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PB REPORTS HIGHEST EVER BALANCE SHEET GROWTH IN 2020 **PAGE 13**

Sathosa losses exceed Rs. 20 billion from 2015 to 19

SANDASEN MARASINGHE, CAMELIA NATHANIEL and AMALI MALLAWAARACHCHI

Sathosa has incurred a loss of more than Rs. 20 billion from 2015 to 2019, Trade Minister Dr. Bandula Gunawardena told Parliament yesterday (9).

He said the amount due for just one supplier of Sathosa exceeds Rs. 80 million.

Dr. Gunawardena also stated that the Criminal Investigations Department and the Commission to Investigate Allegation of Bribery or Corruption have been requested to investigate into the said discrepancies. However, Minister Gunawardena observed that these investigations are not satisfactory. **TO PAGE 02**

Three day debate on Easter Attack PCol Report

A three day debate on the Report of the Presidential Commission of Inquiry into the Easter Sunday attack will commence today (10) in Parliament, Leader of the House, Minister Dinesh Gunawardena said yesterday.

He said the debate will commence today and two other dates in the third week have been fixed for the debate. He added that the decision was reached at the Committee on Parliamentary Business chaired by Speaker Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena.

Samagi Jana Balawegaya (SJB) MP Lakshman Kiriella demanded **TO PAGE 02**



DIRECT DIALOGUE WITH ADANI FOR WCT

INDIA NOMINATED ADANI GROUP FOR ECT - MINISTER WCT, A SL-INDIA-JAPAN JOINT VENTURE

ISHARA MUDUGAMUWA

The Government will directly continue the dialogue with the Adani Group of India regarding the development of the Western Container Terminal (WCT) of the Colombo Port, Co-Cabinet Spokesman Energy Minister Udaya Gammanpila said

yesterday. Earlier, the Indian Government had nominated the Adani Group of Companies to invest in the Eastern Container Terminal (ECT) of the Colombo Port.

The Minister was responding to a question by a journalist at the weekly Cabinet media brief-

ing held yesterday at the Government Information Department. The journalist pointed out that India's External Affairs Ministry in New Delhi had said that the Ministers' reference in the decisions to the Indian High Commission approving the Adani Group's investment in the ECT was



factually incorrect. The Government of Sri Lanka assumed India's Adani Group was nominated for the WCT development, on the same interest of developing the ECT. **TO PAGE 02**

RESPITE FOR STRANDED SRI LANKANS IN DUBAI



Youth and Sports Minister Namal Rajapaksa who is on a tour to the United Arab Emirates has made arrangements to repatriate Sri Lankans who lost their livelihoods due to COVID-19 and various other reasons in Abu Dhabi. He met a group of stranded Lankans staying at a park near the Sri Lankan Embassy during his tour. Aviation and Export Zones Development State Minister D.V.Chanaka was present. (Picture by Sports Ministry Media Unit).

Control over Madrasa Schools as recommended by PCol

Education Minister Prof. G.L. Peiris said the Education Ministry will implement recommendations of the Presidential Commission of Inquiry (PCol) that investigated the Easter Sunday attacks in relation to Madrasa schools.

"There should be some control over Madrasa institutions and the government is bound to implement the Commission's recommendations in relation to the Madrasa schools," Prof. Peiris said. **TO PAGE 02**



Traffic handling to be streamlined

ISHARA MUDUGAMUWA

The government has decided to modernise the Sri Lanka Police by changing the existing traditional methods.

It has been decided to make the traffic handling process of Sri Lanka Police more efficient and productive by introducing modern methods in handling traffic. The Cabinet of Ministers granted their consent to the proposal made by Public Security Minister Rear Admiral Sarath Weerasekera **TO PAGE 02**

Violence against women, a global issue - MP

SHAVINI MADHARA

Domestic violence is something that women experience not only in our country but all over the world, MP Dr. Harini Amarasuriya said. Addressing an International Women's Day celebration held at Colombo Public Library recently, **TO PAGE 02**



More Serum vaccine doses to arrive soon

ISHARA MUDUGAMUWA

The government is confident of receiving the next consignment of COVID-19 vaccines ordered from the Serum Institute of India soon.

Responding to a question by a journalist at the weekly Cabinet media briefing held yesterday, Co-Cabinet Spokesman, Plantations Minister Dr. Ramesh Pathirana said there might be a slight delay in the delivery of the next consignment of vaccines ordered from the Serum Institute due to a fire which recently broke out at a building of the manufacturing plant. **TO PAGE 02**

Easter Attack instigators will be prosecuted - Minister

ISHARA MUDUGAMUWA

Co-Cabinet Spokesman Plantations Minister Dr. Ramesh Pathirana yesterday emphasized that the government has no intention of hiding the report of the Presidential Commission on the Easter Sunday attack.

Responding to a question by a journalist at the weekly Cabinet media briefing held yesterday he said that it is with the utmost respect that the government will take measures to institute legal action against the perpetrators of the Easter Sunday attack. **TO PAGE 02**



Political Victimization Commission Report tabled

SANDASEN MARASINGHE, CAMELIA NATHANIEL and AMALI MALLAWAARACHCHI

The report of the Presidential Commission of Inquiry tasked with investigating political victimisation was tabled in Parliament yesterday.

The report was tabled by Leader of the House Minister Dinesh Gunawardena.

The Presidential Commission was appointed to investigate into political victimisation and the background in which such incidents took place in relation to investigations conducted by the Commission to Investigate Allegations of Bribery or Corruption, **TO PAGE 02**

Early childhood education to be regulated

ISHARA MUDUGAMUWA

The Cabinet of Ministers approved a proposal made by Education Minister Prof. G. L. Peiris to appoint a committee to manage and regulate the country's early childhood education. Co-Cabinet Spokesman Plantations Minister **TO PAGE 02**

Pollution within Muthurajawela Sanctuary: CEA to submit report on March 24

LAKMAL SOORIYAGODA

The Attorney General yesterday informed the Court of Appeal that the Central Environmental Authority is expecting to submit a report on March 24. **TO PAGE 02**

SF challenges Political Victimization PCol Report

LAKMAL SOORIYAGODA

Samagi Jana Balawegaya (SJB) MP Field Marshal Sarath Fonseka yesterday filed a writ petition in the Court of Appeal seeking an order quashing the findings and recommendations of Presidential Commission of Inquiry appointed to probe incidents of political victimization. **TO PAGE 02**

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Direct dialogue with... From page 01

"Our understanding is that the Indian Government nominated the Adani Group to invest in the ECT. Thereafter the Sri Lankan Government made a policy decision to develop the ECT through the Sri Lanka Ports Authority and to develop the WCT as a joint venture between Sri Lanka, India, and Japan. By the time the Sri Lankan Government made that decision, the Indian Government had already nominated the Adani Group as their nominee for the ECT development," the Minister said. "The Sri Lankan Government assumed that it is the very same investment, and there would be only a change of the investment location. Therefore, the Sri Lankan Government assumed that Adani would continue as the Indian Government's nominee - so the Sri Lankan Government continued their dialogue with Adani," he added. The Minister noted that the Indian Government has expressed it was not going to officially get involved in these decisions about the joint venture and therefore, Sri Lanka will continue its dialogue with the Adani Group with regard to the WCT.

Early childhood education... From page 01

Dr. Ramesh Pathirana said a committee called 'National Committee for Management and Regulation of Early Childhood Education' comprising intellectuals in the field and the officials at decision making levels will be appointed to take decisions with regard to the regulation supervision and guidance of early childhood development centres and day care centers in order to maintain the standards of the sector. Addressing the weekly Cabinet media briefing held yesterday at the Government Information Department, Minister Pathirana said that according to the legal framework currently prevailing in the country, the early childhood education methodology of Sri Lanka is operated with a coordination across several institutional structures across several institutional scopes with the central government and provincial councils. Considering this, the Cabinet of Ministers approved the proposal made by the education minister to appoint this committee.

More Serum vaccine doses... From page 01

Sri Lanka has ordered another one million doses of the COVID-19 vaccine and the Serum Institute of India has already informed us that they have accepted the order and pledged to deliver the order as soon as possible. Since we have a few weeks more to administer the second dose of the vaccine, there is no need to be panic over the delay of receiving the vaccine. Dr. Pathirana further said, "We should be pleased with the number of vaccines currently available in Sri Lanka since there are over 110 countries in the world that have not yet received a single dose of the vaccine. We have received 1.26 million vaccines so far."

SF challenges Political... From page 01

Petitioner Fonseka named the Presidential Commission Chairman retired Supreme Court Judge Upali Abeyratne, retired Court of Appeal Judge Chandrasiri Jayatilake and former IGP Chandra Fernando, Commission Secretary Pearl Weerasinghe and the Attorney General as respondents. In his petition, Fonseka stated that the final report of the concerned Commission of Inquiry has not been officially published and given to him.

Easter Attack instigators... From page 01

The Minister further said that the Easter attack took place in 2019 when the previous government was in power and the Presidential Commission was also appointed by the same government and the present government did not interfere with the proceedings of the Commission. The Minister said that the report of the committee clearly states that the national security of the country was completely neglected during the previous Yahapalana Government and that all those who were involved in the governance of the country should be held responsible for that.

Traffic handling to be... From page 01

to appoint a steering committee to design a project to monitor and implement the overall modernisation of the Police, prioritizing Traffic and the Road Safety Division, Co-Cabinet Spokesman Plantations Minister Dr. Ramesh Pathirana said. He said that the Sri Lanka Police is a leading body empowered to ensure the safety and security of the public and to maintain law and order.

Pollution within... From page 01

regarding the alleged illegal constructions and filling of lands within the Muthurajawela Sanctuary. The Attorney General made these remarks consequent to the writ petitions filed by Colombo Archbishop Malcolm Cardinal Ranjith and the Centre for Environmental Justice. The Court of Appeal two-judge-bench comprising Justice Arjuna Obeyesekere and Justice Mayadunna Corea fixed the two petitions for support on March 30.

Three day debate on... From page 01

for Copies of the evidence at the Presidential Commission of Inquiry into the Easter Sunday attack. He demanded them to take legal actions accordingly. He added that at least those copies have not been sent to the Attorney General's Department and inquired as to how the AG's Department could take legal action.

Control over Madrasa... From page 01

He added that the recommendations given by the Commission need to be implemented and extremist ideologies in the curriculum should be removed. However the Minister opined that the Bodubala Sena organization should not be banned. "It is not appropriate to ban the Bodubala Sena organization as proscribing an organization of this nature would not benefit the country," he said.

Violence against women,... From page 01

she noted that leftists and feminists were organized about two years ago as the Progressive Women's Alliance. It was created as a platform for sisters to join in the struggle for democracy and social justice. "Our goal is to grow as a group that can influence political movements and the political culture of the mainstream together as women who value leftist, feminist and democratic ideas, despite our different political ideologies. Also, socialising our ideologies is a paramount objective," she added.

Political Victimisation... From page 01

FCID, CID and the Special Investigation Unit of the Police from January 8, 2015 to November 16, 2019. The Commission has also conducted investigations into serious fraud, corruption, abuse of state resources, privileges, power and authority. The report compiled by the Presidential Commission of Inquiry was handed over to President Gotabaya Rajapaksa in December 2020.

Sathosa losses exceed... From page 01

He requested the Speaker to look into the matter and appoint a committee to investigate into the said discrepancies. He said: "Sathosa incurred billions of losses during 2015-2019. This was an institution that did not incur losses before 2015. Sathosa has lost 20 billion rupees during the last five years. One supplier has a Rs. 80 million due payment from Sathosa. This is serious. The CID and the Bribery Commission are investigating into this in addition to the forensic audit. However, the CID does not show the same enthusiasm it showed during the Yahapalana regime to investigate into cases of corruption and malpractices, it seems. In that case, I hope Parliament will intervene by setting up a committee to look into this matter."

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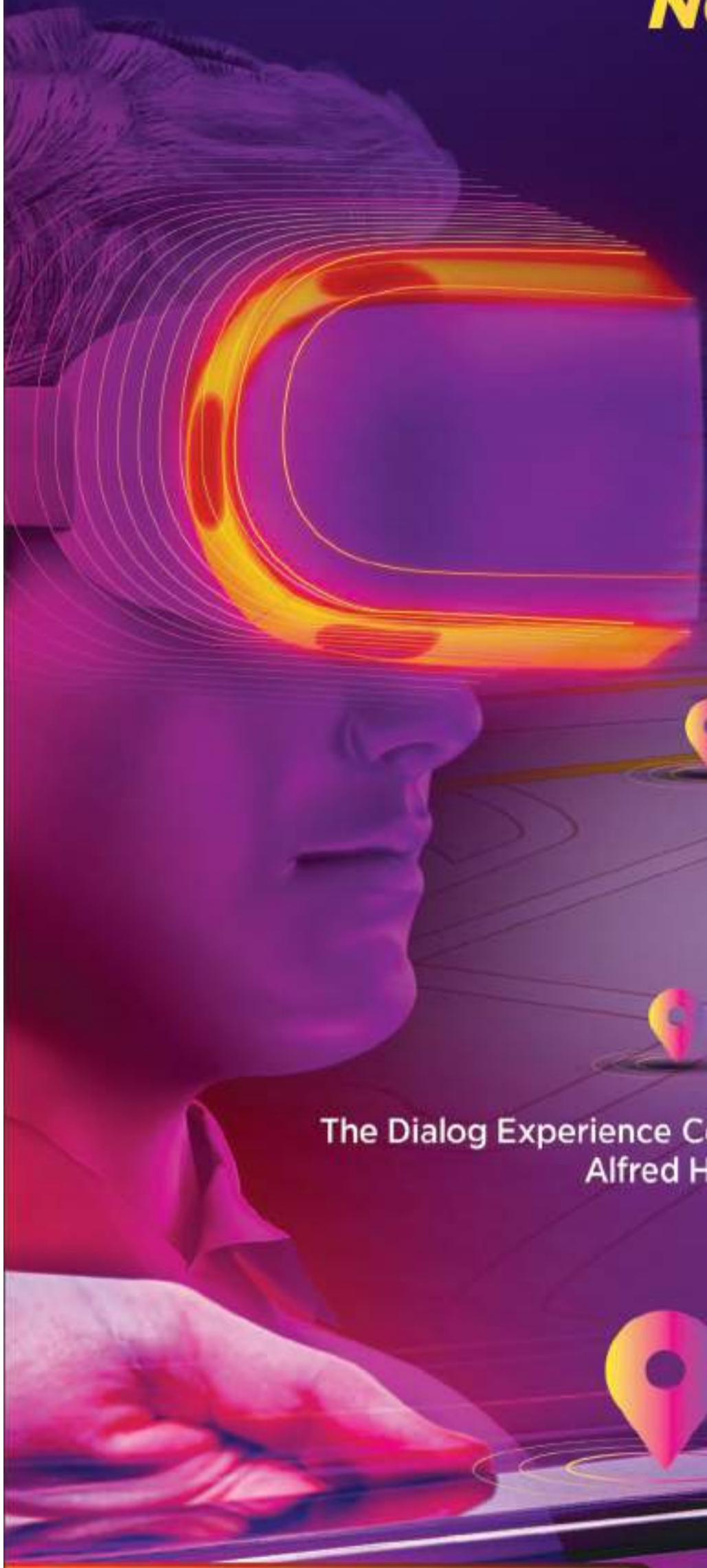
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Cess increased to protect farmers, local manufacturers, industrialists – Minister Bandula

The Cess is increased to protect the farmers, local manufacturers and industrialists by discouraging imports and encouraging local production unlike the previous government that allowed imports even of turmeric and other minor crops, Trade Minister Bandula Gunawardena said in Parliament yesterday.

He said that Cess on shoes would be increased to discourage imports and encourage local production. He said that there is a move to provide a pair of shoes to students Rs. 300 lower than the price in the market in collaboration with the private sector as a means to encourage local production.

The Minister commenced the debate on four orders

on changing Cess on a proposal under the Trade Ministry.

He said that the country is facing one of the biggest challenges following independence, which is COVID 19 pandemic along with the entire world. The highest impact of it is on imports, exports and international trade. Therefore, the trades in the USA, China, Russia, Germany, France and India have been badly interrupted, he said.

He said that due to this situation, there is a huge shortage of containers. It has increased the charge for such containers by fourfold. In addition the ship charges, too, has drastically changed. He said that under such a situation, export

income has to be increased to make the currency rate stable as it affects the living of the people.

The Minister said that when the Nation achieved independence, Sri Lankans paid only Rs 4.74 per US dollar. But with the introduction of Open Economy, the rate increased from Rs 8 to Rs 16 in 24 hours.

"However, the former Good Governance Government during its last 18 months had taken USD 6.5 billion from the International Money Market at a very high interest rate which is an unprecedented incident. The same Government sold the Hambantota Port for USD 1.4 billion. Therefore, any government that comes to power has to pay more

than USD 4 billion annually to settle the loans until 2029," the Minister said.

He said that the dollar rate increased only from Rs 105 to Rs 131 during 10 years under the Mahinda Rajapaksa regime. "However, during the five years of Good Governance Government, dollar rate increased from Rs 52 as they failed to increase exports and allowed even imports including minor crops like turmeric. However, we are controlling it by scrutinising each move and publishing different gazettes," the Minister said. He added that stabilising the Rupee is a national issue and not a responsibility of a political party.

He said that the Government, therefore, in line with the Government's Vision of Prosperity and Splendour led by President Gotabaya Rajapaksa and Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa, steps are being taken to strengthen the farmers, local industrialists and manufacturers. "Therefore, the Cess on imported shoes is increased to encourage the local shoe manufacturers and to reduce the imports," the Minister said.

He said that already Shoe manufacturers have commenced industries in Homagama as well. He said that there is a move to provide a pair of shoes to students Rs 300 lower than the price in the market.



PARLIAMENT

SANDASEN MARASINGHE, CAMELIA NATHANIEL AND AMALI MALLAWARACHCHI

Women have to win their rights through numerous hardships – State Minister Dr. Sudarshani

Women in this country have had to win their rights and forge ahead by facing numerous hardships, Primary Health Care, Epidemics and COVID-19 Disease Control State Minister Dr. Sudarshani Fernandopulle said in Parliament yesterday.

"Although women have contributed in numerous ways towards the country's progress, they are still not included in decision making," she said.

"From winning independence in 1948 to date, only 5 per cent of women representation is in Parliament. Every government has failed to take steps to increase female representation in Parliament. Today women face numerous abuses. Despite women excelling in education, only 35 per cent of women are in executive positions," the State Minister said.

State Minister Fernandopulle said that women have to face numerous

challenges and according to a UN study, 90 per cent of women face some form of harassment when they use public transport.

"When women have to face such harassment while using public transport to get to work, how can they concentrate on their work and give it their best? Then in some instances, they have to face harassment at their work places. That is why the ILO Violence and Harassment Convention (No. 190) is so important as it will give women the right to a world of work free from violence and harassment. It has been articulated in an international treaty," she said.

State Minister Fernandopulle expressed regret that only a minor percentage of women could rise up the ranks. "If women have the qualifications, ability, experience and sen-

iority, I ask why are they not allowed to be promoted to higher ranks? Therefore, it is high time that opportunities are presented on their qualifications and abilities rather than on their gender. It is saddening to note that today

women are portrayed as commercial objects. Certain media portray women as sexual objects. Women face numerous abuses on social media. Therefore, it is high time that strict laws are implemented against such perpetrators," she said.

State Minister Fernandopulle thanked the Prime Minister for his assistance in launching the Women Parliamentarians' Caucus, where women throughout the country, irrespective of their social standing, race or religion, could seek assistance if they are faced with any discrimination or harassment.



Adjournment Motion in House ensuring women's rights

The House yesterday moved an adjournment motion on ensuring the rights of women at the workplace.

Moving the Adjournment Motion, Samagi Jana Balawegaya (SJB) MP Rohini Kumari Wijerathna said that it is a privilege to move the Motion while a woman MP presides the Chair. Government MP Kokila Gunawardena presided the Chair when the Adjournment Debate commenced.

MP Wijerathna said that the Sri Lankan society overly romanticises the women in different versions; however, as soon as a woman reaches a power

position, she is targeted, abused and victimised. MP Wijerathna said that there was a recent case where a woman was given a promotion, which was questioned by the patriarchal hierarchy. She said that it is a shame to consider a person's gender when giving a promotion instead of considering qualifications and skills. Such moves are below the civilized society, MP Wijerathna said. She, therefore, requested the Government to establish new policies and to strengthen the policies on protecting women against such discrimination.

Samagi Jana Balawegaya (SJB) MP Thalatha Athu-

korale said that as a country, the nation is proud of having the first woman Prime Minister and the President. "However, considering the women representation in active politics, we cannot be satisfied at all. We need more women representatives in politics if we want to develop our country. Even at this moment, women who are in foreign employment, plantation and free trade garments, contribute the most to our economy. We have failed to protect these women in the face of COVID-19 pandemic," she said.

MP Athukorale held the media responsible for

unethical reporting regarding cases of violence against women. Taking a recent incident where a woman was decapitated, MP Athukorale said that the way the mainstream media and social media depicted the female victim was outrageous. There needs to be certain policies when reporting such sensitive cases, Athukorale said. "We should not limit these issues to a particular day. We must address these issues 365 days," Athukorale said.

About 200 women who have been victims of micro-finance debt traps have committed suicide in the recent time, National Peo-

ple's Power (NPP) MP Dr. Harini Amarasingha said. She said that women involved in informal economic activities are doubly exploited than the women involved in formal professions.

"Our economic system relies upon exploiting women. Even in the house, women are greatly exploited. The labour that is contributed by women for no income is not calculated. We are no way asking for a payment. What we demand is recognition and valuation of that labour while providing care and facilities that are needed for women." Dr. Amarasingha said.

Opposition Questions for Oral Answers limited unfairly – MP Harsha

MP Dr. Harsha de Silva raised an issue in Parliament yesterday regarding the inclusion of their questions for oral answers. He said that previously 15 questions were asked in one hour. "That was the tradition. But the Speaker had made a decision in January to limit the questions to 10, he said.

He said that about 1 ½ months ago his question was slotted as the 11th question and he was notified that his question had not been included and it would be around April his question gets slotted in.

"I have submitted eight questions to Parliament and so far, I have only been given the opportunity to ask just one question. Then we discussed this issue with the Parliament General Secretary and the Speaker and he promised us that our questions would be included in the next round. We presented the question in January and instead of giving us the opportunity, they have given space for the questions that were presented in February and March. This is very disappointing and it is unfair. You have not made provisions to include the questions we presented in January even this week," he said, appealing to the Speaker to take steps to allow him to present his questions at least today (10).

He said that if the question is not asked at a particular time, it loses its relevance.

Nadu, Samba rice will be at less than Rs.100 – Minister

The Government's policy of providing Nadu and Samba rice at less than Rs.100 will be continued despite various difficulties, Trade Minister Dr. Bandula Gunawardena told Parliament (9) yesterday.

Dr.Gunawardena said there shall be no change in the policy pursued by the Government to provide relief to consumers by keeping the prices of Nadu and Samba rice below Rs. 100. Minister Gunawardena further stated that if any attempt is made to create a rice shortage in the country by concealing rice stocks, the government will look into importing rice while using up stocks which are stored.

Dr.Gunawardena also observed that there is a shortage in the market of vehicle tyres used in the agricultural sector. This is due to temporary import restrictions imposed due to the severe crisis in foreign exchange caused by the epidemic. With the increase in foreign exchange steps will be taken to relax such restrictions and the said matter would be referred to the relevant Committee, Dr. Gunawardena assured.

Samagi Jana Balawegaya (SJB) MP Mujibur Rahuman complained to the Speaker about his questions not being included in the Order Paper despite being assured that it would be.



He said that a request had been made to the Speaker to include the questions that are removed from the Order Paper of that particular week to the next week while carrying forward the additional questions from that week to the next so that the questions presented by them would not lose its relevance. He said that it was the Opposition Members' questions that were taken off the Order Paper.

The Speaker said that the Opposition had raised these issues after the agenda was set and assured them that the issue would be rectified in due course.

Minister Nimal Lanza said that the allegations by the Opposition MPs were very unfair and baseless. He said that five questions each had been allocated to both the Government and the Opposition.

Obituaries

ABEYRATHNE - SIRISOMA - Beloved husband of late Thilaka, beloved father of Vindya & Yosha, beloved father-in-law of Waruna Mallawaarachchi (Lake House) & Sajith Kodagoda, expired. Remains lie at **Jayarathne Funeral Parlour, Borella**. Funeral will take place on 10.03.2021 (today) at General Cemetery, Borella at 3.00 p.m. 018840

CARL DE SAILS, Liverpool, UK, passed away on 8th March. Beloved son of late Mr & Mrs Joseph & Christine De Salis, loving husband of Vichithra (UK), caring father of Denver, Naduli, Joel (UK), dearest brother of Andrea (Raddolugama), Tony, Yoland & Vivvet, brother-in-law of Lasantha (SL Ports Authority), beloved uncle of Dinudi, Steve and Yureni, son-in-law of Mr Nandasena Kodagoda & late Mrs Kodagoda. Private funeral will be held in UK. 018792

GNANASEGARAM - SAMUEL NESAKUMAR (Business Development Manager - North & East, Cargills (Ceylon) PLC), precious husband of Wajira, loving father of Ebenezer and Hephzibah, beloved brother of Ranjithkumar (USA), Gnanakumar (Canada), Joyce (Dubai), Pearl (Malaysia) and Selvakumar (Canada), affectionate brother-in-law of Nalini (USA), Shanthan (Canada), Dr Mahendran (Dubai), Deutrom (Malaysia), late Rushita, Sanath, Jayampath, Lalith and Prasad, much loved son of late Albert & Kathleen Gnanasegaram, beloved son-in-law of late Upali Adikari and Sardha Alahakoon entered rest. The Funeral Service on 10th March 2021 at 3.00 p.m. at **Jayarathne Funeral Parlour, Borella** and thereafter burial at General Cemetery (General Section) Kanatte. Contacts : Sri Lanka : +94778499212, Canada : +14162698793, USA : +16144599326, Dubai : +971506595193, Malaysia : +60143341001. 018656

OBITUARY NOTICE



W P Gunasena

Dearly beloved husband of late Rohini Widanapathirana, loving father of Dhamani Widanapathirana, Dilini Widanapathirana and Deeptha Widanapathirana, passed away peacefully on 6th March 2021 and final Buddhist rights were performed on 7th March 2021 at Jayaratne Funeral Parlour and cremated at Borella General Cemetery.

Children wish to thank all those who attended the funeral, those who conveyed condolences and helped in numerous ways during their grief - stricken period.

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Opposition Leader seeks solutions for senior citizens' pension anomalies

Opposition Leader Sajith Premadasa urged the Government to provide solutions to the anomalies in pensions so that the senior citizens who contributed immensely to the country will not be deprived of their entitlements.

Opposition Leader Premadasa was raising a question under the Standing Order 27 (2) in Parliament yesterday.

"Retired public servants who have dedicated the best part of their lives, to the public service and to the country are now facing serious salary anomalies. A situation has arisen where these senior citizens numbering up to 650,000 are not receiving their proper pensions. The previous government increased the salaries of public servants as never before in history, which was a total increase of 107 per cent. At the same time, the pensions of all government pensioners who retired before January 1, 2016 have been adjusted, eliminating salary anomalies. This is an overall 48 per cent increase in pensions."

"In addition, Section 5.2 of Circular 3/2016 issued in this regard states that a pension revision will be made for pensioners who retire after January 1, 2016, in line with the salaries paid to public officers on January 1, 2020. As promised in Circular 3/2016, Circular 35/2019 was issued by the previous government to adjust pensions for 2020, but this Government has taken action to suspend it by Circular 35/2019 (1) as soon as it comes

into force. As a result of this action, the pension increase, which was supposed to be given has been lost and it has created a severe salary disparity among the retirees."

"Does the Government accept that there is a discrepancy between the pensions of a retired public servant today and a retired officer holding a similar post from January 1, 2016 to January 1, 2020? If so, will the Government take action to adjust the pension of those who retire after January 1, 2016 according to the salaries of the public service on January 1, 2020? If so, what are the measures taken by the Government so far?" the Opposition Leader asked.

"Do you accept that this Government has taken steps to suspend Circular 35/2019 issued by the previous Government to eliminate the pension anomaly? What is the number of retirees receiving pensions? Of them, how many retirees have been subjected to injustice due to salary inequality? What is the total amount spent annually by the Government to pay the entire pension? What is the annual cost of eliminating pension anomalies? Will the Government not be able to pay for that?" the Opposition Leader asked.

Opposition Leader Sajith Premadasa asked if the Government has a sustainable plan to get rid of the pension anomalies. He asked if the Government has a plan to create an adequate social security programme for nearly 3 million senior citizens in the country.

MP Hessa blames Gem and Jewellery Authority

The Gem and Jewellery Authority is not rendering its service to bring in the due revenue to the country even at a time when the economy has been affected badly in the COVID pandemic, Samagi Jana Balawegaya (SJB) Parliamentarian Hessa Withanage said in Parliament yesterday.

He was participating in the debate on the regulations under the National Gem and Jewellery Authority Act of which the debate adjourned on February 23, 2021 and the regulations under the Foreign Exchange Act and two orders



under the Sri Lanka Export Development Act were taken up for debate yesterday.

He inquired why the Gem and Jewellery Authority Chairman which was appointed by the Government was removed by the same Government in a very short period.

He said that the field officers who inspected the gem mines in Ratnapura were skilled and so far they did a commendable job. However, by now some officers have been appointed to monitor them. They lack the required knowledge and the skill, he said.

Many look for personal gains in Easter Sunday attacks – Minister Johnston

IRANGIKA RANGE

Those who denigrated the Cardinal then are now hanging in his robe shamelessly and playing cheap political games for personal gains," Highways Minister Johnston Fernando said.

The Minister was addressing the gathering after launching the National Programme 'Home Shop' to build a house and a business

premises in Payagala yesterday. "Members of the former Yahapalana regime who did not prevent the Easter Sunday attacks are now blaming the Government for not prosecuting the responsible parties for the attack. It is hilarious," the Minister said.

He said that the Cardinal advised the Catholic Parliamentarians to appoint a Committee on the Easter attacks. The

President appointed a Cabinet Sub Committee on the request by Catholic MPs. We had a doubt about the Parliamentary Select Committee appointed during the former regime. One of the Committee members, Rauff Hakeem, alleged that several members of the party had even posed for a photo along with several persons connected to the attack. The Janatha

Vimukthi Peramuna (JVP) had alleged that Ibrahim's son directly involved in the attack. The Cabinet Sub Committee will not engaged in any legal procedure on the final report. The legal part will be done by the Attorney General's Department. This Committee will work on the recommendations by the Commission to amend the laws and bring in new laws," he said.

Major road development work begins

Rural Roads and Other Infrastructure State Minister Nimal Lanza said that developing 13,000 km long roads has commenced under the National Programmes of Developing 100,000 km Roads.

State Minister Lanza was addressing the gathering after inaugurating the road development work in Doragala, Gampola on March 7.

Development of the Gampola Doragala Road Phase 1, Diya Ela Junction to Galgediyawa Kandy Gampola Main Road, Hidagala-Naranwitaya Road commenced. The estimated cost for the development is Rs. 524 million.

Tea smallholders, vegetable farmers and those in the tourism industry will be benefitted by the programme.

"Work on the Central Expressway will be completed by 2024. We have a shortage of raw materials now. However, the President has appointed a committee to resolve the issue in coordination with the relevant institutions," State Minister Lanza said.

Rural Paddy and Allied Tanks, Reservoirs and Irrigation Development State Minister Anuradha Jayaratne, Former Provincial Councillor Nissanka Herath, Uda Palatha Pradeshiya Sabha (PS) Opposition Leader Dharmasiri Agalawatta, PS Members, Prof. Ranjith Dissanayake, Central Provincial Road Project Director W.A.M. Wijepala and Road Development Authority Officials were present.



Inaugurating the road work.

State Minister on Knuckles to facilitate remote villages

NIMAL WIJESINGHE, Anuradhapura Additional Districts Group Corr.

Renewable Energy Resources Development State Minister Duminda Dissanayake along with his Ministry Officials and Sri Lanka Sustainable Energy Authority Officials visited several remote villages in the Knuckles Mountain Range in the Minipe Divisional Secretariat Division to inspect locations for launching hybrid renewable electricity generation projects.

State Minister Duminda Dissanayake said that he will repair the abandoned mini hydro power plant in Galamuduna by next April.

The State Minister said that since the villages are on hilltops, it takes a high cost to supply electricity



State Minister Duminda Dissanayake along with officials having a discussion with villagers.

for the villages from the national grid. He said, therefore, alternative methods will be set up to provide electricity for the

villages and those methods will be discussed with the President and carried out very soon. He provided several

solar systems for school-children in the villages and offered them packs of dry food and educational appliances.

O/L Exam final day today, candidates cautioned against misbehavior

S.M.WIJAYARATNE, Kurunegala Daily News Corr.

Commissioner General of Examinations B. Sanath Pujitha has informed that the final day of the O/L Exam will be today (10) and candidates are cautioned not to misbehave in and around exam centres. "Leave the

centres immediately after the exam today," the circular cautioned. Legal action will be taken against the errant candidates and their results will be suspended.

Police will take necessary action against such candidates, Commissioner General of Examinations has informed.

ADA KOTIPATHI - Wednesday

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'Ancient temples, statues in NWP will be restored'

ARIYAPALA WANSHATHILAKE, Kurunegala Central Special Corr.

Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa has instructed the Archeological Department to renovate ancient temples and statues in the North Western Province, Archeological Department Provincial Director L.M.Gunathilake Banda said.

He was addressing a media briefing at his office yesterday morning in Kurunegala.

He said that there are 300 ancient temples and 12 forest covers in Wayamba. Of them, Gomadiya Galla, Bamba Viharaya, Hathikuchi and Yalengiri Viharaya date back to the king Walagamba's era.

According to the Mahawansa, king Sirisagabo is said to have given away his head at the Hathikuchi Temple. Near the temple, there are 38 caves, he said.

Gunarathana Banda said that this temple had rendered a great service during that time in fostering Buddhist culture and spiritual values among the people.

He said that the time has come to protect ancient temples and statues from treasury hunters.

Recently, the Royal Court of King Buwenakabahu the second was damaged. The case in this regard is still pending in court, he said.

He said that many of these monuments and statues have not been documented.

Kataragama differentiates flowers

M. NELSON PIYARATNE, Kataragama Group Corr.

Only natural flowers and flowers made from the oil paper will be allowed to be used in religious activities at the Kataragama Maha Devalaya from March 22.

Environment Minister Mahinda Amaraweera said that three million devotees visit the devalaya annually and they buy over one million polythene garlands. "The Kataragama Pradeshiya Sabha (PS) has noted that over 20,000 kilograms of garlands are discarded after the religious activities," the Minister said.

