Customer (KYC) pro-

cess which includes ID card verification, face verification and document verification for proof of address.

The signing took place on March 2 2021 with officials present from both parties including P Vijani Gunathilake, Commissioner General of the Department for Registration of Persons and Mr. Randil Boteju, Senior Vice President - Sales and Digital Banking of Nations Trust Bank. This

new process will transform the Bank's customer-centric approach to enhance the customer experience and provide a seamless digital banking service.

With the recent push for digital solutions across the country, the Bank remains fully committed to taking the nation to the next level by joining forces with government institutions such as the DRP, to create a digitally enabled Sri Lanka.



NTB and DPR officials at the event

Matara Asiri Super wins Southern Province Best Entrepreneur Gold Award

Asiri Super, a leading shopping complex based in Matara, was awarded the Entrepreneur of the Year, Medium Category, Service Sector, at the 'Best Entrepreneur Awards Ceremony-2020' organized by District Chamber of Commerce-Hambantota in collaboration with National Enterprise Development Authority and supported by District Chambers of Commerce in Matara and Galle held at Golden Pearl Hotel in Tangalle.

The awards were designed to encourage the business community in the Southern Province. "Our four decades long experience in business helped us to become the top most business in Matara town in terms of customers' trust. Although we had to face a lot of challenges over the years, we worked hard with a strong view to providing a reliable and high quality service to our customers," said Managing Director, Asiri Super Chaminda Udagama.

Having started in 1980, Asiri



has come a long way to become a successful business network comprising a supermarket, book and gift shop, a gas sales outlet, a bakery, a restaurant and a wholesale store. Themed as 'Apekamata Ape Thenak' (Our kind of place for our own selves) Asiri Super also operates a passenger transport service in Matara -Yatiyana and plans are ahead to expand the trade services in many facets.

Young Woman Engineer Award ceremony on March 8



To promote engineering and technology among young women engineers and to increase the participation of women in the field of engineering, The Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET) Young Professionals (YP) Sri Lanka Network launched Young Woman Engineer (YWE) of the Award to honor the very best early-career female engineers working in Sri Lanka.

The event launch will be held on March 8, on Zoom from 7 p.m. onwards.

This is in line with the IET Young Woman Engineer of the Year award organized by United Kingdom launched in 1978. Introducing an award of this kind was a part of an initiative to address the female shortage of

engineers in the industry, and inspire the next generation of female engineers by recognizing and celebrating their talents.

"For the consecutive third time, we are ready to select the best potential Young Woman Engineer of the year 2021," an official from the organizers said.

Over the last fifty years, the female population represents more than half of the Sri Lankan population, whilst the representation of women in engineering & technology fields is considerably less in Sri Lankan industry. Women generally dominate all other fields except fields of engineering and technology at the university level. A situation similar to that can be seen in the industry as well.

HSBC voted best bank for trade finance

At Euromoney's 2021 Trade Finance Survey



HSBC took the top spot in Euromoney's Trade Finance Survey for the fourth year in a row.

The bank was also voted Market Leader for Trade Finance in Asia Pacific in the same survey, also winning Best Service for Trade Finance in Asia Pacific, sweeping all seven service categories, Advisory, Digital Offering, Financing, Market Insight, Product, Support and Advisory and All Services.

In terms of country awards, in addition to Sri Lanka, HSBC has been voted Market Leader in 13 Asia Pacific sites and Best Service in eight Asia Pacific sites.

Ajay Sharma, Regional Head of Global Trade and Receivables Finance for HSBC Asia-Pacific, said: "2020 was a challenging year, but we maintained our customer focus and supported them throughout as they navigated the unknown. Neither the pandemic nor the economic slowdown deterred us from completing innovative deals, especially in the digital economy, and from gaining market share in the region."

Stuart Rogers, Head of Wholesale Banking for HSBC Sri Lanka and Maldives said, "The challenges we faced in 2020 spurred us on to find new ways of working together to support our clients. This win is testament to the resilience of our clients in the face of strong headwinds and the strength of HSBC to rise in response to that challenge. Here in Sri Lanka, we offer a full product suite and industry leading trade product capabil-

ities; combined with HSBC's global network and reach, we are in a strong position to support our client's ambitious growth aspirations."

Since its inception HSBC has helped clients navigate the exponential transformation of trade by giving businesses confidence to trade safely and securely around the world whilst optimizing their working capital through a full suite of industry leading trade product capabilities, insurance backed receivable finance, supply chain solutions and connecting them to global digital platforms.

HSBC also seeks to support clients transition to a low-carbon, sustainable economy by deploying its extensive expertise - from leading ESG research through to innovative and sustainable financing, and supply chain solutions backed by the Bank's financing strength and its unique international network.

'Innovation, best tool towards eradication of poverty'

Innovation is the best tool towards eradication poverty and governments should promote and assist innovative ideas especially by youth said Youth Leader from India, Sana Mahajan.

She was speaking at the "SUNFO (Sri Lankan-United Nationalities Friendship Organization) "Global Federation-International Youth Wing" hosted 17th International Youth Workshop on "Sustainable Development Goals -SDG9 " Industry, innovation and Infrastructure" held on Zoom recently.

"When you talk about poverty, innovation leads to the eradication of poverty. When you talk about education or hunger, you think about innovation to curb the whole cause," she said.

"When we talk about living, we talk about infrastructure, sustainable cities and communities we talk about life on land, we talk about life on water, and we talk about everything else. When we have a very strong innovation, our justice system, our social inequality we bring about the peace, justice and the other institutions in the picture."

Director General for Sunfo, Deshapriya Wijetunge said that earlier there were 8 Millennium Development Goals and later they were renamed as Sustainable Development Goals and increased to 17. "Also the period to achieve these goals was fixed for another 15 years commencing from January 2016 and ending in December 2030 and these were inked 193 world governments and leaders at the special



Deepathi Dasun, (In charge of team and SUNFO Global Team Leader - Sri Lanka) Sanah Mahajan, (Co-chairman of Team, India) Kefas Victor (Co-chairman of Team - Nigeria) Dr. Deshapriya S. Wijetunge (Director General-SUNFO-Sri Lanka) P. Ruwan Dayajeewa De Silva, (Advisor/Sustainable Development Diplomacy Governor-Sri Lanka) and Sustainable Development Diplomacy Governor, Ruwan De Silva, who made presentations at the event.



UN General Assembly held in September 2015.

These 17 SDG goals and its allied 169 targets are a part of transforming our world the 2030 sustainable development which was adopted by these 193 member states at the historic UN General Assembly Summit in September 2015. These SDG's have been developed through an unprecedented process which brought national governments and millions of citizens from across the globe together to negotiate and adopt this ambitious agenda.

The key five core values of sustainable development goals centre on People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace, and Partnership.

"Now in order to achieve these goals youth have a special role." Technological progress is also a key to finding lasting solutions to both economic and environmental challenges such as pro-

viding new jobs and promoting energy efficiency. Our energy systems are going to be changed in the coming 15 years.

Today more than 4 million people still do not have access to the internet and 90% are from the developing world. Bridging this digital divide is crucial to ensure equal access to information and knowledge as well as to foster innovation and entrepreneurship.

"So we have to focus in the future in this action decade of SDG's remaining 10 years and create green jobs, decent jobs and new knowledge for youth. This is essential for creating and enabling an environment that is conducive for sustainable and economic growth."

Sustainable Development Diplomacy Governor and Honorary Advisor to Goal No. 9 (Infrastructure and Innovation) International Youth Workshop,

Ruwan De Silva, making the key note speech said that it is obvious the success of achieving these goals will depend on the contribution of the young people who will go on to become leading professionals, academics, scientists, political leaders, business leaders and social workers. He said that the work shop centers around SDG goals 9 which talks on Innovation and Infrastructure.

That is, to build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation. As the name implies, this goal addresses three distinct areas namely industrialization, infrastructure and innovation. Even though they are distinct areas, they are also interrelated and implementation of one will contribute to the progress of others.

A proper infrastructure is necessary for industrial development and innovation can result in pro-

ductivity improvement in industries and more sustainable ways of infrastructure development.

Infrastructure is a basic condition for economic growth and development of any country. Investment in infrastructure and innovation is crucial for economic development. As per UNDP, 2.3 billion people worldwide don't have access to basic sanitation, 2.6 billion people do not have access to constant electricity and more than 4 billion people do not have access to Internet.

"It is found that the construction sector contributes to 23% of air pollution, 50% of the climatic change, 40% of drinking water pollution and 50% of landfill wastes. Therefore, sustainable infrastructure development that minimizes environmental destruction is a must."

According to UN Inter-governmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), largest growth

in the carbon emissions has come from electricity generation, transport and industry. Therefore, Innovation in sustainable, environmental-friendly infrastructure development, transport and renewable energy are necessary to meet these challenges.

Construction activities due to infrastructure development can generate large amounts of waste materials that need to be disposed of. A large amount of construction waste is disposed in landfill sites. There is a potential to recycle many elements of construction waste.

"Therefore, investing in identifying and developing methods in mitigating construction waste and implementing processes to recycle construction waste will become a necessity if the world has to achieve the sustainable development goals by 2030. Innovation in more environmental friendly ways of designing

and construction are necessary to address these burning issues. We need to enhance scientific research, upgrade the technological capabilities and encourage innovation."

Investment in infrastructure will drive industrialization and industrialization in turn is essential for development. Industry creates employment, generates income and contributes to poverty alleviation, promotes social inclusion and empowers women.

As industry develops, it enhances the need to increase value addition of raw materials through manufacturing. This in turn, needs and enhances the application of science, technology and innovation. The Governments need to promote greater investment in skills and education in order to develop science and technology. Investment in education will contribute towards achieving the other sustainable development goals.

While promoting large scale industrialization, it is vital to promote small-scale industrial and other enterprises by enabling access to investment, financial services, including affordable credit, and their integration into value chains and markets.

The outcome of the workshops will be presented to 'SUNFO Global Youth Conference and Award Ceremony' scheduled to be held in March 2021. Final declaration of this Conference will be submitted to UN Secretary General and Heads of States of all 196 Member Countries.

CBL Group in Top 10 Most Admired Companies

The CBL Group, was named among the Top 10 Most Admired Companies in Sri Lanka for the financial year 2019/2020 by The International Chamber of Commerce of Sri Lanka (ICCSL) and the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA). This accolade recognises 10 exemplary organisations across listed and unlisted companies who have shown exemplary financial performance, supported by the value created for stakeholders, customers, employees and society at large.

CBL, a name synonymous with some of the best-loved family brands of the nation, has been at the forefront of developing the food supply value chain in Sri Lanka and fuelling economic growth. Through its agriculture operations, the group creates value for its network of 13,000 organic and conventional farmers aimed at improving livelihoods and maximizing land and resource efficiency towards a sustainable agriculture sector. In its operations, CBL's workforce of over 6,000 employees support CBL brands to take food with purpose to households everywhere through their distributor network nationwide.

"We want our everyday actions to make a positive impact on the lives of our consumers and stakeholders so we focus on delivering the best quality food products to our consumers to address their needs. We believe that our success is best measured by the value we create in our consumers through our brands and products. We are humbled that our efforts have earned us Sri Lanka's admiration" says Ramya Wickramasingha,

Chairman of the CBL Group. The award also recognizes CBL's resilience in times of crisis. As one of the first food manufacturers to begin operations during the lockdown, the agility of CBL's workforce enabled the group to adapt to the new normal and continue to support and strengthen the food supply chain.

Wickramasingha explains "At CBL we strive to live our core values and our CBL value is at the heart of everything we do. We made a decision that we would take every measure to ensure that every CBL employee had job security and fulfillment, so we are very proud that despite the immense challenges of this pandemic, we were able to continue operations under every safety protocol, ensure zero layoffs and fulfill increments, bonuses and promotions for all"



Sheamalee Wickramasingha, Group Managing Director of CBL Group, accepts the award on behalf of CBL.

Keells Products provides customers with great savings on shopping

Providing customers more savings with access to lower priced, good quality products, was the main drive behind introducing the Keells own label range.

The range of Keells products are priced at 10% lesser than comparable products of regular brands and is of good quality. These prices are valid every day and not for a promotional period thus providing customers a significant saving every day.

They are priced competitively due to the minimum marketing and distribution costs incurred as they are products marketed by Keells itself. At the moment, the range has grown to include more than 350+ products in attractive packaging that is easily identifiable as Keells.

Introducing these products not readily available in the market at affordable prices is a testament to Keells's focus on listening to customers and providing them with quality and affordable products.

To ensure quality, Keells own label products go through a stringent quality checking process and quality checks are performed periodically throughout the supply chain. These include an independently conducted facility audit, scheduled laboratory tests for products, a sensory evaluation of products and at certain times an audit by the Keells Quality Assurance Team as well.

The range of Keells own label products covers majority of household needs and consists of essentials such as rice, pulses, eggs, oil, tea, coffee, spices, curry mixes, sauce, jam to a range of biscuits and to household items which include dish wash liquid, detergents, paper products and cleaners.

Offering customers healthy and nutritious product choices at reasonable prices is important to Keells, and a "Free From" category where lactose free soy ice creams in delicious flavours such as Coconut, Berry and Mango has been introduced. The "Soy" product category at Keells also includes milk powder, liquid milk and ice creams in Chocolate and Vanilla flavours and a mix berry frozen yoghurt.

The newly introduced products also includes dates in 250g and 500g pack sizes and range of traditional rice from Suwandal to Pachchaperumal, peanut butter, garlic paste and mustard paste to baking needs such as flour.

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At a time where all households are feeling the strain on the home economy, products that are of good quality at affordable prices matter to ensure you get the best value for money. Keells products can be trusted to deliver on this promise.



AIA Insurance awards top performers at Digital Sales convention



K.D. Maddrakini Thakshila, Nilantha Senarathna Bandara, P.V. Rajitha Priyasanarath, Channa Dunusinghe

AIA Insurance held its first ever Digital Annual Sales Convention, to celebrate and recognize the company's top performers in 2019.

Held under the theme 'Awaken the Superhero in You', the digital event saw the participation of 2663 Wealth Planners from across the island convene in a digitally glamorous celebration of their success. The winners were recognized for their commitment and dedication to going above and beyond their call of duty in serving AIA's customers and emerging on top of their game.

The highlight of the evening was the four awards given out to recognize the best performers of 2019. This year's winner of the 'Best Wealth Planner Award' was K.D. Maddrakini Thakshila from the Moratuwa Area Development Office (ADO). U.A.M. Sanjeevani Somarathna from the Kandy Main Distribution Unit and S. P. S. Rodri-

go from the Colombo Metro Distribution Unit were 1st and 2nd Runners Up, respectively.

The 'Best Wealth Planners' Manager Award' was won by N.W. Nilantha Senarathna Bandara from Kegalle Region 2. S.S. Priyathna Dias from the Moratuwa Area Development Office was the 1st Runner up while M.D. Thuraj Aponso from Colombo Region 5 was 2nd Runner Up.

Not to forget that B.P.V. Rajitha Priyasanarath from the Moratuwa Area Development Office was recognized as the Best Tier 3 Head, with G.H.C. Dileepa Ameendara from the Tissamaharama Area Development Office and Y.G.G.B. Yatigammana from the Mawanella Area Development Office coming in as 1st and 2nd Runner Up, respectively.

The 'Best Distribution Unit Head' was Channa Dunusinghe from Kegalle Region 2, while Heman Kumara from Moratuwa

Region 1 and Indunil Amarasinghe from Colombo Region 2 were 1st and 2nd Runners Up.

Meanwhile, V.A.R.S. Chandrika Perera from the Maharagama Distribution Unit won the 'Best Upcoming Wealth Planner' Award (Female) while K.G.A. Bandara Kahawaththa from Polonnaruwa Main Distribution Unit won the same in the Male category. The Award for 'Best Upcoming Wealth Planners' Managers' was won by Pushpa Weerasinghe from the Gampola Distribution Unit (Female) and R. Duminda Jayasingha from the Ratnapura Distribution Unit (Male).

The theme 'Awaken the Superhero in You' was intended commending the superhero drive of these top performers to honour their commitment to helping Sri Lankans protect themselves and their families, while providing superlative service to AIA's valuable customers.

People's Bank introduces 'People's Spark'

An Entrepreneurship Development Programme

People's Bank introduces "People's Spark" an Entrepreneurship Development Programme including a dedicated collateral free loan scheme for young graduates and for those who have Level 5 National Vocational Qualifications or above.



The programme has been developed in line with the Governments National policy framework "Vistas of Prosperity and Splendour"

The objective of the programme is to focus on developing entrepreneurship among educated and vocationally trained young people by financing between 100 and 150 start-ups, prioritising Agriculture, Food & Beverage, Manufacturing, Innovation, Tourism and Essential services such as Health, Education and Logistics.

The programme also aims to transform classroom knowledge in to practical business ideas via comprehensive guidance programmes and incubation where applicants need to work for three months period under a successful entrepreneur. It also looks to contribute to the local economy by turning local resources in to plausible assets in terms of employment, import substitution and export orientation.

To be eligible for the programme, candidates must be aged between 18-35 years of age, a citizen of Sri Lanka, a graduate from a University accepted by the University Grants Commission of

Sri Lanka or have successfully completed level-5 National Vocational Qualification training or above. Candidates cannot be a defaulter of People's Bank or any other financial institution, and must be willing to participate in training programmes and internships arranged by People's Bank on a need basis.

The purpose of the loan scheme is to facilitate investment and permanent working capital in the following eligible sectors, Agriculture, Manufacturing Industries, Food & Beverages, Innovation and Technology, Essential Services and Tourism. The maximum loan amount is Rs.2.5 million per borrower.

The maximum repayment period for an Investment Loan is 7 years which includes a grace period of 1 year if required. The Working Capital Loan can be repaid in a period of 3 years with a grace period of 6 months if required. Any interest on the loans should be serviced within the given grace periods. Loan repayment whether, monthly, once in two months or once in three months, can be arranged based on cash flow patterns of the business.

Metropolitan College - Seven PhD Programmes

BY JAYASRI JAYAKODY

Metropolitan College, a reputed higher education institute in Sri Lanka, is offering seven PhD Programmes in partnership with Girne American University of North Cyprus (Turkey). Sunday Observer Education spoke with Dr. Siraz Meerasahib, Chairman, Metropolitan College and former Mayor of Kalmunai.

facilities, and faculty. Metropolitan College provides affordable, transferable and comprehensive programmes ranging from diplomas to the doctorate level that are recognised locally by the Tertiary & Vocational Education Commission (TVEC), the University Grants Commission (UGC), and Ofqual regulated programmes that are OTHM and NOCN in the UK" stated Dr. Meerasahib.

In addition, Girne American University (GAU) also holds memberships with the following prestigious bodies around the world: UK NARIC (The National Recognition Information Centre for the United Kingdom) which is an agency for recognizing International Qualifications and skills, the International Association of Universities (IAU) of UNESCO, the European Association for Architectural Education (EAAE), the European Foundation for Management Development (EFMD), The League by the International Scientific Committee of the Eduniversal, the Mediterranean Universities Union (UNIMED), The Council of International Schools (CIS), has obtained the Tourism Education Quality (Ted Qual) Certification of the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), and is recognized by University Grants Commission (UGC) Sri Lanka.

GAU currently has the highest PhD to student ratio. The PhD programmes are accredited by the Higher Education Council of Turkey and North Cyprus; they are internationally recognised and accredited by reputable international accrediting bodies, namely, The European Council of Business Education (ECBE) and the International Accreditation Council for Business Education (IACBE).