He said that 300 families are dependent on making and selling garlands and raw materials and technical instructions will be provided to them.

The Minister said that natural flowers from India are used for religious activities at Hindu kovils in Bambalapitiya. "India earns a huge foreign exchange by exporting flowers to Europe and America. Therefore, we must grow flowers so that we can stop our foreign exchange going away to other countries," the Minister said.

Date: 08-03-2021

Draw Number: 1739 | Colour: Yellow

Super Jackpot

Rs. 22,528,844/-

Winning Numbers: 02 19 21 67

ENGLISH LETTER: W

Total Value of Prizes: Rs. 2,867,320/-

Next Super Jackpot: Rs. 22,687,556/-

The winning ticket will be valid for 6 months.

Monday

Date: 08.03.2021

Draw No.: 3546

Colour: Blue

Total Value of Prizes: Rs. 5,370,160/-

Winning Numbers: 30 50 60 73

English Letter: M

Winning tickets are valid only for six months

Date: 08-03-2021

Draw Number: 3097

Colour: Yellow

SUPER JACKPOT

Rs. 2,000,000/-

Winning Numbers: 05 11 41 55

Scorpio

TOTAL VALUE OF PRIZES: Rs. 11,446,080/-

Monday

Date: 08.03.2021

Draw No.: 1216

Colour: Red

Total Value of Prizes: Rs. 5,197,700/-

Winning Numbers: 02 16 42 66

English Letter: T

Winning tickets are valid only for six months

Draw Number: 1390

Colour: Purple

Draw Date: 08.03.2021

Date: Monday

Winning English Letter and Numbers: L 11 29 50 63

Total Value of Prizes: Rs. 3,769,740/-

The winning tickets will be valid for 6 months.

Daily News



The Associated Newspapers of Ceylon Limited,
LAKE HOUSE
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Telephone : (011) 242 9211 Fax: (011) 234 3694
E-mail : editor.dailynews@lakehouse.lk
news.dailynews@lakehouse.lk
Wednesday, March 10, 2021

Black Sunday and its aftermath

President Gotabaya Rajapaksa was justifiably in a combative mode at attempts by the Opposition to wash off its collective hands of the blame for the Easter Sunday attacks and make it look as if the present Government was responsible for the tragedy. Speaking at the 13th Discussion with the Village programme in Giribawa in Kurunegala over the weekend, the President pointed out that the present Government was not in office when the Church bombings took place and that it was laughable that those who failed to hoist black flags at the time the tragedy took place were doing so now.

He denied claims that the SLPP exploited the Easter Sunday carnage as an election slogan to come to power and that the results of the Local Government Elections in 2018, proved this to the hilt. On the contrary it was the wrong policies of the Yahapalanaya Government that brought about its own downfall, particularly its handling of national security that paved the way for the Easter Sunday attacks. He also said the Government had no intention of hiding the Easter Sunday Presidential Commission Report and that there was no negotiation or 'deal' with any party or individual to bail out any one. The President conceded that the Cardinal's agony and genuine concern on this issue was justifiable.

The President's ire has been raised at the attempts by certain individuals in the Opposition to assume a holier than thou attitude in the whole matter forgetting that it was the colossal lapses on the part of the leaders of the Yahapalanaya Government that led to the tragedy. Instead, various conspiracy theories are now being peddled to pull the wool over the eyes of the public.

National security was in a shambles at the time with a Nelsonian eye being turned towards national security by the then leaders even amidst clear evidence of a rise in Muslim extremism, not wishing to antagonize minority party leaders on whose support the Government of the day survived. How could the critics of the Commission Report maintain their stand with evidence staring in their faces as to the culpability of the Yahapalanaya leaders and they are now using an admittedly flawed report (from the perspective of His Eminence and even some Government Ministers) to attack the Government.

Whose Commission was this any way, one would be constrained to ask the critics. The Commission only operated within its mandate and could not have taken upon itself an investigative role. In that context it had made certain recommendations and named those against whom action should be taken. This now is within the domain of various investigative branches of the law enforcement under the supervision of the Attorney General. It is therefore wrong for anybody to say that the Commission had not gone after the masterminds. This will now be the task of the law.

The Catholic Church meanwhile has vowed to continue with its Black Sunday protests until justice is meted out on behalf of the families and loved ones of those who perished in the carnage. Like the President said, the Cardinal's anguish in this connection is fully justified. More so, given his undertaking that he would ensure justice, preventing what could have been a certain bloodbath in the country. The entire nation is behind His Eminence as seen even from the comments made by the leading Bhikkus close to the Government. This moral support was clearly evident to the Cardinal at the Black Sunday protests where a large number of Bhikkus stood in solidarity with him holding placards and addressing the media. His Eminence reiterated the need for the President to act practically and move forward with the available evidence to deal with those mentioned in the Commission Report. Tracking down the masterminds, if any, could be the next step for there could not have been a coordinated attack of such precision without the know-how of an external agent.

The idea that if Zaharan himself was the leader of a supposed movement he could not have perished with the rest in the very first attack itself too has gained a lot of currency in support of the 'mastermind' theory. Nothing short of a concerted investigation could shed light on this.

President Gotabaya Rajapaksa has repeatedly vowed to bring to book all those responsible for the Easter Sunday bombings. Prior to this he also made this pledge at the Independence Day ceremony last month. Therefore there is no cause to doubt his word on this score as his record as Defence Secretary would vouch and His Eminence could assure himself that his wish will be granted. As the President said the victims of this attack are entitled to a proper and accurate investigation into the cause of the tragedy. The Opposition, in the meantime, should desist from queering the pitch by bringing forward bizarre conspiracy theories to sidetrack the investigations, instead of reflecting on the culpability of its own leaders in the tragedy. As the President said, a national tragedy of such magnitude should be outside the realm of politics.



Cardinal Malcolm Ranjith



Buddhist monks participate in a 'black Sunday' protest in front of St. Anthony's Church



President Gotabaya Rajapaksa at the "Discussion with the Village" programme

Easter Sunday Report under scrutiny

The Easter Sunday carnage crosses two years next month, but the unspeakable shock and agony it caused have not faded from the memory of our citizens.

The horrendous scenes of the suicide attacks froze the conscience of the Nation and the information that came to light in their aftermath outraged the public as those exposed a series of blunders of the then Government in handling important foreign Intelligence information and matters of national security.

All these have contributed to etch it as a "Black Day" eternally in the minds of the public. It was also the final nail in the coffin of the then coalition Government which had already bungled and ruined its political prospects due to infighting and ineffectiveness in all spheres.

Justice is still awaited for the victims of this tragedy, who are mostly of the Christian faith. The release of the Report of the Presidential Commission of Inquiry (PCoI) into the Easter Sunday attacks has reignited the topic creating ripples in political circles. The political discourse was overwhelmed with all sorts of comments - some blunt, some evasive and some thought provoking - on it in the last couple of weeks.

Archbishop of Colombo His Eminence Malcolm Ranjith was back in the limelight as he stepped up the campaign demanding justice for the victims of the Easter attacks without delay. He spearheaded a "Black Sunday" on March 7 in Roman Catholic Churches where the churchgoers were clad in black for prayers while the Church bells went off at 8.45 a.m., the time when the coordinated suicide attacks took place during Easter services on April 21, 2019. Subsequently, they held peaceful protests outside the Church premises in solidarity with the Easter Sunday victims stealing the local and international media spotlight.

President's assurance

It was against this backdrop that President Gotabaya Rajapaksa set the record straight that his Government is committed to its pre-election pledge of bringing the perpetrators to book and has no intention of hiding the Easter Sunday Report.

"The Easter Sunday attack is a national issue. The victims of this attack are entitled to a proper and accurate investigation into the cause of their tragedy. The Cardinal's pain and his genuine concern regarding this matter are justifiable," the President said, also frowning on the Opposition's attempts to make it a political slogan.

"It is the responsibility of our Government to punish the culprits. We will consider not only this report, but other reports as well by the CID and the Intelligence services. Since we came to power we have apprehended a large number of suspects. We will continue that work. We will definitely punish those who are responsible for this tragedy," the President reiterated on Saturday when he attended the 'Discussion with the Village' (*Gama Samaga Pilisandarak*) programme at a remote village in Kurunegala.

It could be seen that the President has increasingly been using this public platform to comment on current



Opposition Leader Sajith Premadasa at the "Sathkaraya" programme



After the Easter Sunday attacks on April 21, 2019.



affairs of the country and respond to allegations coming on his Government's way. It seems a conscious decision on his part as it allows him to explain the more complex issues in ordinary parlance and communicate his messages directly to the public. The President addresses the gathering at the outset of the meeting and then moves into taking up questions and suggestions of the villagers on ground level matters which affect the people's lives in those respective areas.

The President during Saturday's programme also dealt hard with the Opposition's recent attempts to plant doubts in the minds of the people that the current political dispensation too had had a hand in the Easter Sunday attacks.

"I saw some politicians seeking to gain undue political advantage from this, making us scapegoats. The Commission Report observes that not only former President Maithripala Sirisena and former Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe, but also the former Government as a whole is responsible for this tragedy. I have seen various political leaders and former Ministers talking about this as if they were not partners of that Government.

"We did not use the Easter Sunday incident to gain political power. Disillusioned with the wrong policies of

the then Government, the people demonstrated their anger in elections starting from the Co-operative Elections and the Local Government Elections which were held well before the Easter Sunday attacks.

"For the Government in power before 2015, national security was a top priority, but those who came to power next ignored it. No matter what allegations are made at the UN Human Rights Council, the defence policy that was in effect before 2015 is back in operation," the President stressed.

Opposition's take

The very next day, Samagi Jana Balawegaya (SJB) Leader and Opposition Leader Sajith Premadasa in a similar public encounter in the South took time to comment on the Easter Sunday attacks, probably as a reply to the President's.

The Opposition Leader started a mobile service programme titled 'Sathkaraya' in December last year. Looking at the similarities of this programme's outline with that of the President's *Gama Samaga Pilisandarak* programme, one cannot help but get the impression that he was trying to imitate the President's initiative.

Be that as it may, the Opposition Leader addressing this programme in Siriyaagama in Hambantota over the weekend said they, as members of the previous Government, accept responsibility for not being able to prevent the Easter Sunday attacks. He however observed that the incumbent Government has a responsibility to reveal the masterminds behind the attacks and mete out justice to the



NPP Leader Anura Kumara Dissanayake

victims. Premadasa, in his speech, also advocated for capital punishment for terrorists and drug dealers through legislation in Parliament.

The National People's Power (NPP), issuing a statement last week, expressed its support to the 'Black Sunday' campaign of the Catholic Church. Standing in solidarity with the Easter Sunday victims, the NPP urged the Government to expose the true masterminds behind the attacks and take solid action against the perpetrators.

"We see that there are attempts to hide the Commission report. The aggrieved people are doubtful of getting justice. Instead of solving the puzzle, the Commission report has created more puzzles," the NPP said in its statement.

Parliamentary debate

In the meantime, Parliament is to take up a full day Adjournment Debate today on the PCoI Report of the Easter Sunday attacks. This has been agreed at a Party Leaders' Meeting last week. The first volume of the Report was tabled in Parliament on February 25. The debate will be an opportunity for all parties to place on record their views and concerns on the Report, and there will be no vote at the end. The adjournment motion in this regard will be moved by the Government.

Moreover, Chief Opposition Whip Lakshman Kiriella recently wrote to Speaker Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena requesting that the MPs be provided with copies of the complete PCoI Report. "The MPs cannot participate in a debate successfully by reading only the first volume of the Report, when it has five. Therefore, I request you to take action to provide the MPs with missing volumes," Kiriella noted in the letter.

However, it came to light recently that the PCoI Report on the Easter Sunday carnage in fact has 87 Volumes. Attorney General (AG) Dappula de Livera acknowledged the receipt of 65 of those Volumes last week from the Presidential Secretariat. It was stated that 22 volumes, containing sensitive information related to national security, were not handed over to the AG.

No doubt, the Government has to be extra careful in handling the evidence in the Report to avoid leaking sensitive information that could affect negatively on national security. At the same time, the Government officially depends on the AG for legal advice. The more he knows, the better his legal opinion will be. All eyes have now turned towards the AG to see how he would proceed on the findings of the pivotal Report.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

The dead cannot cry out for justice.
It is a duty of the living to do so for them.
- Lois McMaster Bujold

Silly-season method for destroying nationalist icons from the past

RAJPAL ABEYNAYAKE

How did this become the season for bashing Anagarika Dharmapala, the Buddhist Pivivena ethos, and the essential post-1956 Buddhist revival?

It is probably due to what is happening at this time of the year in a faraway place where a certain UN body is in session. Or, is it because this is the time of March madness, induced by excessive heat that brings certain people to near delirium?

Whichever comes first, probably, Anagarika Dharmapala bashing is an anachronistic behaviour that crops up from time to time. Anachronistic because nobody was bashed as much as the Anagarika was, when he was alive. According to a certain columnist, the late Anagarika “concocted the poison that’s seeping into the body politic today in the form of extremism.”

In the first place, it takes a peculiarly linear mindset to place the imagined woes of today — the 21st century — on a single person who lived the life of an itinerant ascetic a century back in time. This writer feels that it takes a special type of persecution mania for someone to do something of that sort — but then, there are those who specialize in those tendencies.

The Anagarika was the harbinger of a political tectonic shift — the Temperance Movement — that was the driving force behind the nationalist ferment that brought those such as the Senanayakes and the Jayatillekes to the fore to spearhead the independence movement. To decry the Anagarika as an individual who was responsible for poisoning the system, is to vilify the entire revivalist independence movement — and Independence itself.

Then again, that seems to be what these silly-season critics want. Who says they wanted independence? They would rather have been under the British. Everything they say these days gives out that vibe.

Family links

But it is churlish to blame the nascent forces that fueled the independence movement — those such as the Anagarika, who was commemorated in India with a stamp in his honour. Talk about a prophet not being honoured in his own country...

It’s quaint that those folk who blame the Anagarika for “poisoning” the system do not blame the Senanayakes for instance,



Former Indian President Pranab Mukherjee launching the Anagarika Dharmapala stamp

who were among some of the leading lights of the independence movement. Apparently the Senanayakes fought an entire Local Council election on the grounds that they would ban any liquor shops within the given local council area that they were campaigning in. The writer is not fully acquainted with the details, but something to this effect happened.

Those folk who blame the Anagarika idolize the Senanayakes because they were from the ‘right circles’, not realizing that the Anagarika came from similar or ‘better’ family circles, and had attended S. Thomas’ College.

All this indicates that it is not so much the Anagarika that is the target. When certain agent provocateurs of certain vested interests want to create disaffection towards the Sinhala Buddhist community, they find it most convenient to do so by creating a hate figure such as the Anagarika rather than say anything about the Sinhala Buddhists people — the ordinary folk — who they know are generally a very genial and essentially tolerant lot.

These people find it much easier to create a hate symbol out of a person that lived several scores of years back, and try to diminish the entire majority community vicariously through such a hate figure they basically concocted from thin air. Not that the Anagarika did not exist of course — he was a national hero from a different time — but the misdeeds they try to pin on him never existed, and are a modern-day concoction.

WHAT WOULD HAVE BEEN THE EARLY CEYLONESE LEGACY WITHOUT A TRANSFORMATIVE FIGURE SUCH AS THE ANAGARIKA DHARMAPALA?

ANAGARIKA DHARMAPALA’S TYPE OF FORTHRIGHT CONVICTIONS WAS NECESSARY TO STAMP OUT THE SLAVISH MENTALITY THAT HAD BRED A MASS OF SUPINE PEOPLE, WHO WERE COWED TO THE POINT OF PROSTRATING THEMSELVES BEFORE THE COLONIZER.

Transformative figure

What would have been the early Ceylonese legacy without a transformative figure such as the Anagarika Dharmapala? This would have probably been a nation of alcoholics and dissipated folk who knew nothing of their culture or heritage, but would gladly barbecue anything that moves, and that may only slightly be a recourse to stereotype.

Anagarika Dharmapala was a product of his times and the Pivivenas he fostered and the campaigns he led were animated by the needs of the time. The Sinhala Buddhists were a lost and forgotten race, and those of the Amadyapa (Temperance) movement set about the task of giving the Sinhalese some measure of collective self-worth. To label anyone an extremist for that necessary task, should probably make anyone who does so a lackey of the erstwhile colonial powers, or as the Soviets



Anagarika Dharmapala

used to say “a running dog of the imperialists”!

It’s sad that people need these hate symbols when they want to ‘hate on’ the majority Sinhala community in this very tolerant country where race on race animosities have been rare, despite a war once upon a time between a terrorist group and the State.

At least those who don’t need to make hate symbols out of national heroes of the post-colonial revival such as the Anagarika are much more honest, and less devious. Dr. Wickramabahu Karunaratne, for instance, a Leftist and a “bleeding heart liberal” is nevertheless a good man, though our viewpoints are divergent. When the writing was on the wall for the end of the Yahapalana regime, and the SLPP that forms the current Government was on the campaign trail, Bahu as he is known said, “When the different ethnicities are getting along fine together, there are elements who are seeing this and cannot stand it.” He said “kaala inna behe” (roughly directly-translates as “they can’t eat and live when they see the communities get along.” Well, you get the idea.)

This writer disagrees with Wickramabahu vehemently on this score. The races got along very well always, and they do get along fine now too — it is the others, particularly third parties, outsiders some-

times and locals with vested NGO interests who cannot stand it when the majority is happy, and the minorities are happy too, as things are at the current conjuncture.

But as for Bahu, at least he came out with his honest sentiments, and did not need to create a villain carelessly from the past out of a great national hero such as the Anagarika. Bahu said it as he thinks things are, and though he was not right, he was not devious and did not mind genuinely antagonizing the majority community, with his rather blunt though palpably flawed viewpoints.

Call for Ahimsa

Why do the haters call the Anagarika a ‘poison’? Is it because he decried beef eating? What is so great about beef eating that it has become romanticized?

Vegans and vegetarians decry beef eating in large numbers in the Western world today — are they all racists? The Anagarika’s call was based on Ahimsa, and the cow is sacred by most reckonings in India for the same reason.

Demonizing a man who lived so far back in time just because he did not want a arrack-swilling beef-eating lifestyle from among his people who had essentially taken to ‘imported’ habits, takes a special kind of obtuse obnoxiousness. It is a bad kind of bigotry masquerading as a call against bigotry.

As stated earlier, the Anagarika’s stand on many matters may seem curious now in a society that believes ‘anything goes’, but he was a product of his time and that was an era that called for revival and resistance.

His life and work has to be contextualized. His type of forthright convictions was necessary to stamp out the slavish mentality that had bred a mass of supine people, who were cowed to the point of prostrating themselves before the colonizer.

The problem with those who call that type of chutzpah ‘poison’ and a ‘poison that percolates the system to this day’, is that such critics are unfortunately continuing to prostrate before the colonizers/the ex-colonizers and that ilk. At the visceral level, they continue to mentally carry the white Master in his palanquin, while pointing accusing fingers at their compatriot locals who do not join in.

YEMEN: AN UNNECESSARY TRAGEDY

THALIF DEEN

The United Nations has rightly described the deaths and devastation in war-ravaged Yemen as the “world’s worst humanitarian disaster” — caused mostly by widespread air attacks on civilians by a coalition led Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

But rarely, if ever, has the world denounced the primary arms merchants, including the US and UK, for the more than 100,000 killings since 2015 — despite accusations of “war crimes” by human rights organizations.

The killings are due mostly to air strikes on weddings, funerals, private homes, villages and schools. Additionally, over 130,000 have died resulting largely from war-related shortages of food and medical care.

Saudi Arabia, which had the dubious distinction of being the world’s largest arms importer during 2015–19, increased its imports by 130 percent, compared with the previous five-year period, and accounting for 12 percent of all global arms imports, according to the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI).

And despite concerns in the U.S. and U.K. about Saudi Arabia’s military intervention in Yemen, both weapons suppliers continued to export arms to Saudi Arabia — with 73 percent of Saudi Arabia’s arms imports originating in the U.S. and 13 percent from the U.K.

But the newly-inaugurated Biden administration has threatened to halt some of the US arms sales proposed by the former Trump administration which sustained a politically and militarily cozy relationship with the Saudis.

The sales on-hand include US\$ 478 million in precision-guided munitions to Saudi Arabia and US\$ 23 billion in arms sales to UAE, including 50 F-35 fighter planes and 18 Reaper drones.

The Saudi military arsenal includes F-15 fighter planes, Apache helicopters, Stinger and Hellfire surface to air (SAM) missiles, and multiple rocket launch systems (from the US), Tornado fighter bombers, Bae Hawk advanced jet trainers and Westland combat helicopters (from UK) and Aerospatiale helicopters and air defense systems (from France).

The US weapons systems with



AT A MARCH 1 UN HIGH-LEVEL PLEDGING EVENT FOR YEMEN, SECRETARY-GENERAL ANTONIO GUTERRES SAID IN HIS APPEAL: “WE NEED \$3.85 BILLION THIS YEAR TO SUPPORT 16 MILLION YEMENIS ON THE BRINK OF CATASTROPHE.”

the UAE forces include F-16 fighter planes, F-35 Stealth jet fighters, Blackhawk helicopters and Sidewinder and Maverick missiles while UK’s arms supplies include Typhoon and Tornado fighter bombers and cluster munitions. The UAE is also equipped with French-made Mirage-2000 jet fighters.

All of these weapons — and more — have been used to bomb civilians in Yemen in the six-year-old conflict there. Dr. Stephen Zunes, Professor of Politics and International Studies at the University of San Francisco, and founding director of the program in Middle Eastern Studies, told IPS Biden’s decision to cut off direct support for Saudi Arabia’s war on Yemen was long overdue.

The US Congress, he said, had attempted to cut off such assistance last year by passing a ban by a big bipartisan majority. Trump, however, declared a state of emergency overruling the legislative branch.

“Unfortunately, Biden has pledged to (continue) providing arms in order to support what he refers to as Saudi Arabia’s defense needs against alleged Iranian aggression, despite the fact that Saudi Arabia’s military budget is five times that of Iran and is there-

fore perfectly capable of defending itself,” he pointed out.

Biden also has pledged aid to protect the kingdom from attacks by Houthi rebels, who have occasionally lobbed rockets into Saudi Arabia, in retaliation of the massive Saudi attacks on Yemen.

In addition, “Biden has called for continued support for Saudi counter-terrorism operations, which is concerning given the monarchy’s tendency to depict even nonviolent opponents as terrorists”, said Dr. Zunes, who is recognized as one of the country’s leading scholars of U.S. Middle East policy and is a senior policy analyst for Foreign Policy in Focus project of the Institute for Policy Studies.

Along with Biden’s refusal to place sanctions on Crown Prince Mohamed bin Salman (known as MBS) “despite acknowledging his key role in the murder of a prominent U.S.-backed journalist as well as his conciliatory phone conversation with King Salman last month, raises serious questions as to whether Biden is really interested in standing up to the Saudi regime,” he argued.

Meanwhile, Human Rights Watch and 41 other organizations are calling on President Joe Biden to



impose sanctions available under the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act on officials at the highest levels of Saudi leadership, including MBS.

The coalition says laws-of-war violations committed by the Saudi-led coalition amount to “war crimes”.

Dr. Simon Adams, Executive Director of the Global Centre for the Responsibility to Protect, a human rights organization that works on preventing war crimes told IPS the massive humanitarian crisis in Yemen is not the result of an earthquake or some other natural disaster; it is entirely man-made.

“Starvation is the result of airstrikes and a merciless war that has completely destroyed people’s lives,” he added. The bottom line is that the United States should not be selling weapons to any state that has been responsible for atrocities in Yemen, he declared.

Time and again, he said, the UAE and Saudi Arabia have been responsible for war crimes.

“The US is an accessory to these crimes if it continues to supply the bombs, drones and fighter planes used to bomb Yemeni civilians,” said Dr. Adams whose Global Centre for the Responsibility to Protect has conducted advocacy with the UN Security Council since the war in Yemen began, arguing that impunity for war crimes by all sides has created the world’s largest humanitarian crisis.

In an oped piece last month, Dr.

Alon Ben-Meir, professor of international relations at the Center for Global Affairs at New York University wrote, “Countless Yemeni children are dying from starvation and disease while the world shamelessly watches in silence, as if this was just a horror story from a different time and a distant place, where a country is ravaged by a senseless, unwinnable war while a whole generation perishes in front our eyes.”

Those at the top who are fighting the war are destroying the very people they want to govern; they are the evil that flourishes on apathy and cannot endure without it, he added.

“What’s there left for them to rule? Twenty million Yemenis are famished, one million children are infected with cholera, and hundreds of thousands of little boys and girls are ravenous—dying, leaving no trace and no mark behind to tell the world they were ever here. And the poorest country on this planet earth lies yet in ruin and utter despair, said Dr. Ben-Meir.

According to the Norwegian Refugee Council* (NRC): four have been displaced by the war since 2015; 66 percent of Yemen’s population — over 20 million people — need some form of aid; Half the population — 16 million — will go hungry this year.

Over five are estimated to be one step away from famine; Only half of health facilities and two-thirds of

schools are currently functioning; Water infrastructure is operating at less than five percent efficiency.

The war has directly killed more than 100,000 people; Another 130,000 have died from “indirect causes” such as food shortages and health crises; An average of one child dies every 10 minutes from preventable causes.

Funding cuts mean that nine million people have had their food assistance halved, and 15 major cities are on reduced water supplies. And NRC alone has had to cut food rations to 360,000 people.

At a March 1 UN High-Level Pledging Event for Yemen, Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said in his appeal: “We need \$3.85 billion this year to support 16 million Yemenis on the brink of catastrophe.”

Pointing out that more than 20 million Yemenis need humanitarian assistance and protection, with women and children among the hardest hit, he said over 16 million people were expected to go hungry this year and nearly 50,000 Yemenis are already starving to death in famine-like conditions.

But following the conference, Guterres described the outcome as “disappointing” because the pledges, which amounted to US\$ 1.7 billion, were less than what was received for the humanitarian response plan last year, and a billion [dollars] less than what was pledged in 2019. (IPS)



5 GENDER EQUALITY Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls



KANTHI WIJETUNGE

At the dawn of the 21st century, enormous changes have taken place in political, legal, socio-economic, educational and cultural

spheres all over the world. Because of urbanization and commercialization which has occurred at an alarming rate people now want to achieve better living standards. Today women face numerous challenges. Amidst all these changes, research today shows that women are the majority who have experienced hunger and poverty in many countries in the world. Similarly, the majority who do not receive primary education are also girls. It is also shown that maternal mortality and infant mortality increased during the last century due to early marriages of girl children. The majority who were affected by HIVAids were also found to be women. Achieving gender equality and empowerment of women have been recognized as the most suitable panacea for all these problems.

Thus, the United Nations (UN) has included gender equality and women's empowerment as the third goal of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) introduced in the year 2000. It has been again included in their '2030 Agenda' on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) introduced in 2015. It has been emphasized that achieving gender equality is crucial for ending poverty and giving people better health care and education.

Sri Lanka is not an exception. Although we have been boasting for years about the remarkable progress achieved in reducing poverty, achieving universal primary education, reducing child mortality and improving maternal health, compared to other countries in the region, our track record for women's rights and well-being is not satisfactory. Today we hear many stories where women and girls have been deprived in many ways due to gender inequalities in society. Poverty and other reasons have further aggravated the situation making women more vulnerable in the present context.

Although women represent more than half of the country's population and their contributions to national income are significant, they are still treated as second-class citizens. Despite the fact that the majority of foreign exchange earners are women domestic workers in Middle Eastern countries, only little has been done to ensure their safety and wellbeing. We still hear stories about the tragedies faced by these women workers. Similarly, many women silently suffer from gender-based discriminations, sexual harassment and violence. Also there is a large percentage of women who have become widows with children without any support for their livelihoods. The low labour force participation of women indicates that the majority of women do not enjoy economic independence.

Labour force participation

Although currently many women join the labor force, women's labor force participation has remained at a low rate between 30 and 35 percent in the past two decades. When considering the higher educational

International Women's Day

The acute need to empower girls and women

achievements of women and other social indicators, this is surprising. The percentage of females who enter into higher education during the recent past was much higher than that of males. In 2016/2017, the percentage of girls who entered universities was 60.9 percent while it was 39.1 percent for boys. However, representation of girls in the fields of engineering, technology, architecture, transport and logistics was very low compared to that of boys. Girls are more likely participating in subject areas such as arts, commerce, management, law, medicine and health care. It seems that girls are still choosing the areas which are traditionally considered as suitable for women.

In addition, working mothers face various difficulties due to unbalanced domestic responsibilities, lack of childcare facilities, and sexual harassment at the workplace and in society. They face sexual harassment when it comes to public transport and while travelling. They also face problems in the workplace due to gender-based attitudes. Women's performance is not adequately recognized and there is a tendency that men are given more preference when it comes to promotions. Above all motherhood is considered as a barrier and it also affects their career mobility.

Vulnerability of women in poverty

Poverty has severely affected the socio-economic status of women in Sri Lanka. It has affected every field such as education, health and nutrition, employment and overall wellbeing.

According to the joint report published by the Government of Sri Lanka and the United Nations, on the achievement of MDGs, Sri Lanka achieved the first goal of MDGs which is halving poverty, seven years before the 2015 deadline. This evaluation report says that 38 percent of national income is shared by the richest population while 1.5 percent of national income is shared by the poorest population. This shows inequality in income distribution. When families are poverty stricken, women and children are the most vulnerable. It mostly affects their nutrition. Malnutrition of children is still highly prevalent in rural areas in Sri Lanka due to lack of family income.

Women and girl children living in

There is a large percentage of women who have become widows with children without any support for their livelihoods.

some rural areas in Sri Lanka suffer from poverty in many ways. There are villages in Sri Lanka without even basic infrastructure facilities. In most households there are no secure rooms and proper sanitary facilities. Young girls face severe hardships due to this. Pregnant mothers living in these areas have to travel long distances along very difficult roads to find health clinics. Schoolchildren have to travel long distances to reach their schools. They do not have buses or school vans. This situation badly affects the education of girls. They often drop out of school. Early marriages and unplanned pregnancies prevent them from finishing their education.

When mothers go out to earn, the elder girl is left at home to take care of the younger one and she is supposed to attend to all household work. The situation has become worse in families where mothers have gone for foreign employment. The sole responsibility of the household including the care of her siblings is assigned to the older girl who should be in school. These girls face various forms of sexual harass-

ments in the absence of the mother or another elderly woman. Sometimes their fathers become alcoholics or drug addicts. These young girls are subjected to rape and abuse even by their own fathers or any other men who visit the house. This has directly affected the education of these girl children. Although education is compulsory for all children in Sri Lanka without any gender discrimination, some girls are not able to reap the benefits due to their circumstances.

Teenage pregnancies

Sexual harassment, rape, incest and child abuse have been identified as major reasons for teenage pregnancies. Recently, a newspaper had reported that a 15-year school girl had become pregnant as a result of a love affair with a 20-year-old youth. She was raped by this person. By the time her mother found out, she was already seven months pregnant. This is a pathetic situation. It seems the girl was totally unaware of her reproductive health rights and had engaged in unsafe sexual relations

with her boyfriend without knowing the repercussions.

The Family Health Bureau has revealed that 20,000 girls below the age of 18 get pregnant annually. Because of teenage pregnancies, the rate of illegal and dangerous abortions has increased.

Also, it has resulted in malnutrition, increase of infant and maternal mortality as well as increase of sexually transmitted diseases. In addition, these teenage pregnancies destroy the educational prospects of these girl children forcing them to enter into prostitution and drug abuse.

This is a terrible societal problem. Incidents of violence against women have also increased due to this situation. Research has shown that lack of awareness on reproductive health has led to this predicament.

Violence Against Women

One serious issue is Violence Against Women (VAW). At present VAW has become a complex problem. According to the report released by the Department of Census and Statistics (DCS) based on a survey carried out in 25 districts in Sri Lanka with the participation of 2,264 women aged 15 years and older, VAW has been identified as the most pervasive human rights violation in Sri Lanka that impacts the wellbeing of women and girls in Sri Lanka. The report reveals that one in four women in Sri Lanka has experienced physical and sexual violence by a partner or non-partner. Meanwhile, two in every five women have suffered physical, sexual emotional, and/or economic violence. There are instances where many women have been prohibited by their partners to go to work after their marriage.

Recently, I went through an appeal submitted by a woman to the Public Service Commission in the Western Province. She was a healthcare worker who has been issued a vacation of post notice by her employer for not reporting to work without any notice. She stated that her husband prevented her from going to work and the husband did not even hand over the vacation of post notice sent to her by her employer. She has submitted an appeal requesting a reinstatement. By that time her husband had gone to live with another woman. Despite the fact that in Sri Lanka motherhood is revered, findings of this report indi-

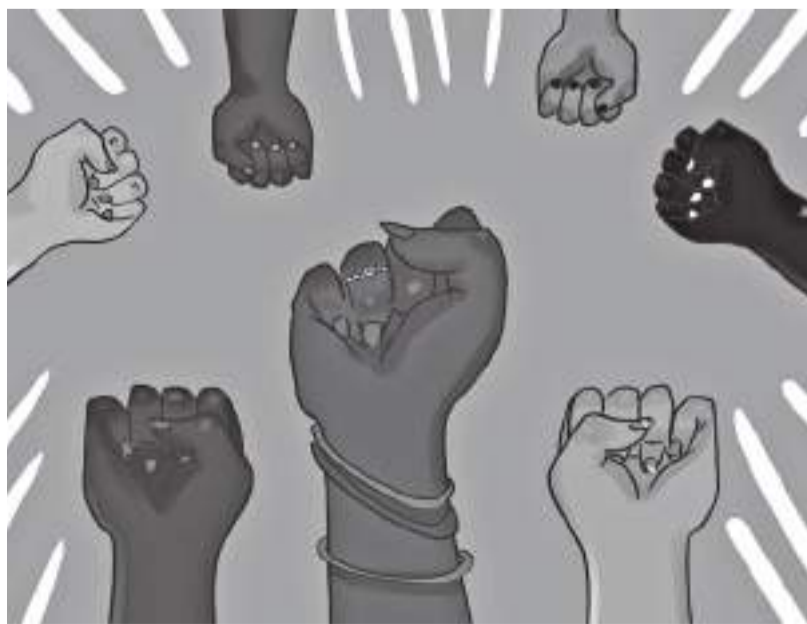
Although women represent more than half of the country's population and their contributions to national income are significant, they are still treated as second-class citizens.

cate that the home is not a safe place for a large number of women in Sri Lanka. Although many attempts have been taken by governmental and non-governmental organizations to curtail VAW in Sri Lankan society, it has become difficult due to social attitudes and perceptions. Unfortunately, many do not perceive VAW to be a human rights violation issue. Girls and women are taught from a very young age that men are superior to them and the role of a good wife is to be subservient to her husband. Because of that wife battery is considered as acceptable. Hence, most domestic violence cases are not reported and women are forced to suffer in silence.

The COVID-19 pandemic has made the situation worse. According to social media, since the COVID-19 lockdown in Sri Lanka starting in March last year, the cases of domestic violence have increased. The Complaint Centre established by National Committee on Women has reported that 3,427 cases had been reported islandwide via 1938, the toll-free help line, devoted to VAW cases.

Although various measures have been taken, Sri Lanka's law and existing systems have failed to protect and safeguard women from violence. Evidence shows that this issue is getting worse day by day. Lack of safe homes and inadequate legal and medical help for victimized women are major problems in Sri Lanka. Women are unable to leave their homes and are forced to coexist with their abusers. It is time we focused attention on these issues and strengthen law enforcement mechanisms. These perpetrators must be brought to justice and women need to be empowered. They must be informed of their rights so they may lead lives free of violence. I would like to end with this quote: *"Teach your daughter economic independence So that in the future She can have a partner, not a master. Teach your son To do housework So that in the future He can have a partner, not a servant."*

(Kanthi Wijetunge is a senior member of the Sri Lanka Administrative Service and has held senior positions in various Government ministries. She was the former Secretary to the Ministry of National Heritage. Currently, she is a member of the National Committee on Women and also a member of the Public Services Commission (WP). Wijetunge held the position of the Director, Women's Bureau of the Ministry of Women's Affairs for four years. She has published 10 books and has written articles on various issues including aspects related to women.)



Exporting spices a huge forex earner - PM

RAJA WAIDYASEKERA,
Tissamaharama Special Corr.

Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa said that when the Ministers were appointed for the new Cabinet, the Opposition laughed at certain portfolios. He was inaugurating the Hambantota District Agri-export Zone at the historic Kasagala Rajamaha Viharaya in Weeraketiya recently.

The Prime Minister said that Minister Dayasiri Jayasekera was ridiculed for his ministry and Prasanna Ranaweera was called the Clay Minister. Therefore, some ministers were even reluctant to accept their portfolios, the Prime Minister said.

The Prime Minister said that late Prime Minister Sirimavo Bandaranaike

set up the Export Agriculture Department in 1972. "It was she who laid the foundation for exporting spices," the Prime Minister said.

The Prime Minister said that many foreign countries are willing to import cinnamon from Sri Lanka because of the high quality of our products. "The Portuguese, Dutch and Englishmen came here not for tea, coconut and rubber but for spices," the Prime Minister said.

"Everything that we could produce in our country had been imported till the recent past. Because of this, a colossal sum of foreign exchange was lost to the country," the Premier said.

The Prime Minister said that the export income stood at Rs.73,000 mil-

lion in 2019 and it remained at Rs. 63,000 million in the past.

The Prime Minister distributed 100,000 TJC mango saplings among the farmers on the occasion.

Kasagala Rajamaha Viharaya Viharadhipathi Ven.Thalanporuwe Sri Sumana Thera, Kataragama Kirwehera Rajamaha Viharaya Viharadhipathi Ven. Kobawaka Dhamminda Thera, Chief Sanghanayaka in Italy Ven. Wagegoda Seelananda Thera, Ministers Chamal Rajapaksa Namal Rajapaksa, Mahinda Amaraweera and Ramesh Pthirana and State Ministers Janaka Wakkubura and D.V. Chanaka, Parliamentarian Upul Galappaththy and the Southern Province Governor were present.



The Sri Lanka Freedom Party (SLFP) yesterday celebrated the International Women's Day at the party Headquarters under the patronage of SLFP Chairman and former President Maithripala Sirisena. Here the former President distributing fruit saplings among former SLFP Provincial Councillors. Minister Mahinda Amaraweera, State Ministers Duminda Disanayake, Dayasiri Jayasekera and SLFP Women's Wing President Chandrika De Soysa were present. Picture by Dushmantha Mayadunne

'Furnace oil, diesel will not be used to generate power by 2030'

SANDASEN MARASINGHE, CAMELIA NATHANIEL and AMALI MALLAWARACHCHI

The Government's plan is to reduce the high cost furnace oil and diesel power generation to 5 per cent by 2025 and to zero per cent by 2030, which is 33 per cent by now, Power Minister Dulas Alahapperuma said yesterday.

He said that the previous Good Governance Government had not taken any measures to construct

power plants to add to the base load of the national grid during their tenure to meet the 5 per cent increase of power demand each year. He added that since the Norochcholai Power Plant was constructed during the Mahinda Rajapaksa Government, it had lapse 8 years until the first Liquefied Natural Gas Power Plant was constructed last week.

He was responding to a query by Samagi Jana Balawegaya (SJB)

Parliamentarian Chaminda Wijesiri during the Round of Questions for Oral Answers.

Minister Alahapperuma said that the LNG Power Plant drops the use of 700 MW furnace oil and diesel power plants around Colombo and suburbs dropping the Oxygen level there.

The Minister added that the Government's attention under the leadership of President Gotabaya Rajapaksa and Prime Minister

Mahinda Rajapaksa has been drawn to renewable energy and power conservation during the next five years.

He said that 12 renewable energy power plants and nother 11 smaller power plants will be constructed. He added that the Uma Oya Project will add power to the National Grid in three months, while the Broadlands Project will be commissioned immediately after the Sinhala New year. The

Morogolla Tunnel will be completed by the end of this year. The wind power plants in Mannar would add 240 MW to the National Grid. He added that 100,000 Samurdhi families will be made involved in the solar energy project and will be empowered to generate power to the National Grid. He said that the 4.5 million of schoolchildren will be joined to the power conservation programme.

Minister assures drinking water for Hambantota

RAJA WAIDYASEKERA,
Tissamaharama Special Corr

Irrigation, Internal Security and Disaster Management Minister Chamal Rajapaksa said that drinking water will be supplied soon for the people of the Hambantota District. The Minister said that the previous regime did not develop the district.

"But the Government will take steps to supply drinking water and resolve other burning issues of the people. He said that the previous regime took revenge from the Opposition and the Rajapaksas but did not develop the country. The Minister said that the irrigation networks in the Hambantota District will be renovated to uplift the livelihoods of the people.

Depositors will be protected - Minister Bandula

The Government is ready to take responsibility for the depositors of the Avissawella Multipurpose Co-operative Society, at which certain discrepancies have taken place in investments, Trade Minister Dr. Bandula Gunawardena said in Parliament yesterday.

Minister Dr. Gunawardena said that Rs. 545 million belonging to the 115,000 depositors who deposited money in 24 rural banks controlled by the Hewagam Korale Multipurpose Co-operative Society in Avissawella East has not returned the monies of the depositors since 2015.

The Trade Minister was responding to a question by Samagi Jana Balawegaya (SJB) MP S.M. Marikkar.

"However, the relevant Board of Directors has been removed and the administration of the Multi-Service Co-Operative Society is being carried out under a new Board of Directors, Dr. Gunawardena said. The Government will take the responsibility in returning the deposits to the depositors, Minister Dr. Gunawardena said.

Minister Dr. Gunawardena said that the issue is due because that the money was invested in the Entrust Limited, a primary buyer who is not registered with the Central Bank.

Trade Minister Dr. Gunawardena said that the Government is ready to do justice to the depositors who had been wronged by this discrepancy. For this purpose, a Cabinet memorandum will be submitted with the contribution of Cabinet Ministers Dinesh Gunawardena, Gamini Lokuge and myself, Dr. Gunawardena said. At this juncture MP Marikkar questioned Dr. Gunawardena if this said private institution belongs to the brother of a minister in the present government.

Marikkar also pointed out that the money was invested by the lower and middle income class people and asked if the government would take responsibility for this.

Dr. Gunawardena said that a judicial process is already underway and that the Board of Directors had been remanded and released on bail.

'Programme to set up 1,000 national schools will begin on April 26'

The programme of setting up of 1,000 National Schools will be commenced on April 26, Education Reforms and Open Universities and Distance Learning Promotion State Minister Susil Premajayantha yesterday said.

He added that the priority will be given to 123 divisional secretariats in which a single National school is not in. He said that another 3,000 secondary schools to be set up by 2023 and they would be focal schools in a cluster of other primary schools. All these 3,000 schools will be equipped with Internet in collaboration with the SLT (Telecom) and the Mobitel.

He was responding to Samagi Jana Balawegaya (SJB) Parliamentarian Buddhika Pathirana during the Round of Questions for Oral Answers.

State Minister Premajayantha said that as a means to reduce the weight of the satchel of the students, the Government will introduce each text book with

three volumes enabling the use one at a term. He added that by now, the issue of education is not with the content but with the skill development in the students. He added that the measures will be taken to improve the skill of the students and therefore, the same decision will drop the weight of the school textbooks.

The Minister said that the UN and UNESCO objectives of elimination of poverty and quality education have been challenged with the COVID 19 pandemic, yet Sri Lanka is taking measures to address these issues using technology.

He added, however, a tab computer would not solve the matter with the primary students and therefore, the Government has initiated a 16 hour television programs. He said that the training courses for teacher training to equip them with modern technology has already commenced.

Eight employees at Udugama bus depot test COVID positive

MAHINDA P. LIYANAGE,
Galle Central Special Corr.

Eight employees at the Udugama Sri Lanka Transport Board (SLTB) Depot in Galle have tested COVID positive, Galle District Regional Epidemiologist Dr. Venura K. Singarachchi said. Thereafter, 37 close associates of them have been directed to quarantine at their residences, he said.

A depot officer's wife, a midwife, has tested positive first. Dr. Venura said. Thereafter, the officer and 38 employees who worked with him were sent on quarantine at their homes and PCRs were conducted on them. Then eight employees have tested COVID positive, the Epidemiologist said.

The second round of PCRs on employees under quarantine will be carried out on March 18.

The Udugama Depot has 243 employees and of them, 200 have undergone PCR tests so far, he said.

'Foreign Exchange into the country reduced in COVID Pandemic'

Money and Capital Market and State Enterprise Reforms State Minister Ajith Nivard Cabraal said in Parliament yesterday that the influx of foreign exchange into the country reduced somewhat due to the COVID pandemic.

"Therefore, we gave the opportunity to those living abroad to open special bank accounts to attract foreign exchange and we offered them higher interest rates," he said.

Referring to Special Gazette notification on foreign exchange, he said the interest rates offered for six months was 1 per cent and for 12 months 2 per cent. The State Minister added that this gazette is about the Central Bank making arrangements for this payment. "We had to do this on the presumption that our reserves at the time may not have been sufficient to face this issue," he said.

He said that by the end of 2014, the country's reserves stood at \$ 8 billion. "In addition, the previous government had borrowed US \$ 10 billion as sovereign bonds, in total it should have been 18 billion. They sold the Hambantota Port and got another one billion, in all it should have been 19 billion. However, what they handed over to us was \$ 7.5 billion.

I recently saw the former Prime Minister making a statement that the country's economy is in a very volatile state, warning that the country would face serious financial crisis within the next few months. Had he still been the Prime Minister, the Rupee would have devalued drastically and the interest rates would have skyrocketed and the country would certainly have had to face such a situation," he said.

The State Minister said that the Gov-

ernment had succeeded in saving the country from such a predicament. "The situation we are in today is challenging but we have been able to control the interest rate and keep the Rupee stable. So that's why we're devising various ways of bringing in around \$ 32 million into this country," he said.

He said that the basic idea of the Government is to successfully bring foreign exchange into the country and not to borrow on interest.

"In 1997, Malaysia dealt with the economic crisis in the same way. Instead of borrowing, they went beyond that and implemented a plan to increase the flow of foreign exchange into the country," he said.

"Today Sri Lanka has also introduced such a turning point to our economy to

attract foreign exchange. In addition, we have also taken measures to increase our FDI," he said.

He said that the silver lining of the COVID pandemic has been the introduction of this new mechanism to direct the country's economic path in a new direction.

State Minister Cabraal said that many were of the view that the Government will not be able to record growth. "But we managed a 3.5 per cent growth rate in the first quarter and we forecast a huge 20 per cent growth rate during the second quarter of 2021," he said.

He said that the country is now on the right track and expressed hope that the Government will be able to derive the expected outcome from the Gazette.

Death of Sirisoma Abeyratne

The death occurred yesterday of Sirisoma Abeyratne of Nugegoda (83) after a brief illness. He was the father of two daughters Vindya and Iosha and was the father-in-law of Waruna Mallawarachchi (Deputy General Manager/Advertising, Lake House) and Sajith Kodagoda. His remains are at the Jayaratne Funeral Parlour, Borella. The funeral will be held at 4 p.m. today at the General Cemetery, Kanatte.

Death of Kumarasiri Eshwara

The death occurred of Kumarasiri Eshwara of Matara yesterday. He was the Brother-in-Law of former State Minister Lakshman Yapa Abeywardena. He was 60. His remains lie at his residence No 395, Anagarika Dharmapala Mawawatha, Matara and funeral will take place today at the Matara cemetery.



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Women and Sport Award Programme launched by NOC

The National Olympic Committee of Sri Lanka (NOC), on the direction of the IOC, launched the Lankan leg of the 2021 Women and Sport Award programme, in pursuit of its goal to work on gender equality around the globe.

IOC says: "The IOC is, more than ever, committed to its mission to encourage and support the promotion of women in sport at all levels and in all structures. The annual IOC Women and Sport Awards present an important opportunity to recognise the women, men and organisations

that are working towards gender equality in sport across the world. "With your support, we will continue to advance gender equality in sport across participation, safe sport, portrayal, resource allocation and leadership, with a particular focus on reaching the minimum target of 30%

women representation in all sport governing bodies.

"We encourage you to communicate your own ambitions and plans to advance gender equality in sport, and to actively support and foster gender equality champions and advocates within your organisation. In this spir-

it, it is our pleasure to invite you to nominate a candidate for the 2021 edition of the IOC Women and Sport Awards.

The following individuals and organisations are eligible to receive the Awards: Individuals – a retired athlete (i.e. an athlete no longer

involved in elite competitive sport), an administrator, a coach, a journalist or writer, a sponsor or an academic. Organisations – a National Olympic Committee (NOC), an International Federation, a National Federation, a Continental Association of NOCs or a sports club.

08.03.2021 - TOTAL PRIZE WINNERS PRODUCED BY NATIONAL LOTTERIES BOARD 783,175
TOTAL PRIZE MONEY DISTRIBUTED AMONG WINNERS 29,205,740.00
Rs.2,000,000.00 PRIZES 01 | Rs.1,00,000.00 PRIZES 30

Vasana Sampatha

Official Results
 Draw No. 1670
 Date 08.03.2021

English Letter
V

ONCE A HERO
 ALWAYS A HERO

Winning Nos.
27 29 39 53

Prize	Prize Structure	Prize Money	No. of Winners
1 st Prize	Four Five Numbers are correct	500,000/-	-
2 nd Prize	If Five Numbers and English Letter are correct	100,000/-	03
3 rd Prize	Four Five Numbers are correct	1,000/-	90
4 th Prize	Three Numbers and English Letter are correct	200/-	100
5 th Prize	Four Five Numbers are correct	100/-	4,641
6 th Prize	Three Numbers and English Letter are correct	40/-	3,787
7 th Prize	Four Five Numbers are correct	20/-	94,850
8 th Prize	Four English Letters are correct	20/-	21,597

Total prize money won in this Draw
Rs. 3,340,100.00

Next Super Prize
Rs. 26,926,873.90

Govisettha

Official Results
 DRAW NUMBER 2715 DRAW DATE 08/03/2021

ENGLISH LETTER
U

WINNING NUMBERS
14 51 60 68

COMBINATION	PRIZE	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	07
3 PRIZE IF ANY 3 NUMBERS CORRECT	Rs. 2,000.00	195
4 PRIZE IF LETTER & ANY 2 NUMBERS CORRECT	Rs. 1,000.00	421
5 PRIZE IF ANY 2 NUMBERS CORRECT	Rs. 100.00	10,292
6 PRIZE IF LETTER & ANY NUMBER CORRECT	Rs. 60.00	6,768
7 PRIZE IF ANY NUMBER CORRECT	Rs. 20.00	167,808
8 PRIZE IF ONLY THE LETTER IS CORRECT	Rs. 20.00	30,874

TOTAL WINNERS OF THIS DRAW **216,214**

TOTAL PRIZE MONEY WON IN THIS DRAW
Rs. 6,781,360.00

SUPER PRIZE FOR THE NEXT DRAW
Rs. 71,901,396.80

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.

MAHAJANA SAMPATHA

DATE: 08-03-2021

WINNING LETTER **L** WINNING NUMBERS **7 8 9 7 3 7**

Prize structure - from right to left

Prize	Prize Structure	Prize Money	No. of Winners
1 st Prize	7 8 9 7 3 7	Rs. 2,000,000/-	01
2 nd Prize	7 8 9 7 3 7	Rs. 100,000/-	54
3 rd Prize	7 8 9 7 3 7	Rs. 10,000/-	137
4 th Prize	7 8 9 7 3 7	Rs. 1,000/-	1,203
5 th Prize	7 8 9 7 3 7	Rs. 100/-	12,854
6 th Prize	7 8 9 7 3 7	Rs. 20/-	127,770

Prize structure - from left to right

Prize	Prize Structure	Prize Money	No. of Winners
7 th Prize	7 8 9 7 3 7	Rs. 10,000/-	54
8 th Prize	7 8 9 7 3 7	Rs. 1,000/-	642
9 th Prize	7 8 9 7 3 7	Rs. 100/-	1,365
10 th Prize	7 8 9 7 3 7	Rs. 50/-	12,690
11 th Prize	7 8 9 7 3 7	Rs. 20/-	51,112

Value of prizes won in this draw - **Rs.11,974,040.00**

The Super Prize of next draw
Rs. 13,161,528.00

Mega Power

OFFICIAL RESULTS
 DATE: 08.03.2021

English Letter **E** Winning Numbers **08 02 26 36 39**

Prize Structure	Prize Money	No. of Winners
1 st PRIZE If all 4 Numbers are correct	1,000,000.00	-
2 nd PRIZE If only 2 Numbers with English Letter is correct	100,000.00	04
3 rd PRIZE If all 3 Numbers are correct	5,000.00	105
4 th PRIZE If only 2 Numbers with English Letter is correct	500.00	213
5 th PRIZE Only 2 Numbers are correct	100.00	5,471
6 th PRIZE If only 1 Number with English Letter is correct	60.00	3,722
7 th PRIZE Only 1 Number are correct	20.00	90,219
8 th PRIZE Only English Letter are correct	20.00	16,618

Next Mega Super Prize
Rs. 121,131,072.40

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. 3,446,240.00

DHANA NIDHANAYA

Official Results
 Date - 08/03/2021
 Draw Number - 457

English Letter **E** Winning Numbers **06 14 27 73**

COMBINATION	PRIZE	NO. OF WINNERS
1 st Prize If all numbers are correct	Rs. 1,000,000.00	-
2 nd Prize If English Letter and 1 number is correct	Rs. 100,000.00	02
3 rd Prize If any 3 numbers are correct	Rs. 3,000.00	102
4 th Prize If English Letter and 2 numbers are correct	Rs. 1,000.00	225
5 th Prize If any 2 numbers are correct	Rs. 100.00	5,413
6 th Prize If English Letter and 1 number is correct	Rs. 60.00	3,658
7 th Prize If 1 number is correct	Rs. 20.00	91,436
8 th Prize If only English Letter is correct	Rs. 20.00	17,172

Total prize money won in this draw Rs. 3,664,000.00
 Number of Prize Winners in this draw 118,009

Next Draw Super Prize
Rs.86,872,356.80

YOUR FUTURE AS GUARDIANS OF THE NATION

THE REGULAR FORCE OF THE SRI LANKA ARMY IS CALLING APPLICATIONS FROM PATRIOTIC AND ENERGETIC YOUNG GENTLEMEN FOR OFFICER CADET (DEGREE SCHEME) VACANCIES

Basic Qualifications:

- Age : Between 18 - 23 years by 30 April 2021.
- Height and weight : Height not less than 5'6" (167.64 cm) and weight not less than 52 kg (118 lbs)
- Eyesight : Both Eyes 6/6 (without specs and lenses)
- Marital status : Should be Single Male
- Educational qualifications:
 - Passes eight (8) subjects with five (5) Credit (C) Passes including English Language, Mathematics, Sinhala/ Tamil Language and Science in a one sitting and not more than two attempts at GCE (O/L) examination
 - AND
 - Passing three subjects and obtaining 30% of marks for Common General Test in one sitting and not more than three attempts at GCE (A/L) examination
 - OR
 - Any other international examination (Pearson/ Edexcel, GCSE, GCE and Cambridge) recognized by Department of Examination, Sri Lanka as an equivalent to GCE (O/L & GCE (A/L)

Selected Candidates have the opportunity to follow Bsc degree programme under Kotelawala Defence University as Officer Cadets.

Will be commissioned in the rank of Second Lieutenant upon the successful completion of Officer Cadet Training at Sri Lanka Military Academy - Diyatalawa.

The deadline for application : **30 March 2021**

Visit <https://www.army.lk/officers> for application and information.
Inquiry : 0112 514 605

Directorate of Personnel Administration, Army Headquarters, Sri Jayawardenepura, Colombo

Hamid brought honour and fame to his school and country

ALTHAF NAWAZ

In the present sporting world, it is rare to find a family imbued with sportsmen. Some of them excelled in school, club and finally ended up by representing the country locally and Internationally handling the oval shaped ball. Mohamed Zulkernain Hamid was one of the finest players produced by Royal College, Colombo, whose father and brother played a phenomenal role with both engaging in sports to become the cynosure of all eyes.

Mohamed Zulkernain was also called Zulkar Hamid in the sports arena, He is the younger son of Ibrahim Hamid, who was one of the finest products of Zahira College, Colombo, and was tagged as 'Tanker' for his robust performance in rugby, during his hey day while contributing immensely in the Rifle Shooting sport while late Rameena was his mother who was a housewife. His father was one of the highly respected persons in sporting circles, who rendered yeoman service as a SSP with the Sri Lanka Police department until his retirement.

Zulkernain had three other siblings with his elder brother Zulki Hamid, turning out to be a classy cricketer playing for school and clubs as a wicket-keeper batsman while playing rugby for the school in a season. The other two sisters Zainab and Zakiya are housewives.

While he was living in Kollupitiya, Zulkernain was enrolled at Royal College, Colombo in 1989 as a primary school student and completed his school career in 2002 after higher studies. Whist concentrating on his academic studies, his stepping stone in sports at college

was cricket and gradually took part in Athletics and Rugby at the Junior age groups. Due to his father's influence, he was a rugby fanatic from his junior days and decided to pursue rugby at the under-13 age group.

He went onto don the college rugby jersey at all age groups and was appointed vice-captain of the under-13, 15,17 teams. He finally was entrusted to lead the college first XV team in 2002 as a third year coloursman. Due to indefatigable performance with some characteristic ability in making crucial moves, he occupied the position of centre, scrum half and full back during his tenure at first XV team, which was a unique achievement from 2000 to 2002 seasons.

In 2002, his team was coached by Tavitha Tulagesi (Laga) and Nizam Jamaldeen. They managed to remain as an unbeaten team at the schools tournament by winning all traditional Trophy matches including Trinity, S.Thomas and Ispathana and surged ahead to win the 'Bradby Shield' with a record margin of 83-0 (first leg at Royal Sports Complex 39-0 and second leg at Bogambara 44-0), which still remains an unbroken record.

The team later went on to win the Presidents Trophy the same year by beating Wesley by 25 points to 16 in the final. He toured Malaysia in 1989 with the Junior Age Groups and Australia in 2002. He also participated in Junior Rugby World Cup representing the country in 2001 in Chile. His jun-



Zulkar Hamid

ior coaches were Y.K. de Silva and Niroshan Jayasinghe at school.

After his fascinating school rugby career, he opted to continue his club rugby. As most of his team mates decided to join CR and FC, he enrolled with them and locked horns from 2002 to 2009 season playing as a scrum half. With his unstinted performance, he was appointed to lead the sevens team which won the Western Province Tournament. He was also appointed as deputy skipper to lead the XV-a-side team in 2009. He crossed over to play for Havelocks in 2014 and after completion of that season he hung up his boots to end his illustrious rugby career which spanned over a decade. He was in his peak with the Longden Place club till 2010, playing as a link man, occupying the scrum half position. He has an unforgettable memory while playing for the

country when they defeated Singapore in 2010 during the Asian Five Nations Tournament in Singapore which enabled them to advance to the top division of that competition. He put up a belligerent performance as player both at club and at international level competing in several other tournaments bringing honour and fame where ever he played.

Winning the 'Bradby Shield' with a record margin of 83-0 and retaining the Shield, instrumental in scoring three tries in the second leg at Bogambara becoming the only Royal captain to do so and receiving the 'Royal Crown' in 2003 were his other memorable achievements in school rugby. His junior coach was Asanga Seneviratne and late George Simpkin was his senior coach at national level. He would like to extend his sincere gratitude to all his coaches in School, Club and at National level and his teachers and the staff at school for all the support they extended in making him a good player.

He holds a Masters in Business Administration (MBA) (University of Wales (UWIC)). He joined HSBC in 2003 and is serving upto date which is 18 years 'of service there. He is currently attached to Wealth and Personal Banking Department at HSBC.

At present he is a member of the Royal College Rugby Advisory Committee since 2012 and the Treasurer of the CR and FC Committee since last year. His wife is Rukshana and has one child Yaminah.

Sri Lankan Olympic stars of yesteryear

Sailor Ray Wijewardene beat the Olympic champion in 1966

Ray Philip Wijewardene who participated in the yachting contests at the Olympics in Mexico in 1968 was a super sporting star to emerge from Sri Lanka.

Ray entered the Hong Kong International Yachting Meet in 1966 in a yacht which he borrowed for this purpose and managed to secure the third place.

This was a tremendous achievement considering the fact that there were several top competitors at this meet including the National champion of America and the Olympic champion Chuck Miller and the North Euro champion from Germany Olli Jerullal.

In addition, competitors from Britain, Holland, Japan, Indonesia, Singapore, Philippines, Hong Kong and 12 other countries participated in this event with their contestants bringing yachts from their own countries.

However, Ray performed extremely well to secure the third place despite the heavy odds against him with Chuck Moller of America claiming the first place and Germany's Olli Jerullal taking the second place. It was revealed after the completion of the contest that Ray was handicapped because of a damaged steering gear in his machine.

Thereafter, at the Far East International Yachting contest held in Bangkok, Thailand Ray was placed third.

Since these achievements were made close upon the Olympics to be held in Mexico and because he had even defeated the Olympic Champions in these events, the Sri Lanka Olympic and Commonwealth Games Federation decided to send Ray for the Mexico Olympics.

At the Olympics in 1968, he was placed 29th among 36 contestants. At the Olympics he had contested in the fin class and from among Asian competitors Ray was the best.

Even after this he participated in different water sports in Sri Lanka. He was successful in winning the Lipton Trophy in 1972.



Ray Wijewardene

He also participated at the 1970 Asian Games and won a Silver Medal while competing in the Enterprise Class event.

Ray who has a BSc (Agriculture) Degree from the Cambridge University later left the island to work as the Head of the Agricultural Research Division in Nigeria.

He later obtained a PhD in agriculture. Having returned from Nigeria on completion of his assignment, Ray served as Chairman of several companies including Walkers Limited.

Ray also became the Chancellor of the Moratuwa University and was bestowed with the Deshamanya Vidya Jyothi Ray Wijewardene passed away on August 18, 2010 in Colombo at the age of 85. (C.D)

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

NATIONAL SCHOOL OF BUSINESS MANAGEMENT LTD



DESIGN, INVEST, BUILD, OWN, OPERATE AND TRANSFER OF HOSTEL FACILITIES AS A PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP FOR NSBM GREEN UNIVERSITY, PITIPANA, HOMAGAMA

01. The Chairman of the Board Appointed Procurement Committee of the National School of Business Management Ltd (NSBM) invites prospective Investors cum Operators to submit Proposals to Design, Invest, Build, Own, Operate and Transfer of a hostel facility for 500 male students and a hostel facility for 500 female students as a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) procurement model at the proposed Phase 2 of NSBM Green University Town Project of National School of Business Management Ltd, Pitipana, Homagama.

02. The key objective of this project is to provide convenient and safe accommodation facilities for both male and female undergraduates who are currently studying at NSBM and new students of proposed degree programmes to be launched under Phase 2 of NSBM Green University Town Project as the existing hostel of 500 beds capacity has met its full occupancy and unable to meet upcoming demand.

03. NSBM will position the selected Investor cum Operator of the proposed hostel as the preferred and 'exclusive hostel service provider' of NSBM and facilitate to market the hostel facilities to over 9,500 existing on-campus students and over 2,500 new students enrolling annually. Hostel Fees and other income such as canteen operations, laundry etc will be the main sources of revenue to the investor cum operator of the proposed hostel.

04. NSBM will provide the Investor cum Operator with the facilities such as the Land required for the project within the NSBM Green University Town premises free of lease charge, Design concepts, Employer's requirements, access to existing utility services and preliminary approvals.

05. Proposal calling will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding (NCB) procedure.



NSBM Green University Town established in Pitipana, Homagama offers nationally and internationally recognized, UGC approved undergraduate and postgraduate programmes and foreign degree programmes in three faculties, namely Management, Computing and Engineering & Design.

This state-of-the-art university built in par with international standards, currently houses over 9,500 students with over 2,500 new enrollments each year. The university, spread over an area of 26 acres of land, is now geared to start its Phase 2 in the adjoining land on 16 acres. Phase 2 comprises faculties of Health Sciences and Social Sciences due to market opportunities and multi-purpose conference hall with 2,000 seating capacity, hostel facilities for 2,000 students, vehicle parking facilities up to 1,000 parking slots, Food & Beverage facilities and a larger playground with extended facilities due to the rapid increase in demand for these facilities.

06. The procurement method & model is Design, Invest, Build, Own, Operate and Transfer (DIBOOT) as a Public-Private Partnership (PPP).

07. The selected Investor cum Operator is expected to design and construct the hostels covering architectural, structural, mechanical, electrical, ELV and plumbing services, external works, utility services, furnishing, including appropriate foundation system and construction management etc., within the shortest possible duration for which the evidence of operations management, financial and construction capabilities should be submitted. The design should be in line with the Architectural, Structural and MEP Design Concepts given by NSBM.

08. Each Male and Female hostel building consists of two interconnected wings with nine and eight floors respectively. Each floor of a single wing consists of twelve bedrooms with thirty six beds (three beds in each room) and two common washrooms and a mini pantry. A cafeteria with fully equipped kitchen, laundry facility, a front office, two warden accommodations

and related infrastructure should be included in the proposed building design.

09. The Investor cum Operator is required to propose an attractive Operational Model with a complete scope of professional hostel management service for the proposed hostel building, operation the hostel and undertake routine maintenance as an independent operation for a pre-agreed number of years and transfer the property to NSBM at the end of such period.

10. Prospective Investors cum Operators may opt to consider both hostel Facilities (500 male students and 500 female students) or any one of the hostel facilities. However, priority will be given to those who choose to invest in both hostels in the selection process.

11. Prospective Investors cum Operators should submit capability details related to both proposed ongoing operation and construction separately for evaluation along with the Proposal.

12. A criteria based on following facts shall be

considered during the evaluation of Proposals and selection of the of most responsive Investor cum Operator.

- Attractiveness of proposed Operational Model for professional hostel management service
- Past and ongoing projects in similar nature and complexity
- Availability of experienced and qualified personnel in similar nature of projects with facility management / hospitality experience and capabilities
- Financial strength, stability and availability of funding sources
- Attractiveness of room rates and fees policy proposed for students
- Nature of value-added facilities proposed for students
- Capacity and capability in the undertaking of both hostels vs. single hostel
- The time period taken for the construction and launch of the project
- Construction partner's past experience in projects of similar nature, qualifications, capabilities and CIDA registration with C1 and above & register with PC Act No 03 of 1987

j. The Investor cum Operator shall not have been blacklisted.
k. Compliance to Green certification procedure adopted by UDA.

13. A facts sheet of the operation of the existing hostel facility of NSBM will be issued along with the Request for Proposal document which contains capacity, occupancy and indicative operational experience over the last 4 years.

14. RFP document can be obtained upon submitting a Request Letter along with a payment of Rs. 5,000/- in cash, from 10th March 2021 during office hours 9 am to 3 pm from the office of Manager Procurement, National School of Business Management Ltd, NSBM Green University Town, Mahenwatta, Pitipana, Homagama. You may obtain further information regarding the RFP by contacting on 011 544 5036, 071 672 6012 or projects@nsbm.ac.lk.

15. NSBM shall not be responsible for any expenses or losses which may be incurred by the investor cum operator related to preparation, submission and participation in this Proposal. Board Appointed Procurement Committee of NSBM reserves the right to accept or reject any proposal at any time prior to select an Investor cum Operator and award the Contract.

16. Proposals shall be prepared in English language and printed in ORIGINAL and one COPY and shall be delivered and deposited in the Collection Box which will be kept in the Office of Procurement Division of National School of Business Management Ltd, NSBM Green University Town, Mahenwatta, Pitipana, Homagama on or before 3 pm on 9th April 2021.

17. Proposals will be closed on the date and time mentioned above and will be opened immediately after the closing. Investor cum Operator or their authorized representatives will be permitted to be present during the opening of Proposals.

Chairman,

Board Appointed Procurement Committee, National School of Business Management Ltd.

NSBM Green University Town, Mahenwatta, Pitipana, Homagama | Contact us on 011 544 5036, 071 672 6012 or E-mail : projects@nsbm.ac.lk

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Fax : +941122343694 e mail : sports.dailynews@lakenews.com

WORLD OF SPORTS

Sports Diary

(March 10)

LOCAL EVENTS
CRICKET (Inter-Schools U-19): Ananda vs Thurstan at Ananda Mawatha (2 nd day) (SLC T20 Tournament): CCC vs Kandy Customs CC at SSC Grounds
Colts CC vs Bloomfield at CCC Grounds
Chilaw Marians CC vs Police SC at Colts Grounds
Saracens SC vs Navy SC at Katunayake
BRC vs Nugegoda SC at SSC Grounds
Army SC vs Sebastianites CC at NCC Grounds

TENNIS

SSC Open Tournament at Maitland Place
FOREIGN EVENTS

CRICKET

West Indies vs Sri Lanka (1 st ODI) at North Sound, Antigua
Afghanistan vs Zimbabwe (2 nd Test) at Abu Dhabi (1 st day) (Road Safety World Series): Sri Lanka Legends vs England Legends at Raipur

TENNIS

Chile Open at San Carlos de Apoquindo Open 13 Provence at Marseille, France
Dubai Duty Free Championship in Dubai

FOOTBALL (Champions League)

Liverpool vs RB Leipzig
Paris Saint Germain vs Barcelona (Premier League): Manchester City vs Southampton (Spanish League): Atletico Madrid vs Athletic Bilbao
CYCLING Paris-Nice Tour (Stage-4)

Angelo Mathews

SL look to bounce back in ODIs against West Indies



Kieron Pollard

Sri Lanka will look to bounce back into recognition when they begin a three-match One Day International (ODI) series against the West Indies at the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium in North Sound, Antigua today (10).