"Girne American University has



Dr. Siraz Meerasahib, Chairman of Metropolitan College, meeting the Chancellor of Girne American University Dr. Serhat Akpinar to sign the MoU to offer seven PhD degrees in Sri Lanka. Metropolitan College is the only private education institute to offer PhD in Psychology in Sri Lanka

campuses in the United States, the United Kingdom, Hong Kong, Turkey, Cyprus, Singapore, Moldova and Sri Lanka. GAU has a new Medical Faculty as well. Before partnering with Universities first of all we check whether that university is recognized by the University Grants Commission of Sri Lanka and other relevant local authorities. Then, we look for the UK accreditation of that university. In UK, the accrediting body is the National Recognition Information Center for the United Kingdom (UK NARIC). In the case of Canada, the recognizing body is World Education Services (WES).

There are different recognising bodies for every part of the world. We always endeavour to enter into affiliations with universities that are recognized by such recognising

bodies so our students have no problem in finding employment anywhere in the world. That way, our students can excel in their academic and professional careers," explained Dr. Meerasahib.

"There's a vast range of GAU PhD programmes offered at Metropolitan College which include PhD in Business Management, PhD in Marketing, PhD in Educational Administration and Supervision & Planning, PhD in Tourism and Hospitality, PhD in Politics and International Studies, PhD in Construction Management, and PhD in Psychology. For people interested in making a career in tourism and hospitality in a country such as Sri Lanka with its tourist hotspots and world class hospitality, a PhD in Tourism and Hospitality is

invaluable. There is a plethora of local and overseas career opportunities for those with a PhD in Management, Marketing, Educational Administration and Supervision and Psychology. Once this COVID 19 pandemic is over, which will hopefully be accelerated with several vaccines now available in the world, the construction industry is going to be booming in Sri Lanka and overseas, creating a huge demand for professionals with a PhD in Construction qualification. These seven PhD qualifications we are offering will pave the way for creating professionals with a solid academic background" he further stated.

"PhD qualifications offered with partnership with GAU are rigorously monitored. Teams of evaluators from Girne American University regularly fly in to evaluate the progress of students aspiring for PhD degrees. A student needs to submit a series of assignments, examinations and a Viva along with the thesis and meet the required criteria set by the university. Metropolitan College and Girne American University have to be satisfied of the eligibility of a student's suitability of being awarded a Doctorate," said Dr. Meerasahib.

"Metropolitan College has the privilege of offering certificates, diplomas and higher diplomas. The degrees, Master's degrees and PhD qualifications are awarded by Girne American University. Metropolitan College offers more than 100 programmes.

We are focusing on teacher training and psychology, which are programmes that are in great demand at this stage. We have many students graduating in our Bachelor's Degree programmes who are looking forward to migrating to countries such as New Zealand, Canada and the United Kingdom so there is a huge demand for our educational programmes. We also

offer the OTHM qualification. If any student wants to read for a degree, he or she has to get through OTHM Level 4 or Level 5. So, for any student struggling to follow a degree, we have a clearly defined pathway. The student has to do the OTHM Level 4 or Level 5, which is equivalent to two years of the degree programme, and continue studying for his or her final year of the degree programme. We have many educational pathways available for our students," he continued.

Dr. Meerasahib stated, "More than 1500 students are studying with us at present thus we have a long history more than 15 years in higher education. We also have a faculty of professionals with many years of industrial experience from various industries as faculty members. Our students have the option of completing his or her entire educational programme at Metropolitan College in Sri Lanka or to go abroad for higher studies, we have created pathways for them to go to whichever country they want to go, whether it is the United States of America, the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia or any other destination they select. We have relationships with universities in most countries reputed for higher education, where we could facilitate them to continue their higher studies," he said.

"The main campus of Metropolitan College is in Dehiwala. The College has another branch in Kalmunai. We are planning of expanding to other cities once this COVID 19 Pandemic is over. We at Metropolitan College, together with Girne American University, invite interested students to complete their PhD programmes in an environment highly conducive to learning," said Dr. Meerasahib in conclusion.

Contact telephone numbers of Metropolitan College are 0777 592 966 and 0112712700.

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 at the 28th Annual Export Awards 2020 of the National Chamber of Exporters of Sri Lanka.

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We like to take this opportunity to thank our clients, partners, employees & HR community for supporting our global journey, we look forward to growing our influence in the regions we operate in for many years to come.



GOVIPOLA

Agriculture Supplement

MILCO - A Fresh Base for Dairy Development

BY VASANA ABEYNAYAKE

MILCO was established in 1956 as "The National Milk Board" under the purview of the Ministry of Agriculture. It commenced operations with a single factory in Colombo commissioned under the Colombo Plan. Today it boasts of a wide network of milk collection, production and sales centres administrated through out the island and continue to contribute towards the enhancement of the rural economy while providing the much needed nutrition to the entire nation. At present Milco is operating profitably after reforms at the company following new management in 2020.

Supply Chain Management Expert Lasantha Wickramasinghe has been appointed the new Chairman of MILCO (Pvt) Ltd. For more than 12 years, Wickramasinghe has served at IFS R&D International, a leading international information technology company, as an expert in the fields of supply chain management and tax reporting principles in various countries. He embarked on his career as an executive in the production planning unit of Haycarb PLC. After obtaining his first degree in Mathematics (Special) from the University of Colombo, Wickramasinghe, while being a full-time employee, achieved two master's degrees in the fields of Information Technology and Manufacturing Management. In sports, he has captained the cricket team of University of Colombo.

With a vision to be the "Best in Class" nutritious food and beverage company in Sri



MILCO (Pvt) Ltd., Chairman, Lasantha Wickramasinghe

Lanka; Lasantha Wickramasinghe shared his views along with the new developments of MILCO. Here are the excerpts of the interview.

Q: What is your mission in making the company more stable with the ongoing system in Sri Lanka?

Milco has become a profit making venture. Our Mission is to be a proactive partner in achieving the targeted growth in fresh milk production whilst strengthening the local dairy farmer. Modern technology supported with continuous improvement initiatives to be applied in the processing of nutritious food and beverages to provide our valued consumers at affordable prices.

We have presently got four factories in Ambewala, Digana, Polonnaruwa and Narahenpita along with 93 island wide chilling centres. We maintain around 2000 self-regulating dairy farm societies and collect milk through these societies around the country. These societies collect dairy milk, chill it and distribute all around the country. We have around 23,981 active Dairy Farmers.

Milco was not in a very healthy environment in the beginning of 2020. It has been facing a severe cash flow and the delay of wages of dairy farmers. So that dairy farmers were getting distracted from Milco to join other companies. Communication among employees was in a poor standard. The Organization culture has been deteriorating. However by the end of 2020, the whole income of dairy farmers got increased in more than 15% of what it was. The standard of Milco became extremely successful in the year end by resolving the issue of cash flow, by regular payments of dairy farmers, and re-joining the dairy farmers who have been away from Milco. The promotions for the staff became hundred percent fair and deserving. Moreover, we have attended in uplifting the welfare of the employees of Milco. Eventually; Milco has become a place with a better enterprise than certain private sector employment.

Q: What are the changes that you have done in Milco by the end of 2020?

We have gained the trust of dairy farmers. In the milk processing aspect, a monthly production plan and Monitoring System has been introduced with continuous improvements to minimize machine downtimes. We have also minimized the stocks of finished goods as well as the management storage cost

whilst maximising the utilization of machineries in the production floors. We, not only restored the on time payments for dairy farmers, but also increased the row milk price by more than 15% for them during 2020. Our ambition is to encourage small dairy farmers all over the island to expand their production capacities.

Q: What is the new foundation for dairy development in MILCO during 2021?

The company is also focusing on creating an ecosystem for increased dairy management. Milco has invested in the backbone infrastructure for cattle feeding, breeding, sharing of best practice and networking. A programme is undergoing to help farmers to cultivate pasture. MILCO is purchasing their pasture production and process a bit and then sell it for dairy farmers at a concessionary price. By the end of 2021, we are focussing to create a new market for pasture where many jobs will be created and the dairy production will be increased due to better nutrient for cows. Other than pasture, we are planning to increase our cattle-feed production capacity by five times.

MILCO will start few breeder farms with

under the new "Agile Management System" the company has ensured that the industry is more effective for all stakeholders. Trust is resorted.

problems retaining farmers due to the lack of certainty in timely payment during the past. Under the new "Agile Management" system the company has ensured that the industry is more effective for all stakeholders. Trust is resorted. The longstanding bond with the dairy farmer an MILCO is strengthening by now. Under the agile management system, bottom-up discussions have begun with the workforce. Milco Corporation has been able to increase yoghurt production by 10% in the Narahenpita premises with no capital expenditure owing to suggestions and commitment of our employees.

Q: What are the future plans for MILCO in order to make the enterprise more benefited?

Now, MILCO is a profit making venture. We are focusing on creating an ecosystem for increased dairy production. We are planning to invest 10 more chilling centres, and 200 more farmer societies. During 2021, we will conduct an island wide competition to select 100 best dairy farmers with the purpose of cultivating best practices among dairy farmers to increase their own production. We are positively looking forward to double our production within three years.

the purpose of providing improved breed heifers for farmers, high breed bull calves with high breed stud bulls. Best practices items were included with financial support for farmers, mobile vet route and providing cooling facilities. Finally for the expansion, we are looking forward to commence our new factory in Badalgama in this year. The corporation is confident of contributing to the government's goal of double the milk and milk by-product production.

Q: How have you faced the problem of retaining farmers in your enterprise?

Trust is the key. Basically we have faced



Minister of Agriculture Mahindananda Aluthgamage, State Minister of Livestock, Farm Promotion and Dairy & Egg Related Industries D. B. Herath and State Minister of Paddy and Grains, Organic Food, Vegetables, Fruits, Chillies, Onion and Potato Cultivation Promotion, Seed Production and Advanced Technology Agriculture Shasheendra Rajapaksa participating in the observation tour of MILCO Limited



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Lanka Sugar Company turns into a profitable venture

Records Rs. 1,200 million net profit in 2020

BY LALIN FERNANDOPULLE

Lanka Sugar Company which operates Pelwatte and Sevanagala recorded Rs.1,200 million net profit last year from a net loss of Rs.1,310 million in the previous year which is the highest profit earned by the company for the last 35 years, Lanka Sugar Company, Chairman, Janaka Nimalachandra told the Daily News Supplements. He said the growth in the earnings was a major achievement for the company which had been loss making in the past. "It was the visionary leadership of the new management, commitment of the staff and the team spirit that led to the achievement," Nimalachandra said adding that all credit should go to President Gotabaya Rajapaksa and the two Ministers for their support and correct decisions taken at the right time.



Lanka Sugar Company Private Limited, Chairman Janaka Nimalachandra

He said that increasing production and saving the drain of valuable foreign exchange on imports of sugar is the priority of the company. The company had cultivated 10,000 acres of sugarcane last year which included 8,500 acres at Pelwatte and 1,500 acres at Sevanagala. "We plan to crush around 200,000 MT of additional sugarcane and add over 5,000 acres to the cultivation this year," the Chairman said. The company had around 40,000 MT of production last year and plans to add 15,000 MT of sugar this year. "We have embarked on the factory expansion programme to boost the capacity at Sevanagala and cultivation at Pelwatte," said the Chairman. The government allocated Rs. 475 million through the last budget to increase the factory capacity at Sevanagala. "Phase II of Sevanagala Sugar factory expansion is to be carried out this year. Sevanagala Sugar Factory Crushing Capacity to be expanded from 1250 TCD to 1500 TCD," the Chairman said adding that through the project the factory will be able to crush an extra 60,000 MT of sugarcane. "We have already invested on factory renovation with the purchase of new

machinery and vehicles for agriculture," Nimalachandra said adding that Rs. 600 million has been allocated for irrigation of sugar fields at Pelwatte and Sevanagala. He said the company launched insurance schemes for sugarcane farmers and crop damage which is another first by the company. The Chairman further stated "We also increased the price by Rs. 250 per MT of sugarcane this year in addition to the increase of Rs. 500 per MT last year. Also 10% increment was given for cane transport to support the sugarcane farmers." Around 2,000 employees from the Sevanagala and Pelwatte factories were awarded permanent appointments upon completion of five years. "This is the first time employees were presented permanent appointments since the launch of the company," the Chairman said adding that certain employees were given permanent placement after 27 years of service. He said the Cost of Living allowance of 7,800 was added to employees' salary in two stages (last year March and January this year), which was not paid since 2013. Grade promotions were given to 900 employees after the lapse of over a decade (700-Pelwatte and 200-Sevanagala). Incentive and bonus for all employees were granted as a festival incentive in April (Rs. 75,000/- + one month's salary per employee at Sevanagala Unit and Rs. 25,000 for Pelwatte Unit). He said simultaneously the sugarcane farmers were also awarded a retention allowance for every metric ton of sugarcane supplied to the two factories. Along with this an incentive was given to farmers based on the quality and yield of sugarcane they supplied. A seed cane subsidiary of 50% and Land Preparation subsidiary of 50% was granted for sugarcane farmers to encourage them to cultivate more. "We had expanded sugarcane cultivation by 3500 Ha of new land in Pelwatte area and 500 Ha in Sevanagala area," Nimalachandra said



Minister of Plantation Industries Dr. Ramesh Pathirana



State Minister of Development of Minor Crops including Sugarcane, Maize, Cashew, Pepper, Cinnamon, Cloves, Betel Related Industries and Export Promotion Janaka Wakkumbura


adding that the expansion generated thousands of direct and indirect employment opportunities for people in the Monaragala District. The company built 30 mini-reservoirs (rain water collection ponds) in Pelwatte and another 20 to be added this year to address the water scarcity for sugarcane farming. "We introduced animal feed production using the remnants of the sugarcane harvest and sugar production," the Chairman said adding that the additional income generated through this to be transferred to the farmers to uplift their livelihood. The company introduced high yielding and favorable cane varieties for drought conditions with the assistance of the Sugar Research Institute, commencement of Gal-Amuna irrigation project - phase II (1000ha) with the objective of irrigating 1000 ha of sugar cane cultivation, ensuring uninterrupted supply of sugar to Government institutions which include Co-operatives and Lanka Sathosa outlets specially during the Covid-19 pandemic were steps taken to boost production and support the economy.

"We are working with the Wild Life Department on establishing and repairing electric fence to protect the sugar crop from elephants and other wildlife. Currently the company maintains and protects a 200Km elephant fence with a cost over Rs. 300 million and 500 staff in the Monaragala district where the two factories are located. The company provided a permanent solution to the issue of short supply of fertilizer faced by farmers for many years with the assistance of Fertilizer Secretariat. Lanka Sugar Company also invested in new vehicles for land development, harvesting, collecting and loading, estate protection and fire sections since there are no sufficient machineries and most of the available are over utilized. (70 new vehicles) The company supported in the production of hand sanitizers and antiseptic liquids locally, required for the health sector and the general public in the Covid -19 pandemic situation. The company produced 40,000MT of sugar and 2.5million liters of additional ethanol compared to previous year. "We managed to run the distilleries in full capacity. During the past few years the distilleries have operated only half year," the Chairman said. The company plans to implement an organic fertilizer and biogas producing project in Sevanagala unit which will reduce the cost of oil for boilers and will upgrade the factory to a zero-waste, zero-pollution standard. Plans are afoot to launch an eco-tourism arm under Lanka sugar brand name. "We have commenced work on two resorts at Pelwatte and Sevanagala." Establishment of a spray irrigation system in Sevanagala to provide high quality seed cane and to increase the productivity of the plantations (Investment 50Mn.), reducing the loan interest rate of farmers by 4% (from 12% to 8%) which will be a great relief for the farmer families, writing off Rs. 480 million worth farmers loans (3500 farmers) from January 1 to ease the burden of farmers with plans to install a drip irrigation system for Sugar Cane cultivation in Pelwatte Unit - Cost-Rs. 100 Million are some of the expansionary and employee welfare measures taken by the company.




Harvesting and storing of sugarcane at the Sevanagala and Pelwatte factories





State Ministry of Development of Minor Crops including Sugarcane, Maize, Cashew, Pepper, Cinnamon, Cloves, Betel Related Industries and Export Promotion



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THINK GLOBAL, ACT LOCAL!

To re-ignite the passions of town & country folk

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THINK GLOBAL, ACT LOCAL!

RUWINI JAYAWARDANA

“Self-confidence is the most attractive quality a person can have. How can anyone see how great you are if you can’t see it yourself?” questions Chathuni Senanayake, Miss Globe Sri Lanka 2020.



This and learning the ropes of community involvement motivated her to take part in the beauty pageant.

“The event taught me so much about myself, and I learned so much more about other things in life like poise, grace, proper communication, building self-confidence, networking and much more,” she mused.

This is not the first time that the beauty has adorned a crown. She had become Miss NDB in 2017 and 2018. Armed with that experience, Senanayake took part in Miss Brand Sri Lanka, winning 12th place in the event. She won four mini titles: Miss Personality, Miss Intelligent, Best Physique, and Best Catwalk in the Miss Globe Sri Lanka pageant. Taking part in the Miss Globe international competition, Senanayake bagged the Miss Globe Ambassador title.

“I do not wish to compare any of the other globally renowned beauty pageants with the Miss Globe pageant. I will be representing the Miss Globe family with the title they have bestowed upon me. It is a great honour,” she said.

An annual conventional beauty pageant organization founded in Canada in 1947, Miss Globe sees more than 60 participants from countries across the world showcasing their talents on an international platform. However in 2020, there were more than 100 countries taking part in the event.

Asked which moment was the most challenging event for her at the competition and she pauses to ponder over the question before answering.

“Generally every moment at the event was challenging but since I believed in myself, nothing was of defiance for me. Once I won the mini titles, I had a strong belief that I would be named as the winner. The whole pageant was filled with so many new experiences and memories. It is impossible to name just one single moment that stands out,” she explained.

As Miss Globe Ambassador Senanayake says that she has a wide range of responsibilities connecting with foreign nations. She is also heavily involved in leadership programmes, encouraging groups to act towards achieving a common goal.

“Many women join this sector seeking a career in the entertainment field. They hope this programme will give them a boost to

enter the modeling, compeering or acting arena. A pageant of this nature can help them make an impression and link them with those who are experts in the field,” she opined.

Her original dream had been to become a lawyer but now with the Miss Globe Ambassador title weighing on her shoulders, Senanayake says that she is working hard to perform her duties even in these stressful times.

“The whole world is undergoing a crucial period. I am trying to take an authentic approach because we never expected to face such an unpredictable situation like this global pandemic. As a nation we should get together and eliminate

COVID-19. I am planning some charity events like upgrading the educational sector in rural area schools and visiting Apeksha Cancer Hospital. I am also planning to aid the war heroes who risked their lives to give us a better future during the terrorist era. I will be starting my own YouTube channel to talk about current issues in Sri Lanka and what kind of action should be taken to overcome them,” she expressed.

Glit Chat

Coming from a family of four, Senanayake hails from Bambalapitiya. She is a product of Visakha Vidyalaya, Colombo. Her father, Sunil Senanayake, was a senior police officer while her mother, Anoma Senanayake, had been employed at Aitken Spence for more than 25 years. Her brother, Shehan Senanayake, has his own company. Her sister-in-

law is Chathurika Senanayake. She encourages other youth to take part in recognized pageants of this nature.

“It is a path to bringing pride to your country. If we managed to bring honour upon our nation 35 years ago by producing the first Mrs World title holder, then we have time to bring more laurels to Sri Lanka. Personally, I see no problem hosting beauty pageants of this nature in this country because though we embrace different traditions and cultures, we are a developing nation,” she pointed out.