The Lankans will be determined to make an impact in this ODI series after having earlier suffered a 1-2 Twenty20 series defeat at the hands of the same opponents.

Even then, history is in favour of the Lankans as they made a clean sweep

over the West Indies at home exactly one year ago under the captaincy of Dimuth Karunaratne with Wanindu Hasaranga claiming the Player of the Series Award on that occasion.

But this time Sri Lanka will be under pressure to keep that momentum as they will take the field at the backdrop of some uncertainty with their batsmen still struggling to get into terms.

However, the West Indies will be out to avenge their last year's defeat with an improved performance having regained

the services of some of their key players. No doubt, their success in the concluded Twenty20 series will be a good morale booster for the West Indies who will play Sri Lanka for the first time at this venue.

However, Sri Lanka did have one appearance at this venue but that was against England during the 2007 ICC Cricket World Cup where the Islanders triumphed by two runs in a 'Super Eight' fixture.

In contrast, the West Indies have a

dismal record at the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium having won just three ODIs from their 13 outings.

This match will also be part of the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup Super League in which Sri Lanka are placed eighth while the West Indies are in ninth place.

West Indies Squad: Kieron Pollard (Captain), Fabian Allen, Dwayne Bravo, Fidel Edwards, Andre Fletcher, Chris Gayle, Jason Holder, Akeal Hosein, Evin Lewis, Obed McCoy, Nicholas

Pooran, Rovman Powell, Lendl Simmons and Kevin Sinclair.

Sri Lanka Squad: Angelo Mathews, Ashen Bandara, Dushmantha Chameera, Dinesh Chandimal, Akila Dananjaya, Niroshan Dickwella, Asitha Fernando, Oshada Fernando, Danushka Gunathilaka, Wanindu Hasaranga, Dimuth Karunaratne (Captain), Suranga Lakmal, Dilshan Madushanka, Kamindu Mendis, Ramesh Mendis, Pathum Nissanka, Thisara Perera, Nuwan Pradeep and Lakshan Sandakan. (Agencies)

Royal skipper Ahan and Sadisha create all time partnership record

INDIKA WELAGEDARA

Royal College's third wicket pair of skipper Ahan Wickremasinghe (210 n.o) and Sadisha Rajapakshe (152 n.o) with an unbroken record 362 run partnership against Trinity College at Reid Avenue in their 128th Royal-Trinity encounter, shattered the previous highest partnership record for any wicket set in 2018 by Josephians Revan Kelly (182) and Nipun Sumanasinghe (156 n.o) of 314 runs for the second wicket.

It took exactly 37 years for Kelly and Sumanasinghe to break the record partnership set by Sumithra Warnakulasuriya (181 n.o) and Ajit



Sadisha Rajapakshe



Ahan Wickramasinghe

Devasurendra 120 (n.o) for the third wicket scoring 304 runs against Trinity college, Kandy at Reid Avenue in 1981.

Incidentally it took 27 years for Warnakulasuriya and Devasurendra to break

the record set previously in 1954 of 266 runs for the first wicket by A.C.M Lafir (170) and Ronnie Stephens (80) for St. Anthony's College Kandy against Trinity College, at Asgiriya, Kandy in their big match.

SL Legends cruise to WCS semi-finals

Sri Lanka Legends qualified for the semi-finals of the Road Safety World Cricket Series (WCS) when they defeated South Africa Legends by nine wickets in their second match of the tournament played at the Shaheed Veer Narayan Singh International Stadium in Raipur on Monday.

Sri Lanka Legends, who had earlier defeated the West Indies Legends, produced another fine performance to skittle out South Africa Legends for just 89 in 18.5 overs.

In reply, Sri Lanka Legends raced to their target in 13.2 overs with Skipper Tillakaratne Dilshan stroking an unbeaten half century.

Rangana Herath was named Man-of-the-Match after he finished with two for 11 from his four overs.

Sri Lanka Legends will meet England Legends in their third match today (10).

Chief scores
South Africa Legends: 89 in 18.5 overs (Andrew Puttick 39, Rangana Herath 2/11, Nuwan Kulasekara 2/13, Sanath Jayasuriya 2/24)

Sri Lanka Legends: 92/1 in 13.2 overs (Tillakaratne Dilshan 50 n.o, Upul Tharanga 27 n.o).



Sanath Jayasuriya (left) celebrates a dismissal with his teammates

Rikaz win Colombo District snooker title

SHERIFDEEN AMATH

Mohamed Rikaz of MICH beat M. F. M. Fazil of Air Force by five frames to two in the Colombo District Snooker

Tournament final worked off at the Moors Islamic Cultural Home (MICH) in Dematagoda yesterday.

Rikaz took the lead in the

first frame 56-41 while Fazil took the second frame 64-57.

In the third frame, Rikaz beat Fazil 77-17 and in the end of the fourth round, Fazil had drawn the match 2-2 when he won the frame 59-9.

But Rikaz took advantage of his experience and won the last three frames 65-5, 89-5 and 58-52.

Meanwhile, Ranil Imam emerged first runner-up when he beat M. Thasleem by two frames to nil.

The Colombo District Tournament attracted 89 competitors and the winner qualified to play in the All-Island Lanka Plate Championship where the players will be fighting for the 16 slots to contest along with the 16 National Ranked players for the 68th National Snooker Championship.



Mohamed Rikaz

Vidyartha down Kingswood

HAFIZ MARIKAR

Vidyartha College defeated Kingswood College by 124 runs in their Inter-Schools Under-19 limited over cricket encounter played at Radella yesterday.

Vidyartha batting first went on to hit up 180 for eight from their 50 overs and Kingswood in reply, were skittle out for 56 runs in 30.4 overs.

Vidyartha: 180/8 in 50 overs (Hishan

Bandara 71, Bawan Kodikara 25, Chamuduka Abeyarthne 2/34, Ravindu Bandara 2/31, Anul Senevirthne 2/42)

Kingswood: 56 in 30.4 overs (Medunaka Wijethilake 4/15, Kavishka Hapugoda 3/8).

Moors upset Chilaw Marians in SLC T20

Moors SC created a major upset when they defeated last year runners-up Chilaw Marians CC by seven wickets in their SLC Inter-Club T20 Cricket Tournament fixture played at the Colts Grounds yesterday.

Chief scores
● **At Colts Grounds** (Moors SC won by seven wickets)

● **Chilaw Marians CC:** 96 in 20 overs (Ranitha Liyanarachchi 4/27)

● **Moors SC:** 97/3 in 14.3 overs (Mahela Udawatte 68 n.o)

● **At P. Sara Oval** (Bloomfield won by 39 runs)

● **Bloomfield:** 127/6 in 20 overs (Dilhan Cooray 73)

● **Ace Capital CC:** 88/8 in 20 overs.

● **At SSC grounds** (BRC won by 39 runs)

● **BRC:** 169/7 in 20 overs (Shanuka Dulaj 55, Anuk Fernando 46 n.o)

● **Kandy Customs CC:** 130/9 in 20 overs (Shehan Weerasinghe 45).

● **At NCC Grounds** (Saracens SC won by 11 runs)

● **Saracens SC:** 161/5 in 20 overs (Hashan Duminidu 65)

● **Sebastianites CC:** 150/8 in 20 overs (Sameen Kandanarachchi 42, Sachitha Jayathilleka 43).

● **At Colts Grounds** (SSC won by seven wickets)

● **Kurunegala YCC:** 127/6 in 20 overs (Ravindra Karunaratne 56)

● **SSC:** 128/3 in 14.5 overs.

● **At NCC Grounds** (Panadura SC won by 42 runs)

● **Panadura SC:** 130/7 in 20 overs

● **Ragama CC:** 88 in 16.2 overs.

● **At SSC Grounds** (Baduraliya CC won by 48 runs)

● **Baduraliya CC:** 156/8 in 20 overs

● **Negombo CC:** 108 in 18.5 overs.

● **At P. Sara Oval** (NCC won by 80 runs)

● **NCC:** 170/5 in 20 overs (Chaturanga Silva 41, Angelo Perera 45, Sahan Arachchige 44 n.o)

● **Air Force SC:** 90 in 16.4 overs. (D.R)

SLCSA recruits new members from Kalutara

Text and picture by PRIYAN DE SILVA

The Sri Lanka Cricket Scorers Association (SLCSA) recruited 20 new members from the Kalutara District at a ceremony held in Kalutara on Monday (8).

The certificates of induction were handed over by Prasanna Amarasekera, president of the Kalutara District Cricket Association in the presence of SLCSA president Sanjaya Jayasinghe and members of the SLCSA Executive Committee.



The newly recruited scorers with officials. Front row seated officials from left: Ranga Samantha (Exco member) Sanjaya Jayasinghe (President SLCSA), Prasanna Amarasekera (President KDCA), Chinthaka Munasinghe (Assignment Secretary SLCSA) and Ravindra Sathasivam (Exco member)

Tokyo Cement extends partnership with FoG

In order to groom raw cricket talent from rural areas, Foundation of Goodness (FoG) extended its partnership with Tokyo Cement Group for 2021, facilitating Southern Cricket Coaching Camps recently. The partnership is running unhindered for the seventh year aims at building future leaders through sports and school cricketers of Southern Province will be benefitted from the programme. S.R. Gnanam, Managing Director of Tokyo Cement Company (Lanka) PLC, and Kushil Gunasekera, Founder/Chief Trustee of the Foundation of Goodness signed the extension of agreement recently.



Exchange of agreement

Manith steers Thomians to innings win



Manith Perera

Leg-spinner Manith Perera with impressive matchbag figures of 11 wickets helped S.Thomas' College Mount Lavinia beat St. John's College, Jaffna by an innings and 35 runs in their Under-19 Inter-Schools traditional cricket fixture worked off at Mount Lavinia yesterday.

The Thomians made 247 for seven in their first innings with Vinuja Wijebandara (71) and Shesh Hettiarachchi (51 n.o) stroking two superb half centuries.

St. John's in reply were bowled out for 61 in their first innings and following on they were dismissed for 145 in the second innings.

Chief scores

● **At Mount Lavinia** (S. Thomas' won by innings and 35 runs)

● **S. Thomas':** 247/7 decl (Vinesh Bandaranayake 32, Anuk Palihawadana 46, Vinuja Wijebandara 71, Shesh Hettiarachchi 51 n.o, Jeyachandran Ashnath 3/82)

● **St. John's:** 61 (Dinishan Thevinthar-am 21, G.Camston 2/21, Manith Perera 4/23, Ryan Fernando 3/2) and 145 (Thiyagarasha Vonojan 34, T. A. Kajenthiran 25, Yogasthans Sangeertharan 22 n.o, Manith Perera 7/60, Randiv Gunasekara 2/42).

● **At Ananda Mawatha** (1 st day)

● **Ananda:** 149 (Kanishka Ranthilakage 21, Mineth Premaratne 46 n.o, Tehaan Perera 23, Nipun Kanchana 5/56, Puthilla Samantha 2/32, Vihans Thewmika 2/10)

● **Thurstan:** 117/1 (Tharindu Harshana 49 n.o, Vihanga Jayanama 34).

● **At Dombagoda** (Match drawn)

● **Mahanama:** 307/9 decl (Sadishan Chamodya 104, Pulshan Rohana 35, Pavan Ratnayake 47, Savindu Kavinda 40, Matheesha de Silva 3/76, Kushan Wijerama 3/78)

● **St. Servatius:** 88 (Oshen Gamage 6/18, Achintha Supun 2/18) and 30/2. (D.R)



Young cricketers training at a coaching camp

Daily News Business

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

PB reports highest ever balance sheet growth in 2020, extends support to boost economic revival

Over Rs. 300 bn in credit facilities provided

Offers COVID-19 relief to over 460,000 individual customers

People's Bank (PB) yesterday announced the results for its year ended December 31, 2020 reporting consolidated net loan growth of Rs 315.7 billion; representing a 21.6% growth year on year and accounting for close to one third of overall net sector credit extended during the period.

Close to two third of credit was to the State and State Owned Enterprises. Its consolidated assets reached Rs 2,400.6 billion up 17.1% from Rs 2,049.8 billion at

end 2019 whilst its total deposits grew 21.8% to reach Rs 1,935.2 billion from Rs 1,588.9 billion at end 2019 - all of which Institutional all times highs. Of deposit growth, 53.8% stemmed from Current and Savings Accounts - ultimately showcasing the Institutional brand strength and depositor confidence.

From a COVID-19 moratorium perspective, the Group extended relief to 460,000 retail customers - the largest for any financial services pro-

vider - and over 21,000 businesses. Beneficiaries of such business relief included, amongst other, close 10,500 three-wheel owners and 7,500 passenger transport service providers in addition to other small businesses.

In addition, the Group introduced multiple loan schemes at highly concessional rates of interest. It extended over Rs 27 billion to revive Small and Medium Scale Enterprises, including Rs 13.7 billion in Saubhaya loans, and over Rs 10.0 bil-

lion to the agriculture sector. Chairman of People's Bank, Sujeewa Rajapakse said "In a year of extraordinary challenge in an unseen like before operating environment, People's Bank has not only pushed the boundaries of performance and delivery but also supported the Government in its endeavors to preserve and protect the economy from further consequence and to help in its revival. Unlike in a typical year, our success in 2020 is not measured by a typical top line or



Chairman Sujeewa Rajapakse, CEO, GM Ranjith Kodituwakku

bottom line but by our national value added and customer centricity which was at the heart of every decision making process. An ability to go above and beyond a time of need is what ultimately defines this institution and the individuals who run it."

"The above all said, our job is far from over. With the economy showing early signs of rejuvenation, and not complacent with any of our previous successes, we remain conscious of the challenges that still lie ahead but look forward to the future with a great degree of hope and optimism." **TO PAGE 14**



THE NATIONAL CHAMBER SIGNS MOU WITH... **PAGE 15**

China rebounds with economic growth target above 6%

China is aiming for an economic growth rate above 6% in 2021, after scrapping its target last year. China's Premier Li Keqiang announced the target on Friday at the opening of this year's National People's Congress.

The target marks a return to strong growth after the Covid-19 pandemic impacted the world's second largest economy. Although China's economy grew last year, it only managed 2.3% growth, its weakest result in decades. The new target highlights the Chinese economy's strong rebound after the pandemic shutdowns led to a sharp 6.8% contraction in the first quarter of 2020. **(BBC)**



Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa, State Minister of Rural Housing and Construction Indika Anuruddha, Secretary to the Ministry of Housing Keerthi Ranjith Abeygunawardena, BMC Chairman Mahendra Wijesekera, General Manager Ratnasiri Kalupahana, Ministry of Housing and Government officials at the event.

New facelift for Building Materials Corporation

ASHRAFF A. SAMAD

The Building Materials Corporation's (BMC) modernized sales centre at Sangaraja Mawatha, Colombo 10 was opened by the Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa on March 5, 2021, State Minister of Rural Housing and Construction and Indika Anuruddha, also participated.

The Building Materials Corporation was established in 1971, the institution comes under the purview of the Ministry of Housing and Construction. The BMC had however not come under renovation for nearly 50 years.

Subject Minister of Housing and Urban Development and Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa had therefore instructed State Minister Anuruddha, to renovate the five decade old sales center.

At BMC all building materials in the construction industry is available under one roof in Colombo for a reasonable and discounted prices. Children of staff members who were victorious at the World Habitat Day art competition also received certificates from the Prime Minister at the event.

Fitch's Sri Lankan Banks Dashboard: 1Q21

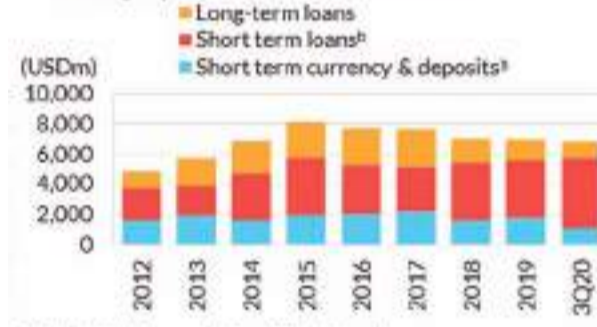
'SL banks' - currency exposures pose capital and FC liquidity risks'

Sri Lankan banks' foreign-currency (FC) exposures pose capital and FC liquidity risks, with pressure most likely to come from significant FC exposure to the 'CCC' rated sovereign.

"We believe that the sovereign's credit profile is likely to present a challenge to banks' access to and cost of external funding. Consequently, Sri Lankan banks' ratings continue to be constrained by the sovereign rating."

Fitch-rated banks' total FC assets on the balance sheet made up around 20% of total assets at end-3Q20, of which exposure to the state was 8.7% of total assets. Around 68% of the FC state exposure is investments in Sri Lanka International Sovereign

Banking System's External Debt



* Excluding Licensed Specialised Banks.
 † Based on original maturity < 12 months.
 Source: Fitch Ratings, Fitch Solutions, CBSL

Bonds (ISBs) and Sri Lanka Development Bonds (SLDBs), and the rest being FC loans to state and state-owned entities. The share of investment in FC-denominat-

ed government securities is much higher at large banks, at 6%-12% of their total assets.

The Central Bank of Sri Lanka (CBSL) has reduced

the capital charge for FC claims on the government to 10% of risk-weighted assets in 2021 from 20%. Furthermore, banks are permitted to reduce the loss-given-default rate to 10% from 20% when computing expected losses for these exposures in 2021.

"We believe that while these measures offer some interim regulatory relief to banks, the resulting capital and provisioning levels may not fully reflect the underlying risk exposure."

FC liquidity risk remains high, as reflected in the sector's high ratio of FC loans to FC deposits. The ratio hit a 10-year high of 117% at end-March 2020 before recovering to 107% by end-September 2020 (2017-2019: 105%).

"We estimate that near-term FC refinancing needs are significant, given total short-term loans made up around 68% of the banking system's external debt at end-3Q20. Banks' short-term borrowings rose to USD4.6 billion by end-3Q20, even though the banking system's total external debt declined to USD6.8 billion."

"We believe that the authorities will act if pressure on the domestic foreign-exchange market and the depreciation of the Sri Lankan rupee worsens. The CBSL has already suspended purchases of ISBs by banks and put restrictions on banks entering into forward contracts for foreign exchange until end-March 2021."

LSEG completes all-share acquisition of Refinitiv

LSEG (London Stock Exchange Group) and Refinitiv have combined to become a leading global financial markets infrastructure and data provider.

LSEG and Refinitiv have long provided important services and products to the market: the data and analytics used every day to make important decisions; the tools to fight financial crime; the execution venues used to access liquidity, raise capital and discover pricing; the clearing houses used to manage risk and capital.

As a combined organisation, our commitment to the markets, and an awareness of

the trust the financial system places in us, are as strong as ever. At no time in its long history has LSEG been able to offer the range of capabilities it can today - from pre-trade and price discovery right through to clearing. We have extended our global reach. Customers have access to significantly enhanced datasets. And we have added new execution venues in the two largest traded asset classes: foreign exchange and fixed income.

LSEG's Chief Executive Officer, David Schwimmer said, "The completion of the acquisition of Refinitiv marks an important milestone in



LSEG's CEO David Schwimmer

LSEG's history. This transformational transaction brings together two highly complementary global businesses with a shared commitment to an Open Access philosophy, working in partnership with customers. LSEG is focused on delivering the benefits of

the transaction helping customers to access data, trading tools, analytics and risk management across the financial markets and at scale around the globe."

More than half of LSEG's employees are now based across Asia. LSEG's involvement and interest in Sri Lanka spans over a decade, following the acquisition of LSEG Technology (formerly known as MillenniumIT) in 2009. The Group has continued to invest in extending their footprint in Sri Lanka with the opening of a Centre of Excellence, employing over 700 professionals from over 30 different disciplines in 2016.

Janashakthi Insurance records 9% growth in 2020

Janashakthi Insurance PLC recorded a 9% overall growth for the financial year 2020, with Gross Written Premiums (GWP) of Rs 3.8 billion.

This praiseworthy growth follows the second year of the insurer's renewed singular focus on Life Insurance, which was a strategic shift that Janashakthi Life made in the year 2018.

Janashakthi Life's post-tax profits stood at Rs. 739million for the period ended December 31, 2020, illustrating a growth of 86%. The Company's investment income recorded a growth of 15% at Rs 1,882. The Company's net claims and benefits stood at Rs 1,758as at December 31, 2020.

"As anticipated, the year 2020 was an exceptionally challenging period due to the spillover effects of the COVID - 19 pandemic and the economic downturn that ensued. Nevertheless, we effectively navigated the challenges with



Director/CEO, Ravi Liyanage

foresight, innovation and timely adaptation of necessary business practices to end the year on a positive note. Our policy riders covered all life insurance customer claims arising due to COVID-19 in a diligent manner," commented Prakash Schaffter, Chairman of Janashakthi Insurance PLC.

"During the year, we implemented a number of timely and appropriate measures to ensure the health and wellbeing of our customers and employees alike," said Ravi Liyanage, Director/ Chief Executive Officer of Janashakthi Insurance PLC.

PAYable processes Rs 15 bn in transactions

PAYable(Pvt) Ltd., has processed Rs. 15 billion in transactions on its platform to date.

Commenting on the milestone, Yohan Wijesiriwardane said, "PAYable entering the cashless ecosystem in 2016 was a game changer; we disrupt-

ed the existing status, empowering MSME merchants who previously were not eligible for cashless payment terminals from banks. By empowering these merchants, we were able to change the way they manage and grow their revenue."

The PAYable solution is highly robust and scalable, compliant with the highest international payment security standards and the company believes it has just scratched the surface of what is possible in a 'cashless Sri Lanka'.

TO PAGE 12

'Exporters should navigate challenges and win marketplace'

INDUNIL HEWAGE



In a complex global market filled with uncertainties being on time in the correct market is of paramount importance. With multiple regulatory requirements and global competition, it is important to support Sri Lankan exporters to navigate such challenges and win in the marketplace.

Speaking at a webinar organised by Sri Lanka Export Development Board under the

theme, "Understand End to End Logistics Journey of the Exports Market, Randima Krishnaratne, Country Sales Manager - Maersk in Sri Lanka said, it is important to embrace evolving technologies and pace, navigating uncertainties and creating value to take Sri Lankan exports to other markets.

Speaking further she said it is also essential to identify strengths such as logistics inte-

grators and niche service providers whilst looking beyond traditional markets when it comes to exporting products.

"It is also essential to manage complexities which include different documentation, commodity based clearances, quality and labeling requirements, storage conditions, financial and legal implications, diverse transport conditions and customized requirements."

Highlighting the need to create value by differentiating products, understanding market requirements, creating the need and ethical products, Krishnaratne said that other factors such as optimum utilization of technology, visibility of the supply chain.

Paperless trade, ease of doing business, ease of payments, wider marketplace would help take the industry to the next level.

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SHARES - COLOMBO STOCK EXCHANGE

Market Statistics on 09.03.2021

Security	Volume	**V.W.A. Previous Close	Open	High	Low	**V.W.A. Yesterday's Close	Change (Rs.)
Main Board							
A.SPEN.HOT.HOLD.	4,007	29.80	31.00	31.00	29.70	30.00	0.20
ABANS	953	157.00	162.25	162.25	157.00	157.25	0.25
ACCESS ENG SL	419,720	23.10	24.00	25.00	23.30	23.60	0.50
ACL	1,367,209	38.70	39.30	46.00	39.30	40.20	1.50
ACL PLASTICS	4,097	252.75	259.00	260.00	250.00	250.75	(2.00)
ACME	226,195	6.20	6.50	6.50	6.30	6.40	0.20
AGALAWATTE	32,897	29.50	29.90	29.90	28.70	28.90	(0.60)
AHOT PROPERTIES	2,111	37.50	39.00	39.00	37.50	39.00	1.50
AITKEN SPENCE	11,136	59.10	60.00	62.00	59.50	59.60	0.50
ALLIANCE	7,299	50.70	52.00	52.00	49.00	50.90	0.20
AMANA BANK	129,880	3.30	3.30	3.40	3.30	3.30	0.00
AMAYA LEISURE	541	17.20	17.00	18.00	17.00	17.50	0.30
ASIA ASSET	15,204	6.00	6.10	6.20	5.90	6.00	0.00
ASIRI	170,883	25.30	25.20	26.80	25.20	25.50	0.20
ASIRI SURG	1,195	13.40	13.90	13.90	13.50	13.90	0.50
AUTODROME	356	80.00	73.50	76.50	73.50	73.80	(6.20)
BAIRAHA FARMS	1,831	141.50	148.00	148.00	138.50	147.50	6.00
BALANGODA	17,670	13.00	13.00	14.00	12.80	12.90	(0.10)
BUKIT DARAH	18	317.75	312.00	339.00	312.00	317.75	0.00
C M HOLDINGS	11,203	82.90	84.00	86.00	81.00	81.00	(1.90)
C T HOLDINGS	36,459	171.75	170.00	170.00	170.00	170.00	(1.75)
CARGILLS	2,000	235.00	238.00	238.00	238.00	238.00	3.00
CARGO BOAT	643	59.20	64.00	64.00	56.20	62.90	3.70
CARSONS	507	284.50	284.75	285.00	284.00	285.00	0.50
CDB	633	107.75	105.00	114.00	105.00	113.75	6.00
CDB [CDB.X0000]	3,761	75.00	76.90	77.30	74.00	75.50	0.50
CENTRAL FINANCE	120,858	86.00	88.00	90.50	85.00	85.10	(0.90)
CENTRAL IND.	115,556	109.00	110.50	114.00	104.00	105.00	(4.00)
CEYLINGO INS.	45	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	0.00
CEYLON GUARDIAN	7,309	124.50	124.75	130.00	120.00	120.25	(4.25)
CEYLON INV.	21,106	62.70	65.00	66.30	63.00	63.00	0.30
CEYLON TOBACCO	830	1,014.25	1,035.00	1,035.00	1,000.00	1,003.50	(10.75)
CHEMANEX	3,576	80.00	82.00	83.00	80.00	82.60	2.60
CHEVRON	233,459	98.00	97.00	97.00	94.00	94.80	(3.20)
CIC	325,791	57.50	58.00	58.50	55.00	56.00	(1.50)
CIC [CIC.X0000]	430,387	45.60	46.50	47.50	44.00	44.70	(0.90)
CITRUS LEISURE	7,202	8.40	9.20	9.20	8.70	8.70	0.30
COLD STORES	2,148	610.00	630.00	631.00	617.00	626.00	16.00
COLOMBO CITY	240	860.00	919.25	965.00	919.25	920.00	60.00
COLOMBO LAND	8,635	25.40	25.50	26.40	25.50	25.50	0.10
COMMERCIAL BANK	102,705	86.20	87.00	89.80	87.00	88.10	1.90
COMMERCIAL BANK [COMB.X0000]	52,995	81.40	81.90	81.90	81.00	81.50	0.10
DANKOTUWA PORCEL	89,391	11.50	11.80	12.10	11.60	11.60	0.10
DFCC BANK PLC	48,020	62.30	62.90	63.70	60.00	60.70	(1.60)
DIALOG	2,217,492	12.90	12.90	13.10	12.90	13.00	0.10
DIMO	128	497.00	500.00	519.00	500.00	511.25	14.25
DIPPED PRODUCTS	8,311,895	50.10	52.00	55.50	49.00	50.20	0.10
DOCKYARD	513	76.50	76.50	76.50	76.50	76.50	0.00
DOLPHIN HOTELS	320	24.00	23.00	24.60	23.00	24.10	0.10
DURDANS	30,660	99.40	102.50	102.50	101.75	102.50	3.10
E B CREASY	31,476	34.70	35.50	37.00	32.60	33.50	(1.20)
EAST WEST	30,415	10.70	10.70	10.70	10.30	10.30	(0.40)
EASTERN MERCHANT	151,343	5.50	5.50	5.70	5.00	5.10	(0.40)
EXPOLANKA	7,036,883	48.40	49.50	49.90	46.10	46.50	(1.90)
FORT LAND	60,035	13.10	13.10	14.90	13.00	13.10	0.00
GESTETNER	200	99.10	99.80	99.80	99.80	99.80	0.70
GRAIN ELEVATORS	180,352	120.50	121.00	127.25	117.00	119.00	(1.50)
HAYCARB	754,821	103.50	105.25	107.75	95.10	97.70	(5.80)
HAYLEYS	2,516,546	60.40	62.30	65.00	58.70	60.50	0.10
HAYLEYS FABRIC	927,183	15.20	15.50	15.80	14.80	15.00	(0.20)
HAYLEYS FIBRE	13,502	48.90	50.00	50.00	49.00	49.10	0.20
HDFC	1,900	34.50	36.00	36.00	34.80	35.90	1.40
HEMAS HOLDINGS	131,900	81.90	82.60	84.90	82.50	82.70	0.80
HNB	234,985	130.00	132.50	134.00	131.00	131.00	1.00
HNB ASSURANCE	32,876	56.30	57.90	58.00	56.50	57.00	0.70
HNB [HNB.X0000]	369,990	103.00	103.75	105.00	102.00	102.50	(0.50)
HORANA	802	20.70	20.60	23.20	20.60	20.90	0.20
HOTEL SIGIRIYA	570	59.20	59.20	59.90	59.20	59.90	0.70
HOTELS CORP.	600	11.00	11.90	11.90	11.90	11.90	0.90
HUNTERS	11	610.00	640.50	640.50	635.00	610.00	0.00
INDUSTRIAL ASPH.	47,011,631	0.50	0.50	0.60	0.40	0.50	0.00
JANASHAKTHI INS.	18,600	27.60	28.00	28.30	27.60	27.60	0.00
JKH	860,101	150.00	152.00	152.00	149.50	150.00	0.00
KANDY HOTELS	27,435	5.20	4.80	5.30	4.80	4.80	(0.40)
KEGALLE	4,963	102.75	107.00	107.50	100.50	103.00	0.25
KELANI CABLES	12,294	115.00	116.00	117.25	114.00	114.00	(1.00)
KELANI TYRES	155,074	77.40	79.00	83.00	78.00	78.80	1.40
KELANI VALLEY	13,037	40.90	41.90	42.50	40.00	40.50	(0.40)
KINGSBURY	189,029	5.95	5.00	6.80	5.00	6.40	0.45
KOTAGALA	43,541	6.20	5.90	6.20	5.90	6.00	(0.20)
L O L C HOLDINGS	845,453	328.00	331.00	348.00	319.00	321.25	(6.75)
LANKA ALUMINIUM	131,887	17.10	17.50	17.50	16.70	17.00	(0.10)
LANKA HOSPITALS	2,238	41.80	41.80	41.80	41.80	41.80	0.00
LANKA IOC	68,203	20.90	21.10	21.10	20.70	20.90	0.00
LANKA TILES	105,877	186.00	195.00	205.00	185.00	186.25	0.25
LANKA WALLTILE	131,720	197.25	204.00	208.00	191.00	196.75	(0.50)
LAUGFS GAS	11,174	21.90	22.00	22.00	21.10	21.10	(0.80)
LAUGFS GAS [LGL.X0000]	12,011	17.00	17.00	17.00	16.30	17.00	0.70
LAXAPANA	50,960	14.40	14.30	14.40	14.10	14.10	(0.30)
LB FINANCE	81,149	191.25	195.00	199.75	188.00	191.75	0.50
LEE HEDGES	491	72.90	72.80	72.80	72.10	72.80	(0.10)
LION BREWERY	16	540.00	540.00	540.00	540.00	540.00	0.00
LMF	61,076	155.25	155.75	161.75	152.50	155.75	0.50
LVL ENERGY	3,097	9.50	9.50	9.80	9.50	9.70	0.20
MALWATTE [MAL.X0000]	8,221	8.20	7.70	8.00	7.70	7.70	(0.50)
MELSTACORP	444,392	48.00	50.00	50.30	47.00	47.90	(0.10)
MERCHANT BANK	11,301	7.30	7.40	7.50	7.10	7.30	0.00
MULLERS	121,693	1.00	1.00	1.10	1.00	1.10	0.10
NAMUNUKULA	2,811	170.00	177.75	177.75	165.00	166.50	(3.50)
NAT. DEV. BANK XD	84,602	83.80	84.80	88.00	82.00	83.70	(0.10)
NATIONS TRUST	39,981	57.50	58.70	58.70	57.00	57.20	(0.30)
NAVALOKA	15,907	5.10	5.20	5.40	5.20	5.20	0.10
NESTLE XD	35	1,186.00	1,186.50	1,186.50	1,165.00	1,186.00	0.00
OVERSEAS REALTY	945,123	15.60	15.80	16.40	15.50	16.00	0.40
PAN ASIA	57,172	17.10	17.50	17.60	16.70	16.80	(0.30)
PANASIAN POWER	613,207	3.60	3.70	3.70	3.50	3.60	0.00
PEOPLE'S INS	61,892	30.80	31.00	31.00	30.10	31.00	0.20
PEOPLES LEASING	73,353	12.30	12.40	12.40	12.20	12.30	0.00
PIRAMAL GLASS	743,180	9.80	9.90	10.00	9.70	9.80	0.00
PRINTCARE PLC	1,498	27.70	30.00	30.00	28.00	29.50	1.80
R I L PROPERTY	91,430	6.90	6.90	7.00	6.60	6.70	(0.20)
RENUKA AGRI	183,897	3.70	3.80	3.80	3.60	3.70	0.00
RENUKA CITY HOT.	2,930	230.00	230.00	236.00	225.00	230.00	0.00
RENUKA FOODS	12,547	13.80	14.00	14.50	13.50	13.80	0.00
RENUKA FOODS [COCO.X0000]	9,377	12.30	12.50	12.50	11.00	11.20	(1.10)
RENUKA HOLDINGS	75,423	14.70	15.20	15.50	14.50	14.90	0.20
RENUKA HOLDINGS [RHL.X0000]	67,453	11.70	12.20	12.20	11.00	11.20	(0.50)
RESUS ENERGY	10	24.30	24.90	24.90	24.30	24.30	0.00
RICHARD PIERIS	3,626,078	16.70	16.80	17.30	16.50	16.50	(0.20)
ROYAL CERAMIC	355,380	260.75	265.00	278.50	251.50	259.75	(1.00)
S M B LEASING	732,675	0.60	0.50	0.60	0.50	0.50	(0.10)
S M B LEASING [SEMB.X0000]	1,440,321	0.30	0.40	0.40	0.30	0.30	0.00
SAMPATH	254,402	153.25	154.00	159.00	154.00	155.25	2.00
SANASA DEV. BANK	14,067	57.50	58.40	59.90	56.90	57.00	(0.50)
SEYLAN BANK	35,395	54.40	57.90	57.90	51.00	52.70	(1.70)
SEYLAN BANK [SEYB.X0000]	1,103,065	46.60	48.00	48.00	45.00	45.90	(0.70)
SE							

NEWS

The National Chamber signs MoU with Lanka Business Ring - Kandy

The National Chamber of Commerce of Sri Lanka and the Lanka Business Ring (LBR) of Kandy, Central Province entered into a Memorandum of Understanding on February 25, 2021.