Senanayake is employed as a director in Independence Holdings at World Trade Centre. She is also planning to start her own cat walk modeling academy, a restaurant and a clothes store.

“My ambition is to become a recognized business woman in Sri Lanka. My wish for 2021 is that we will be able to eradicate COVID-19 and people would learn from this situation and be able to get back to their daily lifestyle,” she concluded.

SHORT QUESTIONS

THOSE WHO KNOW YOU USUALLY DESCRIBE YOU AS:

A sweet person because I always spend time with people and mingle with them

PET NAMES: Chathu, Chaththa, Chichi

PASSIONS: Modeling

HOW DO YOU COPE WITH CRITICISM:

By showing gratitude to those who offer constructive criticism

HABITS: I engage in cycling and usually try out new types of food

FIRST AMBITION IN LIFE:

To become a lawyer

MOST PRECIOUS THING YOU OWN:

My mother

OUR GREATEST WEAKNESS:

Trusting people too quickly

YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE REMEMBERED AS:

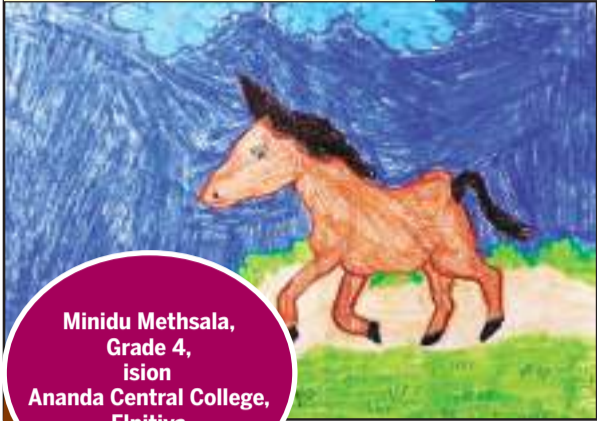
a lovely and caring person who helped others in their difficult times





Art Gallery

A horse



Minidu Methsala, Grade 4, Ananda Central College, Elpitiya

Sunset by the sea



Nadia Akbally, Grade 10, C.M.S. Ladies' College, Colombo

A scenery



Buvenaka Adhikari, Grade 9, Thurstan College, Colombo

Social media

Social media is made up of computer based technologies which have facilities to share information. Social media is based on the Internet which gives users quick electronic communication. Some examples for social media are Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. It has many advantages and disadvantages. The main advantage of social media is it has a vast range of easier and faster communication. And it is also spread worldwide. Therefore, we can communicate with people who are in other countries too. Social media has a lot of benefits for teachers as well as students. It is very easy to learn from experts via the social media. However, there are disadvantages more than advantages. Most people get addicted to it and waste their time. This mostly affects teenagers. And they can associate people who are addicted to alcohol via social media. Most parents, too gets addicted to it and has no time for their children. So, let us try to use social media only for the most essential things and for our own betterment.

Sasath Dinsara Premathilake, Grade 7, Lyceum International School, Ratnapura.

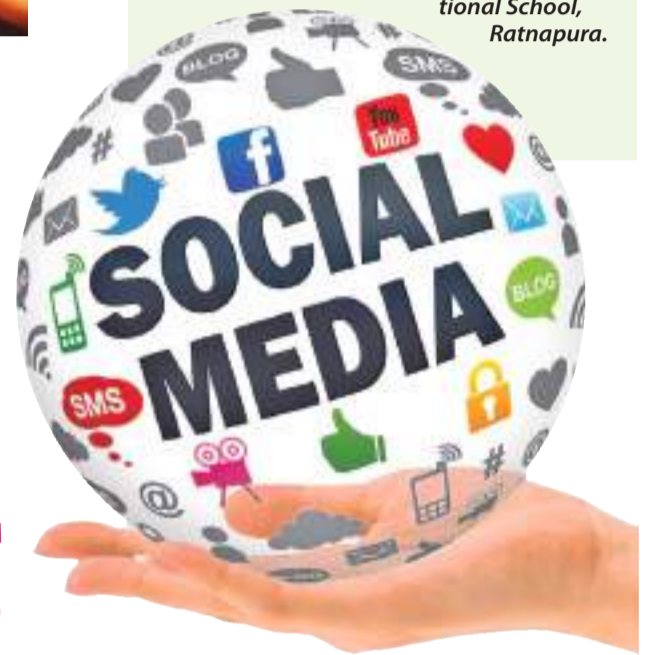
Little thoughts

BARBIE DOLLS



Barbie dolls are very famous all over the world. She first appeared in 1959. Barbie dolls are pretty, slim dolls with long hair. There are different sized Barbie dolls. A Barbie kit comes with lots of fashionable clothes, slippers and other accessories like hair brushes and jewellery. She also has her own house, cars, swimming pools and friends too. Ken, Stacie, Skipper and Katie are some of her friends. Barbie has her own cartoons, movies and story-books. 'Barbie in the Nutcracker', 'Barbie and the Diamond Castle' and 'Mariposha' are some of the movies she appears in. Pictures of Barbie dolls appear on pencils, school bags, pencil-cases, stickers, posters and stationery. I too, love Barbie dolls. My wish is that Barbie dolls would be true.

Rehana Taufeeq, Grade 6, Muslims Ladies College, Colombo



CLOUDS

Clouds are collections of microscopic water droplets and ice crystals that float in the air. They are made up of millions of particles. These millions of little particles are water droplets that have evaporated from oceans, lakes, rivers, and so on. Clouds give the most accurate clue about the coming weather. Certain types of clouds often appear before a storm. A smokystack of clouds is a very good prediction of a thunderstorm. Storm clouds often look gray because they are so thick that most of the sun's light cannot pass through them. The heating and cooling of the earth is regulated by clouds.

The reason, clouds are white is because of the sunlight passing through them. The sunlight hits each individual drop of water in the clouds which in turn breaks down the light like a spectrum. Eventually, all the colors are reflected to form the color white. A cloud may look light and fluffy but a relatively small cloud can weigh up to 550 tons.

Nethumini Ariyadasa, Grade 11, Devi Balika Vidyalaya, Colombo

Get some fresh air!



Fresh air is very important to us. We can live without food and water for sometime but we cannot live without air even for a few minutes. We cannot see air. It is a mixture of many gases. Without air our planet would be lifeless. Fresh air is very important for plants and animals too. Nature provides fresh air to us through plants and animals. So plants and trees help to generate fresh air. In the cities, the air gets mixed with harmful gases from factories and vehicles. The polluted air makes us ill.

We should plant more trees to keep the air fresh. We should not throw waste or garbage everywhere. We should try and keep our surroundings clean. This will help us to live a healthy life. We should protect forests from being cut down. We should all join hands to build a greener and healthier environment.

Kisan Ransika Amarasinghe, Grade 8, Prince of Wales College, Moratuwa

The moon



The moon comes out at night. Some people think that there is a rabbit in the moon. It's a myth. The first person to step on the moon was Neil Armstrong. One cannot stand on the moon, as one starts to float because there is less gravity on the moon. The moon has no light of its own. The sunlight reflects on the moon.

There are different stages of the moon, such as full moon, half moon, quarter moon and no moon. The full moon is seen every month in Sri Lanka and we call it Poya Day. The moon is white in colour. With the moon, the stars also come out. People have made star constellations such as Big Bear, Big Dog, Southern Cross etc. In those days people did not have electricity so the only thing was the moon. So my dear friends' nature is a nice thing.

Gayantha Keerthiratne, Grade 9, Richmond College, Galle

Foundation for the future

The newest branch of Challenge Kids pre-school, Kadawatha, was inaugurated recently at Wathurugama, Gampaha. Around 20 children joined the new branch on this occasion. Principal Sagarika Priyadharshani, assistance teacher Udeshani Neranjala, and Nisansala Dissanayake spearheaded

the project in a safe and picturesque environment. They aim to provide their students with the foundation of education needed for a child to join grade one at a formal school. A lot of co-curricular activities are in store for the children to enhance their knowledge.

Pictures by Ranjith Asanka



Words from a teacher's heart

I'm so proud, I was your teacher. I've watched you, learn and grow. We worked so hard, And had such fun. How fast the time did go! Our year was interrupted, So now it seems too soon to part, Just to know that you will, Be safe and ok to carry on with life, Gives me immense joy, You will always have a special place, Within my heart. Kasuni Nethara, Grade 10, Mahamaya Girls' College, Kandy



A bid to go green

Text and pictures by M U M SANON, Puttalam TKN Corr

Pearls of Excellence, the students of School of Excellence, Madurankuliya, Puttalam conducted an awareness program on environmental protection, air pollution and water conservation on the eve of National Environment Day. The event took place at the school premises. Principal H Ajmal, Vice Principal Fatima Beebi, Muslim Hands Project Officer M Harris, pre grade teacher in charge Jesliya, parents, teachers and students were present.

Trees which are beneficial for mankind were also planted there by teachers and students. The parents of Pearls of Excellence donated love birds and a shed and a fish tank to the school.



GOLDEN GLOBES 2021 RED CARPET

STARS AMP UP their FASHION GAME

Daniel Levy, who has been nominated for Best Performance by an Actor in a Television Supporting Role for 'Schitt's Creek' upped his fashion game, dressed in a yellow suit.



Following a two-month delay, the much-anticipated Golden Globes Awards 2021 kicked off on Sunday. For the first time in history, hosts Amy Poehler and Tina Fey conducted a bicoastal virtual ceremony by hosting from two different locations. Although the event is virtual, it is time for the celebrities to bring their fashion A-game and despite the limitations due to the novel coronavirus, one still got to see the best of Hollywood flaunting their style on the red carpet. Check out some of the looks here. ANI



Nominee Elle Fanning chose a slinky Gucci dress worthy of an Old Hollywood siren, complete with dramatic cape detail and a pooling train. The actor enlisted photographer Gareth Gattrell from the set of her show The Great to capture her ice-blue gown and Fred Leighton jewels from all angles for Instagram.

Sarah Hyland looked her fashionable best in a stunning red Monique Lhuillier gown



Margot Robbie looked chic in a Chanel ensemble, complete with a patterned ruffle dress, cinched belt, evening bag, and stilettos with pearl accents

Amanda Seyfried looked like a vision to behold in a backless gown as she prepped for the award ceremony. She rocked a custom Oscar de la Renta, with a floral off-the-shoulder halo.



Regina King, who was nominated in the Best Director category, wore a shimmering Louis Vuitton gown accessorised with Forevermark jewellery.



In a glitzy strapless Oscar de la Renta gown, Harry Winston jewels, and Stuart Weitzman shoes, Kaley Cuoco looked absolutely stunning



The star of Ma Rainey's Black Bottom Viola Davis was resplendent in a vibrant fishtail gown by Lavie by CK, the work of Cameroon-born, LA-based designer Claude Kameni.

The double nominee Anya Taylor-Joy opted for a Dior dress that managed to nod to both of her projects: Emma, and The Queen's Gambit. "The dress is retro, but modern and cool at the same time," said her stylist Law Roach, who added Tiffany & Co jewellery as a finishing touch



STRIKING GOLD!

'Minari', a semi-autobiographical drama about a family of Korean immigrants trying to realise their American dream in the 1980s, has won the best foreign film Golden Globe following a controversy around its classification that led the movie to be overlooked in the best picture race. The Hollywood Foreign Press Association (HFPA), the body that conducts the Globes, courted sharp criticism from several personalities, including Lulu Wang, Simu Liu, and Phil Lord after it relegated the Lee Isaac Chung directorial to the foreign-language category given that the film was financed and produced by American companies, A24 and Plan B, respectively. The cast, led by 'The Walking Dead' alum Steven Yeun, and crew were also majority made up of American talent. Also starring Han Ye-ri, Alan Kim, Noel Kate Cho, Youn Yuh-jung, and Will Patton, 'Minari' was only nominated in one category. It really was a family affair for Chung, whose seven-year-old daughter was sitting in his lap, as accepted the award, his first.

The filmmaker thanked the 'Minari' team, his cousins, his parents, his sister, and his wife, who he said was "hiding". "And this one here," he said patting his daughter who went on to hug him tightly, adding "she is the reason I made this film." Chung, who has received rave reviews for the film, also addressed the controversy around its nomination. The second-generation Korean American said 'Minari' is about a family that is trying to speak a language of its own. "It goes deeper than any American or foreign language," he added. "It's a language of the heart and I'm trying to learn it myself and pass it on. I hope a lot of (people) learn how to speak this language of love to each other especially this year. God bless you all and thank you," Chung said as he closed his acceptance speech. As per the rules of the HFPA, the contenders for the best drama or comedy/musical categories must feature at least 50 per cent English dialogues.



Parineeti sings for 'The Girl on The Train'

Parineeti Chopra is ready to make a comeback of sorts with The Girl On the Train. The actress has a lot of hopes from this one and has been promoting it wholeheartedly for days now. Apart from Parineeti, the film also stars Aditi Rao Hydari in a crucial role. Today, Parineeti took to Instagram to share a video of herself singing a song from the film. The song is titled Matlabi Yaariyan and Parineeti lent her voice to the song beautifully as she sang sitting in front of the camera. A soulful track, Pari was seen engrossed in feeling the song as she sang with her heart. The film has released digitally today, are you excited to watch this one?



Pinkvilla

Turning producer

Alia Bhatt has been the talk of the town ever since last week the makers of Gangubai Kathiawadi released its teaser. Alia's performance in the teaser has left everyone mighty impressed. With Sanjay Leela Bhansali's genius and Alia's acting chops, the film's first glimpse has blown over people's minds. And while Alia basks in the glory, the actress takes another huge step in her career. Alia Bhatt took to her Instagram this morning and shared the bright and sunny news. She shared the logo of her production house and captioned it saying, 'And I am so happy to announce... PRODUCTION!! Eternal Sunshine Productions. Let us tell you tales. Happy tales. Warm and fuzzy tales. Real tales. Timeless tales.' We all know that Alia Bhatt loves cats and no wonder the actress has cats on her production house' logo. Now this sounds super-interesting. Alia is known for her choice for the right scripts as an actor and now as a producer, we're sure she will up the

game and give us more beautiful and interesting stories. Can't wait. Netizens and industry folks are flooding Alia's timeline with congratulatory texts. Right from Karan Johar, Zoya Akhtar to Riteish Deshmukh have commented and wished the girl luck. Alia Bhatt has an interesting line-up for films for the coming months. Starting with Gangubai Kathiawadi, which will be followed by Brahmastra and then she even has a cameo in RRR. As per reports, she will be doing Gunjan Saxena fame director Sharan Sharma's next along with Karтик Aaryan. Joyride for the actress at the movies!



Filmfare



TOMATO TREATS!

When it comes to skin care, you don't have to go far and wide in search of ingredients that will give you healthy and glowing skin. Whether you're snacking on cherry tomatoes, or heirloom tomatoes, it turns out that beyond being delicious; eating a tomato-heavy diet has skincare benefits. Tomatoes are full of vitamins and antioxidants, and are low-calorie, but nutrient-dense which means they are packed with tons of vitamins, minerals, and phytonutrients. Readily available in almost every kitchen and loved by all, the benefits of tomatoes for skin and health are plenty!

NUTRITIONAL INGREDIENTS

The water content of tomatoes is around 95 percent. The other 5 percent consists mainly of carbohydrates and fiber. Here are the nutrients in a small (100-gram) raw tomato (1 Trusted Source):

- Calories: 18
- Water: 95 percent
- Protein: 0.9 grams
- Carbs: 3.9 grams
- Sugar: 2.6 grams
- Fiber: 1.2 grams
- Fat: 0.2 grams

TOMATOES FOR MAINTAINING BEAUTY

Tomatoes are a potent source of vitamin A, vitamin C, vitamin K, potassium and folate. The high percentage of nutrients present in it makes tomatoes very good for your skin.

BEAUTY BENEFITS

Several compounds in tomatoes have an anti-inflammatory effect. These compounds include:

- Lycopene
- Beta carotene
- Lutein
- Vitamin E
- Vitamin C

When applied to the skin, these compounds may help ease pain associated with skin irritations or sunburn. However, no research has looked at whether tomatoes can help with inflammation when applied topically to your skin.

- May stimulate collagen production
- As previously mentioned, tomatoes are an excellent source of vitamin C. Besides boosting your immune system, vitamin C can help stimulate collagen production.
- May help remove dead skin cells
- Exfoliation removes dead skin cells. It may help improve the health and appearance of your skin.
- Some people claim the enzymes



in tomatoes can offer exfoliation benefits when applied to the skin.

- May have anti-aging properties
- B vitamins are essential to skin health. There's no shortage of these vitamins in tomatoes.

HEALTH BENEFITS

Tomatoes are a good source of several vitamins and minerals.

- **Vitamin C:** This vitamin is an essential nutrient and antioxidant. One medium-sized tomato can provide about 28 percent of the reference daily intake.
- **Potassium:** An essential mineral, potassium is beneficial for blood pressure control and heart disease prevention
- **Vitamin K1:** Also known as phyloquinone, vitamin K is important for blood clotting and bone health
- **Folate (vitamin B9):** One of the B vitamins, folate is important for normal tissue growth and cell function. It's particularly important for pregnant women
- Tomatoes are juicy and sweet, full of antioxidants, and may help fight several diseases.
- They are especially high in lycopene, a plant compound linked to improved heart health, cancer prevention, and protection against sunburns.
- Tomatoes can be a valuable part of a healthy diet.



SELECTING TOMATOES AS A PART OF A BEAUTY TREATMENT

Look for plump, heavy tomatoes with smooth skins. They should be free of bruises, blemishes, or deep cracks.

BEAUTY TREATMENTS

When it comes to skin care, tomatoes are one of my favourite and most effective remedies for a clear and clean skin. Not only are they full of nutrients but also highly effective in healing and clarifying the skin.

SIDE EFFECTS

Tomatoes are naturally acidic. If you're sensitive to these natural acids or if you're allergic to tomatoes, applying the fruit or juice to your skin could cause a reaction. Signs of a skin reaction include:

- Rash
- Itching
- Redness
- Other kinds of irritations

Although tomato allergy is rare, individuals allergic to grass pollen are more likely to be allergic to tomatoes. This condition is called pollen-

food allergy syndrome or oral-allergy syndrome

In oral-allergy syndrome, your immune system attacks fruit and vegetable proteins that are similar to pollen, which leads to allergic reactions like itching in the mouth, scratchy throat, or swelling of the mouth or throat. People with latex allergy can also experience cross-reactivity to tomatoes.

GROWING TOMATOES FOR BEAUTY TREATMENTS

Choose your sunniest garden spot, because tomatoes soak up sunshine just like water. Aim for seven hours of sunshine a day. Plant to give your plants room to grow, too, planting seedlings 30 to 48 inches apart, with rows set 48 inches apart. This will let light into the lower portions of the mature plants, improve air flow and help prevent disease.

Compiled by Ruwini Jayawardana



TOMATO HOME REMEDIES

Remove dead skin cells

Our skin attracts dirt, oil, pollution and other harmful things from the environment and this makes your skin appear dull and uneven over time. Regular cleansing is not enough to get rid of this dirt because it gets trapped into the pores of the skin. The enzymes in tomatoes mildly exfoliate the skin by removing the top layer of dead skin cells.

How to use:

While you may have heard about mixing sugar with tomato pulp and applying the mix on your skin, we suggest you only use this as a body scrub. The skin on your face is sensitive and can get easily irritated by the sugar granules. You can apply the pulp as it is, to reap the benefits of tomato for the facial skin.