The Purpose of this MOU is to promote the economic co-operation through trade and investment between their respective business communities and to create a stable platform for continuous exchange of business related information.

The National Chamber had been in the forefront of business development in Sri Lanka since its inception in 1948 and presently serving more than 720 corporate members, over 1500 SMEs and over 24 connected District Chambers island wide.

Lanka Business Ring, is Premier Business Association based in the City of Kandy with a member base all over the Sri Lanka



From Left: Thusith Samarakoon-Treasurer-LBR, Mohamed Najeeb-Secretary-LBR, Kithsiri Karunadasa-Vice President-LBR, Nandika Buddhipala-President National Chamber, Pasan Chandrasekara President-LBR, Bandula Dissanayake Secretary General/CEO-National Chamber and Nishanthi Dilrukshi-Project Executive-SME Development.

exceeding 11,000. LBR also having partnerships with Trade Associations, Chambers, Business Councils, Importers, Exporters etc. throughout the island.

LBR is a business association with the objective of enhancing and improving business environment, and being the advocacy for their affiliated Trade Associations and members. Further, LBR is focused in addressing

business related issues with legislators and policy makers of Government of Sri Lanka whilst maintaining an effective relationship with Diplomatic community of other countries. Protecting the rights of the entrepreneurs, improving their profitability, ensuring the welfare of the members are considered to be key objectives of LBR.

This MoU contains a detailed framework for mutu-

al cooperation with a view of supporting Sri Lankan companies in their efforts towards accelerating sustainable economic growth. National Chamber warmly welcomes their close collaboration with LBR as yet another milestone towards achieving their vision of inclusive economic growth with special emphasis on the development of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises.

Lanka's first end-to-end fully-integrated online supermarket launched

The country's first ever end-to-end fully-integrated online supermarket specializing in grocery was recently launched to cater to households all over Sri Lanka to deliver groceries and other items swiftly, conveniently & safely to the doorstep.

True to the nature of 'End to End' supermarket concept, SUPERBOX (www.superbox.lk) will take care of each and every aspect of the service from warehousing, procurement, pricing, and product choice to home delivery.

Spearheaded by Sidath Kodikara - former Chief Executive Officer of a leading retailing company in the country and former President of Sri Lanka Retailers' Association (SLRA) and Dulith Herath - Founder of Kapruka.com, SUPERBOX will provide a wide-range of items from fresh, chilled, frozen and dry categories. Strengthened by a tier-1 warehouse management system, world class ERP solutions, a top tier e-commerce platform and unparalleled last mile delivery by industry expert professional organizations, SUPERBOX plans to reach out to customers across the island. All purchases from SUPERBOX will be hygienically packed with strict guidelines to ensure safety and delivered in sealed boxes.

In addition to serving customers living in Sri Lanka, SUPERBOX will offer a convenient service to Sri Lankan expatriates living around the world to send essentials, groceries and gifts to their friends and families at home.

"The COVID - 19 pandemic fuelled the already steady growth of e-commerce in Sri Lanka. During the lockdown period, we witnessed the urgent requirement for a reliable, safe and fast supermarket service. Hence, we worked on the idea of creating the ideal solution to offer convenience, speed and safety to customers. SUPERBOX is



Dulith Herath and Sidath Kodikara

the product of our carefully mapped, well-researched and resourced work to create an online supermarket that will cater to the needs of Sri Lankans across the nation. While the pandemic triggered the change in consumer behavior and increased reliance on e-commerce, we believe that this trend will continue beyond this period," commented Dulith Herath.

SUPERBOX will provide customers an exceptionally wide range of products on a platform that is easy to navigate. SUPERBOX has engaged a team of experienced industry professionals

to serve customers with exceptional proficiency, insights and professionalism. "In forming SUPERBOX, we were committed to venture out to eco-friendly approaches. As such, packaging options with biodegradable material including banana stem fiber packaging. Moreover, we wish to help local industries during these challenging times. SUPERBOX products assortment will contain high quality local cottage industry products, specialty imported products alongside other Fast Moving Consumer Goods (FMCG)" commented Sidath Kodikara.

EDB commemorates International Women's Day with Export Marketplace Programme for Women Entrepreneurs



EDB Chairman Suresh de Mel

The Sri Lanka Export Development Board (EDB) organized an Export Marketplace (Product Pitching) programme coinciding with the International Women's Day with the objective of enhancing the export market penetration ability of export-potential women

entrepreneurs registered under, "EDB Women Cell" on March 8, 2021, at the Auditorium of Hector Kobbekaduwa Agrarian Research and Training Institute (HARTI).

Former EDB Chairperson, Indira Malwatte, who was the chief guest, emphasized the importance of government agencies including the EDB carrying out a sustained effort to nurture and encourage women entrepreneurs to achieve their potential.

EDB Chairman Suresh de Mel stated that the EDB as a government organization is committed to empower Sri Lankan women

entrepreneurs in the global market.

"The EDB has identified three areas to develop Women Entrepreneurship - Capacity Development, Products Development and Market Development - these are the main components women entrepreneurs need to be equipped with to be successful in the international market", he observed.

There are more than 850 women Entrepreneurs Island wide registered under the "EDB Women Cell". Having analyzed their profiles, it was identified that there are some economic,

social and physical barriers for them to enter the international market. Although they encounter several difficulties, they have failed to identify the bottlenecks which hinder them to enter the international market. Therefore, it is important to guide them to find international market opportunities by introducing a marketplace which connects different providers of services that are critical to developing products for export."

The EDB organized Export Marketplace Programmes targeting export potential women entrepreneurs, from 2018 to 2020,

coinciding with the International Women's Day. In each programme, the best 3 entrepreneurs who presented the best marketing strategies were selected and cash awards.

They have been successful in developing their businesses to suit the international markets. Prior to the final programme on March 8, 2021, a one-day 'Knowledge Sharing Workshop' on product pitching and developing a marketing plan was conducted for the selected women entrepreneurs on March 4, 2021, by the EDB Coaching Team.



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First concept-store for Rajarata eco-friendly clay tiles opens



For the first time in Sri Lanka, Rajarata Tiles has launched a concept store for clay tile products in Sri Lanka. Specializing in the production of 100% eco-friendly, natural terracotta/clay roofing/flooring/wall tiles to the local and international market, they offer their clientele a variety of shapes, sizes, colours and textures.

The opening of the store was attended by key personnel of Sampson Rajata Tile (Pvt) Ltd and DSI Sampson Group.

The envisaged idea behind the concept store was to allow customers to truly understand the experience offered via the use of Rajarata Tiles. The unique design showcases an array of colours and overall serenity upon entering the store that rescues customers from the hustle and bustle of life's day-to-day challenges.

Known locally as 'Sinhala Ulu', Sri Lanka's rich heritage of clay tile production dates back to ancient times and has evolved over several generations. Today, through the Rajarata Tiles Brand, these clay tiles have embraced modernity and include internationally-recognized tiling styles such as Spanish Clay Tiles, Roman Clay Tiles and many others.

Backed by the DSI Sampson Group, one of Sri Lanka's largest family-owned conglomerates, Rajarata Tiles sources clay only from the Nachchaduwa Tank, a large reservoir of water located in the ancient city of Anuradhapura that dates back over 2,500 years to the times of great kingdoms.

'Pochchi' also under Sampson Rajarata specializes in the manufacture of garden products mainly from clay and other eco-friendly materials.

With 100% natural, eco-friendly and waterproof clay, a unique in-built interlocking system enables the tiles to withstand strong winds.

This endurance of the tiles is also ideal for clients that live in areas that are home to wildlife and specifically monkeys who are liable to destroy the average tiles.

Dilshan Rajapaksa, Marketing Director of Rajarata Tiles said, "The idea of a concept store for 100% eco-friendly clay tiles and garden products is a novel one in Sri Lanka. With our specialized design and use of Japanese technology, we have guaranteed superior quality tiles that have successfully catered to the Sri Lankan tropical climate and gone the extra mile to ensure that all aspects inclusive of rain, wind, impact from heavy objects and even wildlife are accounted for and prepared for."

Chandula Rajapaksa, Director of Rajarata Tiles added, "We have ensured that the customers of Rajarata Tiles not only acquire a superior product but also receive the best in customer service. Technical services and maintenance advice from our tile experts is guaranteed right throughout the tile-laying process. We emphasize 'Solid Elegance' as we redefine our clients' use of clay tiles."



Triple Crown for LOLC Al-Falaah at SLIBFI awards

LOLC Al-Falaah sealed a triple-win by securing the 'Best Leasing Provider Award' in three of the most coveted awards held to recognize the institutions that have made significant contributions to the Islamic Finance industry during the 2019/20 financial year.

The triple-crown includes the 'Gold' award for 'Leasing Company of the year' for financial year 2019/20 at the 9th Sri Lanka Islamic Banking and Finance Industry (SLIBFI) awards, the 'Gold' award for 'Leasing Company of the Year' at the 5th Islamic Finance Forum South Asia (IFFSA) Awards for the financial year 2019/20 and the 'Winner' for 'Best

Islamic Leasing Provider of the Year' by Islamic Finance News' (IFN)'s 1st Global Non-Banking Financial Services (NBFI) Polls for 2020.

The highlight and unique significance of Al-Falaah's achievement is being awarded as the 'Best in the Industry' in all 3 categories in Local (Sri Lanka award), Regional (South Asia award) and at Global level (IFN award). This is the 1st time a Sri Lankan entity was able to secure an achievement of this magnitude.

SLIBFI awards and IFFSA awards are permanent annual fixtures in both Sri Lankan and South Asian Islamic Banking &

Finance (IBF) fraternity. Both events are organized by UTO EduConsult to recognize the performances of licensed commercial banks, finance institutions, insurance providers, capital market funds and education institutes. An independent panel of judges of repute is appointed to select the applications in consultation with KPMG, whose key role is to ensure an impartial evaluation and adjudication process.

Recognizing the contribution to the global Islamic finance industry, IFN Readers Poll takes the No. 1 slot in global industry awards. LOLC Al-Falaah was a consecutive triple-winner for 2017, 2018 and

2019 of the IFN Global Best Banks Poll's 'Best Bank in Sri Lanka' and a consecutive double-winner for 2018 and 2019 of 'Best Leasing Provider - Global'. In 2020, the poll's criteria were changed and IFN Global NBFI Polls were launched in 2020 splitting the Banks and NBFI's. LOLC Al-Falaah emerged the 1st 'Best Leasing Provider - Global' by the largest margin across all categories, acquiring a notable 60% of the global votes in the inaugural event.

Shiraz Refai, DGM Alternate Financial Services Unit said, "Being able to secure the Best Leasing



Shiraz Refai

Company awards in all 3 top awards for the Islamic Finance industry held on both local and global platforms cements the stability and the unique expertise we have in the leasing frontier. As a team, we appreciate the continued patronage and confidence our most valued customers and stakeholders have placed with us. As a result, we have been able to pull through and record these impressive results, and they are a testament to that effort".

Hemas Hospitals signs MoU with Health Ministry to commence PCR testing

Asserting its strong commitment in curbing the growing implications of the pandemic, Hemas Hospitals signed a MoU with the Ministry of Health to commence COVID-19 PCR testing in a new PCR laboratory on March 5.

Based in Wattala, the facility utilizes the latest technology and is believed to be the most sophisticated laboratory by industry experts. It caters to inpatients, outpatients, foreign travelers, tourists, and corporate including factories and offices.

The purpose-built facility was commissioned in partnership with LOLC and the Sri Lanka Institute of Nanotechnology (SLINTEC), under the expert guidance of Dr. Manju Gunawardene. Its services are further supplemented by an island-wide mobile sample collec-



Hemas Hospitals Director Laboratories Dr. Chamila Ariyananda, Hemas Holdings Group CEO Kasturi Chellaraja Wilson, Hemas Hospitals Managing Director Dr. Lakith Peiris, Secretary Ministry of Health Major General, Sanjewa Munasinghe, Additional Secretary Medical Services Ministry of Health, Dr. Sunil De Alwis and Deputy Director General Laboratory Services Ministry of Health Dr. Sudath Dharmarathne after signing the MoU

tion service operated by highly trained and experienced team deployed by Hemas Hospitals. The timely initiative aims to address the current capacity issues and shortages that the healthcare

community has been facing when attempting to secure COVID testing services.

The Hemas PCR testing facility operates in negative pressure environment and is fully automated

for both sample extraction and identification with minimal human intervention to ensure non-contamination. It also deploys an end-to-end digitalized process that is capable of electronic report delivery. "As the fight against COVID-19 continues, we are deeply honored to launch this new PCR testing facility for the benefit of all Sri Lankans. Our vision for this lab is to help contribute to increasing the COVID-19 PCR testing capacity of the country and minimize the virus' damaging implications on our people. The advanced technology used in this laboratory makes it the perfect blueprint for the development of PCR Labs in Sri Lanka," said Hemas Hospitals Managing Director and President of the Association of Private Hospitals and Nursing Homes Dr. Lakith Peiris.

HNB partners CFA Society to launch VISA Infinite Credit Card

HNB PLC, partnered with CFA Society Sri Lanka, to launch its revolutionary Near Field Communication (NFC) enabled Visa Infinite Credit Card that doubles as a mode of identification for members at CFA Society Sri Lanka events.

Enabling simple, intuitive, contactless transactions and quick data transfers by simply tapping the card on specific consoles and screens, the co-branded card will offer members access to a slew of exclusive discounts and benefits. The combo cardholders will be eligible for a special retail banking and insurance package as well.

Senior members of HNB and CFA Society Sri Lanka, including President, Dinesh Warusavitharana, CFA, Vice President, Aruna Perera, CFA and Directors Ravindra Abeyseriya,

CFA, Rasanja Perera, CFA, Rashmi Paranavitane, CFA, Deshan Pushparajah, CFA and Travis Gomez, CFA were present at the ceremony held to launch the credit card.

"The partnership with CFA Society Sri Lanka has provided us with the opportunity to offer a credit card which performs the dual role of being a mode of payment and identification. We are delighted to take this opportunity to create a one-of-a-kind card in the financial industry and look forward to working with the CFA Society Sri Lanka to deliver such solutions," HNB DGM Retail and SME Banking, Sanjay Wijemanne said. Commenting on the launch, CFA Society Sri Lanka President, Dinesh Warusavitharana, CFA said "We are excited to embark on this initiative with Hatton National Bank as part of our

ongoing efforts to enhance member engagement and in particular because this is the first initiative to commemorate our 20th Anniversary. This co-branded card will provide significant value to our members through the wide array of benefits provided."

All members of the society will also be invited to the exclusive HNB Priority Circle which offers its customers exclusive services from a dedicated travel concierge service, two complimentary airport lounge visits each year, exclusive life and motor insurance packages and many more.

CFA Society Sri Lanka is a member society of CFA Institute, a global association of investment professionals that offers the Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) designation.



CFA Directors Travis Gomez, Rashmi Paranavitane, Deshan Pushparajah, Rasanja Perera and Ravindra Abeyseriya, CFA Vice President Aruna Perera, CFA President Dinesh Warusavitharana, HNB Deputy General Manager Retail and SME Banking Sanjay Wijemanne, HNB Chief Financial Officer Rajive Dissanayake, HNB Head of Network Management and Business Development Supun Dias and HNB Head of Cards Gauthami Niranjana

SDB Bank Chairman elaborates SME sector development in SL



Lakshman Abeysekera

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka in collaboration with SDB Bank launched the third initiative to support the small and medium size entrepreneurs (SMEs) in Western Province recently, at Grand Monarch, Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte with the participation of Manil Jayasinghe, President CA Sri Lanka, Lakshman Abeysekera, Chairman SDB Bank as well as the SME Task Force established by CA Sri Lanka for this purpose and Thilak Piyadigama CEO of SDB Bank.

This programme was launched previously in Southern and Central provinces in December 2020 and in January 2021 respectively.

This is a unique programme where volunteers of CA Sri Lanka and AAT Sri Lanka engage in a process of mentoring the selected SMEs of the SDB Bank over a period of time by visiting their business places and guiding them with necessary skills.

The intention of the programme is to uplift the capacities including financial literacy and the business acumen of the SMEs spread throughout the country so that on one hand they can deal with

the financial institutions effectively and on the other hand they can get the skills and advice needed to take their businesses to the next level.

It is expected that with an independent voluntary professional playing the role of the mentor, the bank can depend to a great extent on the mentor in the process of converting from security-based lending to cash flow based lending which is a much-needed phenomenon in developing the Sri Lankan economy to the next level.

Lakshman Abeysekera, elaborating on the way forward of development of SME sector in Sri Lanka said that it was their intention to create a SME Academy to support the SMEs ongoing basis and to create a credit guarantee support system to step in when the SMEs do not have sufficient security to provide at the time of sourcing of loans. He invited USAID who was represented by Jude Fernando and Juan Forero at the event to join hands with CA Sri Lanka in this endeavor.

CA Sri Lanka President Manil Jayasinghe expressed his enthusiasm to bring modern Agriculture practices and technology through the men-

toring program to develop rural Agriculture based communities. SDB bank being the apex bank of cooperative sector is the ideal platform to reach rural Agriculture based communities. Sanasa movement has 8000 rural Thrift and Credit societies consisting of one million members. Thilak Piyadigama CEO of SDB Bank is committed to provide technology and other necessary support.

Sunil Rathnayake, CEO and Managing Director of Televue, joined as a media support partner at the event and also would connect markets of mentees both local and international.

After the ceremony entrepreneurs were introduced to the mentors in the presence of the respective bank managers.

It is planned to launch this programme in all provinces of Sri Lanka and to support at least 500 deserved SMEs.

Dialog rewards winners of 'Govi Mithuru Nidanaya Competition'

As part of the well-established revolutionary agri-tech service 'Govi Mithuru', Dialog Axiata PLC ("Dialog"), Sri Lanka's premier connectivity provider, subscribers of the Govi Mithuru service island wide 'Govi Mithuru Nidanaya Competition'.

The year-long 'Govi Mithuru Nidanaya Competition' rewards urban and rural farming communities with grand prizes and aims at uplifting their economies and livelihood. The first phase saw a grand prize of gold coins gifted to 35 lucky winners along with admission to an agriculture training programme conducted by the



Winners of the first phase of the island-wide Govi Mithuru Nidanaya competition

Department of Agriculture, and 24 runners-up were awarded sewing machines.

The on-going second phase will also see similar prizes worth Rs. 30 lakhs being dis-

turbed to participants, including a grand prize of a Honda Dio Bike and admission to the Department of Agriculture's training programme to 35 lucky winners. Sixty run-

ners-up will be rewarded with mobile phones. Both phase one and two will also award consolation prizes.

Sri Lanka's primary mobile agricultural information service, Govi Mithuru has registered over 600,000 users and helps maximize crop security and yield for farmers across the island. Under the patronage of the Department of Agriculture, the Govi Mithuru voice service enabled farmers and users in the country to receive direct access to professional guidance in the sector. Offering advice on 25 crop groups, including Home Gardening, the service is accessible to anyone using a

basic feature phone. A one-stop hub of updated, timely information, the Govi Mithuru mobile app is an extension of the original service, designed to deliver tailored formats of information according to the user's requirements. Customers are charged Rs. 1 (plus tax) per crop per day for the voice service, and Rs.2 (plus tax) subscription per day for unlimited access to all crops for the mobile app, with no cost on data charges for Dialog Mobile users.

The Govi Mithuru app can be downloaded directly via the Google Play Store and voice service can be accessed by dialling 616.

FriMi inks strategic partnership with Samsung Sri Lanka

FriMi, the fully-fledged digital banking experience powered by Nations Trust Bank, entered into a strategic partnership with Samsung Sri Lanka to facilitate the payments of the loyal Samsung retailer network, ensuring they receive incentive payments conveniently and in real-time, among other benefits.

The partnership will manifest in a co-branded FriMi-Samsung Platinum Debit MasterCard, offered to the retailers as a convenient and personalized value addition to their FriMi experience.

Samsung retailers will now receive exclusive FriMi sign-up offers when getting onboard the platform and be able to manage all money matters and banking via FriMi, eliminating the need for multiple separate apps for

banking, payments and money management.

"FriMi's line up of convenient financial tools combined with the co-branded MasterCard Debit Card and the commercial banking platform with Nations Trust Bank will help them manage the digital and physical worlds of money management side-by-side, giving them a wholesome experience," Randil Boteju, Senior Vice President Sales and Digital Banking of Nations Trust Bank said.

In addition to having the convenience of adding other bank accounts to FriMi and topping up the account from one place, retailers will also have access to FriMi savings products including 'savings pots', 'round-up savings', and 'digital fixed deposits', thereby earning interest income on the

savings. These loyal retailers and distribution partners will be able to adapt to the new developing world, which in return will be aligned with the rewards and recognition structure of Samsung.

Kevin SungSu YOU, Managing Director, Samsung Sri Lanka said, "Samsung is excited to introduce a first of its kind co-branded Platinum Debit MasterCard in partnership, which will provide countless benefits to our loyal retail partners in Sri Lanka. One of Samsung's core values is co-prosperity and over the



Priyantha Talwatte, Director and CEO Nations Trust Bank and Kevin SungSu YOU, Managing Director of Samsung Sri Lanka

years we have worked very closely with partners and have grown together."

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NOTICE UNDER SECTION 9 OF THE COMPANIES ACT NO. 7 OF 2007.
 Name of the Company: **LU FORTUNE INVESTMENT (PRIVATE) LIMITED**
 Registration Number & Date: **PV 106362, dated 17th day of June 2015**
 Address: # 20, Deanstone Place, Colombo 03.
 www.agsarma.com

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given in terms of Section 9(1) of the Companies Act No. 7 of 2007 that the undermentioned Company was incorporated.
 Name of Company: **VESSELS GLOBAL (PVT) LTD.**
 Company No: **PV 00233509**
 Registered Address: **No. 112/1, Sri Wimala Road, Walana, Panadura.**
 Date of Incorporation: **23rd January 2021**
 Secretary to the Company

My Number: B/ACQ/RDM/2018/21
 Number of Ministry of Lands: 4/3/9/2015/IR/102

THE LAND ACQUISITION ACT (CHAPTER 460), AS AMENDED BY THE LAND ACQUISITION ACT (AMENDMENT) NO. 28 OF 1964

Notice Under Section 07

Acquiring Lands for Morana Reservoir Project

Ownership and compensation inquiries regarding the acquiring of the land for the above purpose will be held on 22/02/2021 at Rideemaliyadda Divisional Secretariat. Please refer the Government Gazette Extraordinary No. 2209/9 bearing No: 4/01/2021 for further details.

Province: Uva
 District: Badulla
 Divisional Secretariat
 Division: Rideemaliyadda

Plan Number: Cadastral Map No. 710021, Block No. 05, Sheet No. 02
 Cadastral Map No. 710021, Block No. 08, Sheet No. 02
 T.P.P. No. 58, Sub Plan No. 445, Sheet No. 374, T.P.P. No. 58, Supplement No. 55, Sheet No. 370
 T.P.P. No. 58, Supplement No. 56, Sheet No. 371
 T.P.P. No. 58, Supplement No. 57, Sheet No. 372
 T.P.P. No. 58, Supplement No. 58, Sheet No. 373
 F.T.P. No. 72, Sub Plan No. 289, Sheet No. 170
 F.T.P. No. 72, Sub Plan No. 290, Sheet No. 171
 Cadastral Map No. 710009, Block No. 04, Sheet No. 3
 Cadastral Map No. 710011, Block No. 05, Sheet No. 4
 F.T.P. No. 72, Sub Plan No. 287, Sheet No. 168
 Cadastral Map No. 710021, Sub Block No. 09, Sheet No. 2

Number of lots 357
 Please refer the Gazette for further details.

D.M.L.H. Dissanayake,
 Divisional Secretary,
 Rideemaliyadda,
 On 25 of 02 2021
 At Rideemaliyadda Divisional Secretariat.

AUCTION SALE OF UNREDEEMED GOLD ARTICLES

All Gold articles pawned and pledged at all branches of Pan Asia Bank and unredeemed up to 19.03.2021 and due to be redeemed on or before 31.12.2020 will be sold by Public Auction from 20.03.2021 Daily (until auction is cleared) at 9.00 a.m. at the

Kurunegala Branch
 No. 22, Suratissa Mawatha, Kurunegala.
 The Bank reserves the right to postpone or cancel the Auction.

PAN ASIA BANK
 The Truly Sri Lankan Bank

Assistant General Manager
 (Operations and Administration)
 450, Galle Road, Colombo 03.

TENDER NOTICE

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CENTRAL BANK OF SRI LANKA

TENDER FOR SUPPLY, INSTALLATION, COMMISSIONING AND MAINTENANCE OF REAL TIME GROSS SETTLEMENT SYSTEM

Tender Number	LK-CBSL-65728-GO-RFP
Tender Description	Tender for Supply, Installation, Commissioning and Maintenance of Real Time Gross Settlement System for the Central Bank of Sri Lanka
Non-refundable Fee	Sri Lankan Rupees Thirty Seven Thousand (LKR 37,000/-) or in United States Dollars Two Hundred (US\$ 200/-)
Pre-Bid Meeting	Date : 25 March 2021 Time : 1400 Hrs Location : Head Office Building, Central Bank of Sri Lanka, No 30, Janadhipathi Mawatha, Colombo-01, Sri Lanka and/or MS Teams
Bid closing and opening	Date : 28 April 2021 Time : 1400 Hrs Location : Head Office Building, Central Bank of Sri Lanka, No 30, Janadhipathi Mawatha, Colombo-01, Sri Lanka

For further information please refer
<https://www.cbsl.gov.lk/en/tenders>
 or contact: +94 11 2477337 or +94 11 2398754

Project Team, Financial Sector Modernization Project
 Central Bank of Sri Lanka.

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- Imported products and materials that are innovative, sustainable cost effective and exceptionally useful to the building industry but cannot be made in Sri Lanka under prevailing conditions.

Further information & the application can be downloaded from the web side : www.sia.lk
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Get your innovative product and materials recognized by Sri Lanka Institute of Architects

MINISTRY OF WATER SUPPLY NATIONAL WATER SUPPLY & DRAINAGE BOARD

BID NOTICE

The Chairman, Procurement Committee on behalf of the National Water Supply & Drainage Board now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the Works / Supplies as described below.

No	Name of Contract & Contract No	Non Refundable Fee (Rs)	Bid Security Requirements	Eligibility Requirements	Estimated Cost (Rs.) Excluding VAT	Place of Issuing of Documents & Contact Person	Closing Date and Time
CIVIL TENDERS							
01	Laying of DI/uPVC Pipes, Fittings, Specials, CI/DI Valves, Manhole Covers & Surface Boxes for Transmission & Distribution Mains & Construction of 1500m ³ Water Tower in Pasayala(Balance work) Area Contract No.: P&D/C/GAMIWSS/PASYALA/2020/03	100,000/- + VAT **	Rs. 7.0 million	Registration with CIDA in the field of Water Supply and Sewerage Grade C1 and Registration of the contract as per the Act.No. 3 of 1987 with the registrar of public contract	673.0 million	Tenders & Contracts Section, NWS&DB, Galle Road, Ratmalana Tel: 011-2605328 Fax: 011-2635885	07/04/2021 10.00 hours
02	Construction of Pile Foundation for Water Treatment Plant at Katugastota Contract No.: KNPIWSP/WORK/ PC-03/2020-75	20,000/- + VAT **	Rs. 780,000/-	Registration with CIDA in the field of Geotechnical Piling Precast in Grade GP-B2 and Registration of the contract as per the Act.No.3 of 1987 with the registrar of public contract	78.4 million	Kandy North Pathadumbara Water Supply Project, NWSDB, Pahala Kondadeniya, Katugastota Tel: 081-2492287 Fax:081-2492286	31/03/2021 14.00 hours
M&E TENDERS							
03	Supply and Installation of Borehole Pumps, Generator and Accessories for Madu Water Supply Scheme Contract No: RSC/N/DGM/CAPITAL BUDGET/PUMP/MADU/2019/008R	12,500/- + VAT **	Rs. 270,000/-	Manufacturer or their local accredited agent and Registration of the contract as per the Act.No.3 of 1987 with the registrar of public contract	RSC (Northern), NWSDB, Jaffna Road, Vavuniya. Tel:024-2225719 Fax:024-2225088		24/03/2021 14.00 hours
04	Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Ice Plant, Cold Room, Solar Panels & related Civil, Works Contract No:PD/JKWSSP/ICE FACTORY/M&E/2019/01	12,500/- + VAT **	-	As per the document and Registration of the contract as per the Act.No.3 of 1987 with the registrar of public contract	Project Director's Office, Jaffna- Kilinochchi WS & SP, NWSDB, MPCs Building (First Floor), No. 127, KKS Road, Jaffna Tel:0212220256 Fax:0212220257		31/03/2021 14.00 hours
05	Supply, Delivery & Installation of End Suction Vertical Delivery Back Pull - Out Centrifugal Pumping Sets And Accessories for Dahampahanagama Water Supply Scheme In Kaluthara Regional Manager Area Contract No.: W-S/M&E/S/ EQU(01)/DGM/RH/2021/06	12,500/- + VAT **	Rs. 300,000/-	Manufacturer or their local accredited agent and Registration of the contract as per the Act.No.3 of 1987 with the registrar of public contract	RSC (WS), NWSDB, No.07, Angulana Station Road, Angulana, Moratuwa Tel/Fax: 0112730341, 0112224888 Online Pre-Bid meeting will be held on 17.03.2021, 10.00 a.m. from Regional Support Centre (Western South) Office		25/03/2021 10.00 hours
06	Reference to the advertisement dated 2021.02.17, Supply & Installation of Vertically Mounted in Line Booster Pumping Sets and Accessories for Baddegama-Galagoda Transmission Main, Contract No. RSC(S)/M&E/S/BOOSTER PUMPS/BADDEGAMA-GALAGODA/RH/2020-01. Please note that the closing date of this tender has been extended up to 17.03.2021						
07	Reference to the advertisement dated 2021.01.27, Capacity Enhancement & Augmentation of Marassana Water Supply Scheme, Contract No: RSC-C/M&E/S&I/M&E/CAP/MARASSANA/2020/30 Please note that the closing date of this tender has been extended up to 24.03.2021						
HIRING OF MACHINE							
08	Hiring of 01 No. Backhoe Loader for Construction Section in RSC (W/N) office Contract No: RSC(W/N)/SS/HIRING/CONS.(REC)/2021/47	4,000/- + VAT **	Rs. 6,000/-	As per the Document	Regional Support Center (W/N) Office, No. 433/4A, Ganemulla Road, Kadawatha Tel: 0112922129 Fax:0112922146		24/03/2021 10.00 hours
09	Hiring of 02 Nos. Backhoe Loaders for Manager (Gampaha) Region Contract No: RSC(W/N)/SS/HIRING/GAM(O&M)/2021/39	6,000/- + VAT **	Rs. 6,000/-	As per the document and Registration of the contract as per the Act.No.3 of 1987 with the registrar of public contract	Regional Support Center (W/N) Office, No. 433/4A, Ganemulla Road, Kadawatha Tel:0112922129 Fax:0112922146		24/03/2021 10.00 hours
HIRING OF VEHICLES							
10	Hiring of a Threewheeler for Hikkaduwa Sewerage Scheme in RSC (Southern) office Contract No: RSC(S)/P&C/HIKKADUWA/SEW/HIRING/THREE WHEELER/O&M/2021-17	500/- + VAT	Rs. 2,500/-	As per the Document	RSC(Southern), 395, Kumaratunga Mawatha, Pamburana, Matara, Tel:041-2229792 Fax 041-2224769		24/03/2021 14.00 hours
11	Hiring of a Van for Hambantota O&M Office Contract No: RSC(S)/P&C/HIRING/VAN/HAMBANTOTA OFFICE/O&M/2021-20	500/- + VAT	Rs. 5,000/-	As per the Document	RSC(Southern), 395, Kumaratunga Mawatha, Pamburana, Matara, Tel:041-2229792 Fax 041-2224769		24/03/2021 14.00 hours
12	Hiring of a Crew Cab for Ahangama Water Supply Scheme Contract No:RSC(S)/P&C/HIRING/CREW AHANGAMA/O&M/2021-16	500/- + VAT	Rs. 5,000/-	As per the Document	RSC(Southern), 395, Kumaratunga Mawatha, Pamburana, Matara, Tel:041-2229792 Fax 041-2224769		24/03/2021 14.00 hours
13	Hiring of a Crew Cab for Ambalantota Water Supply Scheme Contract No: RSC(S)/P&C/HIRING/CREW AMBALANTOTA/O&M/2021-19	500/- + VAT	Rs. 5,000/-	As per the Document	RSC(Southern), 395, Kumaratunga Mawatha, Pamburana, Matara, Tel:041-2229792 Fax 041-2224769		24/03/2021 14.00 hours
14	Hiring of a Crew Cab for Malimbada Water Supply Scheme Contract No:RSC(S)/P&C/HIRING/CREW MALIMBADA/O&M/2021-18	500/- + VAT	Rs. 5,000/-	As per the Document	RSC(Southern), 395, Kumaratunga Mawatha, Pamburana, Matara, Tel:041-2229792 Fax 041-2224769		24/03/2021 14.00 hours
SOIL INVESTIGATION							
15	Conducting Soil Investigation for Service Reservoir and Pump House Sites of Zone 01 under Kandy North Pathadumbara Water Supply Project Contract No.: NWSDB/C/CP/A4-11/GOSL/2021/01	6,000/- + VAT **	Rs. 70,000/-	Soil Investigation firms of Sri Lanka having experience of soil investigation for Engineering work	Kandy North Pathadumbara Water Supply Project, NWSDB, Pahala Kondadeniya, Katugastota Tel: 081-2492287 Fax: 081-2492286 Pre bid meeting on 25th March 2021 at 10.00am		31/03/2021 14.00 hours

Please register on line www.drc.gov.lk of Registrar of Companies for get PCA 3 form (only for tenders marked as ****). Further please use gmail for registration.
 Bidding documents will be issued on production of a letter of request on a business letterhead together with the payment receipt of non-refundable tender fee during 09.00 hours to 15.00 hours on normal working days up to day before the closing date.
 Bidding documents may be inspected free of charge at the place of issuing documents during normal working hours.
 Bids will be opened soon after closing in the presence of the bidder's authorized representatives who choose to attend. **Late bids will be returned unopened.**

Chairman,
 National Water Supply and Drainage Board



EDCS
 අදාලය: 1930 ල.ප. අංකය: 736
 අග්‍රාමය: 1930 පත්‍රිකා අංකය: 736
 Inception: 1930 Reg. No: 736

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

DEVELOPMENT, MAINTENANCE AND TRAINING FOR A FINANCIAL WELFARE UPLIFTMENT SYSTEM FOR THE EDUCATION CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY

EDCS/IT/24

Education Employees Co-operative Thrift and Credit Society Ltd (EDCS) registered under the co-operative society law No. 05 of 1972, by the Department of Co-operative Development. The Society invites the proposal from qualified firms for the **Development, Maintenance and Training for a Financial Welfare Upliftment System for the Education Co-operative Society. The Proposed solution should be implemented for the EDCS Head Office and 21 District Offices.**

Software Development Firm will be selected in accordance with the procedures set out in the Government Procurement Guidelines by following Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS) method. Qualification procedure, evaluation criteria, description of the services, solution model and forms are specified in the Request for Proposal (RFP) document.