Reduce excess oil

While tomato benefits the skin in a number of different ways, this one is the most popular. Excessive oil production is a common concern among those with oily and acne-prone skin. It can hamper the overall appearance as well as make it difficult to keep your makeup in place. If you are tired of blotting oil from your face, try this natural method that involves the use of tomatoes.

How to use:

Cut a tomato into half and rub it all over the face. Let it rest for 10-15 minutes and then wash off to get smooth, soft and matte-looking skin. With regular use, it will address the problem of excessively oily skin and balance your skin's natural pH level.

Brightens skin

Those who don't follow a good skincare routine or skip wearing sunscreen may find that their skin looks dull and uneven. The benefits of tomatoes can help correct this problem. Rich in vitamins C, E and beta carotene, tomatoes even out skin tone as well as brighten skin and reveal its natural complexion.

How to use:

Take the juice of one tomato in a bowl and add a tiny amount of turmeric powder along with enough sandalwood powder to form a paste. Apply this skin-brightening pack on your face and relax until it dries off. Wash the mask and notice the difference!

Add 'Gotu Kola' to your skincare routine

Everyone loves an effective natural blend in their skincare routine. Gotu kola provides major benefits to your skin. This natural ingredient has been used for centuries to calm down inflammation and varicose veins.

Harshvardhan Modi, the founder of Inveda and Vedicline, India says: "Gotu kola is traditionally used in healing wounds, reducing anxiety, skin diseases; but it is a gem when it comes to treating the skin."

Also known as Centella Asiatica, it is primarily found in sunscreen or scar-fading products.

Reasons for adding it to your skincare routine

When you want your skin to restore its elasticity and firmness, there has to be collagen production. Gotu kola is great for stimulating collagen. Not only that, it also protects your skin from free radicals and UV rays. "Gotu kola helps in boost-

ing the collagen, forestalling the presence of wrinkles, pigmentation and other ageing issues. It is even accepted to be proficient in battling cellulite because of its firming properties," Modi explains.

While it is excellent for healing wounds, Modi adds it also helps treat "flaky skin disease and psoriasis". "The medicinal plant is enriched with flavonoids which accelerate wound healing and calms down inflammation."

Not only that, it also helps in lightening and brightening dark circles while reducing puffiness. "It has the capability to get absorbed into your skin deeply and thus offers rejuvenating benefits to the same," Modi says.

When should you use gotu kola?

"Unlike other ingredients such as Vitamin C or retinol, there is no particular time to use it. Whenever your skin

is feeling oily, dull, or tired, just add gotu kola to your routine.

-India Express

GOTU HAS BEEN TRADITIONALLY USED TO HEAL WOUNDS AND REDUCE INFLAMMATION



TENDER NOTICE**Kotapola Pradeshiya Sabha**

Tenders are invited for lease out of following properties of Kotapola Pradeshiya Sabha for the period from 01st April 2021 to 31st December 2021 on rental basis.

- It should be applied only through application obtained by paying due tender bonds and tender form fee to Kotapola Pradeshiya Sabha and providing identity. National Identity Card / valid riding licence should be forwarded to prove the identity. Applications are issued only up to 2.00 p.m. from 05.03.2021 to 22.03.2021.
- Tender Forms are accepted by me up to 10.00 a.m. on 23.03.2021. Tender papers will be opened at 10.30 a.m. on the day itself at Head Office of Kotapola Pradeshiya Sabha which is situated in Deniyaya.
- Chairman of Tender Board reserves the right of final decision on accepting or rejecting Tenders. Further information could be obtained from Office of Kotapola Pradeshiya Sabha within office hours.
- Tender Forms are not issued to any body who has been blacklisted and cannot prove the identity.
- You are subjected to tender conditions provided in issuing Tender Forms.

Serial No.	Property Name	Tender Valuation for 2021	Tender Bond	Form Fee
01	Deniyaya Fish Stall No. 01 - At New Weekly Fair Premises of Deniyaya Pallegama Road.	225,000.00	50,000.00	3,000.00
02	Deniyaya Fish Stall No. 02 - At New Weekly Fair Premises of Deniyaya Pallegama Road.	225,000.00	50,000.00	3,000.00
03	Deniyaya Fish Stall No. 03 - At New Weekly Fair Premises of Deniyaya Pallegama Road.	225,000.00	50,000.00	3,000.00
04	Deniyaya Fish Stall No. 01 In front of Deniyaya Police Station	375,000.00	50,000.00	3,000.00
05	Deniyaya Fish Stall No. 02 In front of Deniyaya Police Station	375,000.00	50,000.00	3,000.00
06	Kotapola Fish Stall	75,000.00	25,000.00	1,500.00

A.P. Dayananda,
Chairman,
Kotapola Pradeshiya Sabha

Kotapola Pradeshiya Sabha, Deniyaya.
Telephone No. 041-2273275
02.03.2021

PROCUREMENT NOTICE**PROVINCIAL ROAD DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
NORTH CENTRAL PROVINCE**

Quotations are invited from eligible Bidders for Supplying and Laying of Carpet on the Roads mentioned below being carried out by the North Central Provincial Road Development Authority.

Serial No.	Procurement No.	Project	Bid Security		Non Refundable Fee (Rs.)
			Value (Rs.)	Validity Date	
01	NCP/PRDA/Asphalt/2021/01	Laying of Carpet on Kahatagollewa - Galkadawala - Wahalkada Road (12 + 000 - 13 + 080)	116,000.00	09.07.2021	3,500.00
02	NCP/PRDA/Asphalt/2021/02	2.1 Laying of Carpet on Rathmalgahawewa - Kirigallewa Road (0 + 000 - 1 + 000) and 2.2 Laying of Carpet on Rathmalgahawewa - Ethawetunuwewa Road (0 + 000 - 1 + 150)	88,500.00	09.07.2021	3,000.00
03	NCP/PRDA/Asphalt/2021/03	Laying of Carpet on Parasangawewa - Medagama - Kolibendewa Road (1 + 000 - 2 + 250)	87,000.00	09.07.2021	3,000.00
04	NCP/PRDA/Asphalt/2021/04	4.1 Laying of Carpet on Iluppukulama - Karambawa Road (1 + 140 - 1 + 415) 4.2 Laying of Carpet on Halmillewa - Metikewa Road (2 + 170 - 2 + 660) 4.3 Laying of Carpet on Parasangawewa - Katukeliyawa Road (28 + 000 - 32 + 000)	73,500.00	09.07.2021	2,500.00
05	NCP/PRDA/Asphalt/2021/05	5.1 Laying of Carpet on Anuradhapura Ayurvedha Hospital Internal Roadway System. 5.2 Medawachchiya Isinbessagala Temple Avenue (0 + 000 - 0 + 480) 5.3 Anuradhapura Godage Mawatha, Water Board Internal Roadway System	65,000.00	09.07.2021	2,500.00
06	NCP/PRDA/Asphalt/2021/06	Laying Carpet on Badanagala Gammana Road (0 + 000 - 1 + 383)	50,000.00	25.06.2021	2,500.00
07	NCP/PRDA/Asphalt/2021/07	Laying of Carpet on Roadway leading to Ipologama Dharmasheelaramaya (0 + 000 - 0 + 670)	36,000.00	25.06.2021	1,500.00

- Bid Applications for this purpose could be obtained from the Head Office of the Provincial Road Development Authority located at H.B. Semasingha Mawatha, Anuradhapura from 04.03.2021 up to 25.03.2021 during office hours (9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m.) after paying the non-refundable fee in cash to this Institution.
- A Bid Security obtained from a commercial bank valid from the bid opening date up to the date mentioned in the relevant column mentioned above should be submitted for the procurement or the receipt obtained after paying the relevant amount to the Bank of Ceylon in favour of the General Manager to the Credit of Account No. 0001472049 should be submitted to the Accounts Division of the Provincial Road Development Authority and the Receipt No. NC100 thus received should be submitted.
- Duly completed applications containing quotations prepared as original and duplicate along with certified copies of all relevant documents should be inserted in separate envelopes and thereafter, they should be enclosed in one single envelope with the number and the name of the project marked clearly on the top left-hand corner and should be sent by registered post to the address below to be received before 11.00 a.m. on 26.03.2021 or could be inserted in the Tender Box kept at this address.
- A Pre-Bid Meeting regarding this matter will be held at 10.00 a.m. on 17.03.2021 at the Head Office of the Provincial Road Development Authority at H.B. Semasingha Mawatha.
- Bids will be opened at the address below, immediately after closing of accepting Bids and the Bidder or a representative could be present on this occasion.
- Further details regarding this Procurement could be obtained by contacting on the Phone Number mentioned below.
- The decision of the Procurement Board regarding this Bid Invitation and the awarding is deemed final.

Chairman
Procurement Committee
Provincial Road Development Authority (N.C.P.)
H.B. Semasingha Mawatha,
Anuradhapura.
Tel. No. 025-2222505

**Department of Co-operative
Development - Southern Province****Special Notification to the parties, engaged in the transactions
with the Co-operative Societies in the Southern Province**

According to the decision taken by the Cabinet of Ministers of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, regulation of the Co-operative Societies, registered under the Co-operative Societies Act No. 05 of 1972, as amended by the Act No. 32 of 1983 and by the Act No. 11 of 1992 is carried out by Regulation Committees of the Co-operative Societies of Financial Services and Co-operative Rural Banks, established at the National and Provincial levels. Accordingly, upon the agreement with the Southern Provincial Co-operative Rural Banks and Financial Services Co-operative Societies Regulation Committee maximum interest rate limits for the deposits are indicated as per the Bank Regulatory Circulars issued by the Southern Provincial Co-operative Development Commissioner / Registrar.

Nevertheless acting contrarily to the instructions given in these circulars, some Co-operative Societies have provided higher interest rates, to their Depositors' Deposits to attract investments from them and thereby to fulfill the financial short-term necessities and requirements of the Societies / Banks, hence it is observed that occasions have arisen for these high interest rates were caused to the financial crises / calamities occurred in these Societies.

Therefore, attention is drawn of the Depositors to make deposits in the Co-operative Societies, taking into the consideration that it is a high risk to make their investments, exceeding undermentioned interest rates, limits.

Fixed Deposits

	Maturity Period	Annual Interest Rate	
		Taking Interests after the Maturity (of the Fixed Deposits)	Interest payments taken monthly (of the Fixed Deposits)
1.	Matured in 3 Months	4.75%	4.50%
2.	Matured in Six Months	5.00%	4.75%
3.	Matured in One Year	5.25%	5.00%
4.	Matured after 05 Years	5.50%	5.25%

Savings Deposits

Category of Deposits	Interest Rates	Category of Deposits	Interest Rate
Ordinary Savings	3.00%	Children's Savings	4.50%
Senior Citizens Savings / Investment Savings Deposits	5.00%	Saving Accounts of Co-operative Societies / Samurdhi Savings Accounts / other Savings	4.00%
Women's Savings with Brand Names	3.50%		

As there are Co-operative Societies, acting contrarily to the Department's regulation process, and collecting and gathering Depositors deposit publishing them as they are registered Co-operative Societies in the Southern Province and it is advisable and trustworthy to contract the following Telephone Nos. of the Department of Co-operative Development, specially in the cases of the large scale money deposits.

Southern Provincial Department of Co-operative Development
147/3, Pettigalawatta, Galle.

Telephone : 091-2234380
Fax : 091-2234380
Galle : 091-2234308
Matara : 041-2222320
Hambantota : 047-2256015

**National Crafts Council**

Ministry of Rattan, Brass, Pottery, Furniture and Rural Industry Promotion

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)**Supply & Delivery of Porcelain Bull Nose Strain Insulator &
Porcelain Reel Insulator**

IFB No: NCC/PRO/NCB/2021/01

- The Chairman, Department Procurement Committee (DPC) on behalf of the National Crafts Council invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for Supply & Delivery of Porcelain Bull Nose Strain Insulators & Porcelain Reel Insulators specified in the schedule given below.

Item No.	Description	Qty	Bid Security (Rs)
01	Porcelain Bull Nose Strain Insulators	379645	350,000.00
02	Porcelain Reel Insulators	39135	

- Bidders who have at least 03 years experience in Supply & Delivery of Porcelain Bull Nose Strain Insulator & Porcelain Reel Insulator or similar type of products to reputed organizations may submit bids.
- Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding (NCB).
- Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from Accountant, National Crafts Council, Rohina Mawatha, Pelawatta, Battaramulla, Sri Lanka. (Telephone: +94 112784008) and inspect the bidding documents free of charge at the same address from 9.00 am to 2.30 pm on any working day from 04.03.2021 to 17.03.2021
- Pre-Bid meeting will be held at the Boardroom of the National Crafts Council on 10.03.2021 at 10.00 a.m.
- A complete set of Bidding Documents in English language may be purchased by interested bidders on submission of a written request to the Director, National Crafts Council, and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Rs. 3,500/- to the Shroff of the National Crafts Council on working days from 04.03.2021 to 17.03.2021 from 9.00 a.m. to 2.30 p.m.
- All bids must be accompanied by a bid security in cash or form of a bank guarantee, issued by a commercial bank operating in Sri Lanka approved by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka. The bid security shall be valid up to 01.07.2021.
- Duly perfected bids in duplicate in separate covers marked "Original" and "Duplicate" reinserted in a single cover mentioning as Supply & Delivery of Porcelain Bull Nose Strain Insulator & Porcelain Reel Insulator on the top left-hand corner of all three envelopes, sealed and may either be sent by registered post addressed to Chairman, Department Procurement Committee, National Crafts Council, Rohina Mawatha, Pelawatta, Battaramulla or deposited in the Tender Box kept in Administration Division at or before 2.00 pm on 18.03.2021.
- Bids will be opened soon after closing at the Boardroom of the National Crafts Council and the bidder or his/ her representative is permitted to be present at the time of opening of bids.
- Incomplete and late bids will be rejected and the Procurement Committee reserves the right to accept or reject bids.

Chairman,
Department Procurement Committee,
National Crafts Council,
Rohina Mawatha,
Pelawatta, Battaramulla.

0112784008

SRI LANKA RAILWAYS

PROCUREMENT NOTICE

DISPOSAL OF LIGHT METAL SCRAP AT RATMALANA YARD SRI LANKA RAILWAYS

CONTRACT No: SRS/F.7709

- The Chairman, Department Procurement Committee (Major), Sri Lanka Railways, Olcott Mawatha, Colombo 10, Sri Lanka will receive sealed bids on National Competitive Bidding Basis for the disposal of Light Metal Scrap at Ratmalana Yard.
- Bids will be closed at 2.00 p.m. on 26.03.2021.
- Bids should be submitted on the forms obtainable from the Office of the Superintendent of Railways Stores, Olcott Mawatha, Colombo 10, Sri Lanka up to 3.00 p.m. on 25.03.2021 on payment of a non-refundable document fee of Rs. 2,500.00 (Two Thousand Five Hundred) only.
- A Bid Security for the amount of one hundred thousand rupees as mentioned in the bidding documents shall be produced along with the bid.
- Bids will be opened immediately after the closing at the Office of the Superintendent of Railways Stores. Bidders or their authorized representatives are requested to be present at the opening of bids.
- Sealed bids may be dispatched either by registered post or hand delivered to:-

The Chairman,
Department Procurement Committee (Major),
Sri Lanka Railways,
Office of the Superintendent of Railways Stores,
P.O. Box 1347,
Olcott Mawatha,
Colombo 10.
- Bidding documents may be inspected free of charge at the office of the Superintendent of Railways Stores. For further details, please contact:

Tel. Nos. : 94 (11) 2438078 or 94 (11) 2436818
Fax No. : 94 (11) 2432044
Email : srs.slr@gmail.com
Website : www.railway.gov.lk

The Chairman,
Department Procurement Committee (Major)
Sri Lanka Railways

Ref. No. SRS/F.7709

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE of Incorporation of the following company is hereby given pursuant to Section 9(1) of the Companies Act No. 07 of 2007.

Name of the Company : Lead Lanka International (Pvt) Ltd.
Company Number : PV 102032
Registered Office : No. 50B, Hanwella Road, Galagedara, Padukka.
New Address : No. 12, Alwis Place, Attidiya, Dehiwala.
Date of Incorporation : 10th November 2014
By order of the Board

CONGRATULATIONS



Past Teachers Association of St. Joseph's College, Colombo Celebrate Mrs. Mercia Weerasinghe's Hundred years Birthday. As a legendary figure who thought to generations of Josephian's in the primary Kindergarten. A Special prayer Service will be held by Rev. Fr. Silvester Ranasinghe will be held on 4th March to grace the occasion. May God Bless her and her family.
PTA, SJC

INVITATION FOR BIDS

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Bids are invited from Bidders possessing registration of the ICTAD / CIDA for the minimum grade mentioned below or a higher grade for the construction work mentioned below, conducted by the Department of Agriculture, Peradeniya.

Bid Documents could be inspected free of charge from 04.03.2021 up to 2.00 p.m. on 25.03.2021 during office hours at the Extension and Training Centre of this Department and they could be obtained after paying a non-refundable fee as mentioned in the Column below and duly completed Bids should be inserted in the Bid Box kept in this Office after logging an entry in the Bid Register or should be sent by Registered Post to be received before 10.30 a.m. on 26.03.2021. Bids will be opened at 10.35 a.m. on the same day. Bidder or his representative with written approval could participate on this occasion.

Further details if required, regarding this matter could be obtained from this Extension and Training Centre of the Department of Agriculture by calling over or by contacting on the Telephone No. mentioned below. The name of the contract, the date and time of opening Bids should be marked on the top left-hand corner of the envelope containing the Bid.

Bid No.	Category / Service to be purchased	Minimum Registration (ICTAD) CIDA	Bid Deposits			Bid Validity Period	Bid Security Validity Period
			Non Refundable	Refundable			
				If Paying in Cash	If Submitting Bank Guarantee		
Ex/Tr/06/2/2021-7	Construction work of Stage Two of the Agriculture School Administration Building Anuradhapura (Rs. 10,527,085.80)	C6	Rs. 5000.00	Rs. 105,000.00	Rs. 210,000.00	11.06.2021	09.07.2021
Ex/Tr/6/2/2021-17	Repairing Work of the Hostel Roof at the Paranthan Agriculture School (Rs. 4,927,311.50)	C8	Rs. 3500.00	Rs. 49,250.00	Rs. 98,500.00	28.05.2021	25.06.2021

Chairman,
Regional Procurement Committee,
Extension and Training Centre,
Department of Agriculture,
Peradeniya.

Telephone No. : 081-2389127 Fax : 081-2387403

INVITATION FOR BIDS

INDEPENDENT TELEVISION NETWORK LTD.

Hiring of Vehicles on Monthly Rental Basis

Sealed bids are hereby invited for the hiring of vehicles with driver and fuel on monthly rental basis for the following transport requirements of ITN for a contract period of 02 years.

Sr. No.	Description	Quotation No.	Type of Vehicle	Last Date and Time of Issuing Bid Documents	Date and Time of Closing of Bids	Date and Time of Opening of Bids
01	For Transmission Stations					
1.1	Karagahatenna Tx. Station, Via Karagahatenna, Gammaduwa, Matale. (Expected Mileage per month is 1750 km)	ITN/Q/59/2020	4 WD 4 Door Double Cab without A/C - Manufactured in 2005 or thereafter	Up to 3.00 p.m. on 17.03.2021	18.03.2021 at 2.00 p.m.	18.03.2021 at 2.15 p.m.
1.2	Deniyaya Tx. Station, Viharahena, Deniyaya. (Expected Mileage per month is 2000 km)	ITN/Q/08/2021	4 WD 4 Door Double Cab or 4 WD Van without A/C - Manufactured in 2005 or thereafter.	Up to 3.00 p.m. on 17.03.2021	18.03.2021 at 2.00 p.m.	18.03.2021 at 2.30 p.m.
02	For Staff Transportation (Daily on per trip basis)					
2.1	Kaduvela Route Picking up and dropping the staff from Bandarawatta Junction (15 km per trip.)	ITN/Q/60/2020	32 Seater Passenger Transport Bus without A/C Manufactured in 2010 or thereafter.	Up to 3.00 p.m. on 18.03.2021	19.03.2021 at 2.00 p.m.	19.03.2021 at 2.15 p.m.
2.2	Dehiwala Route Picking up and dropping the staff from Dehiwala Junction (15 km per trip.)	ITN/Q/61/2020	32 Seater Passenger Transport Bus without A/C Manufactured in 2010 or thereafter.	Up to 3.00 p.m. on 18.03.2021	19.03.2021 at 2.00 p.m.	19.03.2021 at 2.30 p.m.
2.3	Colombo Route Picking up and dropping the staff from Sugathadasa Indoor Stadium (15 km per trip.)	ITN/Q/62/2020	54 Seater Passenger Transport Bus without A/C Manufactured in 2010 or thereafter.	Up to 3.00 p.m. on 18.03.2021	19.03.2021 at 2.00 p.m.	19.03.2021 at 2.45 p.m.
2.4	Piliyandala Route Picking up and dropping the staff from Piliyandala Junction (17 km per trip.)	ITN/Q/05/2021	54 Seater Passenger Transport Bus without A/C Manufactured in 2010 or thereafter.	Up to 3.00 p.m. on 18.03.2021	19.03.2021 at 2.00 p.m.	19.03.2021 at 3.00 p.m.
03	For transport requirement of the Head Office (Expected mileage per month is 3000 km)	ITN/Q/88/2020	06 Seater Small Vans with A/C Manufactured in 2005 or thereafter.	Up to 3.00 p.m. on 19.03.2021	22.03.2021 at 2.00 p.m.	22.03.2021 at 2.15 p.m.

Relevant Bidding documents could be obtained by producing copy of the Registration Certificate of the vehicle to the Manager (Procurement), Independent Television Network Ltd., Wickremasinghepura, Battaramulla until the last date and time of issuing bid documents specified in the above schedule during normal working days from 9.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Rs. 1,080.00 (inclusive of 8% VAT) and refundable deposit of Rs. 5,000.00 per tender in cash.

Please refer to the website of ITN, www.itn.lk for further details.

Chairman,
Procurement Committee,
Independent Television Network Ltd.,
Wickramasinghepura,
Battaramulla.

PROCUREMENT NOTICE

DISTRICT GENERAL HOSPITAL - HAMBANTOTA

Quotations are invited by the Procurement Committee from reputed Institutions for the purchase of Medical Equipment required by the Hambantota District General Hospital for the year 2021. (Further details, inspection of Bid Documents could be obtained on the phone).

Serial No.	Medical Equipment	Quantity	Non Refundable Fee (Rs.)	Refundable Deposit / Bank Guarantee (Rs.)
01	Ultrasonic Lithotriptor	1	2000.00	50,000.00

Procurement Specimen Forms could be obtained during office hours from 05.03.2021 up to 4.00 p.m. on 21.03.2021 from the New District General Hospital, Hambantota after inspection of same.

Your Bids should be submitted before 10.00 a.m. on 22.03.2021.

The envelope containing the quotation should be marked with the name of Procurement subject on the top left-hand corner and sent to the Chairman, District General Hospital, Hambantota by registered post or could be hand delivered before the specified time. The final decision of the Procurement Committee regarding this matter is deemed final.

Contact on Tel. No. 047-2256402 for further details.

Chairman
Procurement Committee,
District General Hospital,
Hambantota.

TENDER NOTICE



TENDER FOR SUPPLY, INSTALLATION, COMMISSIONING AND MAINTENANCE OF REAL TIME GROSS SETTLEMENT SYSTEM

Tender Number	LK-CBSL-65728-GO-RFP
Tender Description	Tender for Supply, Installation, Commissioning and Maintenance of Real Time Gross Settlement System for the Central Bank of Sri Lanka
Non-refundable Fee	Sri Lankan Rupees Thirty Seven Thousand (LKR 37,000/-) or in United States Dollars Two Hundred (US\$ 200/-)
Pre-Bid Meeting	Date : 25 March 2021 Time : 1400 Hrs Location : Head Office Building, Central Bank of Sri Lanka, No 30, Janadhipathi Mawatha, Colombo-01, Sri Lanka and/or MS Teams
Bid closing and opening	Date : 28 April 2021 Time : 1400 Hrs. Location : Head Office Building, Central Bank of Sri Lanka, No 30, Janadhipathi Mawatha, Colombo-01, Sri Lanka

For further information please refer
<https://www.cbsl.gov.lk/en/tenders>
or contact: +94 11 2477337 or +94 11 2398754

Project Team, Financial Sector Modernization Project
Central Bank of Sri Lanka.

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UNIVERSITY OF SRI JAYEWARDENEPURA

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

1. The Chairman DPC, on behalf of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for following projects. To be eligible for applying, the successful bidder shall not have been blacklisted, shall be an CIDA (ICTAD) registered contractor and meet the requirements as per the table below.

Project	Non-Refundable Tender Fee	CIDA (ICTAD) Grade	Estimated Cost (Approx.)	Contract Period	Bid Closing Date, Time & Location	Bid Security (Cash or Bank Bonds Only)
i) Construction, Commissioning and Operation of Sewerage and Waste Water Treatment Plant for Piyarathana Hostel (Design & Build) MT/RE/GEN/14/2020	Rs. 4,000.00	C6 or above in the field of building construction	12.5 Million	120 Days	14.30 hrs 18th March 2021 at Land, Building & Infrastructure Development Division	150,000.00
ii) Refurbishment of Canteen and Kitchen at Soratha Dharmapala Hostel MT/RE/GEN/16/2020	Rs. 4,000.00	(Documentary evidence should be submitted)	12 Million	90 Days		140,000.00
iii) Converting of 12 nos. of Washroom for Rooms at Soratha Hostel MT/RE/GEN/15/2020	Rs. 3,000.00	C7 or above in the field of building construction (Documentary evidence should be submitted)	7 Million	90 Days		85,000.00
iv) Renovation of Eave Ceiling & Rainwater Drainage at Sumangala Building MT/RE/FHSS/01/2021	Rs. 1,500.00		4 Million	90 Days		50,000.00
v) Renovation of Fire Staircase at Faculty of Management Studies & Commerce MT/RE/FMSC/01/2021	Rs. 1,500.00		2.5 Million	60 Days		30,000.00

2. Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding Procedure.
3. Interested bidders may obtain further information from Works Engineer, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Gangodawila, Nugegoda - Telephone 011-2801185, Fax 011-2801604 and inspect the bidding documents at the address given below from **04th March 2021** 9:00 hrs. to 14:30 hrs. on any working day until **17th March 2021**.
4. All bids must be accompanied by bid security in the form of an on demand unconditional bank guarantee or cash deposited at shroff at USJP in the amount as mentioned above issued by a commercial bank operating in Sri Lanka approved by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka.
5. A complete set of Bidding Documents in English language may be purchased by interested bidders on submission of a written application to the Works Engineer, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Gangodawila, Nugegoda from **04th March 2021** until **17th March 2021** from 09:00 hrs. to 14:30 hrs. on working days upon payment of a non-refundable fee as attached table. The method of payment will be the Shroff, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, in cash only.
6. Bids shall be delivered in duplicate to the address given below at or before 14:30 hrs on **18th March 2021**. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened soon after closing at the **Land, Building & Infrastructure Development Division in the University of Sri Jayewardenepura** in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend.
7. Bids shall be valid up to **16th June 2021**.
8. Bid Security shall be valid up to **14th July 2021**.
9. Pre-bid meeting will be held at Administration Boardroom, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, at 10 a.m. on 10th March 2021.

Addresses referred to above are;

For inspection, Purchasing and Submission of bidding documents;

Land, Building & Infrastructure Development Division, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Gangodawila, Nugegoda.
Telephone: 011-2881760, 0112801185

**Chairman,
Departmental Procurement Committee
University of Sri Jayewardenepura,
Gangodawila,
Nugegoda.**



NATIONAL SAVINGS BANK

Invitation for Bids

TENDER NO.: NSB/PT/ITE/2021/04

BIDDING FOR TESTING AND ASSURANCE OF CORE BANKING SYSTEM READINESS FOR THE NATIONAL SAVINGS BANK

The Chairman, Procurement Committee-Major, National Savings Bank, No. 255, Galle Road, Colombo 03, invites Bids for Implementation of Testing and Assurance of Core Banking System Readiness.

Description of the Procurement	Bidding for Testing and Assurance of Core Banking System Readiness for National Savings Bank, Sri Lanka
Nature of Procurement	Single Stage Two Envelope bidding procedure as specified in the Procurement Guidelines.
Applicable non-refundable Tender Fee	Rs. 9000/- Payments should be made by cash to the counter at Head Office Branch, National Savings Bank, 255, Galle Road, Colombo 03.
Bid Validity Period	Valid for a minimum period of 120 calendar days (till 21/07/2021) from the date of opening the proposals. (24/03/2021 - 21/07/2021)
Last Date & Time of Issuing Bid Documents	23 /03/2021 at 3.00 p.m.
Date & Time of Closing Tender	24/03/2021 at 10.00 a.m.
Pre-Qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bidder shall not have been blacklisted by the Government or by the Bank. Bidders should have a Registered office in Sri Lanka, or the bidder should have a Local Agent who has a registered office in Sri Lanka. Testing tools and the methodology should have used at least in one Core Banking transformation project in Sri Lanka. Proposed solution should have been integrated with Core Banking solution. Bidder should have an experienced & certified team worked in Testing of Core Banking solution.
Further Information and inspecting documents	Chief Information Officer, IT Division, National Savings Bank, 255, Galle Road, Colombo 03 (Telephone 011-2574004/ 011-2377219, email cio@nsb.lk) till 23/03/2021 between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. on working days.
Collecting of Bid Documents	A complete set of bidding documents in English language may be obtained on submission of a written request made on a company letterhead (original) to The Senior Manager (Supplies) of National Savings Bank between 9.00 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. on working days from 04/03/2021 till 23/03/2021.
Bid Delivery	Bids shall be delivered by registered post or by hand to Senior Manager (Supplies), Supplies Division, National Savings Bank, 255, Galle Road, Colombo 03 on or before 10.00 a.m. on 24/03/2021. Late bids shall be rejected.
Bid Opening	Bids will be opened soon after the closing of bids, at the Supplies Division in the presence of bidders or their authorized representatives who are nominated to attend.

The National Savings Bank reserves the right of rejecting any or all proposals and the right of accepting any portion of a bid without adducing any reasons.

**The Chairman-Procurement Committee-Major,
National Savings Bank,
No. 255, Galle Road,
Colombo 3.**

STATE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT, COAST CONSERVATION, WASTE DISPOSAL AND COMMUNITY CLEANLINESS

COAST CONSERVATION AND COASTAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

Supply of Rock materials for the Construction of Coastal Protective Structures

&

Supply of Heavy Machineries and Vehicles to Construction sites of Coastal Protective Structures

1. The Chairman, Department Procurement Committee on behalf of the Coast Conservation and Coastal Resource Management Department invites sealed bids from all eligible and qualified bidders for the **Supply of Rock materials for the construction of Coastal Protective Structures and for the Supply of heavy machineries and vehicles to the construction sites of Coastal Protective Structures** as described below. Each procurement is an individual and independent procurement activity.

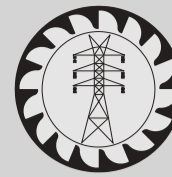
Name of the Contract and Contract No.	Description of Supply	Bid Security (Rs.) and Bid Validity Period	Supply duration (max.)	District	Contact Person
Construction of 140 m revetment at Sooriyamalwatta CCD/CD/2021/47	3800 Nos. of 1.0 T - 1.5 T rock armours (boulders) 820 m ³ of 100 mm - 150 mm rubble	130,000/- 77 days	60 days for boulders & 30 days for rubble	Gampaha	Area Engineer (Colombo North) 031-2238400
	01 No. of 20T excavator for 260 machine hours 01 No. of 1.0 cube loader for 270 machine hours	25,000/- 63 days			
Construction of 200 m revetment at Morawala - Pitipana CCD/CD/2021/48	3800 Nos. of 1.0 T - 1.5 T rock armours (boulders) 1400 Nos. of 0.5 T - 0.8 T rock armours (boulders) 850 m ³ of 100 mm - 150 mm rubble	106,000/- 77 days	45 days for 1.0 - 1.5 T boulders and 30 days for others	Gampaha	Area Engineer (Colombo North) 031-2238400
	01 No. of 20 T excavator for 360 machine hours 01 No. of 0.75 - 1.0 cube loader for 300 machine hours	31,000/- 63 days			
Construction of 115 m revetment at Muthupanthiya CCD/CD/2021/51	560 Nos. of 1.5 T rock armours (boulders) 2060 Nos. of 1.0 T rock armours (boulders) 400 m ³ of 150 mm - 225 mm rubble	60,300/- 77 days	30 days for rubble & 45 days for boulders	Puttalam	Area Engineer (Colombo North) 031-2238400
	01 No. of 12 T excavator for 210 machine hours 01 No. of 1.0 cube loader for 180 machine hours	19,000/- 49 days			
Construction of 120m revetment at Madiha CCD/CD/2021/45	850 Nos. of 1.0 T - 1.5 T rock armours (boulders) 825 m ³ of 2 - 250 kg mixed material	46,100/- 63 days	45 days	Matara	Area Engineer (Matara/Hambantota) 041-2234572
	01 No. of 12 T excavator for 310 machine hours 01 No. of 1.0 cube loader for 240 machine hours	24,200/- 63 days			
Rehabilitation of 560 m revetment at Telwatta Junction, Kahawa (Package 3) CCD/CD/2021/40	02 Nos. of 20 T excavator for 1190 machine hours 02 Nos. of 1.0 cube loader for 560 machine hours 01 No. of 3.0 cube tipper for 20 days	90,000/- 77 days		Galle	Area Engineer (Galle) 091-2234832

2. Bidding will be conducted through **National Competitive Bidding procedure**. Separate bidding documents shall be issued for each procurement activity.
3. To be eligible for the contract award, the successful bidder shall not have been blacklisted and shall **fulfill the requirements stated in the Public Contracts Act No. 03 of 1987**.
4. To qualify for contract award, the bidders are requested to submit the following documents with their bids
A. For Material Supply
a) Certified list of machineries, tippers, tractors, dump trucks and other vehicles which will be used in transporting materials with copies of vehicle/machinery registration certificates
b) Information of Rock Material supply during last five years to our Department or any other Organization.
c) Details of quarry ownership or the agreement copies between owner and supplier.
d) Copies of Explosive Permit, Environmental Protection Permit and Industrial Mining License which are valid for year 2021.
e) Copies of Business registration, VAT registration, etc.
B. For Heavy Machinery and Vehicles
a. Certified list of machineries (Tippers, Loaders, Wheel excavators, High Bed / Low Bed trailers, Dump Trucks) with their registration certificates
b. Information of heavy machinery and vehicle supply during last five years to our Department or any other Organization.
c. Copies of documents to prove the ownership of heavy machineries and vehicles
d. Certified Copies of vehicle insurance
e. Copies of Business registration, VAT registration, etc.
5. Interested bidders may obtain further information from the Chief Engineer (Coastal Development), Department of Coast Conservation and Coastal Resource Management, 4th Floor, New Secretariat, Maligawatta, Colombo 10 and inspect Bidding Documents at the same address on any working day from 09.00 hrs. to 15.00 hrs. And the bidders can reach officials for clarifications through Telephone 011-2472622 / 011-2387920 or Fax: 011-2387920
6. Bidding documents may be purchased by interested bidders on submission of a written application on a business letterhead to the Chief Engineer (Coastal Development) at the above address from **04.03.2021 to 18.03.2021** from 09.00 hrs. to 15.00 hrs. upon **payment of a non-refundable fee of Rupees Thousand (Rs. 1,000/-) for each document**.
7. Completed Bids shall be delivered or sent by registered post to the Chairman, Department Procurement Committee, Department of Coast Conservation and Coastal Resource Management, 4th Floor, New Secretariat, Maligawatta, Colombo 10, to reach at or before **1400 hrs. on 19.03.2021 for Supply of Rock materials for the construction of Coastal Protective Structures and at or before 1500 hrs. on 19.03.2021 for Supply of Heavy machineries and Vehicles to Construction sites of Coastal Protective Structures**.
8. Sealed envelopes shall clearly bear the **Contract name, contract identification No. and the category of supply (Material / Machine)**.
9. Bids will be opened soon after the closing of bids at the Department of Coast Conservation and Coastal Resource Management, 4th Floor, New Secretariat, Maligawatta, Colombo 10, in the presence of the bidders or their authorized representatives who choose to attend.
10. All bids shall be accompanied by a bid security/ a receipt of cash deposit for the amount stated in above description and the validity of bid security shall be **28 days beyond the bid validity period**. Cash deposit to the stated amount shall be paid to the Shroff of the Department. Bid validity period shall be counted from the first day after bid opening date.
11. Late bids will be rejected.