Interested eligible applicants may obtain further information from **Deputy General Manager (IT)**, Phone: 071 2034818, E-mail: edcsinfor@gmail.com and inspect the RFP document at the Information Technology Division, Education Co-operative Society, 294, Galle Road, Colombo 03. For technical clarifications, the interested eligible applicants may contact Education Co-operative Society **Deputy General Manager (IT)**, Phone: 071-2034818 / **Accountant**, Phone: 071-2034849 / **IT Officer**, Phone: 070-1279170.

Interested applicants can purchase the complete set of the RFP document in English during normal working days from **16th March 2021, to 23rd March 2021**, between **09.00 hrs and 15.00 hrs** by submitting a written letter addressing to the Chairman, at Education Co-operative Society, 294, Galle Road, Colombo 03 and paying a **non-refundable fee of LKR 15,000.00**.

Sealed bids shall be delivered in duplicate to the tender box at the **Supply Division, 3rd Floor** addressing **The Chairman, Education Co-operative Society, 294, Galle Road, Colombo 03 on or before 1400 hrs, 31st March 2021**. Please mark the following clearly on the left-hand corner of the envelope: "Development, Maintenance and Training for a Financial Welfare Upliftment System for the Education Co-operative Society". Late bids shall be rejected.

Pre bid meeting will be held at **10.00 a.m. on 26th of March 2021** at Education Co-operative Society, 294, Galle Road, Colombo 03.

**The Chairman,
 EDUCATION EMPLOYEES CO-OPERATIVE THRIFT & CREDIT SOCIETY LIMITED
 No. 294, Galle Road, Colombo 03.
 Tel: 011-2577006, 011-2575253**



DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT (FUNDED BY ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK)

Loan and Title : Loan 3698/3699 - Science and Technology Human Resource Development (STHRD)Project

PUBLICATION OF CONTRACT AWARD

Contract No.	STHRD/PMU/SB-CW	STHRD/PMU/SJ-CW
Title	Procurement of Design and Construction of Buildings and Infrastructure Facilities for Faculty of Technology - Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka.	Procurement of Design and Construction of Buildings and Infrastructure Facilities for Faculty of Engineering - University of Sri Jayewardenepura.
Total number of bids received	6	4
Name of the successful bidder	M/S International Construction Consortium (Pvt) Ltd	M/S Sanken Construction (Pvt) Ltd
Contract Amount	USD 3,012,601.25 and LKR 1,507,240,692.31 + VAT	LKR 3,624,962,017.86 + VAT

The Project Director
 Science and Technology Human Resource Development(STHRD) Project
 Ministry of Education
 No. 363 E, Horagahakanda Road,
 Thalagama North,
 Koswaththa,
 Battaramulla,
 Sri Lanka
 10th March 2021

DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA



MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION

TENDER NOTICE

(NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING)

Maduru Oya Right Bank Development Project

On behalf of the Project Procurement Committee (PPC), Maduru Oya Right Bank Development Project, Ministry of Irrigation, sealed Bids will be received by the Project Director, Maduru Oya Right Bank Development Project, Welikanda up **11.00 hrs on 30th March 2021** for the following works.

Item No.	Description	Contract No.	Non Refundable Tender Fee per set of Bidding Documents	Required CIDA/ICTAD Grade, Field of Registration
01	Construction of Maduru Oya Right Bank Main Canal from 7 + 000km to 7 + 500km. (Estimated value is Rs. 128.00 Million excluding VAT and Contract period is 301 days)	MORBBDP/Con/MC/2021-15	Rs. 25,000.00	C4 & C3 Irrigation & Land Drainage
02	Construction of Maduru Oya Right Bank Main Canal from 7 + 500km to 8 + 000km. (Estimated value is Rs. 165.00 Million excluding VAT and Contract period is 336 days)	MORBBDP/Con/MC/2021-16	Rs. 30,000.00	C3 & C2 Irrigation & Land Drainage
03	Construction of Maduru Oya Right Bank Main Canal from 8 + 000km to 8 + 500km. (Estimated value is Rs. 134.00 Million excluding VAT and Contract period is 301 days)	MORBBDP/Con/MC/2021-17	Rs. 25,500.00	C4 & C3 Irrigation & Land Drainage
04	Construction of Maduru Oya Right Bank Main Canal from 8 + 500km to 9 + 173km. (Estimated value is Rs. 171.00 Million excluding VAT and Contract period is 336 days)	MORBBDP/Con/MC/2021-18	Rs. 31,000.00	C3 & C2 Irrigation & Land Drainage
05	Construction of Maduru Oya Right Bank Main Canal from 10 + 800km to 11 + 483km. (Estimated value is Rs. 175.00 Million excluding VAT and Contract period is 336 days)	MORBBDP/Con/MC/2021-19	Rs. 31,000.00	C3 & C2 Irrigation & Land Drainage

Bidders who have the Grade and field of registration under the CIDA/ICTAD scheme of registration mentioned in the above table against the work only will be eligible for bidding. The conditions shall apply as stipulated in Public Finance Circular No. 03/2020 dated 09th October 2020 and 03/2020(i) dated 11th January 2021 for bid evaluation.

Prospective bidders can obtain bidding Documents by a written request on a company/firm letterhead, addressed to the **Project Director, Maduru Oya Right Bank Development Project, Ministry of Irrigation, Welikanda from 09th March 2021 to 29th March 2021 from 09.00 hrs to 15.00 hrs**, on working days, on payment of a non-refundable Tender fee as given above per set of Bidding Documents for each bid. Bidders are free to bid for more than one tender but selections will be made according to the capacity limits of the bidders.

Bidding Documents may be inspected free of charge at the office of **Project Director, Maduru Oya Right Bank Development Project, Ministry of Irrigation, Welikanda** on normal working days **from 09th March 2021 to 29th March 2021 from 09.00 hrs. to 15.00 hrs**.

Sealed Bids in duplicate clearly marked the contract name and the number on the top left corner of the envelope may be dispatched either by registered Post or hand delivered to the **Project Director, Maduru Oya Right Bank Development Project, Ministry of Irrigation, Welikanda**, before the closing time of specified date of submission. Bids will be opened immediately thereafter. Bidders or their authorized representatives, not exceeding two (02) in numbers are permitted to be present at the opening of tenders.

For further details, please contact **Project Director, Maduru Oya Right Bank Development Project, Welikanda on Tel. 027-2259298**.

**Project Director,
 Maduru Oya Right Bank Development Project,
 Ministry of Irrigation,
 Welikanda.**

(Tel. 027-2259298)

Supplying Raw Food for the Hospitals Functioning under the Department of Regional Health Services, Trincomalee - 2021

RE-INVITATION FOR BIDS

The Chairman, Department Procurement Committee of the Regional Health Services invites bids from eligible and qualified bidders from the Eastern Province to supply raw food to the following Hospitals functioning under the Regional Health Services Department, Trincomalee.

Con. No.	Name of the Institution	Refundable Deposit amount (Rs.)	Value of the Assets Certificate
01.	Base Hospital, Kinniya	35,000	100,000
02.	Base Hospital, Muthur	35,000	100,000
03.	Base Hospital, Pulmoddai	6,000	75,000
04.	Divisional Hospital, Gomarangkadawala	8,000	75,000
05.	Divisional Hospital, Seruwila	6,000	75,000
06.	Divisional Hospital, Kiliveddi	9,000	75,000
07.	Divisional Hospital, Serunuwara	6,000	75,000
08.	Divisional Hospital, Nilaweli	5,000	75,000
09.	Divisional Hospital, Thampalakamam	4,000	75,000
10.	Divisional Hospital, Thoppur	7,000	75,000

01. Interested and eligible bidders prior to collecting further information and documents during office hours could inspect the documents free of charge at the Office of the Regional Director of Health Services, Trincomalee situated at No. 120, Court Road, Trincomalee.

02. **From 10.03.2021 until 25.03.2021 during office days from 0900 hrs to 1500 hrs upon payment of Rs. 1000 for each document** and could purchase of the bidding documents from the Office of the Regional Director of Health Services, situated at No.120, Court Road, Trincomalee.

The following documents should be submitted at the time of purchasing the bidding documents

- Certificate issued by the Divisional Secretary, either at the place where the relevant Hospital is situated or the place where the contractor resides for the amount specified at the schedule above for the Assets Certificate, in the form G 170 for each Hospital. This certificate should be valid for 6 months from the date of issuance.
 - Bidding documents could be obtained by making an application on the letterhead of the relevant Institution.
 - Business Registration Certificate.
03. Bids should be delivered on or before **26.03.2021 at 1000 hrs** to reach the Chairman, Department Procurement Committee, Department of Regional Health Services, 120, Court Road, Trincomalee or sent by Registered Post. Late bids will be rejected. The name of the relevant Hospital to be mentioned separately on the left top corner of the envelope. On the closing date, the bids will be opened immediately at the conference hall of the Regional Director of Health Service Office, Trincomalee in the presence of the bidder or his representative.
04. Further details could be obtained from the procurement unit of the Department of Regional Health Services situated at No.120, Court Road, Trincomalee or through telephone number 026-2220103.
05. Procurement Committee reserves the right to take final decision for the issuance of bids.

**Chairman,
 Department Procurement Committee,
 Department of Regional Health Services,
 120, Court Road,
 Trincomalee.**

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State Ministry of Rattan, Brass,
Pottery, Furniture and
Rural Industry Promotion
web - www.craftscouncil.gov.lk

National Crafts Council
011 2785282, 011 2784424

AMENDMENT FOR THE INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

PURCHASE OF QTY 04 BELL 206 JET RANGER B3 USED TRAINER HELICOPTERS FOR THE SRI LANKA AIR FORCE (EXTENSION OF BID CLOSING DATE)

1. This is with reference to the Procurement Notice published in Silumina, Sunday Observer and Thinakaran Newspapers on 13th December 2020, the closing date of the Invitation for Bids has been amended as follows.

Procurement Identification Number	Description	Date and time of Bid closing / opening	
		Initial	Amended
AHQ/20/FS/BEL/1064	Purchase of Qty 04 Bell 206 Jet Ranger B3 Used Trainer Helicopters	16 th March 2021 at 1100 Hrs	21 st April 2021 at 1100 Hrs

- Last date of issuing of bids will be 20th April 2021.
- All other details in the notice referred in above para 1 will remain unchanged.
- Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from the Chief Procurement Officer (Tel. 011-2325468 or 0112441044 Extension 23550) or Procurement Officer Tenders (Tel. 011-2441553 or 011-2441044 Extension 23569. Fax: 011- 2441553 and 011-2347694).

Air Force Headquarters
P.O. Box 1592,
Colombo 02.

COMMANDER OF THE AIR FORCE



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



INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

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

Contract No.	Contract Name	Engineer's Estimate excl. Contingencies (Rs.Mn)	Bid Security (Rs.Mn)	Duration (Days)
RDA/DC/WP/IR-GOSL/2020/29	Widening of bridge over Kirulapona canal at Wellawatta on Marine drive extension	57.5	0.75	273

- The work consists of removal of existing structure, construction of foundation, substructure and superstructure, road works and incidental works.
- Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding Procedure.
- To be eligible for contract award, the successful bidder shall be currently registered with the Construction Industry Development Authority (CIDA) in **C4 or higher grades in Bridges specialty**.
- Interested bidders may obtain further information from the following offices and refer the bidding document via www.rda.gov.lk from **16.03.2021**.

a) Director (Construction),
Road Development Authority,
3rd Floor, "Maganeguma Mahamedura", Denzil Kobbekaduwa Mawatha,
Battaramulla.
T: 011 – 2864388 and Fax No. 011 – 2861821

b) Project Director (Western Province),
Road Development Authority,
1st floor, "Sethsiripaya", Battaramulla
T.P. 011 – 2876600 and Fax no. 011 – 2877226

- The Pre-Bid meeting will be held at **10:00 hrs on 24.03.2021** at the office of the Project Director (Western Province), Road Development Authority, 1st floor, "Sethsiripaya", Battaramulla and a site visit will be arranged immediately thereafter if necessary.
- A complete set of Bidding Document in English language shall be purchased by interested bidders on submission of a written application to the Director (Construction), RDA, 3rd Floor, "Maganeguma Mahamedura", Denzil Kobbekaduwa Mawatha, Battaramulla from **16.03.2021 until 05.04.2021** during **09:00 hrs to 15:00 hrs**. upon a payment of non – refundable tender fee.

Non-refundable tender fee of **Rs. 13,500.00** (with VAT) can be paid by depositing cash to the following bank account.

- Account Name** : Director General – RDA
- Account Number** : 000001943
- Bank Name** : Bank of Ceylon - Corporate Branch

Bidder should submit the original/valid cash deposit slip for amount **Rs. 13,500.00** (with VAT) to Director (Construction), RDA, 3rd Floor, "Maganeguma Mahamedura", Denzil Kobbekaduwa Mawatha, Battaramulla in order to purchase the bidding document.

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

- Bid shall be accompanied by a Bid- Security for an amount given in the table. Bid Security shall be valid up to **02.08.2021**
- Bid shall be delivered in **duplicate** to the Chairman, Road Development Authority Procurement Committee, C/o Director General, Road Development Authority, 1st Floor, "Maganeguma Mahamedura", Denzil Kobbekaduwa Mawatha, Battaramulla on or before **14:00 hrs on 06.04.2021**. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened soon after the closing, in the presence of the bidder's representatives who choose to attend.
- Bid shall be valid up to **05.07.2021**.

The Chairman
Road Development Authority Procurement Committee
Road Development Authority,
First Floor, "Maganeguma Mahamedura",
Denzil Kobbekaduwa Mawatha,
Battaramulla.



GOVERNMENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA
MINISTRY OF HIGHWAYS



INVITATION FOR BIDS

INVITATION FOR BIDS TO TRANSPORT THE STAFF OF ROAD DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (RDA/DPR/BUS SERVICE/2021/36)

- The Chairman, Road Development Authority Procurement Committee on behalf of the RDA, invites sealed bids from suppliers of buses registered at the Department of Motor Traffic on or after 2016 to provide transport facilities to the staff of "Maganeguma Mahamedura" and "Sethsiripaya Complex" in the mornings and evenings for the period of two years (2021-2023) on the following routes.
 - Agalawatte - Dodangoda - Kottawa - Maganeguma Mahamedura - Battaramulla.
 - Bulathsinhala - Galanigama - Kottawa - Battaramulla.
 - Kochchikade - Negambo - Ja-Ela - Peliyagoda - Battaramulla.
 - Avissawella - Kaduwela - Battaramulla.
 - Padukka - Godagama - Malabe - Battaramulla.
 - Horana - Polgasowita - Kottawa - Pannipitiya - Battaramulla.
 - Kalutara - Rathmalana - Attidiya - Mirihana - Pitakotte - Battaramulla.
 - Galle - Baddegama - Kurundugahahetekma - Battaramulla.
 - Aluthgama - Welipenna - Kottawa - Battaramulla.
 - Bandaragama - Kesbewa - Kottawa - Battaramulla.
 - Kirindiwela - Pugoda - Dompe - Malwana - Bandarawatta - Kaduwela - Battaramulla.
- Executing agency will be the Road Development Authority.
- Bidding will be conducted through the national competitive bidding procedure.
- Bid shall be valid up to 91 calendar days from the date closing of the Bid.
- Bids must be accompanied by a Bid security (Valid up to 03.08.2021) for the amount of Rs. 50,000.00. Any Bid not accompanied by a valid Bid Security will be rejected.
- All pages of the bidding Document shall be initialled by the bidder and required to place his official seal.
- Bidding documents may be inspected free of charge at the office of Procurement Division, Road Development Authority, 4th floor, "Maganeguma Mahamedura", No. 216, Denzil Kobbekaduwa Mw, Koswatta, Battaramulla during the office hours.
- Complete set of bidding documents shall be purchased by interested bidders on submission of a written application to the Director, Procurement Division, Road Development Authority, 4th floor, "Maganeguma Mahamedura", No. 216, Denzil Kobbekaduwa Mw, Koswatta, Battaramulla from 12.03.2021 until 05.04.2021 during office hours on 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. upon payment of a non-Refundable Tender fee of Rupees. 2,300.00 (Inclusive of VAT) by depositing to the Bank of Ceylon – Corporate Branch Account Number 000001943 in favour of Director General, Road Development Authority for contract. The original payment slip should be produced when purchasing the Bid Documents. As per the public contract act.no.3 of 1987, the agent and successful winners of the tender shall be registered in the Department of Registrar of companies.
- Sealed Bids may be dispatched either by registered post or hand delivered in duplicate to the Chairman, RDA Procurement Committee, Road Development Authority, 1st floor, "Maganeguma Mahamedura", No. 216, Denzil Kobbekaduwa Mw, Koswatta, Battaramulla, to receive before the closing time at 2.00 p.m. on 06.04.2021. Please indicate "CALLING FOR TENDER FOR THE TRANSPORTATION OF RDA STAFF TO" on top left hand corner of the envelope. Late bids will be rejected.
- Bids will be opened immediately after the closing at the office of the Director, Procurement's office, Road Development Authority, 4th floor, "Maganeguma Mahamedura", No. 216, Denzil Kobbekaduwa Mw, Koswatta, Battaramulla. Bidders or their authorized representatives are requested to be present at the opening of bids.
- For further details, please contact Director (Procurement Division), RDA on Tel No. 011-2884790 during office hours.

Chairman
RDA Procurement Committee,
Road Development Authority.



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



INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

1. The Chairman, RDA Procurement Committee, on behalf of the RDA invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the project described below :-

Item No.	Contract No	Name of the project	Engineer's Estimate (With contingences & Without Vat) Rs.Mn	Eligibility (CIDA GRADE)	Bid Security (Rs.)	Contract Period (Days)
01.	RDA/RBCD/CP/GOSL/2021/012	Construction of bridge across Pegirimana Oya at Kumbukgolla Meemure Main road at Kumbukgolla Meemure, Ududumbara. (Ududumbara Ds area)	9.999	C7 & C 6 Bridge Speciality	100,000.00	270
02.	RDA/RBCD/SAB/GOSL/2021/013	Construction of bridge across Heen Ela on Aruggammana Hathnapitiya road at Hathnapitiya Kotiyakumbura. (Galgamuwa Ds area)	7.846	C7 & C6 Bridge Speciality	78,500.00	270
03.	RDA/RBCD/SAB/GOSL/2021/014	Construction of bridge across Heenakandura ela on Godigamuwa Malawita road at Godigamuwa Moronthota, Kegalle. (Kegalle Ds area)	7.612	C7 & C6 Bridge Speciality	76,500.00	270
04.	RDA/RBCD/NCP/GOSL/2021/015	Construction of bridge across 13D Ela at Narangalgama, Ipalogama. (Ipalogama Ds area)	7.371	C7 & C6 Bridge Speciality	74,000.00	270
05.	RDA/RBCD/EP/GOSL/2021/016	Construction of bridge across Lagoon at Periyaneelawanei, Maradamunei. (Dhona Bridge). (Kalmunei Ds area)	12.975	C6 & C 5 Bridge Speciality	130,000.00	365
06.	RDA/RBCD/EP/GOSL/2021/017	Construction of bridge across Sengappidy aru at Sengappidy Kaikaddy Ninthawur 23. (Pothuvil Ds area)	33.700	C5 & C4 Bridge Speciality	337,000.00	540
07.	RDA/RBCD/EP/GOSL/2021/018	Construction of bridge across Pallikudy Aru at Olukkuli Thopur (Matur Ds area)	19.760	C6 & C5 Bridge Speciality	198,000.00	365
08.	RDA/RBCD/UP/GOSL/2021/019	Construction of bridge across Hamanawa Oya on Bibile-Ampara Road at Hamanawa. (Bibile Ds area)	13.310	C6 & C5 Bridge Speciality	133,500.00	365
09.	RDA/RBCD/SP/GOSL/2021/020	Construction of bridge across Keebiya Phala Ela Bata-Atta at Kasideniya Baddegama, Galle. (Baddegama Ds area)	11.033	C6 & C5 Bridge Speciality	110,500.00	270
10.	RDA/RBCD/CP/GOSL/2021/021	Construction of bridge across on Galaha Belwood road at Galaha. (0+400,1+400) (Hewahata Ds area)	14.594	C6 & C5 Bridge Speciality	146,000.00	365
11.	RDA/RBCD/EP/GOSL/2021/022	Construction of bridge across Kumariyama Kadurukiripattiya road at Kumariyama, Uhana, Ampara. (Uhana Ds area)	15.115	C6 & C 5 Bridge Speciality	151,500.00	365
12.	RDA/RBCD/EP/GOSL/2021/023	Construction of bridge across at Galapitagala, Uhana, Ampara. (Uhana Ds area)	11.975	C6 & C5 Brige Speciality	120,000.00	365

- The work consist of rural bridge constructions.
- Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding Procedure with 5% regional preference.
- Bidding Documents may be inspected & downloaded for Bid Submission free of charge at web site of Road Development Authority (<http://www.rda.gov.lk/source/publications.htm>). Addenda issued to modify bidding documents shall be displayed in the website and they shall be considered as part of the bidding document.**
- As per the Public Contract Act No of 1987, the agent and successful winners of the tender shall be registered in the Department of Registrar of Companies. (<http://www.ero.c.drc.gov.lk>) for each projects separately.**
- Duly filled sealed bid with the contract name marked on the top left corner of the envelope shall be delivered in duplicate to the **undermentioned** address on or before at **14.00 hrs on 31/03/2021**. Bids will be opened soon after the closing in the Presence bidder's representatives who chooses to attend.
- Pre-Bid meeting will be held at the following offices and site visit arrange after the meeting
 - 10.30hrs on 17/03/2021** at the office of the Chief Engineer's office, RDA, Kandy (Item no 01, & 10only)
 - 10.30hrs on 17/03/2021** at the office of the Chief Engineer's office, RDA, Kegalle. (Item no 02 & 03 only)
 - 10.30hrs on 17/03/2021** at the office of the Chief Engineer's office, RDA, Anuradapura. (Item no 04, only)
 - 10.30hrs on 17/03/2021** at the office of the Chief Engineer's Engineer's office, RDA, Ampara (Item no 05, 06, 07, 11& 12only)
 - 10.30hrs on 17/03/2021** at the office of the Chief Engineer's office, RDA, Badulla. (Item no 08 only)
 - 10.30hrs on 17/03/2021** at the office of the Chief Engineer's office, RDA, Galle. (Item No 09 only)
- Tender should be accompanied by a bid security of the amount given in above table valid up to **29/07/2021**. Bid shall be valid up to **01/07/2021**
- For further details, please contact Director, Rural Bridge Construction, RDA on Tel: 011-2623896, 011-2623897 Email : director3rbc@gmail.com**

The Chairman,
Procurement Committee,
Rural Bridge Construction Division,
Road Development Authority,
No.50, Station Road,
Angulana

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afc Gold Loan PUBLIC AUCTION SALE

Gold articles pawned at the undermentioned Gold Loan Centers of the Alliance Finance Co. PLC, for the period elapsing on 2019.12.31 not redeemed up to now, will be sold by Public Auction on 2021.03.25 at 9.30 a.m. at the undermentioned place.

GOLD LOAN CENTERS

Aluthgama, Ambalangoda, Ampara, Anuradhapura, Athurugiriya, Avissawella, Badulla, Balangoda, Batticaloa, Chanikana, Chawakachcheni, Chilaw, Chunnagam, Dambulla, Galewela, Monaragala, Hatton, Homagama, Horana, Ja Ela, Jaffna, Karawatha, Kaduwela, Kaduwela, Kalawanjikudi, Kalpitiya, Kelaniya, Kilinochchi, Kiribathgoda, Kirindiwela, Malabe, Matara, Negombo, Nittambuwa, Panadura, Piliyandala, Point Pedro, Pugoda, Ratnapura, Rikilagaskada, Thirunelveli, Trincomalee, Vauniya, Welimada, Dehiattakandiya, Galgamuwa, Kaluthara, Kegalle, Kelaniya, Kurunegala, Nawalapitiya, Ragala, Rajagiriya, Wellawaya, Kohuwala, Nuwanaraja, Nikawaratiya, Mathale, Hingurakgoda, Medawachchiya

DATE AND PLACE OF AUCTION
No. 722, Kotte road, Rajagiriya.
2021-03-25

All those who are participating in the Auction should bring their National Identity Card. The Alliance Finance Co. PLC reserves the right to cancelling, postponing or amalgamating the Auctions without any intimation.



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MINISTRY OF WATER SUPPLY NATIONAL WATER SUPPLY AND DRAINAGE BOARD

EXTENSION OF BID CLOSING DATE

Registration of Suppliers for the year 2021

GOODS AND SERVICES

Reference to the advertisement dated 07.10.2020 and 25.11.2020

Closing Date and Time of the above bid have been extended up to **31st March 2021**.

Accordingly, Tender will be closed on **31st March 2021** at the NWS & DB,

Supplies and Material Management Section (SUP&MM Section)

**Chairman,
National Water Supply and Drainage Board**



THE GOVERNMENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA

MINISTRY OF WATER SUPPLY NATIONAL WATER SUPPLY AND DRAINAGE BOARD

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

CONTRACT No.: P&D/UAADPIII/GOSL/BW/2020/01

INTEGRATED WATER SUPPLY SCHEME FOR THE UNSERVED AREAS OF AMPARA DISTRICT - PHASE III PROJECT BID FOR BALANCE WORK CONSTRUCTION OF 06 Nos. OF WATER TOWERS, CARETAKER BUILDINGS AND ANCILLARY WORKS

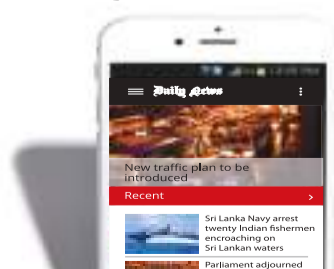
- The Chairman, Ministry Procurement Committee, Ministry of Water Supply, No. 35, "Lakdiya Medura", New Parliament Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla, Sri Lanka on behalf of the National Water Supply and Drainage Board (NWSDB) invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for Balance Work Construction of 06 Nos. of Water Towers, Caretaker Buildings and Ancillary Works of Integrated Water Supply Scheme for the Unserved Areas of Ampara District - Phase III Project.
- Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding Procedure.
- Alternative bids shall not be accepted.
- To be eligible for contract award, the successful bidder shall not have been blacklisted and shall have Registration with CIDA in the field of Water Supply & Sewerage in Grade C2 or above at the time of submission of the bid.
- The estimated cost for this Bid is Rs. 336 Million without VAT and the construction period is 548 Days
- Interested bidders may obtain further information from Assistant General Manager, (Tenders and Contracts), NWSDB, Galle Road, Ratmalana, Sri Lanka over the telephone, number 011-2635885 or 011-2638999 Ext. 1750 or facsimile number 011-2635885 and bidding documents may be inspected free of charge at the office of the Assistant General Manager, (Tenders and Contracts), NWSDB, Galle Road, Ratmalana, Sri Lanka.
- A complete set of Bidding documents in English language may be purchased by interested bidders on the submission of a written application on a business letterhead to the Assistant General Manager (Tenders and Contracts), NWSDB, Galle Road, Ratmalana, Sri Lanka from 10.03.2021 until 06.04.2021 from 09:00 hours to 15:00 hours on normal working days upon payment of a non-refundable tender fee of Rs. 60,000/= plus applicable VAT in cash.
- Bids shall be delivered to the Chairman, Ministry Procurement Committee, Ministry of Water Supply, No. 35, "Lakdiya Medura", New Parliament Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla, Sri Lanka on or before 10.00 hrs on 07.04.2021 Late Bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened soon after closing in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend.
- All Bids shall be accompanied by a bid security of Rupees 5,000,000.00 and valid up to 04.09.2021.

**Chairman
National Water Supply and Drainage Board**

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A TRIBUTE TO SATYAJIT RAY

MADAPATHA CHINTAKA

Life doesn't quite look the same once you've seen the Apu Trilogy: Pather Panchali, Aparajito, and Apur Sansar. This, the trilogy that introduced Bengali cinema to the world and revolutionised Indian cinema, taking the latter away from the cosmetic, masalafied world of heroes and villains, of lovers and fighters, is one of those rare masterpieces which seem almost as fresh today as it would have been at the time it came out. The French director-critic Francois Truffaut famously disliked it: when he saw it for the first time, he winced, later claiming that he did not want to see peasants eating with their hands. Akira Kurosawa admired it, as did Pauline Kael – who didn't usually take to films from the Orient – and Roger Ebert – who did.

Satyajit Ray, who directed the Trilogy, had no prior experience in filmmaking. Unlike even Lester James Peries, who was making Rekava at around the time he wound up directing Pather Panchali (the first in the Trilogy), Ray did not work at a movie unit. Yet despite the inevitable technical rough edges of a first effort, there's nothing really amateurish about Pather Panchali. Watching Aparajito and Apur Sansar, the sequels to Pather Panchali, you are taken aback at how with each story the director seems to have improved more and more, until in that much talked about and loved final scene in Apur Sansar, father and son are reconciled and there's nothing else to talk about. To see these stories, how they unfold and end, is to live through life.

This was the kind of trilogy only a dedicated artiste, rooted in the land of his birth yet transcending the limits of home, could have come up with. Like Shakespeare's prose and Tagore's virtuosity, Satyajit Ray's cinema speaks to everyone; borrowing the title of one of Tagore's stories, it is of both the home and the world. History has as of yet not given us a Tagorean renaissance man in film. Of those who fitted the bill only Ray came close: the kind I doubt we'll ever come across again in the medium.

28 years ago, we lost Satyajit Ray. We lost a giant. An unparalleled one. This giant is remembered for 30 films and seven documentaries. He is remembered for those books he wrote. He was an artist, so his paintings and sketches are remembered too. Everything he filmed, wrote, or drew won acclaim.

As for me, I remember him for his films. I was very little when I saw them. Apur Sansar, a world away from the India of the Kapoors or Bachchans or Khans, stunned me. And it didn't end there. There were other films, other stories. All of them held onto me. The reason wasn't difficult to see. They unearthed a part of the world I lived close to. Some of them, as I saw for myself, even unearthed a world I actually lived in.

Ray was born to the aristocracy. As his biographer Andrew Robinson puts it, he had all the privileges of an upper-class family in Bengal. His fascination with the arts, in a way, grew out of his childhood. That moved his critics to label his films as being too out of touch with reality. He hadn't lived through them, they argued, to portray them honestly. True enough.

But his films are treasured today. They are celebrated. Why?

No one could dissect India the way he did, for one thing. From Pather Panchali (his first) to Agantuk (his last), there was something he aimed at, which defined what he filmed. He revealed some uncomfortable truths about his world. They unmasked a side to India that neither politician nor filmmaker delved into. For this reason, he was more honest than any other director I "read".

It wasn't just poverty of course. Whatever issue or theme he took –



Ghare Baire



Apur Sansar

religious superstition, caste hierarchies, political uprisings, leftwing terrorism – he explored? Why? Because Ray directed so forcefully that his signature became evident in whatever he made. He exerted control over nearly every aspect of filmmaking – cinematography, editing, scripting, even music – that he became virtually indistinguishable from what he filmed.

Not that his films were perfect. They had their flaws. Critics who were politically slanted saw them as indifferent. They berated him for not being committed enough, for not asking the viewer harsh questions. For them, he seemed to be content with revealing the truth. He didn't offer solutions. He just stated that they were needed. That was all.

In Ray's universe, people accept poverty. They also try to escape it. Sometimes they do, sometimes they don't. Through this, he revealed their way of life, and their joys, sorrows, and emotions, clinically, without any nostalgia. This in turn

attracted criticism from critic and audience. Unwittingly, he seemed to reflect what Engels once wrote: that the artist's role was not to resolve issues on a silver platter.

He was happy in revealing, not resolving. Not many liked that, especially as time went by and the world became darker. They liked it even less when he decided to script his own films: compare Jalsaghar, for instance, with Kanchenjunga and Nayak to see how limited and constrained the latter two are. They were both written by him. They kept to his vision. They revealed how limited (and insular) that vision could be.

He realised this better than anyone else. By the time he began to understand it, however, he had aged. The world had moved on. Akira Kurosawa, once a firebrand, was lagging behind. Ingmar Bergman and Robert Bresson, unacknowledged saints of the cinema, were soon to retire. None of them made a "committed" film in their last few years.



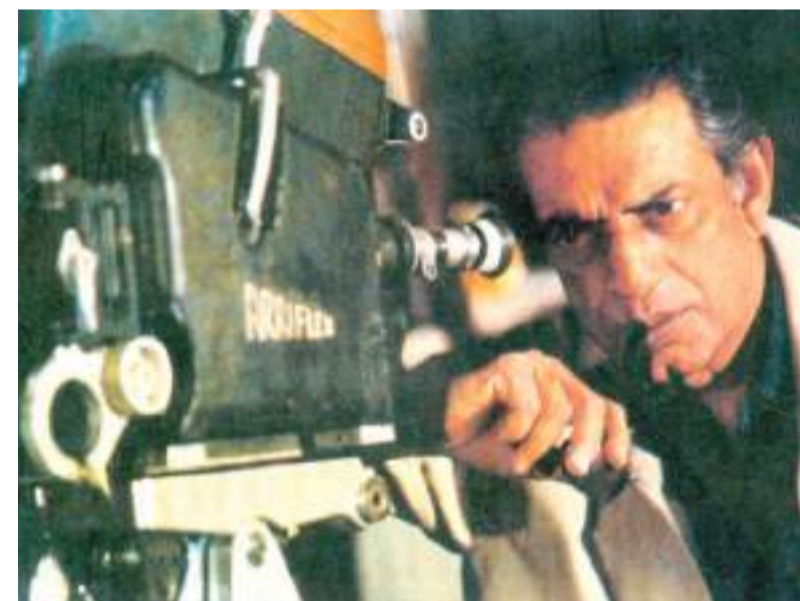
They shirked away, stubbornly clinging to what they believed in.