**Director General,
Coast Conservation and Coastal Resource Management Department,
4th Floor, New Secretariat Building,
Maligawatta,
Colombo 10.**

Telephone - 011-2449197/011-2472622/011-2387920, Fax - 011-2387920/ 011-2438005

INVITATION FOR BIDS



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இலங்கை மின்சார சபை
CEYLON ELECTRICITY BOARD

1	2	3	4	5	6
Division and Branch Province	Bid No. / Item Description & Quantity	Bid closing date & Time	Place of Purchase of Bidding Documents & Contact TP. Nos.	Price of Bid Document (LKR)	Type of Bid ICB/ NCB
Ma TeRiaLs					
**DD 01 (P&D)	DD1/P&D/ICB/2020/022/D Supply & Delivery of Galvanized Nuts & Bolts – 150,000 Nos.	21/04/2021 10.00 hrs.	Planning & Development Branch (DD1), Fourth Floor, CEB Head Quarters, No.50, Sir Chittampalam A. Gardiner Mw, Colombo 02. T.P.No. 011-2430473 / 0702309090, e-mail: clk3pd.dd1@ceb.lk	3,500.00	ICB
**DD 01 (P&D)	DD1/P&D/ICB/2021/001/D Supply & Delivery of 5(40) A, 3ph. Direct Connected Static Energy Meters (PPM), with Modem	21/04/2021 10.00 hrs.	Same as above	12,500.00	ICB
** Please send the requests via e-mail to clk3pd.dd1@ceb.lk with contact details to obtain information regarding the purchasing of the Bid document in this pandemic situation due to Covid – 19.					
DD 02 (WPN)	WPN/NCB/2021/94 Supply & Delivery of Steel Box for Housing Direct Connected 3 phase meters – 1000 Nos.	17/03/2021 14.00 hrs.	DGM(WPN)'s Office, CEB, No.280, Kandy Road, Kiribathgoda. Tel. 011-2911071/72	1,000.00	NCB
DD 03 (P&HM)	DGM(P&HM)/DD3/T/2020/11 Bid for Supply & Delivery of, Four Circuit Terminal Tower (T4T+0) & Accessories	24/03/2021 10.00 hrs.	Office of the DGM (P&HM - DD3), 3 rd Floor, DD 3 Head Quarters Ceylon Electricity Board, 644, Sri Jayawardanapura Mawatha, Ethulkotte. 011 2880 624	2,500.00	NCB
Projects (TCP)	CEB/TCP/DGM/ULBAGS/2020/01 Supply and Delivery of Four (04) 145 kV Disconnect Switches without Earth Switches, Two (02) 145 kV Disconnect Switches with Earth Switches for Upgrading 02 Nos. of 132 kV Line Bays at Athurugiriya Grid Substation	22/04/2021 10:00 hrs.	Office of the DGM (Transmission Construction Projects), No. 55/1-1, Thalapatthiya Road, Embuldeniya, Nugegoda, Sri Lanka. TP: +94 (11) 2836051/2 Fax: +94 (11) 2836053	2,000.00	ICB
DD 04 (Southern)	SP/CE(DM)/T/2021/08 Supply and Delivery of 312 Nos. of Safety Uniforms (Overall)	24/03/2021 14.00 hrs.	Office of the CE (DM)-SP, No.187/3, Second Floor, Bandaranayaka Place, Galle. TP: 091 2230802	1,000.00	NCB
CoNsTRuCTIoN					
DD 03 (P&HM)	DD3/DGM(P&HM)/T/2021/03 Bid for Stringing of Conductors of 33kV Double Circuit Lynx Tower Line from Wewelwatta GSS to Durekkanda Gantry (08 Sections with 14 Tower Locations, 4.6 km);	24/03/2021 10.00 hrs.	Office of the DGM (P&HM - DD3), 3 rd Floor, DD 3 Head Quarters, Ceylon Electricity Board, 644, Sri Jayawardanapura Mawatha, Ethulkotte. 011 2880 624	1,000.00	NCB
DD 03 (P & HM)	DD3/DGM(P&HM)/T/2021/01 Bid for Construction of Chain Link fence and Gate at Rukmale Gantry	24/03/2021 10.00 hrs.	Same as above	1,000.00	NCB
DD 03 (P & HM)	DGM(P&HM)/DD3/T/Gantry/Durekkanda/2020/03 Bid for Construction of Chain Link fence at Durekkanda Gantry	24/03/2021 10.00 hrs.	Same as above	1,000.00	NCB
DD 03 (P&HM)	DD3/DGM(P&HM)/T/2021/02 Bid for Construction of 33kV Double Circuit Lynx Tower Line from Kesbawa GSS to Welmillia Area, (Stage 2 - Polgasowita Junction to Welmillia Gantry, 05 km): Erection of Foundations & Towers – 19 Tower Locations;	07/04/2021 10.00 hrs.	Same as above	12,500.00	NCB
seR vICes					
Generation (Thermal Complex)	KPS/CE/50X1MW/2020/05-Car Supply of one Petrol / Hybrid Car on hiring basis (with driver and Fuel) for Kelanittissa Power Station.	17/03/2021 10.00 hrs.	Office of Deputy General Manager (Thermal Complex) Ceylon Electricity Board, Generation, Head Quarters, New Kelani Bridge Road, Kolonnawa 10600, Sri Lanka. Tel: 011 2423897	500.00	NCB
DD 01 (NWP1)	DGM/NWP1/CEECM/RC/Eng./2021 Registration of Chartered Electrical Engineers for North Western Province-1 for the Year of 2021	31/03/2021 14.00 hrs.	Chief Engineer (Commercial) Branch, CEB, Narammala Road, Kuliyaipitiya. 037 - 2281892	1,000.00	NCB
DD 01 (NWP1)	DGM/NWP1/CEECM/T/2020/317 Rent a Building for Panduwasnuwara Consumer Service Center, located in the town limit of Hettipola floor area of 2,500 square feet & the land area should not be less than 80 perches.	24/03/2021 14.00 hrs.	Same as above	1,000.00	NCB
DD 01 (NWP1)	DGM/NWP1/CEECM/T/2020/318 Rent a Building for Area Maintenance Unit of Electrical Engineer (Kuliyaipitiya), located in the town limit of Kuliyaipitiya & floor area of 2,500 square feet & the land area should not be less than 80 perches.	24/03/2021 14.00 hrs.	Same as above	1,000.00	NCB
DD 01 (NWP1)	DGM/NWP1/CEECM/T/2020/319 Rent a Building for Electrical Engineer (Kuliyaipitiya) office, located in Kuliyaipitiya & floor area of 10,000 square feet & the land area should not be less than 20 perches.	24/03/2021 14.00 hrs.	Same as above	1,000.00	NCB
DD 01 (NWP1)	DGM/NWP1/CEECM/T/2021/15 Rent a Building for Kiriyankalliya Consumer Service Center, in the town limit of Kiriyankalliya & floor area in the range of 3,000 square feet & the land area should not be less than 80 perches.	24/03/2021 14.00 hrs.	Same as above	1,000.00	NCB
DD 02 (Central 2)	CP2/CE(COM)/PPC/2021/019 Hiring of a Motor Car for Accountant (Revenue CP 02) for a Period of 02 Years.	24/03/2021 14.00 hrs.	Chief Engineer (Commercial)-CP2, CEB, Quarry Road, Eriyagama, Peradeniya. T.P 081-4949160	1,000.00	NCB
DD 02 (Central 2)	CP2/CE(COM)/PPC/2021/020 Hiring of a Motor Car for Accountant (Expenditure CP 02) for a Period of 02 Years.	24/03/2021 14.00 hrs.	Same as above	1,000.00	NCB
DD 02 (Central 2)	CP2/CE(COM)/PPC/2021/021 Hiring of a 4WD Double Cab for ECSC at Hatton in Ginigathena Area for a Period of 02 Years.	24/03/2021 14.00 hrs.	Same as above	1,000.00	NCB
DD 02 (Central 2)	CP2/CE(COM)/PPC/2021/022 Rent / Lease land for use as Pole Yard belongs to ECSC Walapane in Nuwara Eliya Area for a Period of 02 Years.	24/03/2021 14.00 hrs.	Same as above	-	NCB
DD 02 (Central 2)	CP2/CE(COM)/PPC/2021/023 Hiring of a Three Wheeler for ECSC Daulagala in Peradeniya Area for a Period of 02 Years.	24/03/2021 14.00 hrs.	Chief Engineer (Commercial)-CP2, CEB, Quarry Road, Eriyagama, Peradeniya. T.P 081-4949160	1,000.00	NCB
DD 02 (Central 1)	CP1/CE(COM)/PPC/2021/038 Rent / lease Land for use as Pole Yard belongs to ECSC at Akurana in Katugastota Area for a period of 02 years.	24/03/2021 14.00 hrs.	Self-prepared detailed application to be forwarded with expected monthly rental. CE(Com)-CP1 T.P 081-2499679, 081-2234324	-	NCB
DD 02 (Central 1)	CP1/CE(COM)/PPC/2021/039 Rent / lease Building for use as Official Quarters of Electrical Superintendent (Weragama) in Matale Area for a period of 02 years.	24/03/2021 14.00 hrs.	Self-prepared detailed application to be forwarded with expected monthly rental. CE(Com)-CP1 T.P 066-2222745, 081-2234324	-	NCB
DD 02 (Central 1)	CP1/CE(COM)/PPC/2021/040 Rent / lease Land for use as Pole Yard belongs to ECSC at Naula in Dambulla Area for a period of 02 years.	24/03/2021 14.00 hrs.	Self-prepared detailed application to be forwarded with expected monthly rental. CE(Com)-CP1 T.P. 066-2283442, 081-2234324	-	NCB
DD 02 (East)	DGM [E]/QPPC/21/094 Hiring a van for the use of Electrical Superintendent (Town ECSC) – Batticaloa for a period of 02 years.	24/03/2021 14.00 hrs.	Office of the Area Chief Engineer (Batticaloa). 065-2222639 Or Office of the DGM [East], Trincomalee. 026-2222666 / 026-2221030	1,000.00	NCB
DD 02 (East)	DGM [E]/QPPC/21/095 Hiring a van for the use of Electrical Superintendent (AMU) – Kalmunai for a period of 02 years.	24/03/2021 14.00 hrs.	Office of the ACEE (Kalmunai) 067-2229276 Or Office of the DGM [East], Trincomalee. 026-2222666 / 026-2221030	1,000.00	NCB
DD 02 (East)	DGM [E]/QPPC/21/096 Hiring a crew cab for the use of Uhana ECSC at Ampara for a period of 02 years.	24/03/2021 14.00 hrs.	Office of the ACEE (Ampara) 063222387, 063-2222078 Or Office of the DGM [East], Trincomalee. 026-2222666 / 026-2221030	1,000.00	NCB
DD 02 (WPN)	WPN/NCB/DGM-V106/2021/09 Hiring of a Van for Chief Engineer (Energy Management)	17/03/2021 14.00 hrs.	DGM(WPN)'s Office, CEB, No.280, Kandy Road, Kiribathgoda. Tel. 011-2911071/72	500.00	NCB
DD 02 (WPN)	WPN/NCB/D-V83/2021/21 Hiring of a Crew Cab for Consumer Service Centre - Divulapitiya	17/03/2021 14.00 hrs.	Same as above	500.00	NCB
DD 02 (WPN)	WPN/NCB/D-V86/2021/22 Hiring of a Crew Cab for Area Maintenance Unit – Electrical Engineer (Divulapitiya)	17/03/2021 14.00 hrs.	Same as above	500.00	NCB
DD 02 (WPN)	WPN/NCB/KR-V183/2021/29 Hiring of a Van for Area Maintenance Unit – Electrical Engineer (Kirindiwela)	17/03/2021 14.00 hrs.	Same as above	500.00	NCB
DD 02 (WPN)	WPN/NCB/KR-V185/2021/42 Hiring of a Crew Cab for Electrical Engineer's Office (Kirindiwela)	17/03/2021 14.00 hrs.	Same as above	500.00	NCB
DD 02 (WPN)	WPN/NCB/V-V108/2021/98 Hiring of a Van for Consumer Service Centre (Veyangoda)	17/03/2021 14.00 hrs.	Same as above	500.00	NCB
DD 03 (Uva)	DGM(UVA)CE(COM)/DEO1/HV-122/DI-08/2K21/09 Bid for hiring of Crew Cab for Electrical Engineer (Diyatalawa) Unit, Ella Consumer Service Center (For 2 years)	24/03/2021 15.00 hrs.	Office of the Deputy General Manager (Uva), Chief Engineer (Commercial) Unit, Ceylon Electricity Board, No 04, Spring Valley Road, Hindagoda, Badulla. Tel : 055-2222474	500.00	NCB
DD 03 (Uva)	DGM(UVA)CE(COM)/DEO1/HV-124/DI-10/2K21/10 Bid for hiring of Lorry for Electrical Engineer (Diyatalawa) Unit, Ella Consumer Service Center (For 2 years)	24/03/2021 15.00 hrs.	Same as above	500.00	NCB
DD 03 (Uva)	DGM(UVA)CE(COM)/DEO1/HV-35/DI-02/2K21/11 Bid for hiring of Van for Electrical Engineer (Diyatalawa) Unit, Electrical Superintendent (Commercial) (For 2 years)	24/03/2021 15.00 hrs.	Same as above	500.00	NCB

Division and Branch Province	Bid No. / Item Description & Quantity	Bid closing date & Time	Place of Purchase of Bidding Documents & Contact TP. Nos.	Price of Bid Document (LKR)	Type of Bid ICB/ NCB
DD 03 (SAB)	SAB/RAT-V80/HV/2021/22 Hiring of a Three Wheeler for Area Electrical Engineer Unit - Rathnapura	24/03/2021 14.00 hrs.	Office of the DGM,CE (Commercial) Unit, Ceylon Electricity Board, New Town, Rathnapura. T.P.No. 045-2225891-5, Fax - 045-2226084	1,000.00	NCB
DD 03 (SAB)	SAB/RAT-V67/HV/2021/23 Hiring of a Double Cab 4 Wheel Drive for Area Electrical Engineer's Unit - Rathnapura	24/03/2021 14.00 hrs.	Same as above	1,000.00	NCB
DD 03 (SAB)	SAB/RUW-V42/HV/2021/24 Hiring of a Double Cab 4 Wheel Drive for Area Electrical Engineer's Unit - Ruwanwella	24/03/2021 14.00 hrs.	Same as above	1,000.00	NCB
DD 03 (SAB)	SAB/RUW-V84/HV/2021/25 Hiring of a Crew Cab 4 Wheel Drive for Deraniyagala Consumer Service Centre	24/03/2021 14.00 hrs.	Same as above	1,000.00	NCB
DD 03 (SAB)	SAB/KAH-V30/HV/2021/26 Hiring of a Dual Purpose Van for Area Electrical Engineer's Unit - Kahawaththa	24/03/2021 14.00 hrs.	Same as above	1,000.00	NCB
DD 03 (SAB)	SAB/RC14/Quarters/Nivithigala/2021 Obtaining a building for Quarters of Electrical Superintendent Nivithigala on Rent basis for 02 years of period	24/03/2021 14.00 hrs.	Electrical Engineer (Rathnapura) Unit, P.O. Box 269, 3rd Floor, Main Street Rathnapura. 045-222 2137	1,000.00	NCB
Send a SMS with Tender Number, Company Name, Business Reg. No. & Address to 0702516069 in advance to collect the tender documents of DD4 (WPS-1)					
DD 04 (WPS-1)	WPS-1/PPC/T/2021/28 Tender for Supply of Private Security Services for Mathugama Area Western Province South I	25/03/2021 10.00 hrs.	Office of DGM (WPS-1), 3rd Floor, Distribution Division 4 Head Quarters, Ceylon Electricity Board, No. 25, Council Lane, Dehiwala. 011-2638852	500.00	NCB
DD 04 (WPS-1)	WPS-1/PPC/T/V/2021/03 Hiring of a Car for the EE-11 (DM), Western Province South - I	25/03/2021 10.00 hrs.	Same as above	500.00	NCB
DD 04 (Southern 2)	DGM(SP2)/CE(Com)/Reg.Char.EE/2021 Registration of Chartered Electrical Engineers for Southern Province 2 for the Year of 2021	18/03/2021 15.00 hrs.	Deputy General Manager (SP2), Ceylon Electricity Board, 61/1 A, Muhudu Mawatha, Tangalle. 047-2200288	500.00	NCB

Chairman of the above Procurement Committees, on behalf of the Ceylon Electricity Board, now invites sealed Bids from potential Suppliers for the above mentioned items on the basis of International /National competitive bidding. Bids should be submitted only on the bid documents purchased from the CEB.

Bidding Documents will be issued only to the prospective Bidders or their accredited Agents. Wherever necessary they should get registered in terms of the Public Contracts Act No.3 of 1987.

Bidding Documents could be purchased by any prospective bidder or their accredited Agents on submission of a written request to the respective Deputy General Manager/Chief Engineer of the CEB upon payment of the amount indicated in Column 6 of the above table for each set of Bid Document, between 0900 hrs. and 1500 hrs. on any working day till the day prior to the bid closing date. Payment shall be made in cash or bank draft drawn in favour of the General Manager, CEB.

Foreign Diplomatic Missions / Trade Commissions may obtain information copies of the Bidding Documents, free of charge on submission of a written request. The Bidding Documents may be inspected by the prospective bidders or their Agents at the office of the respective DGM/CE free of charge.

Bids will be opened immediately after the closing time of the bidding in the presence of Bidders and their authorized representatives at the locations indicated in Column 9. Late Bids shall be rejected.

All clarifications shall be sought two weeks before the Bid closing date, from the respective DGM/CE of the CEB who issued the bidding Documents.

* ICB - International Competitive Bidding, NCB - National Competitive Bidding.

General Manager

Enrich Life through Power



The Information copy of the Bid document may be downloaded from the CEB Corporate website www.ceb.lk

INVITATION FOR BIDS

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)

Ministry of Agriculture and Agrarian Services, Animal Husbandry, Irrigation, Fisheries, Water Supply & Environment - Northern Province

- The Chairman, Procurement Committee of the Ministry of Agriculture - Northern Province, No. 655, Navalar Road, Jaffna now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders as shown in table below.
- Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding procedure.
- Qualification requirements include: possessing the minimum 5 years experience in selling and having islandwide maintenance in the particular brand and field. A margin of preference for eligible locally produced goods offered shall not apply. Additional details are provided in the bidding document.
- Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from **Chairman**, Procurement Committee / **Secretary**, Ministry of Agriculture - Northern Province, No. 655, Navalar Road, Jaffna (Tel.No. 021-221-7305, Fax 021-221-7304) on any working day **from 09.00 hrs to 15.00 hrs from 4th March 2021 till 24th March 2021**.
- A complete set of Bidding Documents in English language may be purchased by interested bidders on submission of a written application to the address below from **4th March 2021 till 24th March 2021 from 09.00 hrs to 15.00 hrs, on any working day** upon payment of a non-refundable fee as given in the table. The method of payment should be by cash.
- Bids shall be delivered in duplicate directly or sent by Registered Post to the Chairman, Procurement Committee, Ministry of Agriculture, Northern Province on **or before the closing time 14.00hrs on 25th March 2021**. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened soon after closing in the presence of the Bidders' representatives who choose to attend.
- Bids must be accompanied by a bid security as per the information given in the table.
- Pre-bid meeting will be held on **18th March 2021 at 14.00 hrs.** in the Ministry of Agriculture - Northern Province, No. 655, Navalar Road, Jaffna. Interested bidders may attend the meeting at their own expense.

No.	Contract No.	Description of work	Contract Period	security amount (Rs)	Bid security validity Period	Bid validity Period	Non Refundable Fees (Rs.)
1	NP/31/02/F04/CSR-02/2021	Purchase of Lorry with Water Bowser (8000L) (01 No.)	90 Days	100,000.00	20.07.2021	22.06.2021	1,000.00

Chairman,
Procurement Committee,
Ministry of Agriculture,
Northern Province.

04.03.2021

SRI LANKA PORTS AUTHORITY

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

- The Chairman, Department Procurement Committee on behalf of the Sri Lanka Ports Authority now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the items given below.

Tender No.	Name of the Tender	Bid Security Amount (Rs.)	Document Fee (Inclusive of VAT)	Closing Date & Time
CMS/LP/21/PT/02/051	Wire Rope for Mitsui RTG Cranes at JCT III/IV	48,000.00	1,000.00	19.03.2021 13.30 hrs
CMS/LP/21/PT/02/052	Main Hoist Wire Ropes for 41T ZPMC Container Cranes at JCT - 06 Nos.	48,000.00	1,000.00	19.03.2021 13.30 hrs

- Bidders are hereby informed that the provisions of Public Contracts Act No. 03 of 1987 are applicable to tenders total cost exceeding Rs. 5 Million. Accordingly, all parties involved in each aforementioned tender are required to strictly abide by the said Act throughout the duration of contract. Furthermore, any bidder who wishes to act as an agent, sub-agent, a representative or a nominee for and on behalf of any foreign manufacturer or a supplier is required to register himself with the Registrar of Public Contracts and submit the duly completed registration certificate along with his bid documents.
- Bidders should have been in the business of supplying similar goods given above at least during the last three (03) years.
- Interested bidders may obtain further information from the Chief Manager (Supplies & Material Management) and inspect the bidding documents at the address given below during office hours.
- A complete set of bidding documents in English language may be purchased by interested bidders on submission of a written application to the address below and upon payment of a non-refundable fee indicated in Column 04 from 05th March 2021 during 9.00 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. on working days up to day prior to the closing date. The method of payment will be by cash.
- Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before closing time. 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 address below at closing time. All bids must be accompanied by the amount of above mentioned Bid Security.

Chief Manager (Supplies & Material Management)
Supplies Division,
Sri Lanka Ports Authority,
No. 45, Leyden Bastian Road,
Colombo 01.

Telephone Nos. 2482231, 2483338, 2482499, 2482832, 2482409, 2482652, 2483024, 2482638
Fax Nos: 2381652, 2470443

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IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF COLOMBO

Case No. DTS/00252/2020

In the matter of an application under Section 554 (U) of the Civil Procedure Code (as amended by Law of No. 20 of 1997) for resealing of the Probate in respect of the Last Will and Testament of late Asoka Marie Bernadett Jayawardena of 24 Nunda Street, Kendron, Queensland, Australia.

Deceased

Prasanth Michael Jayawardena of 3 Marsala Street, Queensland, Australia, Rohitha Nirmal Gregory Jayawardena of 47, Hills Street, Toowoomba City, Queensland and Gihan Anthony Jayawardena of 44, Murrabibi Street, Leanyer Northern Territory by their Attorney Vijith Julian Kannangara of No. 56/4, Kensey Road, Colombo 07.

Petitioners

Notice is hereby given that after the expiry of Twenty Eight (28) days from the date of publication hereof an application will be made to the District Court of Colombo under Section 554(U) of the Civil Procedure Code (as amended by Law No. 20 of 1977) for resealing of the Probate of the Estate of Marie Bernadett Jayawardena (deceased) of 24 Nunda Street, Kedron, Queensland, Australia granted Probate by Registrar of Supreme Court of Queensland on 17th October 2019.

At Colombo on this 4th day of February 2021

Attorney-at-Law for the Petitioners

My No: - BPU/1/3/2/12/i

THE LAND ACQUISITION ACT Notice under Section 7

It is hereby informed that inquiry on title and compensation for below mentioned lands which have been acquired by the government under Section 9 of the said Act will be held by me on 15.03.2021 at Divisional Secretariat - Mahaoya. Persons who are interested with these lands should appear in those inquiries. For more information, please refer the Extraordinary Gazette No. 2215/10 dated on 16.02.2021.

- Divisional Secretary's Division :- **Mahaoya**
- Preliminary Plan No :- **AM/MAH/2014/392 (Lot No. B-F), AM/MAH/2016/15 (Lot No. A-J)**
- Total Extent of Land :- **0.0395 Hectare**
- Village/Villages where lands situated :- **Mahaoya, Kekirihena, Pulawala**

**B.V.S. Gunasena
Divisional Secretary
Mahaoya**

Divisional Secretariat - Mahaoya
12.02.2021

My Ref - Ben/2/7/13/22

Notice under Section 7 of the Land Acquisition Act (Chapter 460)

The General Public is hereby notified that the title and compensation inquiries pertaining to 2 blocks of land acquired by the Government under the Land Acquisition Act will be conducted by me at 10.00 a.m. on 24.03.2021 at the Benthota Divisional Secretariat under Section 9 of the said Act. Any persons connected to the said lands must be present at the said inquiries. For further details, please refer the Government Gazette Extraordinary No. 2214/76 dated 12th February 2021.

- * Divisional Secretariat
Division - Benthota
- * Preliminary Plan
No. - G 4530
- * Name of the
Village - Pahurumulla
- * Lot No. - 01 (Extent 02A 00R 19.3 Perches)
- * Lot No. - 02 (Extent 01A 02R 10.1 Perches)

**B.P. Abeyssekera
Divisional Secretary
Benthota**

At the Benthota Divisional Secretariat
On 2nd March 2021

LOST SHARE CERTIFICATE

This is to notify that the Share Certificate of Ordinary shares held by the following shareholder is reported misplaced/lost.

Name of Shareholder	No. of Shares	Certificate No.
Sri Rama Ekanayake Thennakoon Adikarige Sharmila Therese Sajeewani Samaranayake	32	1608

If no objection is lodged within 14 days of publication of this notice, a duplicate share certificate will be issued to the above named shareholder and the original share certificate shall be deemed cancelled.

By Order of the Board
Company Secretary
Sri Lankan Airlines Limited,
Airline Centre,
Bandaranaike International Airport,
Katunayake.

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given in terms of Section 9 (2) of the Companies Act No. 7 of 2007, the name of the following company has been changed.

Former Name of the Company
Handyhooks (Private) Limited
New Name of the Company
Sebsa (Pvt) Ltd
No. of Company:
PV 105547
Registered Office:
**No. 9A-1/1, 4th Lane,
Kawdana Broadway, Dehiwala.**
Date: **02.02.2020**

Secretaries on behalf of the above company

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Supply, Implementation and Maintenance of Loan Origination System and Collection Management System for Pradeshiya Sanwardana Bank

DGM/HR/RDB/2021/016

Notice to the bidders those who are willing to bid for the above procurement as per advertisement published in the Daily News on February 10, 2021. The closing date of the above procurement has been revised as below.

- Revised Closing date - on or before 2.00 p.m. March 15, 2021.

The responsible person to invite the bids by Pradeshiya Sanwardana Bank is revised as follows.

Chief Human Resource Officer

All other information appended in the advertisement remain unchanged.

**Chief Human Resource Officer,
Pradeshiya Sanwardana Bank,
No. 933, Kandy Road,
Wedamulla,
Kelaniya.**

Notification under Section 7 of the Land Acquisition Act, as amended by the Land Acquisition (Amendment) Act No. 28 of 1964 (Chapter 460)

My No - RUW/LAN/ACQTN/A2/245/iv

I do hereby give notice to the General Public to know that for the following lands acquired by the Government under the Land Acquisition Act, claim and compensation inspections under the Section 9 of the same Act shall be carried out by me on 15.03.2021 at the Divisional Secretariat, Ruwanwella. All persons interested in these lands are required to appear at the said inspection. Please refer the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2208/30 of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka dated 31.12.2020 for further information.

Schedule

District - Kagalle
Divisional Secretary's Division - Ruwanwella
Grama Niladhari Division - 101 Waharaka
Name of the Village - Waharaka
Name of the land - Mentioned in the Gazette notification No. 2208/30 dated 31.12.2020
Plan No - P.P. 3791
Lot No - From 01-109
Extent of the entire land - 22.8444 Hectare

**R.P. Mohan Wijeyrathne
Divisional Secretary
Ruwanwella**

Divisional Secretary's Division of Ruwanwella
On 15.02.2021
at the Ruwanwella Divisional Secretariat

Notification under Section 7 of the Land Acquisition Act, as amended by the Land Acquisition (Amendment) Act No. 28 of 1964 (Chapter 460)

My No.: RUW/LAN/ACQTN/A2/245/iv

I do hereby give notice to the general public to know that the following lands acquired by the government under the Land Acquisition Act, claim and compensation inspections under Section 9 of the same Act shall be carried out by me on 15.03.2021 at the Divisional Secretariat, Ruwanwella. All persons interested in these lands are required to appear at the said inspection. Please refer the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2208/30 of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka dated 31.12.2020 for further information.

SCHEDULE

District - Kegalle
Divisional Secretary's Division - Ruwanwella
Grama Niladhari Division - 98 A Lenagala
Name of the Village - Lenagala and Basnagoda
Name of the Land - Mentioned in the Gazette notification No. 2208/30 dated 31.12.2020
Plan No. - P.P. 3786
Lot No. - From 01-140
Extent of the entire land - 12.8835 Hectares

**R.P. Mohan Wijeyrathne
Divisional Secretary
Ruwanwella.**

Divisional Secretary's Division of Ruwanwella
On 15.02.2021 at the
Ruwanwella Divisional Secretariat

REVOCATION OF SPECIAL POWER OF ATTORNEY

I, **George Keith Henricus** (Holder of Australian Passport No. M 8136924) No. 17, Adolphus Street, Nareburn, NSW 2065, Sydney, Australia do hereby give notice to the General Public that the Special Power of Attorney dated 23.07.2015 attested by BELINDA NG an Australian Legal Practitioner registered under Volume 165 Folio 52 and Day Book No. 4343 dated 07.08.2015 and granted by me to **Sapugahawattege Tissa Nanayakkara** (NIC No. 600730380 V) of Seylan Bank Ltd., No. 90, Galle Road, Colombo 05 has been revoked and cancelled by me and henceforth with effect from 02.03.2021. I will not be held responsible for any Act or deed done by the said **Sapugahawattege Tissa Nanayakkara** in his capacity as my Attorney.

George Keith Henricus

On this 02nd day of March 2021

United Nations Development Programme



REQUEST FOR QUOTATION

Provisioning of Call Up Taxi/Cab Service and Vehicle Rental Service on Short and Long-Term Basis to UN Agencies in Sri Lanka on Long Term Agreement.

(RFQ/JPT/2021/03)

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Sri Lanka wishes to call for Request for Quotation from qualified service providers for Provisioning of Call Up Taxi/Cab Service and Vehicle Rental Service on Short- and Long-Term Basis to UN Agencies in Sri Lanka on Long Term Agreement.

This procurement process is being conducted through Online Tendering System of UNDP and detailed instructions and link to the e-tendering event can be accessed from www.lk.undp.org Procurement > Procurement Notices

Bid Submission deadline appearing on e-Tendering portal will be FINAL and prevail on the ones appearing on other websites.

Proposals submitted via email or by hard copies will not be accepted.

Head of Procurement/Administration
United Nations Development Programme
202-204 Baudhaloka Mawatha
Colombo 07, Sri Lanka.

UNDP reserves the right to accept or reject any proposal. The procurement process will be governed by the rules and regulations of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Notification under Section 7 of the Land Acquisition Act, as amended by the Land Acquisition (Amendment) Act No. 28 of 1964 (Chapter 460)

My No.: RUW/LAN/ACQTN/A2/245/iv

I do hereby give notice to the general public to know that the following lands acquired by the government under the Land Acquisition Act, claim and compensation inspections under Section 9 of the same Act shall be carried out by me on 15.03.2021 at the Divisional Secretariat, Ruwanwella. All persons interested in these lands are required to appear at the said inspection. Please refer the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2208/30 of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka dated 31.12.2020 for further information.

SCHEDULE

District- Kegalle
Divisional Secretary's Division - Ruwanwella
Grama Niladhari Division - 98 B Mahakanda
Name of the Village - Basnagoda
Name of the Land - Mentioned in the Gazette notification No. 2208/30 dated 31.12.2020
Plan No. - P.P. 3787
Lot No. - From 01-33
Extent of the entire land - 0.8475 Hectare

**R.P. Mohan Wijeyrathne
Divisional Secretary
Ruwanwella.**

Divisional Secretary's Division of Ruwanwella
On 15.02.2021 at the
Ruwanwella Divisional Secretariat

Notification under Section 7 of the Land Acquisition Act, as amended by the Land Acquisition (Amendment) Act No. 28 of 1964 (Chapter 460)

My No.: RUW/LAN/ACQTN/A2/245/iv

I do hereby give notice to the general public to know that the following lands acquired by the government under the Land Acquisition Act, claim and compensation inspections under Section 9 of the same Act shall be carried out by me on 15.03.2021 at the Divisional Secretariat, Ruwanwella. All persons interested in these lands are required to appear at the said inspection. Please refer the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2208/30 of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka dated 31.12.2020 for further information.

SCHEDULE

District - Kegalle
Divisional Secretary's Division - Ruwanwella
Grama Niladhari Division - 98 B Mahakanda
Name of the Village - Basnagoda
Name of the Land - Mentioned in the Gazette notification No. 2208/30 dated 31.12.2020
Plan No. - P.P. 3790
Lot No. - From 01-254
Extent of the entire land - 21.2214 Hectares

**R.P. Mohan Wijeyrathne
Divisional Secretary
Ruwanwella.**

Divisional Secretary's Division of Ruwanwella
On 15.02.2021 at the
Ruwanwella Divisional Secretariat

CoRReCTIoN NoTICe FoR InVITaTioN To BID PuBLisHeD oN 2021-02-25

BoaRD PRoCuReMeNT CoMMITTEE CeYLoN eLeCTRICITy BoARd

Bid No: DD4/P&D/ICB/2020/023/B

supply & Delivery of aerial Bundled Conductor alu. (aBC) 230/400 v 3x70+54.6+16sqmm (5 Core) - 230km

The Bid number of the invitation to Bid No: DD4/P&D/ICB/2020/023/B published on 2021-02-25 shall be corrected as follows;

Bid No: DD4/P&D/ICB/2020/029/B

all other contents of the advertisement remain unchanged.

**Chairman,
Board Procurement Committee
Ceylon electricity Board**



CeYLoN eLeCTRICITy BoARd SRI LanKa

eXTeNsIoN oF DeaDLINe FoR suBMISSIoN oF BIDs

Bid Title: Katunayake Smart Metering Project

Bid No.: CEB/AGM(CS)/DGM(RD)/SMPP/TR02-Kat

This is further to the paper advertisement which appeared in "Daily News" newspaper on 24th December 2020 and 4th February 2021 on the above procurement.

The deadline for submission of bids has been extended to **10:00 hrs local time on 22nd March 2021**. The technical Bids will be opened immediately after closing of the Bids.

All other terms and conditions remain unchanged.

**General Manager
Ceylon electricity Board, sri Lanka**



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NW KC-2826
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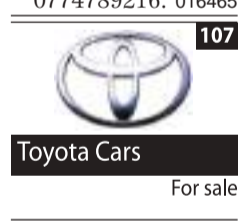
SGKU-6548 Micro
Panda Cross Car for highest offer. Senkadagala Finance PLC, Kandy. Inquiries Monday to Friday. 0770107270, 0774789216. 016458

WPHH-5090
Hyundai Accent Car, for highest offer. Senkadagala Finance PLC, Kandy. Inquiries Monday to Friday. 0770107270, 0774789216. 016463

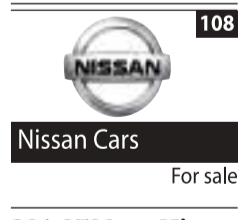
WPKT-3905 Tata
Nano Car, for highest offer. Senkadagala Finance PLC, Kandy. Inquiries Monday to Friday. 0770107270, 0774789216. 016480

WP KE-5186 KIA
Spectra Car. For highest offer. Senkadagala Finance PLC, Kandy. Inquiries Monday to Friday. 0770107270, 0774789216. 016464

WP KR-1996 Tata Nano car. For highest offer. Senkadagala Finance PLC, Kandy. Inquiries Monday to Friday. 0770107270, 0774789216. 016465



WP KY-7638
Toyota Aqua Car. For highest offer. Senkadagala Finance PLC, Kandy. Inquiries Monday to Friday. 0770107270, 0774789216. 016466



301-8700 Nissan
Sunny car, for highest offer. Senkadagala Finance PLC, Kandy. Inquiries Monday to Friday. 0770107270, 0774789216. 016486

Repeat Your ad For Better Offers



110
Maruti Cars
For sale

WP KR-1588
Maruti Suzuki Car. For highest offer. Senkadagala Finance PLC, Kandy. Inquiries Monday to Friday. 0770107270, 0774789216. 016481



111
Honda Cars
For sale

NPKV-3954 Honda
FIT Car, for highest offer. Senkadagala Finance PLC, Kandy. Inquiries Monday to Friday. 0770107270, 0774789216. 016497



EPCAF-5159
Suzuki Celerio Car. For highest offer. Senkadagala Finance PLC, Kandy. Inquiries Monday to Friday. 0770107270, 0774789216. 016451



WP PH-5156
Suzuki Every Van. For highest offer. Senkadagala Finance PLC, Kandy. Inquiries Monday to Friday. 0770107270, 0774789216. 016457



NPJD-2258 KIA
Carens Wagon, for highest offer. Senkadagala Finance PLC, Kandy. Inquiries Monday to Friday. 0770107270, 0774789216. 016496

WP GB-1402 Toyota Dyna Crew Cab. For highest offer. Senkadagala Finance PLC, Kandy. Inquiries Monday to Friday. 0770107270, 0774789216. 016478



CP NA-2644 Lanka Ashok Leyland Bus. For highest offer. Senkadagala Finance PLC, Kandy. Inquiries Monday to Friday. 0770107270, 0774789216. 016468

EPND-6317 Lanka
Ashok Leyland Bus. For highest offer. Senkadagala Finance PLC, Kandy. Inquiries Monday to Friday. 0770107270, 0774789216. 016452

NC LF-9343
Daihatsu Hijet F/B Truck. For highest offer. Senkadagala Finance PLC, Kandy. Inquiries Monday to Friday. 0770107270, 0774789216. 016469

NPLA-7100 Tata
207 S/Cab Truck, for highest offer. Senkadagala Finance PLC, Kandy. Inquiries Monday to Friday. 0770107270, 0774789216. 016498

NP HN-8713
Mitsubishi Rosa Bus. For highest offer. Senkadagala Finance PLC, Kandy. Inquiries Monday to Friday. 0770107270, 0774789216. 016470

NP PX-9319 Tata 207 S/Cab Truck. For highest offer. Senkadagala Finance PLC, Kandy. Inquiries Monday to Friday. 0770107270, 0774789216. 016455

NWLI-4948 Tata
809 Truck, for highest offer. Senkadagala Finance PLC, Kandy. Inquiries Monday to Friday. 0770107270, 0774789216. 016471

NWLI-8262 Tata
1109 Truck. For highest offer. Senkadagala Finance PLC, Kandy. Inquiries Monday to Friday. 0770107270, 0774789216. 016479

SGNB-5114 Tata
City Ride Bus, for highest offer. Senkadagala Finance PLC, Kandy. Inquiries Monday to Friday. 0770107270, 0774789216. 016459

SPDAB-9071 Tata
Super Ace Truck, for highest offer. Senkadagala Finance PLC, Kandy. Inquiries Monday to Friday. 0770107270, 0774789216. 016460

SPND-3654 Toyota
Coaster Bus, for highest offer. Senkadagala Finance PLC, Kandy. Inquiries Monday to Friday. 0770107270, 0774789216. 016500

UP NA-5177 Lanka
Ashok Leyland Bus. For highest offer. Senkadagala Finance PLC, Kandy. Inquiries Monday to Friday. 0770107270, 0774789216. 016473

WPDAA-7277
Mahindra Bolero Maxi Truck, for highest offer. Senkadagala Finance PLC, Kandy. Inquiries Monday to Friday. 0770107270, 0774789216. 016462

WPLC-2763 KIA
Frontier Truck for highest offer. Senkadagala Finance PLC, Kandy. Inquiries Monday to Friday. 0770107270, 0774789216. 016482

WPPQ-9372 Tata
Xenon S/Cab Truck, for highest offer. Senkadagala Finance PLC, Kandy. Inquiries Monday to Friday. 0770107270, 0774789216. 016447

WPPV-1662 Tata
Ace Ex Truck, for highest offer. Senkadagala Finance PLC, Kandy. Inquiries Monday to Friday. 0770107270, 0774789216. 016483

WP GL-7018 Toyota Townace Truck. For highest offer. Senkadagala Finance PLC, Kandy. Inquiries Monday to Friday. 0770107270, 0774789216. 016479

226-8287 Isuzu
Elf Dump Truck, for highest offer. Senkadagala Finance PLC, Kandy. Inquiries Monday to Friday. 0770107270, 0774789216. 016441

61-4289 Mitsubishi
Rosa Bus, for highest offer. Senkadagala Finance PLC, Kandy. Inquiries Monday to Friday. 0770107270, 0774789216. 016444

62-6293 Isuzu
Journey Bus, for highest offer. Senkadagala Finance PLC, Kandy. Inquiries Monday to Friday. 0770107270, 0774789216. 016489