Ray dared to be different. In his last three films – Ganashatru, Shakha Proshakha, Agantuk – he tried to reconcile himself to the outside world. Ganashatru was about a doctor who tries to warn his community that the holy water in their temple is contaminated. Shakha Proshakha was about three sons who visit their ailing father. Agantuk was about a stranger who passes off as an uncle to a suspicious couple. All different from one another, yes, but held together by how Ray wanted to prove that he could be different. That he could achieve a communion. With the rest of the world.

Directors are influenced. They also influence others. The thing with Ray was that while he shaped almost every filmmaker who followed him, it was difficult to pinpoint someone who shaped him. Not that he didn't have influences. From Tagore to Chaplin, Bach to Kurosawa, he took in everything he fell under.

He was also broadminded enough to acknowledge that while East and West could never really meet, there was much to absorb from both. Which is why, when he compared John Ford to Beethoven and his own masterpiece Charulata to Mozart, there wasn't a hint of pretension. He wrote and filmed from the heart. Perhaps that is why we remember him, why we pay tribute to him.

Towards the end of his career, he changed. In Agantuk, far away from Pather Panchali, he tried to reconcile himself. Like Kurosawa's



Madadayo, Ray tried something of a confession, at attempt at self-reflection, with it. That he achieved it is another story altogether. Watching it today, however, I am moved.

Manomohan Mitra, the protagonist, is world-weary. He has travelled everywhere.

Seen them all. Taken them in. He returns to India not because he hasn't been there in a long time, but because he has learnt to value simplicity, honesty, and friendship over everything else. He finds those values back home, but only after much soul-seeking. And through it all, he befriends the only person he can befriend: his grandnephew, still at school and not old enough to suspect his uncle the way his parents do.

Was Manomohan a thinly disguised Satyajit, I wonder. Perhaps he was. Perhaps that went beyond all those books and essays written about him in defining who he really was. I don't know.

The point is that Satyajit Ray still lives. He lives every time we pay homage to him. Every time we decide to unmask harsh truths and reveal them to those who are blind. No, I can't really measure him. None of us can. The final say, therefore, should belong to a man who was closer to Ray than anyone else. Here is what he once observed:

"Watching a film of his, you almost feel as if a camera was eavesdropping on life, catching these people unawares, capturing forever their most delicate and fleeting and subtle shifts of feeling."

Lester James Peries was Ray's closest friend "East of the Suez". He would have known him better than any, or most, of us. I find no reason to believe, therefore, that what Peries wrote about his friend is untrue. It isn't. Satyajit Ray's cinema occupies a world of its own, I should think. It eavesdrops, catches, and captures. It records life the way a camera never can, and most probably, never will.



Charulata

Agantuk

Lord Siva in Hindu philosophy

Maha Shivaratri festival on March 11

Lord Siva wears a Serpent around the neck as an ornament which symbolizes egoism and reveals that the Lord controls the ego of the humans. The Ruthra bead garlands around the neck signify the purity of the world. Similarly, Ruthra garland in his right-hand reveals the concentration power of the Lord. The river Ganga and crescent moon adorn the head of the Lord. River Ganga implies the fountain of knowledge and wisdom which pass from generation to generation.



reveals that the Lord controls the ego of the humans. The Ruthra bead garlands around the neck signify the purity of the world. Similarly, Ruthra garland in his right-hand reveals the concentration power of the Lord. The river Ganga and crescent moon adorn the head of the Lord. River Ganga implies the fountain of knowledge and wisdom which pass from generation to generation.

The crescent moon symbolizes the cycle of creation and destruction. The middle eye in the forehead of the Lord reveals that the Lord is the destroyer of evil and sins. The tiger skin he wears indicates his fearlessness.

Numerous forms

The dancing deity of Lord Siva is called Lord Nataraja who is manifested in 108 Thandava Karanas. That is why Lord Siva is often referred to as Thandava Moorthy. The figure of Lord Siva in Arthanareeswar form (half Lord Siva and half Parvati) implies half Siva and half Parvathi together in one. Lord Siva is also known as Maha Deva (Great Lord).

The Sanskrit term Eshwar means "God". So, Lord Siva is frequently known as Maheswar. Another name of Lord Siva is Paramporul or Parameshwar. The term 'Param' means the universe. Various Puranas, Idihis, Ahamashastras and poetry define Lord Siva in numerous forms. The term Sarveshwar is also another important name for Lord Siva. Sarvam means the whole world. Eshwar means the supreme power or almighty or God. So, in the true sense, the supreme power controls the universe.

Another important name of Lord Siva is Sameshwar.

He is also wearing the "Crescent" form of the moon at his tress. This particular appearance is popularly known as the wearer of the moon. Chandra means moon Shekhar means owner or wearer. Lord Siva is also known as Lord Rudramoorthy. Rudramoorthy is always represented with Agni Deva. Lord Nataraj holds the Agni (God of Fire) in his left palm.

Holy weapon

On the chest it implies that the feelings come from the heart. Saiva devotees while wearing Vibhuthi say 'Siva Siva'. Such sayings reveal the importance of Sivan and Shakthi together in the form of holy Vibhuthi, just as how the ghee is merged with the curd. Vibhuthi also represents the image of the love of Goddess Parasakthi.

Devotees of Lord Siva wear the second holy ash Vibhuthi on the forehead and body to display that they are the followers of Lord Siva. In the devotee's mind, it takes away the sins and cures all the sickness and destroys all the evils. The philosophy of Lord Siva is generally known as Shaiva philosophy. According to Shaiva philosophy, the whole universe obeys the rule of God and everything takes place according to the divine rule. The followers of Shaivism are called or referred to as Shaivites. The feet of God provide eternal bliss. Shaivism regards all the Vedas (scripts) and Agama Sastras are given to the universe by Lord Siva himself.

Lord Siva wears a Serpent around the neck as an ornament which symbolizes egoism and

that Lord Siva is a composite personality. Siva is the most supreme God. It is generally believed that even the functions of Lord Brahma and Lord Vishnu are performed by Lord Siva. It is said that Lord Siva is the creator, preserver and destroyer of the world.

Devoid of all worldly sins

Lord Siva's body is adorned with the ashes from the cremation ground. After the cremation, the human body is reduced to ashes. It is considered a pure form of ash that is devoid of all worldly sins and evils. Lord Siva's body is covered with this holy ash (Hasthi) which is taken from the cremation ground.

It is referred to in the holy song of Sri Gnana Sampanthar's Thevaram, "Thodudaiya Sevi En Vedaieriyen Thuvan Mathi Soodi; Kaadudaiya Sudalai Podi Pooisienullamkavar Kalven".

The holy ashes are worn by the devotees of Lord Siva, is known as Vibhuthi. Vibhuthi is prepared by burning the dung of Holy Cow or "Komatha". It cures all kind of fears and sins. Vibhuthi is regarded as a great gift to the Shivaitees. In Tamil, the holy ash is called ThiruNeeru. Vibhuthi is the Sanskrit term for the ThiruNeeru.

Siva devotees wear the Vibhuthi mainly on their forehead because the thoughts generate from the head. When we wear it

Dr SUBASHINI PATHMANATHAN

Different Hindu epics describe this holy Hindu event and its significance in numerous ways. According to one of the Hindu epics which provide a meaningful interpretation by giving about the Holy Sivarathiri festival, by mentioning during the whole night of Sivarathiri day, the main Hindu God Lord Siva performs his sacred dance to the world by performing creation, preservation and destruction together. On this holy religious day, Hindu devotees all over the world are involved in numerous Hindu religious activities at the Sivan temples throughout the nights.

Lord Siva is referred to as the supreme God in the Hindu pantheon. The word 'Siva' means 'auspicious' in Sanskrit. Siva in the Hindu concept is the creator, preserver and destroyer. According to Hinduism, among the Trimourthy or Trinity (Three main Gods), Lord Siva is considered the supreme God who acts in accordance with the universal cyclical creation and destruction. In Hinduism, Lord Brahma is for the creation and Lord Maha Vishnu is the protector. Yet it is believed, that Lord Siva is the creator, preserver and destroyer. In performing three functions he takes the form of Lord Brahma and Vishnu as well.

The late great scholar Rev S Gnana Prakashar in his book Philosophical Shaivism mentions

A KAFKIAN EXPRESSION

Professor SUNANDA MAHENDRA

From the verbal communication patterns to the print, visual and sound medium, the narrative forms have come a long way down the centuries. They are sometimes known as fables, anecdotes, parables, tales and short stories or short narratives. The term widely used as the short story in literary canons are no longer at times short or sorties. They have transpired, perhaps due to various cultural and social necessities.

From the conventional story patterns to more or less, into the forms of fantasies or ultra-realistic forms. Even the more media creative forms like investigative and travelogue type of writings have undergone a metamorphosis to Kafkaian types of expression as well as make-believe patterns of expression. I had this feeling strongly felt in the process of reading the five Sinhala short stories as created by Sagar Wijesena.

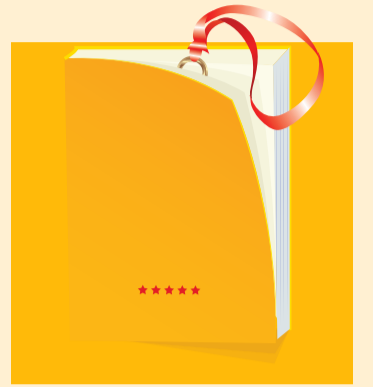
All the five narratives that are compiled I felt are let-offs as they touch on five planes that could be perceived by a reader. The collection is titled Anna Purna (Sarasavi 2020). The first narrative titled Piya Saha Putha is an attempt to explore the mind of a son who needs to remember his father who had left a legacy of poetic creations. He wishes to go to his father's place of work in a remote place, where he so desires to launch an event that he feels would be attended by quite a number of his well-wishers in order to usher in unforgettable memories to all of them. But in actual reality, the negative effect takes place where a few or barely any proper attention or attendance takes place.

Behaviour patterns

A vein of sadness runs across the narrative as a moment of illumination of a creative spark. The memories in the mind of the son linger on despite the disillusionment. The reader presumably in a dream-like fantasy enters into the poem recalling social events and certain dialogues pertaining to behaviour patterns of individuals. The second narrative titled Varanasi (a place in India) is an attempt to feel the pulse of several people living amidst folk beliefs and cults that gradually become neither repulsive nor attractive to a certain visitor who so enters into the particular cultural milieu. The writer makes an attempt to depict the behaviour patterns of the folks who make use of age-old rituals in order to face the living conditions that have not been erased or wiped off by more modern realities of technology.

The high point in the narrative is the face to face meeting of a certain member of the community who questions me from where the narrator had come. When the onlooker states that he had come all the way from Sri Lanka there takes place another turn of the effect that culminates in a confrontational form outlook. The narrative attempts to uncover certain aspects of the fraudulent or pseudo effects of tourism prevailing in the name of cultural

interactions. The reader feels that he gets a certain degree of feeling as regards the study of inter-cultural outlook. Most original anthropological elements are either changed or made to



BOOKMARK



change as a result of the moment of new forms of living conditions in the name of modernisations. This aspect is regarded and treated as a narrative.

Having perceived the nom fully well the narrator feels that he ought to proceed to another place of humans in order to see a change in the order. The next short narrative titled Sittama for me is one of the finest creative pieces written over the years in the annals of Sinhala short story writing down the ages. The narrative revolves around a certain rare painting created by the well-known celebrity kept during his stay in an uphill village. The rare painting at the moment is depicted and owned by a certain ageing woman who does not want to either sell it or pass it on to others as she wants to possess it with sweet memories of the creator. She comes out with a true-to-life story about the painting as well as the painter.

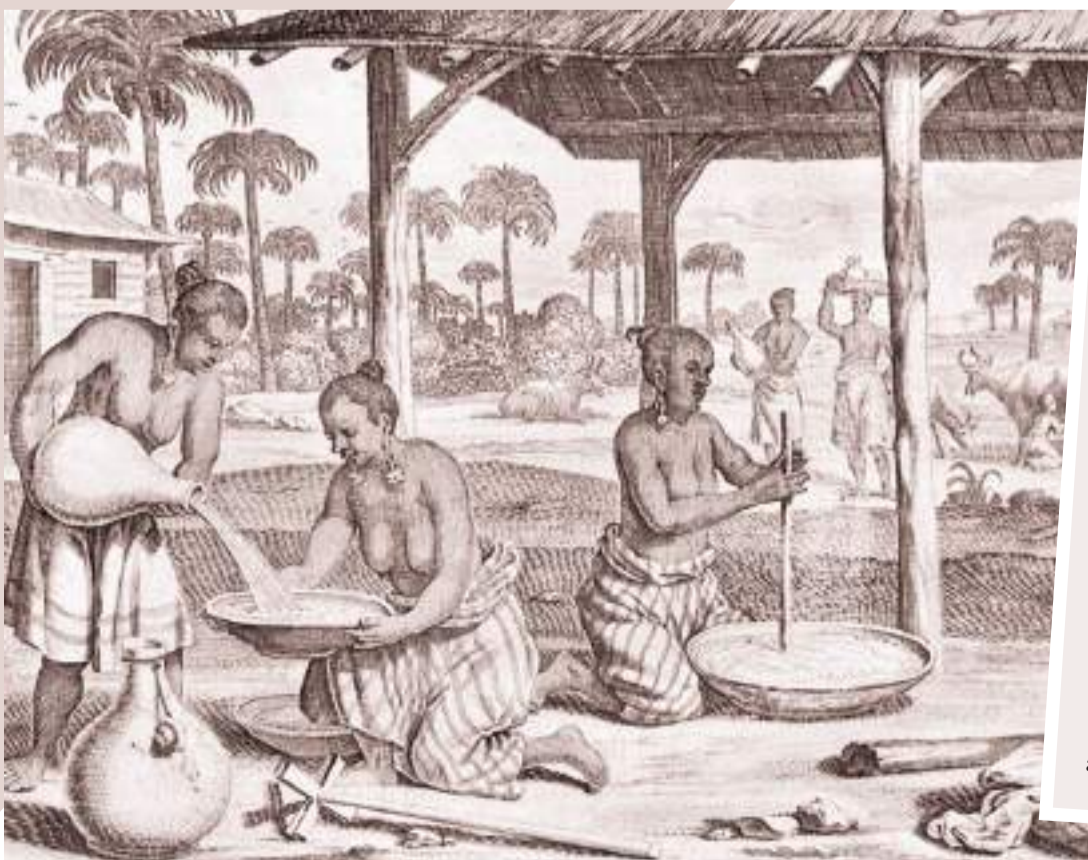
Sacred action

This narrative depicts the inner feelings of the present owner as well as the painter during his stay in the remote village in isolation. The act of creation is highlighted as a sacred action unhindered by other external forces. Thus, the reader gets the feeling that the act of painting like any other creation is sacred. The narrative titled Anna Purna though in many ways resembles the narrative Varanasi too in content bears several differences.

This too marks the advent of a stranger to a place of another cultural condition. He encounters several strange feelings and conditions through felt as strange in the first instance, gradually wanes as he lingers on over time, attempting to grasp the situations.

By and large, the last narrative titled Mataka Vedanava is an experimental piece of creativity. The attempt on the part of the creator is to express a stream of thought that are born like episodes from the past. The events of the past and expressed brought to the forefront. The reader enveloped himself into a frame of experiences from the past to the present. A remarkable contribution that needs a discourse.

REVELATIONS OF A GLORIOUS PAST



KS SIVAKUMARAN

The demise of the late A Thevarasan in New Zealand last year had left us, the Lankan Tamil people living in Sri Lanka a hiatus that could hardly be replaced. He was a non-academic researcher on the past archaeological history of Lanka that shed more light on the understanding of our own roots. He wrote both in Tamil and English. His newspaper articles in English with objectivity and readable language were appreciated even by non-Tamil readers. This was possible partly because of his independent thinking and expression of unbiased views sans emotionalism. I remember some of his articles in the now defunct Tribune, which brought revelations of our glorious past. He was a widely read master and was rooted in Tamil Literary tradition and particularly in archaeology.

While the academics in the calibre of S Arasaratnam, K Indrapala S Pathmanathan in recent times brought different interpretations of specific periods in Lankan History in English, Thevaraan by his use of simple language enlightened the common reader the significance of understanding the past to interpret the present.

It is sad that he died early. Writers in English from the Tamil community is far and far between. Although there were many Tamils who were knowledgeable in many fields only a few cared to write in English. Thevaraan filled this role remarkably well. My relationship with him was very minimal when he was in Lanka. Although I had seen him in the public, I respected him from a distance because he was senior to me. Never had a dialogue with him.

Ironically he worked for the Police Department while he was living in his motherland. He was loved by the people in his workplace and appreciated for his untiring work in research. Incidentally, I remember two other writers in Tamil had worked in the Police Department. They were: the late Somakanthan (Eelathu Somu) and the ever-popular Uduvai S Thillainadarajah.

We need more journalists and writers who are bilingual and trilingual to bring in reconciliation among the people of Lanka.

We sadly miss the gentle A Thevarasan amidst us.



Brindley Jayatunga-Sahara in Oil on canvas



Sachith Graham De Silva



Gunasairi Kolmbage-KOVI IN TEA ESTATE-HATTON



Artwork by Shanaka Kulatunga



Dillai Joseph - Kumbuk

The palette of Representational Art

2020 GROUP

In today's world of uncertainty and change, digitization, symbolism and psychedelia, the purest of art forms are losing appreciation and acceptance. This is unfortunately true of the art scene in Sri Lanka as well. Therefore, a group of senior artists of different disciplines, practising distinctive styles of their own, have banded together under the name 2020 Group, in order to shift the spotlight back to Representational Art.

What is Representational Art? The term Representational Art straddles several sub-styles all of which require a solid foundation of study and practice before an artist finds his or her unique method of expression. As its name suggests, Representational Art represents something that already exists. The subjects range from objects of nature and scenery to houses, furniture and portraits as well as moments and aspects of life. Here, the extent of realism captured with brush strokes and detailed or simplified forms is entirely up to the artist as long as the subject is recognizable as something that exists.

ABSTRACT ARTISTS

Therefore, the opposite of Representational Art is considered to be Abstract Art also known as

Non-representational Art. Abstracts may be created based on objects or emotions on the part of the artist but appear to the viewer as a collection of shapes, forms and colours. Furthermore, it is harder to critique Abstract Art since it is not based on a recognized genre or style. World-famous Abstract artists such as Matisse and Picasso, who were friends, contemporaries and competitors, explored many classical styles and colour palettes before they ventured into the abstract.

However, today in Sri Lanka as opposed to the rest of the world, most young artists choose to take up Abstract Art purely because they feel it is higher in commercial value and requires less painstaking study, skill and crafting. Commenting on this trend, Kalabhooshana Brindley Jayatunga, Past President of the Ceylon Society of Arts and internationally practising senior artist, a co-founder of the 2020 Group said, "Unfortunately, this is largely due to the lack of appreciation from critiques, commercially-driven markets and the inclinations or preferences of art teachers who influence students and young artists to follow their styles."

"In other words, Representational Art extends to different levels of realism in several varying styles," explained Gunasairi Kolmbage a veteran artist and founder

member of the 2020 Group. "All of us in the Group can be classified as supporters of Representational Art, although our work varies vastly."

Impressionism is an important area of this classification, infusing feelings and emotions into its creation as evinced by the works of such artists like Van Gogh and Monet, where the use of brush strokes are key. Also under the broad umbrella of Representational Art is Idealism under which da Vinci's Renaissance Art is classified. His in-depth study of the human body, muscles and muscle tones are evident in his work. Another aspect of this art form is Stylization as evinced by the artist David Hockney whose early work included expressionist elements and later took on the style of pop art. Figurative Art which is the portrayal of figures and nudes is also categorized under Representational Art.

STRUCTURED APPROACH

The concern for the preservation and development of Representational Art in Sri Lanka brought this eclectic group of artists together. They are committed to working towards the upliftment and education of Representational Art by taking on a planned and structured approach. Launching the group's work, from the first exhibition named 'Odyssey,' will be

held at the Colombo Art Gallery in Stratford Avenue Colombo 06 and Plate Loft Gallery Colombo 03, on the 27th of March 2021. The exhibition will be open for 4 weeks. They hope to re-ignite interest and passion for this art form and to seek international recognition for Sri Lankan artists who are immersed in it.

"Currently we have 13 senior artists as members with us, bringing in a wide and varied set of experiences and fields of expertise to the table," said Sunil Katugampola, the co-founder and curator of the Group. "There was the 43 Group in Sri Lanka, consisting of famous artists like Richard Gabriel, Justin Daraniyagla and George Keyt who believed in deviating from the classical trends and establishing distinctively Sri Lankan modernist art. Today we feel the need to rekindle the pursuit of Representative Art and are ready to do what it takes to achieve our goals."

By keeping abreast of international best practices in the field of Representational Art, the members of the 2020 Group are striving to raise the bar of art in Sri Lanka and pave the way for international acceptance and recognition. They also hope to participate in local and international art forums to establish Sri Lanka as a strong contender in the field of Representational Art. Towards this goal, they

will be organizing and facilitating the participation of local artists at art exhibitions, workshops, international art fairs, competitions and art auctions. Also on the cards is participating in artists' exchange programmes, adding paintings to international art museums and collections, getting published in international art magazines, selling paintings online internationally and providing for signature membership of key art societies.

NONREPRESENTATIONAL WORK

Commenting further on the work planned for the future, Brindley Jayatunga said, "there is a need for a proper art gallery that showcases all styles of work, representational work and nonrepresentational work of Sri Lankan artists." He went on to say that this could be a place for discussion on various topics of art with conducted tours, somewhat like at the museum, where students can see and study different art forms. Public lectures by local and international artists would be held and made accessible to everyone with an interest in art.

This could be the launching pad for a movement and lobby to create awareness about up-and-coming artists and attract differ-

ent stakeholders in the country who patronize and support art in Sri Lanka. Furthermore, there could be organized places for all artists, not only those who are registered with the Group, to gather for discussions, networking and painting.

"We want to inspire local artists as well as aspiring artists to engage in Representational work and be secure in the knowledge that they will receive encouragement and appreciation for their efforts," said DrShanakaKulatunga. Towards this end, the Group hopes to conduct workshops and courses on specific areas of art in different mediums for artists to acquire a solid foundation of the different styles and genres of art.

"Another area we want to focus on is restoration and conservation," said Sunil Katugampola. "It is a specialized technique possessed by highly trained professionals outside the Group specializing in this field, and we want to support such work to preserve the acclaimed work of our master artists".

The 2020 Group will pave the way for revisiting the art forms of the Greats in history, whilst encouraging young artists to explore a wide selection of genres based not on the marketability of commercial value, but rather on their particular passions and skills.

PERFORM STRESS-FREE

Senior artiste Wilson Gunaratne and his team performed a special stress management programme titled *Pa-wasa Nivana Obe Sawasat* at the Buwaneka Elder Care Center, Kadawatha, recently.

The programme covered a meditation session, music and humour therapy. Wilson Gunaratne delivered a special lecture on scientific methods on being stress-free to be in good health and perform best. Madushan Herath and Chandrathilak Gunaratna assisted in the programme.

Meditation

Meditation can wipe away stress, bringing with it inner peace. Anyone can practise meditation. It's simple and inexpensive, and it doesn't require any special equipment. You can practise meditation wherever you are whether you are waiting at the doctor's office, even in the middle of a difficult domestic situation, or any contact situation to keep a sensible balance.

Meditation has been practised for a thousand years. Meditation was originally meant to help deepen understanding of the sacred and mystical forces of life. These days, meditation is commonly used for relaxation and stress reduction. Meditation is considered a type of mind-body complementary medicine. Meditation can produce a deep state of relaxation and a tranquil mind.

During meditation, you focus your attention and eliminate the stream of jumbled thoughts that may be crowding your mind and causing stress. This process may result in enhanced physical and emotional well-being.

Meditation can give you a sense of calm, peace and balance that can benefit both your emotional well-being and your overall health. And these benefits don't end when your meditation session ends. Meditation can help carry you more calmly through your day and may help you manage symptoms of certain medical conditions.

Meditation and emotional well-being

When you meditate, you may clear away the information overload that builds up every day and contributes to your stress.

The emotional benefits of meditation can include the following:

- Gaining a new perspective on stressful situations
- Building skills to manage your stress
- Increasing self-awareness
- Focusing on the present
- Reducing negative emotions
- Increasing imagination and creativity
- Increasing patience and tolerance
- Meditation and illness

Meditation might also be useful if you have a medical condition, especially one that may be worsened by stress.

While a growing body of scientific research supports the health benefits of meditation, some researchers believe it's not yet possible to conclude the benefits of meditation.

With that in mind, some research suggests that meditation may help people manage symptoms of conditions such as:

- Anxiety
- Asthma
- Chronic pain
- Depression
- Heart disease
- High blood pressure
- Irritable bowel syndrome

Be sure to talk to your healthcare provider about the pros and cons of using meditation if you have any of these conditions or other health problems.

Laughter medicine

Laughter is a powerful antidote to stress, pain conflicts nothing works faster or more dependably to bring one's mind back into balance, than a good laugh. Humour lightens one's burdens, inspires hopes, connects us to others and keeps us grounded focused and alert.

Wilson Gunaratne's research done with Dr Damith Hettiarachchi and Dr Mgda Asis reveals that there are many benefits.

Laughter and humour help you stay emotionally healthy. Humour helps you keep a positive, optimistic outlook through difficult



situations, disappointments and loss. Hearing laughter primes your brain.

"I continue to do my studies on the scientific base of humour and perform to heal the wounds of people who are under stress, tension and depression, especially at a time like Covid pandemic.

Laughter has physical health benefits. It boosts immunity. It lowers stress hormones. Decreases pain. Relaxes your muscles. Prevents heart disease. It adds joy and the zest of life eases anxiety and fear. Relieves stress. Improves mood. Enhances resilience. Social benefits include strengthening relationships, attraction, enhancing teamwork, defusing conflicts, and promoting group bonding.

Music therapy

For children and teens with cancer the other illnesses, the pain can be unimaginable and unbearable. No matter how much medication is given to them, sometimes it just isn't enough.

Through listening and playing music as well as songwriting and singing, pain among patients reduces. Music therapy can help to relieve pain and reduce stress and anxiety for the patient, resulting in physiological changes, including:

- Improved respiration
- Lower blood pressure
- Improved cardiac output
- Reduced heart rate
- Relaxed muscle tension

Gunadasa Liyanage remembered

Religious ceremonies and an almsgiving will be held on March 12, to mark the 23rd death anniversary of veteran journalist Gunadasa Liyanage. The religious ceremonies will take place at the Divalakada Sri Keththaramaya and Kotte Raja Maha Viharaya.

Liyanage had served as the editor of a number of Sinhala newspapers, magazines and other publications. There will be a commemorative meeting on March 25 in honour of Gunadasa Liyanage and Chandralatha Liyanage at the Public Library Auditorium, Colombo, organised by the Gunadasa Liyanage Foundation.

Ven. Induragare Dhammarathana Nayaka Thera, Dr. Gunadasa Amarasekera, Professors JB Disanayake, Sunanda Mahendra Ministers Dinesh Gunawardena, Keheliya Rambukwella, Bandula



Gunawardana, Dulles Alahaperuma and journalist Lalith de Silva are due to address the meeting. Songs will be sung by vocalists TM Jayaratne, Nihal Nelson, Karunaratne Divulagane, Mitra Kapuge, Rohan Shantha Bulegoda, Dayan Vitharana, Krishantha Erandaka and Ilyas Mohamed.



Classical Bharatha Natyam recital

The Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre, Colombo, the High Commission of India will present a classical Bharatha Natyam recital under the title of Satyam Sivam Sundaram by Dr Subashini Pathmanathan on March 11 at 6 pm, with elaborate illustrations to mark the Maha Sivarathiri festival.

The viewers can watch the program on the Facebook Live stream of the Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre, Colombo: www. Facebook.com / ICCR Sri Lanka

SUNIL DE SILVA: UNFORGETTABLE THESPIAN

DR PALITHA GANEWATTA

Sunil de Silva was a versatile personality, who was behind almost every community achievement in NSW since his arrival in Sydney with Senani as permanent residents of Australia.

I was fortunate to have a creative association with him on numerous occasions.

In the late nineties when I invited him to act a father's role in a short drama, I produced for a Sri Lankan community function, he gladly accepted it and acted in such a manner that the whole audience was held spellbound and enjoyed the humour he demonstrated with his unforgettable acting.

It was unexpected for me when he rang in 2006 while he was resting at home after a heart operation. His request was to translate my first collection of Sinhala short stories into English. I was more than happy and gladly granted my permission to do so. Sunil has ably translated it into English and named the collection *The Scent of Kinship*, which was published in the same year by Sarasavi publishers. In 2013 he was keen to produce his drama for



Sydney *Kolam Maduwa* and requested me whether he could use some of the episodes described in my book, *The Scent of Kinship*, which depicts the struggle of Sri Lankan migrants to adapt to Australian multicultural society. The result of this conversation was his production of *Bukkos Down under* by Sydney *Kolam Maduwa* in 2014.

One of his greatest achievements in the literary field was receiving the Best Translation award in the State Literary Festival in 2012 for the book he has translated as *Death by Pool*. It was a translation of a Sinhala short story collection written by Dr Gunadasa Amarasekera. I was privileged to coordinate that translation, regularly

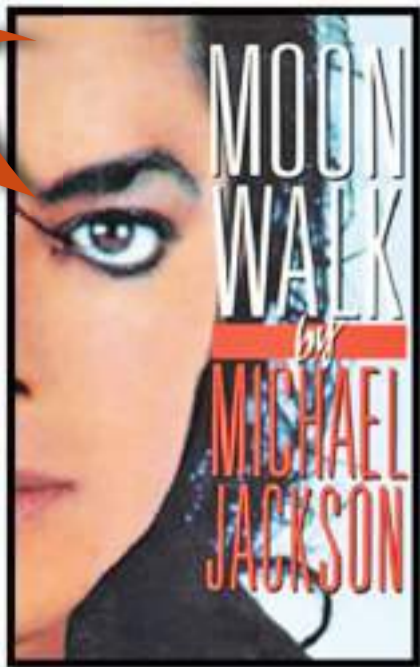
communicating between Dr Amarasekera and Sunil de Silva.

I was severely saddened and shocked to hear his sudden demise, as I have been planning to hand over the first copy of my novel, which he translated a few months ago from Sinhala to English. During the short period of four months, he communicated with me almost every day by email to discuss the issues relating to that translation and raised very important logical concerns he found in the Sinhala text, most of which was missed by me inadvertently with some factual inaccuracies.

This was vivid evidence of his greater knowledge of both Sinhala and English languages and his outstanding knowledge of the legal sphere, which was his profession being one-time Attorney General of Sri Lanka. When I thanked him for his effort in translating, he used to say jokingly, 'don't thank me, thank Covid', as restrictions imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic has provided him more free time to do the translation.

What a humble and remarkable personality!

Title:
Moon Walk
Author:
Michael Jackson

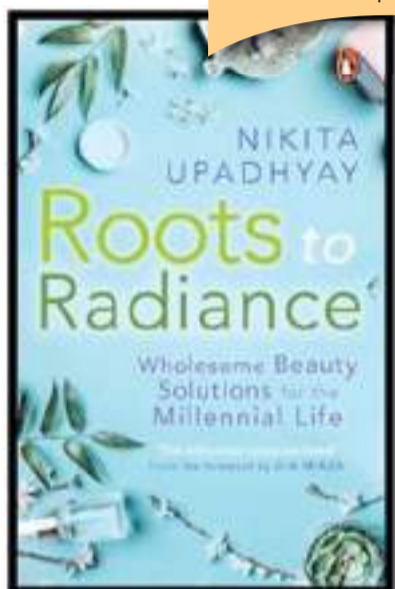


Moonwalk is the only book about his life that Michael Jackson ever wrote. It chronicles his humble beginnings in the Midwest, his early days with the Jackson 5, and his unprecedented solo success. Giving absolutely unrivalled insight into the King of Pop's life, it details his song-writing process for hits like *Beat It*, *Rock With You*, *Billie Jean*, and *We Are the World*; describes how he developed his signature dance style, including the Moon Walk; and opens the door to his very private personal relationships with his family, including sister Janet, and stars like Diana Ross, Berry Gordy, Marlon Brando, Quincy Jones, Paul McCartney, and Brooke Shields. At the time of its original publication in 1988,

MOONWALK broke the fiercely guarded barrier of silence that surrounded Michael Jackson.

Rs1650
Available at Sarasavi Bookshop

Title:
Roots To Radiance
Author:
NikithaUpadhyay



In Roots to Radiance, you will find 500+ tips and tricks that will help you stay in your 'A game'. By using its easy-to-make solutions drawn from traditional Indian wisdom, you can lessen and even replace chemicals with wholesome, natural ingredients that will enrich and enhance your daily beauty routine.

From refreshing life lessons to inevitable struggles and motivational inspiration, this book will help you sail through every beauty or life concern you've ever had.

Rs895
Available at Sarasavi Bookshop

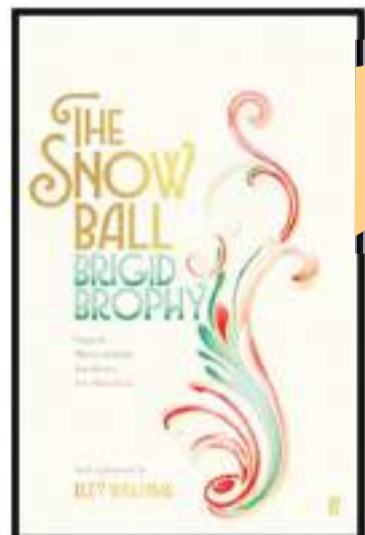
Title:
The Diana Chronicles
Author:
Tina Brown



Ten years after her death, Princess Diana remains a mystery. Was she "the people's princess," who electrified the world with her beauty and humanitarian missions? Or was she a manipulative, media-savvy neurotic who nearly brought down the monarchy? Only Tina Brown, former editor-in-chief of *Tatler*, England's glossiest gossip magazine; *Vanity Fair*; and *The New Yorker* could possibly give us the truth.