EPBIB-2003 Honda
Navi APDR-2, for highest offer. Senkadagala Finance PLC, Kandy. Inquiries Monday to Friday. 0770107270, 0774789216. 016446

EPBIB-2669 Honda
Navi APDR-2, for highest offer. Senkadagala Finance PLC, Kandy. Inquiries Monday to Friday. 0770107270, 0774789216. 016536

EPBIB-5805 Honda
Navi APDR-2, for highest offer. Senkadagala Finance PLC, Kandy. Inquiries Monday to Friday. 0770107270, 0774789216. 016448

EPBIE-7120 TVS
NTORQ, for highest offer. Senkadagala Finance PLC, Kandy. Inquiries Monday to Friday. 0770107270, 0774789216. 016439

EPBIM - 2825 Hero
Pleasure, for highest offer. Senkadagala Finance PLC, Kandy. Inquiries Monday to Friday. 0770107270, 0774789216. 016449

EPBIW-9319
Yamaha MT-15 for highest offer. Senkadagala Finance PLC, Kandy. Inquiries Monday to Friday. 0770107270, 0774789216. 016450

NC BIQ-3603 Hero
HF Deluxe motor bike. For highest offer. Senkadagala Finance PLC, Kandy. Inquiries Monday to Friday. 0770107270, 0774789216. 016453

NP BIQ-8865 Hero
Hunk Motor Cycle. For highest offer. Senkadagala Finance PLC, Kandy. Inquiries Monday to Friday. 0770107270, 0774789216. 016454

NW YG-3079 Bajaj,
2010, SP QG-3984 Bajaj, 2006, SG YL-7226 Bajaj, 2011, three wheel for highest offer. Vallibel Finance PLC. No. 310, Galle Road, Colombo-03. Tel: 0711-210810. 016536

WPBK-5329
Piaggio Ape Three-Wheeler for highest offer. Senkadagala Finance PLC, Kandy. Inquiries Monday to Friday. 0770107270, 0774789216. 016505

WP AAM-8298
TVS King Three Wheeler. For highest offer. Senkadagala Finance PLC, Kandy. Inquiries Monday to Friday. 0770107270, 0774789216. 016474



124
Tractors & Agri-Equipment
For sale

NCRF-3921
Sonalika DI 50 RX Tractor, for highest offer. Senkadagala Finance PLC, Kandy. Inquiries Monday to Friday. 0770107270, 0774789216. 016494

WPRC-5520 John
Deere PY5203 Tractor for highest offer. Senkadagala Finance PLC, Kandy. Inquiries Monday to Friday. 0770107270, 0774789216. 016461



320
Positions Vacant
Hotel & Bakery

Immediately Wanted - Chinese Chef/Cook, Kitchen Helper, Cleaners. Salary for experience. Food & accommodation. 0777772246, 0777775686. 016767

Employment Opportunities



VACANCY
IT HARDWARE TECHNICIAN (PL 02) - 03 VACANCIES

We are looking for result oriented & self motivated individuals with exceptional integrity & competence to result for the following positions.
Job Description
a) Responsible for keeping and maintaining hardware components and equipments of the organization.
b) Responsible for updating hardware components which are relevant to software development.
c) Responsible for proper functioning of organization hardware components which are related to proper functioning of organization's information system.
d) Responsible for performing other duties assigned by the supervisors.

Qualifications
External Candidates
Having obtained proficiency certificate not below than the National Vocational Qualification Level 2, issued by a Technical Vocational Training Institute accepted by the Tertiary and Vocational Education Commission, relevant to the function of each post.
General Conditions
• **Age:** Age should be not less than 22 years and not more than 45 years. The upper age limit will not apply to internal candidates.
• **Other:**
i. Should be a citizen of Sri Lanka
ii. Should be physically and mentally fit to discharge the duties of the post well and to serve in any part of the Island
iii. Should be of excellent moral character.

• **Salary Scale** (as at 01.01.2021)
PL 2 Rs. 25,790/- (Rs.270/- X 18) Rs. 30,610/-
The initial salary point for the above post is Rs 25,750/-
• **Application Procedure**
Applicants giving full bio- data together with copies of all certificates for academic, professional qualifications & experience with names, addresses & telephone numbers of two non-related referees should be sent to reach to following address on or before under the registered post indicating the post applied on the top left hand corner of the envelope. Applications received after the closing date will not be considered. Incomplete applications will be rejected without intimation.

TEL : 011 2384603 / 011 2422341/2440889
FAX : 011 2447970
E-MAIL : lankagen@sltna.lk
WEB : www.sltna.lk
Chairman
Sri Lanka State Trading
(General) Corporation Ltd,
No. 100, Nawam Mawatha,
Colombo 02.



VAVUNIYA CAMPUS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF JAFFNA VACANCIES

Vavuniya Campus of the University of Jaffna will entertain applications from the qualified persons for the undermentioned posts up to **26.03.2021**.

- Chief Security Officer Grade II
- Security Inspector Grade II
- Nursing Officer Grade II

1. CHIEF SECURITY OFFICER GRADE II
Qualifications:
(i) An officer not below the rank of Assistant Superintendent of Police, captain of the Army or an Officer of equivalent rank in the other Armed Services.
OR
(ii) A person who possesses a degree from a recognized university/HEI with not less than five (05) years of experience in security work.
OR
(iii) A holder of the post of Security Inspector, Grade I or above in the University Security Service and confirmed in the present post with not less than eight (08) years of satisfactory service in those grades.
Salary Scale : U-EX 1(II) -Rs.50,625-3x1,125-54,000(EB)55,335;12x1,335-71,355p.m
Selection : By Interview

2. SECURITY INSPECTOR GRADE II
Qualifications:
i) a) G.C.E.(Ordinary Level) Examination in 06 subjects at not more than 2 sittings with credit passes in 5 subjects. The credit passes must include Sinhala/Tamil language or Literature and Arithmetic/Commercial Arithmetic/Mathematics.
OR
b) Employees of the University System with not less than 5 years' satisfactory service and who have passed the G.C.E. (Ordinary Level) Examination in 06 subjects at not more than 03 sittings. The subjects passed must include Sinhala/Tamil language or Literature and Arithmetic/Commercial Arithmetic/Mathematics.
AND
ii) Not less than 05 years satisfactory service in the Police or Armed service or Security service in the University System or other recognized security organization.
iii) Should have actively participated in Sports.
iv) **Height** : Not less than 5 feet and 4 inches.
Chest : Not less than 34 inches (Normal).
Salary Scale : U-MN1 (IIIA) - Rs. 30,725-17x300-35,825p.m
Selection : By Interview
Age Limit : Not more than 40 Years

3. NURSING OFFICER GRADE II
Qualifications:
(i) GCE (Ordinary Level) Examination in Six subjects at not more than two sittings with credit passes in three subjects.
AND
(ii) Certificate of competence as a Nurse recognized by the Sri Lanka Medical Council.
Salary Scale : U-MT 1(IIIA) - Rs. 31,625- 7x300;10x355-37,275 p.m
Selection : By Interview
Age Limit : Not more than 40 Years

STATUTORY BENEFITS

- Allowances approved by the University Grants Commission.
- Membership in Universities Provident Fund and Pension Scheme in the University Scheme.
- Gratuity Payment.
- Employees Trust Fund.
- Free Medical Care.

Completed application form along with the copies of the relevant documents should be sent to the Deputy Registrar - Establishments, Vavuniya Campus, Park Road, Vavuniya by registered post on or before the closing date of 26.03.2021. Application without the copies of the supportive documents for Educational/Professional and Experience will be rejected.
Application form could be downloaded from the campus website <http://www.vau.jfn.ac.lk> Downloaded application forms should accompany with the paid Bank slip for the deposit of a sum Rs.100/- credited to the Bank of Ceylon, Account No:2064602 in favour of Assistant Bursar, Vavuniya Campus.
Applicants from the University System/Government Departments/Corporations and Statutory Boards should channel their applications through the Heads of respective Institutions, but may send an advance copy of the first instance. Illegible, incomplete and late applications will be rejected without intimation.
Registrar, University of Jaffna. 03.03.2021

- HOUSES
- LANDS
- COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES
- APARTMENTS

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Wanted

HOUSE & PROPERTY

JAFFNA MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

Request for eXPRESSIoN of INTeResT

for Recreational activities for Tourists at Jaffna Lagoon Park.

- The Mayor now invites eligible service providers to indicate their interest in providing the Recreational Activities for Tourists to implement at Jaffna Lagoon Park.
- Interested service providers must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services (Brochures, description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skilled staff etc). Service providers may attach documents to prove their qualifications.
- Interested Service Providers may obtain further information at the address given below from 04.03.2021 to 18.03.2021 between 9.00am and 3.00pm.

Address: Commissioner, Jaffna Municipal Council, Point Pedro Road, Nallur
 Contact No: 021 221 6468, 021 222 2019, 021 222 8874 Fax No: 021 222 2334
 Email: mcjaffnamail@yahoo.com

- A complete set of Expression of Interest (EOI) documents may be purchased by interested service providers on submission of a written application to the office of the Works engineer, Jaffna Municipal Council from 04.03.2021 until 18.03.2021 from 9.00am to 3.00 pm upon payments of a non-refundable fee of Rs. 1000/- + taxes. The method of payment should be by cash.

- Expression of Interest shall be delivered or sent by registered post to the above address on or before 19.03.2021 at 2.00pm. Late EOI will be rejected. EOI will be opened soon after closing in the presence of the service providers/ representatives who choose to attend.

- The Mayor of Jaffna Municipal Council reserves the right to accept or reject any EOI.

7. Basic Requirements:

- The service provider should ensure that he/ she has a good business culture in Jaffna.
- The service provider should ensure that their boating activities and operation cannot affect the Jaffna's culture and traditions.
- The service provider should ensure that they have fully insurance arrangements for both boating assets and passengers.
- The service provider should ensure that their boating activities are feasible for environment (should be done with environmental friendly manner)
- The service provider should keep the leisure area clean and beautiful.

v.Manivannan,
 Chairman,
 Regional Procurement Committee,
 Jaffna Municipal Council,
 Nallur, Jaffna.
 03.03.2021

CORRECTION NOTICE

PROCUREMENT NOTICE

MINISTRY OF YOUTH AND SPORTS

NATIONAL YOUTH CORPS

Obtaining 09 Vehicles on Monthly Hire Basis for a period of one year for the Provincial Offices of the National Youth Corps - 2021/2022.

This refers to the above titled advertisement published on Page No. 25 of Daily News on 3rd March 2021. Please note that the period of services required mentioned in Para 01 should be corrected as from 01.04.2021 until 31.03.2022 instead of 01.04.2021 until 31.03.2021.

The other contents remain unchanged.

Departmental Procurement Committee (Minor)
National Youth Corps Headquarters
No. 420, Bauddhaloka Mawatha, Colombo 07.
 04.03.2021

OBSERVER JOBS

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State Ministry of Batik, Handloom Fabrics and Local Apparel Products

SRI LANKA HANDICRAFTS BOARD "LAKSALA"

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP) - ISLANDWIDE DISTRIBUTORS

Sri Lanka Handicrafts Board (LAKSALA) is looking to expand its business operations by introducing "household FMCG product range" under "LAKSALA new business model" and seeking of islandwide smart & credible distributors to join hands with us.

- Products for Distribution:** Products under households FMCG category
- Preferred Location:** All Island (specially Colombo 01 to 15)
- The applicants must have the following strengths;**
 - Having experience with FMCG category product distribution & principles.
 - Good financial standing
 - Sufficient delivery infrastructure with manpower
 - A quality-centric approach culminating into full customer satisfaction.
 - A clear track record.

Attractive Return On Investment (ROI) is assured and please submit your RFP along with the above details & company business profile shall be enclosed in a sealed envelope having mentioned "RFP - Distributors" on the upper left-hand corner and sent by registered post or handed over to the address given below within 14 days of the publication of this newspaper advertisement.

Priority is given to proposals with best suit the business nature of this institution, and Sri Lanka Handicrafts Board - LAKSALA reserves the right to make a final decision on the proposals received.

Further information can be obtained by calling 0714-521888.

Sri Lanka Handicrafts Board - LAKSALA
No. 215, Bauddhaloka Mawatha, Thumulla, Colombo 07

DISTRICT GENERAL HOSPITAL - MATARA

BID INVITATION

Quotations are invited from government registered institutions for the supply of following materials for the District General Hospital, Matara.

All applications for this supply may be obtained as follows.

Sr. No.	Description of Supplies	Required Quantity	Applicant's Qualifications	Non-refundable Tender Form Fee (Rs.)
01	Casement Cloth Green Colour (60 inches wide)	2000 Metres	Company Registration Certificate	3,500.00
02	Casement Cloth Dark Blue Colour (60 inches wide)	1000 Metres		
03	Casement Cloth Orange Colour (60 inches wide)	500 Metres		
04	Grey Cloth (36 inches wide)	3000 Metres		
05	Grey Cloth (60 inches wide)	500 Metres		
06	White Bed Sheets (90"x72")	500		
07	Chequered Cloth (90"x72")	200		

Institutions intending to supply these goods should pay a non-refundable application fee of Rs. 3,500.00 to the Shroff Division of the General Hospital, Matara and the receipt obtained should be submitted along with the copy of the Company Registration Certificate and letter of request to obtain application forms.

- Bid applications may be obtained from the Head Office between 9.00 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. on working days from 05th March 2021 until 24th March 2021. Duly perfected bids may either be sent by registered post or deposited in the Tender box kept at this office to receive before 10.30 a.m. on 25th March 2021. Tenders will be opened at 10.30 a.m. on the same day and the bidders or their representatives may be present at the time of opening of tenders.

Further details may be obtained by calling on Tel. No. 041-2227820.

Chairman,
Regional Procurement Committee,
District General Hospital,
Matara.

it's what you want

www.adz.lk

BID NOTICE

CEYLON PETROLEUM CORPORATION

BID FOR THE TRANSPORTATION OF BITUMEN / LUBRICANT DRUMS AND PALLETIZED LUBRICANT CANS AND OTHER FCL CONTAINERS OF CPC FOR THE YEAR 2021/2022

B/23/2021

The Chairman, Departmental Procurement Committee (DPC), on behalf of Ceylon Petroleum Corporation (CPC) invites bids for the above from reputed Transport Contractors, who are:-

- Owning a minimum fleet of 15 Nos. of 20 Ft. FCL Container Lorries and are in a position to Supply 50 or more Container Lorries at a time for the transport of 20 Ft. Containers of weight not exceeding 24 Metric Tons containing drums of Bitumen / Lubricants, Palletized Lubricant Cans and other items ordered by CPC

- Owning a minimum fleet of 02 Nos. 40 ft FCL Container Lorries and are in a position to Supply 05 or more Container Lorries at a time for the transport of 40 Ft. Containers of weight not exceeding 35 Metric Tons containing drums of Bitumen / Lubricants and Palletized Lubricant Cans and other items ordered by CPC.

Bidding Documents could be inspected and obtained between 0900 hrs and 1500 hrs up to 23.03.2021 from the office of the Manager (Procurement & Stores), 1st Floor, No. 609, Dr. Danister De Silva Mawatha, Colombo 09 on a written request and payment of non-refundable fee of Sri Lanka Rupees 2,000.00 (i.e. Rs. 1,851.85 + 8% VAT) per set.

The Bid will be closed at 1400 hrs. on 24.03.2021 and opened at the office of Manager (Procurement & Stores) Ceylon Petroleum Corporation at the above address, immediately after closing time of the Bid. Bidders or their authorized personnel will be permitted to represent at the opening of the bid.

Bid may be sent by post under registered cover or may be deposited in the Tender Box kept in the office of Manager (Procurement & Stores), at the above address.

Clarification (if any) shall be sought from the Manager (Procurement & Stores) on the Telephone and Fax Nos. given below.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Bidders can download the bidding document from CPC website, i.e. - www.ceypetco.gov.lk and all the payments can be made to the Account No. 00410010208633 of Ceylon Petroleum Corporation of People's Bank (Head Office). Please submit the original of the bank receipt along with the bid.

Chairman,
Department Procurement Committee
C/o Manager (Procurement & Stores)
Procurement & Stores Function,
1st Floor, Dr. Danister De Silva Mw.,
Colombo 09.
 Telephone : 011-5455331
 Fax : 011-5455424

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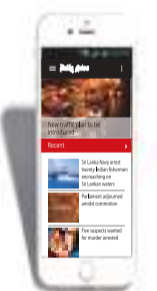
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 Main Bus Stand
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Associated Newspapers of Ceylon Limited
 No 35, D.R.Wijewardene Mawatha, Colombo 10

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AVAILABLE AT



Ceylon Fertilizer Company Ltd
 Ministry of Agriculture
 (State Ministry of Production and supply of fertilizer and Regulation of Chemical Fertilizers and Insecticide Use)

Ceylon Fertilizer company is a fully government owned company operating for more than 50 years in Sri Lanka, coming under purview of the ministry of Agriculture. Ceylon Fertilizer Company is engaged in importation of chemical fertilizer, producing quality fertilizer mixtures and marketing, distributing through island wide network of warehouses and thereby catering to the fertilizer needs of Sri Lankan farmers.

Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced persons who with achieving dynamic results for the following positions:

Regional Marketing Manager (Middle Manager – (MM 1-2)

Job Profile:

- Operating and managing staff within the giving regional zone to achieve the objective and targets give by the company.
- Plane marketing strategies within the given regional zone and provide information from the particular region to set sales policies.
- Organize conference, seminars, exhibition, workshops to promote Lakpohora products gather personals for the organize events and provide reports to marketing manager.
- Maintain good relationship with all state owned institution within the regional zone to achieve company goals.
- Strategically and professional planning stores administration, marketing, distribution, operations and maintain fertilizer stock.
- Coordinating and supervising distributors and authorized dealers within the given regional zone.

Qualifications and experience:

For External candidates

- A Bachelor's degree in the field of Marketing/ Management/ Commerce/ Agriculture obtained from a university Grants Commission along within 03 years experience in the field of the marketing/ sales or
- Successfully completion of certificate in marketing course conducted by the chartered institute of marketing (CIM) and 03 years experience in the field of the marketing/ sales
- Fluency in English language and information technology will be an added advantage.

For Internal candidates

- Being and employee with minimum of 05 years experience with satisfactory service in a post in Junior Manager category (Grade 1) in the field of marketing/ sales.

Age limit

Not less than 24 years – not above 35 years
 (Maximum age limit will not applicable for internal candidates)

Others:

All candidates:

- Should be a Sri Lankan citizen
- Should have mental and physical capability to work at any given working condition at any part of the country with an active personality
- Should have an excellent character

Other fringe benefits:

- Government approved allowances
- Contribution to the Employees' Provident Fund will be at the rate of 15% from the company and 10% from the employee. The company will also make a contribution equivalent to 3% of the Employees' Trust Fund
- Medical insurance scheme covering the employee and the family
- Professional allowance (as per the MSD circular 05/2017)
- Other allowances approved by Director Board (Vehicle allowances etc)
- Re- imbursement of telephone bills (as per the PED circular 2/2015)

How to apply

- Internal candidates should handover the applications on or before 31/03/2021 to the following address.
- Applicants from state owned organisations should submit their applications through the head of the respective organisation.
- Please apply on or before 31/03/2021 with a detailed CV including certified copies of educational and professional. Also state the post applied for on the top left hand corner of the envelop and forward through registered post to the following address and copies of your application and certificates E-mail to Chairman@lakpohora.lk and mention applied post as subject.

Chairman,
 Ceylon Fertilizer Co.LTD,
 Lakpohora Swarna Jayanthi Mawatha,
 Hunupitiya, Wattala