Rs.1650.00
Available at Sarasavi Bookshop

Title:
The Snow Ball
Author:
Brigid Brophy

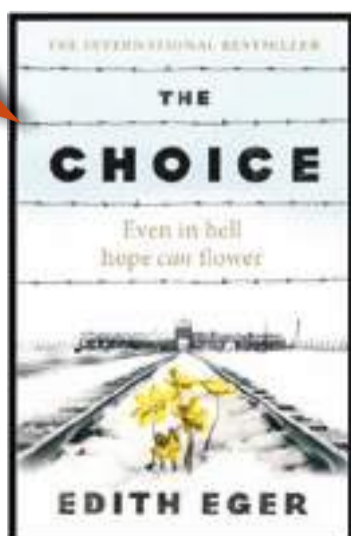


It is New Year's Eve in London. The occasion is a costume ball on an eighteenth-century theme in the grand London residence of Tom and four-times-mar-

ried Anne. Anna K attends alone, dressed as Donna Anna from Mozart's *Don Giovanni*, unhappily preoccupied by her age and appearance and a general distaste for the occasion. But when at midnight she meets a masked Don who kisses her on the mouth, she wonders if this mystery man might share her personal obsessions - 'Mozart, sex and death' - and whether a closer union is not meant to be.

Rs 2395
Available at Sarasavi Bookshop

Title:
The Choice
Author:
Edith Eger



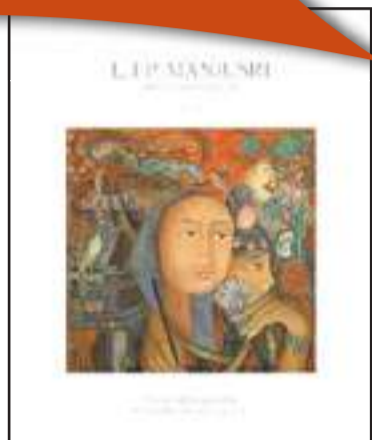
It's 1944 and sixteen-year-old ballerina and gymnast Edith Eger is sent to Auschwitz. Separated from her parents on arrival, she endures unimaginable experiences, including being made to dance for the infamous Josef Mengele. When the camp is finally liberated, she is pulled from a pile of bodies, barely alive.

Rs.1795.00
Available at Sarasavi Bookshop



NEW ON THE SHELF

Title:
L T P Manjusiri - Artist And Scholar 1902-1982
Author:
Shamil Wanigarathne

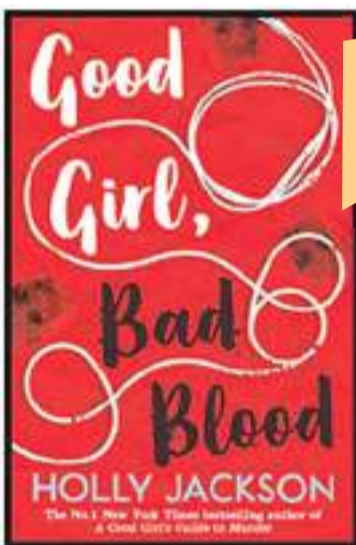


Most of us art lovers have certainly known of Manjusiri. Associating him with temple art, frescos, and murals while not really prepared to delve or dive any deeper. That's why Shamil Wanigarathne's gem of a book (or monograph) that covers a gigantic canvas simply exploded in front of us. A riot of colour, fine drawings, draftsman-like detail, soft tones, subtle textures and delicate tints that unfurled Manjusiri to be a classic prodigy, a national hero, who contributed enormously to our culture, art and history. Shamil's brilliantly laid out missile of 240 pages (that took 10 years to produce) has brought on and showcased Manjusiri to easily be one of

the most versatile artists the world has ever known.

Rs 7500
Available at VijithaYapa Bookshop

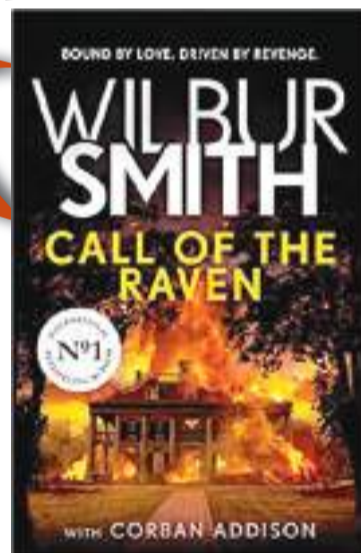
Title:
Good Girl, Bad Blood
Author:
Holly Jackson



With the help of Ravi Singh, she released a true-crime podcast about the murder case they solved together last year. The podcast has gone viral, yet Pip insists her investigating days are behind her.

Rs1440
Available at Sarasavi Bookshop

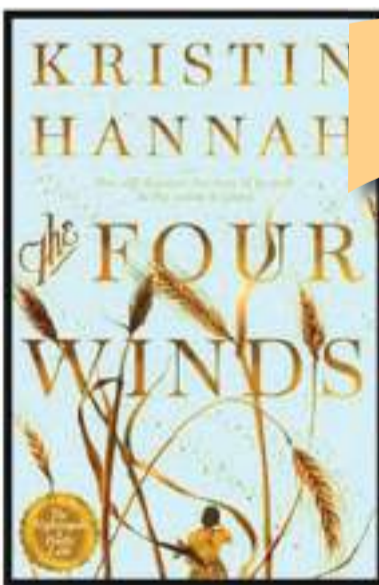
Title:
Call of the Raven
Author:
Wilbur Smith



The right of the cat over the mouse, of the strong over the weak. The natural law of existence.' Mungo St John, A Falcon Flies The son of a wealthy plantation owner and a dotting mother, Mungo St John is accustomed to the wealth and luxuries his privilege has afforded him. That is until he returns from university to discover his family ruined, his inheritance stolen and his childhood sweetheart, Camilla, taken by the conniving Chester Marion

Rs 1400
Available at VijithaYapa Bookshop

Title:
The Four Winds
Author:
Kristin Hannah



Texas, 1934. Millions are out of work and a drought has broken the Great Plains. Farmers are fighting to keep their land and their livelihoods as the crops are failing, the water is drying up, and dust threatens to bury them all. One of the darkest periods of the Great Depression, the Dust Bowl era, has arrived with a vengeance.

Rs. 2435
Available at Sarasavi Bookshop

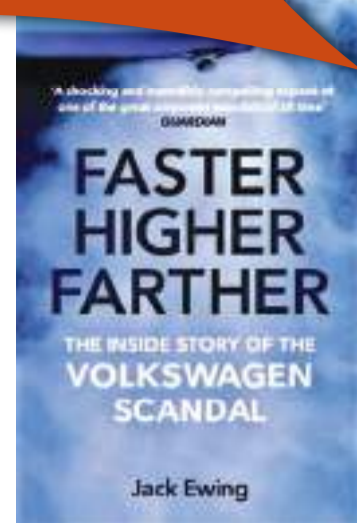
Title:
Journey: An Illustrated History of Travel



Packed with stories of human movement and endeavor, Journey lets you experience the excitement and romance of travel, covering everything from quests across the Silk Road and the adventures of Marco Polo to explorations in space and underwater. Discover ancient maps, biographies of conquerors, explorers and travelers, stories of scientific discovery and technological innovation, stunning works of art, and catalogues of travel-related memorabilia.

Rs 4500
Available at VijithaYapa Bookshop

Title:
Faster, Higher, Farther - The Inside Story of the Volkswagen Scandal
Author:
Jack Ewing



Ashocking exposé of Volkswagen's fraud by the New York Times reporter who covered the scandal.

When news of Volkswagen's clean diesel fraud first broke in 2015, it sent shockwaves around the world. Overnight, the company long associated with quality, reliability and trust became a universal symbol of greed and deception. Consumers were outraged, investors panicked, the company embarrassed and facing bankruptcy.

As lawsuits and criminal investigations piled up, by August 2016 VW had settled with American regulators and car-owners for \$15 billion.

Rs975
Available at Bookland Bookshop

Title:
Turmoil at the Villa
Author:
Terrence Perera

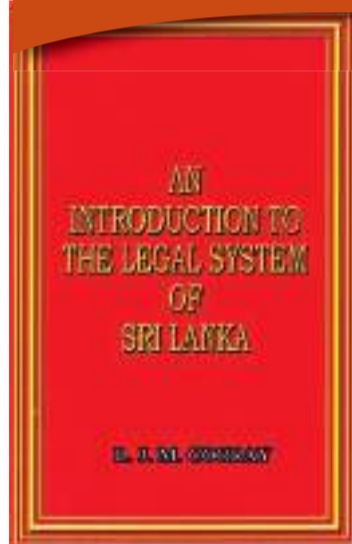


give a colorful but real idea of Sri Lankan life. The main theme of the book is that ancient old story of an upper-class boy falling in love with a lower-class girl. This theme is explored in an interesting manner in the context of Sri Lankan customs and attitudes. William, the younger brother, falls in love with a girl who the family regards as being far beneath them in social standing!

Rs900
Available at VijithaYapa Bookshop

Turmoil at the Villa is the sequel to *Hernando Villa* and is the continuing saga of the Hernando family. It continues to

Title:
An Introduction to the Legal System of Sri Lanka
Author:
LJMCooray



Here is a brief account of the various laws, legal systems and the organisational pattern of the courts of Ceylon. It makes reference to historical facts and developments. Considered is the history as well as the extent and nature of the present application of English law, Roman-Dutch law, Muslim law, Kandyan Law, Tesawalamai of the legal system of Ceylon.

Rs480
Available at Bookland Bookshop

Title:
The First Forty-Nine Stories
Author:
Ernest Hemingway



Collection of Hemingway's first forty-nine short stories, featuring a brief introduction by the author and lesser known as well as familiar tales, including 'Up in Michigan', 'Fifty Grand', and 'The Light of the World', and the *Snows of Kilimanjaro*, *Winner Take Nothing* and *Men Without Women* collections.

Rs1495
Available at Sarasavi Bookshop

Title:
Sense and Sensibility
Author:
Jane Austen



Marianne Dashwood wears her heart on her sleeve, and when she falls in love with the dashing but unsuitable John Willoughby she ignores her sister Elinor's warning that her impulsive behaviour leaves her open to gossip and innuendo. Meanwhile Elinor, always sensitive to social convention, is struggling to conceal her own romantic disappointment, even from those closest to her.

Rs1795 (Penguin Classics Deluxe Edition)
Available at Sarasavi Bookshop



INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

District Secretariat, Mannar

Procurement of Supply, Fixing & Commissioning of 250 KVA Generator and 400A ATS Panel

The Chairman, Department Procurement Committee (DPC) invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for supply of following goods and delivery of following services for district Secretariat Mannar.

No.	Details of Goods	Reference No.	Bid Security Rs.	Non-Refundable Fee Rs.
A	Supply, Fixing & Commissioning of 250KVA generator and 400 ATS Panel to District Secretariat, Mannar.	MN/GA/Fi/GENERATOR PUR/2020	100,000/=	2,500/=

- To be eligible for contract award, the successful bidder shall not have been blacklisted and shall have valid business registration for the specific required supply of above goods or delivery of above services.
- To qualify for awards of the contract, bidders shall meet the minimum qualifying criteria if given in section 2 - bidding data. All bids shall be accompanied by a separate bid-Security of the above said amount.
- Interested bidders may obtain further information from the below address and inspect the bidding documents at the same address from 09.00 hours to 15.00 hours on working days.
- A Complete set of the bidding documents in English language may be purchased from the below address by interested bidders payment from 10th March 2021 to 29th March 2021 from 09.00 hour to 15.00 hours upon a non-refundable cash payment as said above.
- A pre-bid meeting will be held at the below address on 24th March 2021 at 10.00 hours. Bidders are requested to visit and verify the location before attending the pre-bid meeting.
- Bid shall be deposited into the Tender box located in the Chief Accountant's room at the below address on or before 15.00 hours on 31st March 2021. Late bids will be rejected. Bid will be opened soon after closing in the presence of the bidders' or their representative who is nominated to attend.
- All rights are reserved to the Chairman of DPC to cancel the bidding process at any stage without paying any compensation to any party or to accept the part of the bids in this bidding process.

A. Stanley De Mel
Chairman – District Procurement Committee (DPC – Major)
District Secretariat,
Mannar.

Tel : 0232222214

Fax : 0232251754

Date : 09.03.2021



REGIONAL DIRECTORATE OF HEALTH SERVICES, JAFFNA

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

PROCUREMENT OF MEDICAL EQUIPMENT & SERVICE

- The Regional Procurement Committee invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the Supplies, Works as specified in following Table.
 - Medical Equipment
Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding procedure
- To be eligible for contract award the successful bidder shall not have been blacklisted and shall meet the following requirements
 - Bidders shall have valid business registration
 - and business registration for supply of respective Works, Supplies and Service
 - Regional preference and CIDA grade preference will apply as stipulated in Public Finance Circular No. 4/2016(ii)
- Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from the Regional Director of Health Services, Jaffna (Contact No. (021 2222278/4557 ext 20), during office hours and inspect the Bidding Documents at the same address on any working day from 9.00am to 3.00pm except 12.30 to 1.30 hours.
- A complete set of English Bid documents may be purchased by interested bidders on submission of "Application for Bid Documents" available in this office and upon payment of a **non refundable** fee as specified in the table by cash on working days from 12.03.2021 to 05.04.2021 during 09.00 Hours to 15.00 Hours.
- Bids must be delivered on or before 10.00 Hours of 06.04.2021 to the address given below or deposited in the tender box available at the Room of **Additional Regional Director of Finance (TPM)**. Bids will be opened immediately after the closing of the bids in the presence of the bidders or their representatives.
- Bids shall be valid for a period 90 days from the last date fixed for receiving of Bids or any extended period and Bid Security is valid for 118 days from the bid opening.
- Pre bid meeting will be held on 01.04.2021 at 10.00am in RDHS Office Jaffna.
 - Table I - 10.00am
- Procurement Committee will have the right to make final decision in regard to the acceptance of bids.

Reference No.	Item	Qty	Non refundable fee	Bid Security
NP/RDHS/PSSP/ME/2021/01	Laryngoscope Adult	09	1,000.00	115,000.00
	Laryngoscope Paediatric	12		
	Auroscope	10		
	Stethoscope	17		
	BP Apparatus	26		
	Ambu bag (Paediatric)	06		
	Ambu bag (Adult)	08		
	Ambu bag(Neonatal)	02		
NP/RDHS/PSSP/ME/2021/02	Ophthalmoscope	01	1,000.00	110,000.00
	CTG Machine	06		
	ECC Machine	06		
	Nebulizer	04		
	Pulse Oxymeter	06		
	Multiparamonitor	02		
	Admission Bed	06		
	Water distiller	01		
	Sucker	06		
	Digital Weighing Balance	01		
Dressing Trolley	01			
NP/RDHS/PSSP/ME/2021/03	Instrumental Trolley	01	1,000.00	500.00
	Hydro Thermometer	04		
NP/RDHS/Main RO Plant/2021/04	Service Agreement for Maintenance of RO Plant	03	1,000.00	20,000.00

Chairperson
Regional Procurement Committee
RDHS Office, Jaffna.



STATE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT, COAST CONSERVATION, WASTE DISPOSAL AND COMMUNITY CLEANLINESS

INVITATION FOR BIDS

The Chairman, Ministry Procurement Committee (MPC), on behalf of the Secretary, State Ministry of Urban Development, Coast Conservation, Waste Disposal and Community Cleanliness now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the works as described below.

Table - 01

Bid No	Project Name	Estimated cost for construction excluding VAT (Rs)	Non Refundable Fee(Rs)	Amount of Bid Security (Rs)	Contract Period (Days)	Eligible CIDA Registration Grade	Bid security valid up to
1	Construction of Proposed Public Market at Minuwangoda-Stage II (Balance Work)	81,623,000.00	17,000.00	820,000.00	180	C4 or above Building	28 th July 2021
2	Proposed Weekly Fair at Alawwa	123,758,500.00	23,000.00	1,250,000.00	365	C4 or above Building	28 th July 2021
3	Proposed Mini Bus Terminal at Barawakumbuka, Ambalanthota	50,276,000.00	12,500.00	550,000.00	150	C4 or above Building	28 th July 2021
4	Re Development of Bus Stand at Hasalaka (Stage II)	21,428,000.00	6,000.00	215,000.00	150	C6 or above Building	14 th July 2021
5	Mahamaluwa Development Project at Dalada Maligawa -Phase II	13,832,000.00	4,000.00	140,000.00	90	C6 or above Building	06 th July 2021
6	Relocation of Temporary Shops at Karapitiya-Galle	9,731,800.00	3,500.00	100,000.00	90	C7 or above Building	06 th July 2021
7	Proposed Central Market Building at Nuwara Eliya-Stage II (Construction of Ground Floor and Finishing work in basement floor)	205,000,000.00	35,000.00	3,000,000.00	365	C3 or above Building	28 th July 2021
8	Proposed Bus Stand at Hanwella	83,574,000.00	17,000.00	850,000.00	210	C4 or above Building	28 th July 2021
9	Construction of Proposed Weekly Fair at Madampe	67,206,000.00	15,000.00	675,000.00	150	C4 or above Building	28 th July 2021
10	Landscape Improvements of Kesbewa Wewa	54,121,000.00	15,000.00	550,000.00	150	C4 or above Building	28 th July 2021

- Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding (NCB) method.
- To be eligible for contract award, the successful bidder shall not have been blacklisted and shall meet the requirements given in the bidding document.
- Interested bidders may obtain further information from Director General (Urban Development), State Ministry of Urban Development, Coast Conservation, Waste Disposal and Community Cleanliness, 17th Floor, Suhurupaya, Battaramulla and inspect the bidding documents free of charge at the Director General (Urban Development)'s office on working days. Telephone No: 0112869515
- A complete set of Bidding Documents in English language may be purchased by any prospective Bidder or their accredited agent on submission of a written request to the Chief Accountant (Projects & Procurement), State Ministry of Urban Development, Coast Conservation, Waste Disposal and Community Cleanliness, 17th Floor, Suhurupaya, Battaramulla (**Date & Time mentioned in Table 02**) on working days upon payment of non-refundable fee as in the above table 01 to Shroff in Finance Division in State Ministry of Urban Development, Coast Conservation, Waste Disposal and Community Cleanliness

Table - 02-Bids Issuing

Bid No referred in Table 01	From	To	Time
5,6	10.03.2021	23.03.2021	9.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m.
1,2,3,4,7,8,9,10	10.03.2021	30.03.2021	9.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m.

- A Bid must be accompanied by a bid security in the form of bank guarantee as per the specimen in the bidding documents and issued by a commercial bank operating in Sri Lanka and registered under the Central Bank of Sri Lanka. The value of the bid securities are stated in Table 01 and shall be addressed to the **Secretary, State Ministry of Urban Development, Coast Conservation, Waste Disposal and Community Cleanliness**.
- Bids shall be hand delivered or sent by registered post with original and duplicate addressed to the Secretary, State Ministry of Urban Development, Coast Conservation, Waste Disposal and Community Cleanliness, 17th Floor, "Suhurupaya", Subuthipura Road, Battaramulla to reach on or before (**Date & Time mentioned in Table 03**). Late bids will be returned unopened. Bids will be opened soon after the closing of bids in the presence of the bidders or their representatives who choose to attend.

Table - 03

Bid No referred in Table 01	Date of Bid closing	Time of Bid closing
5,6	24.03.2021	10.00 a.m.
1,2,3,4,7,8,9,10	31.03.2021	10.00 a.m.

- A pre-bid meeting will be held at **10.00 a.m on 17.03.2021** at the Auditorium, State Ministry of Urban Development, Coast Conservation, Waste Disposal and Community Cleanliness, 17th Floor, "Suhurupaya", Subuthipura Road, Battaramulla. All the bidders are strongly advised to attend this meeting.
- Bidder's previous performance and the liquidity position (Ministry and Other government organizations) are strictly evaluated in selection of bidders. Poorly performed bidders will not be considered for awarding of any bids.
- The Ministry has no any responsibility on cost related to preparation of any bids. The Ministry Procurement Committee (MPC) reserves the right to accept a suitable bid out of the bids received or reject all bids. The decision of the Ministry Procurement Committee is final.
- Please Note that due to the prevailing present COVID-19 pandemic situation, before collecting the relevant bidding documents contact **Accountant**, State Ministry of Urban Development, Coast Conservation, Waste Disposal and Community Cleanliness on **Tel. 0112-869536 /0114-329822, Fax. 011-2861810** for your facilitation.

Chairman,
Ministry Procurement Committee,
State Ministry of Urban Development, Coast Conservation, Waste Disposal and Community Cleanliness,
17th Floor, "Suhurupaya", Battaramulla.

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INVITATION FOR BIDS



PROCUREMENT OF SERVICES FOR THE SRI LANKA AIR FORCE

1. The Chairman, Department Procurement Committee of the Sri Lanka Air Force invites sealed Bids from eligible bidders for the following services:

S No	Procurement Identification Number	Description	Date and time of Bid closing / opening	Non Refundable Fee (Rs.)
01	AHQ/21/PUB/MED/1001	a. Procurement of Coronary Angiogram services. (on Annual rate approval basis for the year 2021) b. Procurement of CT-Cardiac Angiogram. (on Annual rate approval basis for the year 2021)	29 th March 2021 at 1030 Hrs	2,000.00
02	AHQ/21/PUB/D/1001	Procurement of inspection and cleaning services of Fuel Tanks at SLAF Bases and Stations.	29 th March 2021 at 1030 Hrs	2,000.00

2. Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding procedure and tender mentioned in Ser No 01 of para 01 is subjected to two envelop method.
3. A complete set of bidding documents in English could be inspected by the prospective bidders from the Sri Lanka Air Force website www.airforce.lk and may be purchased from the Procurement Division (Tender Section) during 1000 hrs to 1400 hrs on any working day from 08th March 2021 to 26th March 2021 upon payment of the above non-refundable fee to the Shroff at Sri Lanka Air Force Station Colombo. The bids without the receipt of the payment will not be accepted.
4. The sealed bids in duplicate, shall be addressed to "The Chairman, Department Procurement Committee and may either be dispatched by registered post or deposited in the Tender Box at the Main Guardroom well before the closing time. Late bids will not be accepted. Bids will be opened soon after closing of the bids. Bidders or their authorized representatives will be permitted to be present at the time of opening the bids, upon presentation of their National Identity Card and letters of authorization from their employers. No bidder or his representative will be permitted to attend the bid opening after the bid closing time.
5. The required services are specified in the "Activity Schedule" of the bidding document and the applicable rates shall be indicated for each item listed therein. The offered rates shall not be subjected to variation on any account.
6. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from the Chief Procurement Officer (Tel. 011-2325468 Extension 23550) or Procurement Officer Tenders (Tel. 011-2441553 or 011-2441044 Extension 23569 Fax: 011-2441553 and 011-2347694).
7. The address referred to above is:

**The Chairman
Departmental Procurement Committee
Sri Lanka Air Force
Air Force Headquarters
P.O. Box 1592
Colombo 02.**

COMMANDER OF THE AIR FORCE

SALE OF MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

QUOTATIONS ARE CALLED FOR THE SALE OF THE FOLLOWING MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS FOR THE PERIOD COMMENCING 01ST APRIL 2021 TO 30TH JUNE 2021

Tender No. MSI/2021/03

Item		Refundable Deposit
1. Over Issue Newspapers & Blank Papers	(Per Kg)	Rs. 400,000/-
2. Stripping of Newsprint & Butt Ends Less Than 2" (Unused Newsprint)	(Per Kg)	Rs. 50,000/-
3. Used Offset Plates (Aluminum Sheets)	- do -	Rs. 25,000/-
4. Empty Reel Cores	- do -	Rs. 1,000/-
5. Cardboard (Mixed)	- do -	Rs. 10,000/-
6. Discarded Documents (File Cover, Computer-stationery, Tabloids, Periodicals)	- do -	Rs. 10,000/-
7. Burned Engine Oil	(Per Ltr)	Rs. 1,000/-
8. Waste Papers & Unusable Papers	(Per Kg)	Rs. 50,000/-
9. Empty Plastic Cans (20 Ltr)	(Per Can)	Rs. 1,000/-
10. Wooden Pallets	(Per Pallet)	Rs. 1,000/-
11. Scrap Iron	(Per Kg)	Rs. 1,000/-
12. Strapping Waste	(Per Kg)	Rs. 1,000/-
13. Empty Strapping Reel Cores	(Per Kg)	Rs. 1,000/-

Tender applications could be obtained from the Procurement Department on payment of a non-refundable fee of Rs. 250/- along with the refundable deposit. Quotations indicating "Sale of Miscellaneous Items" on the top left-hand corner of the envelope should be submitted to the undermentioned address before 3.00 p.m. on 23rd March 2021 and will be opened immediately.

The successful tenderer should pay 8% VAT on the quoted price and shall arrange loading of goods.

However, The Associated Newspapers of Ceylon Limited reserves the right to reject any or all offers without assigning any reason whatsoever.



Head of Procurement

The Associated Newspapers of Ceylon Limited
No. 35, D.R. Wijewardene Mawatha,
Colombo 10.
Tel: 2429422, 2429429, Ext: 451, 452

WESTERN PROVINCIAL COUNCIL ENGINEERING ORGANIZATION

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

1. The Chairman, **Procurement Committee of Director (Buildings) / Relevant Divisional Engineer's** now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the following works as described below.
2. 1. "Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding (NCB). Since the Total Cost Estimate of this procurement (excluding VAT and other taxes) is below Rs.50Mn., regional Preference and CIDA grade preference shall apply as stipulated in Public Finance Circular No.04/2016(iii)."
- II. Public Finance Circular No 03/2020(i) is entitled to this Procurement and, "If the State Owned Enterprises (SOE) are quoted for bids, Five percent (5%) preference will be given."
3. To be eligible for contract award, the successful bidder shall not have been blacklisted or assigned contracts should not be defaulted or not completed in given time period beyond bidders control or terminated prematurely and shall meet the following requirements and have a valid CIDA Registration.

(1) Serial No	(2) Contract No	(3) Description of Work	(4) Requirement of Public Contracts Act No. 03	(5) CIDA Registration	(6) Non-Refundable Fee (Rs.)	(7) Bid Security/Bid Security Validity Period	(8) Place of Issuing bidding documents and contact Phone No.	(9) Place of submission bidding documents and contact Phone No.
1	WP/DB/CON/21/83	Improvement of Boundary Wall & Gate at District Ayurveda Hospital - Lunawa	No	C8 and C7	2,000.00	Cash Deposit - Rs.25,000.00	Divisional Engineer's Office Rathmalana, No. 25, Maligawa Road, Rathmalana T.P. - : 0112-622517	Divisional Engineer's Office Rathmalana, No.25, Maligawa Road, Rathmalana T.P. - : 0112-622517
2	WP/DB/CON/21/84	Repairs and Constructions of Selected Works at Primary Medical Care Unit (PMCU) - Korlawella	No	C9 and C8	1,000.00	Cash Deposit - Rs.10,000.00	Divisional Engineer's Office Horana, Ballapitiya, Horana T.P. - : 034-2261019	Divisional Engineer's Office Horana, Ballapitiya, Horana T.P. - : 034-2261019
3	WP/DB/CON/21/85	Renovation of Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Clinic at Millewa	No	C8 and C7	3,000.00	Bid Security - Rs.100,000.00 (105 Days) or Cash Deposit - Rs. 50,000.00	Divisional Engineer's Office Horana, Ballapitiya, Horana T.P. - : 034-2261019	Divisional Engineer's Office Horana, Ballapitiya, Horana T.P. - : 034-2261019
4	WP/DB/CON/21/86	Construction of Two Storied Building at Halwathura Tamil Vidyalaya - Ingiriya	Yes	C5 and C4	5,000.00	Bid Security - Rs.350,000.00 (119 Days)	Divisional Engineer's Office Panadura, Sri Maha Vihara Road, Panadura. T.P. - : 038-2234774	Director (Buildings) Engineering Organization (W.P), 5 th Floor, #204, Denzil Kobbekaduwa Mawatha, Battaramulla T.P. - : 011-2092525
5	WP/DB/CON/21/87	Construction of Rest Room for Nursing - in -Charge Base Hospital - Panadura	No	C9 and C8	1000.00	Cash Deposit - Rs.10,000.00	Divisional Engineer's Office Panadura, Sri Maha Vihara Road, Panadura. T.P. - : 038-2234774	Divisional Engineer's Office Panadura, Sri Maha Vihara Road, Panadura. T.P. - : 038-2234774
6	WP/DB/CON/21/88	Construction of 40'x20' Single Storied New Building at Ihala Hewassa K.V - Matugama	No	C8 and C7	2000.00	Cash Deposit - Rs.25,000.00	Divisional Engineer's Office Mathugama, Ananda Shasthralaya, Mathugama T.P. - : 034-2243082	Divisional Engineer's Office Mathugama, Ananda Shasthralaya, Mathugama T.P. - : 034-2243082
7	WP/DB/CON/21/89	Renovation of Medical Officer In Charge (MOIC) Quarters District Hospital - Udupila	No	C8 and C7	1,000.00	Cash Deposit - Rs.10,000.00	Divisional Engineer's Office Biyagama, Udupila Road, Makola, Biyagama T.P. - : 0112-963524	Divisional Engineer's Office Biyagama, Udupila Road, Makola, Biyagama T.P. - : 0112-963524
8	WP/DB/CON/21/90	Balance Work of 70'x25' Two Storied Building at Don Bosco Vidyalaya - Wattala	No	C8 and C7	2,000.00	Cash Deposit - Rs.25,000.00	Divisional Engineer's Office Wattala, B/25/1, Magulpokuna Road, Ragama. T.P. - : 0112952126	Divisional Engineer's Office Wattala, B/25/1, Magulpokuna Road, Ragama. T.P. - : 0112952126
9	WP/DB/CON/21/91	Essential Repairs at District Hospital - Pamunugama	No	C8 and C7	1,000.00	Cash Deposit - Rs.10,000.00	Divisional Engineer's Office Wattala, B/25/1, Magulpokuna Road, Ragama. T.P. - : 0112952126	Divisional Engineer's Office Wattala, B/25/1, Magulpokuna Road, Ragama. T.P. - : 0112952126
10	WP/DB/CON/21/92	Renovation of (MOH) Office - Jaela	Yes	C7 and C6	3,000.00	Bid Security - Rs.100,000.00 (105 Days) or Cash Deposit - Rs.50,000.00	Divisional Engineer's Office Wattala, B/25/1, Magulpokuna Road, Ragama. T.P. - : 0112952126	Divisional Engineer's Office Wattala, B/25/1, Magulpokuna Road, Ragama. T.P. - : 0112952126

4. Qualifications should be fulfilled as in the Bidding Document.
5. Interested bidders may obtain further information from **Relevant Divisional Engineer's offices given in the Table** and may free inspect the bidding documents at the same office during the office hours.
6. A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by any prospective Bidder or their accredited agent on the submission of a written request to the **Relevant Divisional Engineer's** (As in the Column No.08 of the table) of the Western Provincial Council upon payment of non - refundable fee from 9.00hrs to 15.00 hrs on any working day from 08.03.2021 until 29.03.2021. Payment shall be made in cash.
7. Sealed bids shall be delivered in duplicate with separate envelopes project name written at the top left hand corner and addressed to the **Director (Buildings) / Relevant Divisional Engineer's offices** (As in the Column No.09 of the Table) on or before 30.03.2021 at 10.30 a.m. Bids will be opened soon after closing in the presence of bidders or bidders' representatives who choose to attend. Late Bids will be rejected.
8. All bids shall be accompanied by a bid security or cash deposit (As in the Table)
9. Bidder shall have been registered under the Public Contract No. 03 of 1987 and the Certificate of Registration should be submitted. (As in the Column No.04 of the table)

**Head,
Procurement Unit,
Engineering Organization (W.P),
5th Floor,
#204, Denzil Kobbekaduwa Mawatha,
Battaramulla
08.03.2021
T.P.: 0112 -092504
Fax: 0112 - 092505**

State Ministry of Rural Housing and Construction & Building Materials Industries Promotion

STATE ENGINEERING CORPORATION OF SRI LANKA

INVITATION FOR BIDS

Bid for Supply, Installation, Termination, Testing, Commissioning & Maintenance of the Local Area Network (LAN) and Telephone System for Extension to Block - E Building at Department of Examinations Pelawatta. (C&P/C/2283/2021/008)

- The Chairman, Department Procurement Committee (DPC) on behalf of the State Engineering Corporation of Sri Lanka now invites sealed Bids from eligible and qualified Bidders for **Supply Installation, Termination, Testing, Commissioning & Maintenance of the Local Area Network (LAN) and Telephone System for Extension to Block - E Building at Department of Examinations, Pelawatta.** The time for Completion is **02 Months.**
- Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding (NCB) Procedure.
- To be eligible for contract award, the successful Bidder shall not have been blacklisted & shall have at least one (01) year's experience in similar size and nature of work within last five (05) years in Sri Lanka.
- Interested Bidders may obtain further information from **Chief Engineer (Contracts & Planning), Contracts & Planning Section, 5th Floor, State Engineering Corporation of Sri Lanka, 130, W.A.D. Ramanayake Mawatha, Colombo 02** and inspect the Bidding Documents at the same address on any working day from **09.00 hrs to 15.00 hrs** and contact numbers are **011-2451151, 011-2430061-5.**
- A complete set of Bidding Documents in English Language may be purchased by interested Bidders on submission of a written application to the State Engineering Corporation of Sri Lanka, 130, W.A.D. Ramanayake Mawatha, Colombo 02 from **10.03.2021 until 25.03.2021 from 09.00 hrs to 15.00 hrs** upon payment of a non-refundable fee (Tender Fee) of **Rs. 3,500.00** to the **Cashier, Accounts Division at 7th Floor, State Engineering Corporation of Sri Lanka, 130, W.A.D. Ramanayake Mawatha, Colombo 02.**
- Bids will be delivered to the **Chairman, Department Procurement Committee, State Engineering Corporation of Sri Lanka, Ground Floor, Head Office Building, 130, W.A.D. Ramanayake Mawatha, Colombo 02** on or before **14.00 hrs on 26.03.2021.** Contract name should be marked at the top left-hand corner of the Bid. Late Bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened soon after closing in the presence of the Bidders or their authorized representatives who wish to attend.
- All Bids shall be accompanied by a Bid Security for an amount of **Sri Lankan Rupees One Hundred Thousand Only (Rs. 100,000.00).** Bid Security shall be in any form as per the bid document and should be valid up to **23.07.2021.**
- A Pre Bid Meeting is scheduled to be held at **1st Floor, Head Office Building, State Engineering Corporation of Sri Lanka, 130, W.A.D. Ramanayake Mawatha, Colombo 02 on 17.03.2021 at 10.00 hrs.**

Chairman
Department Procurement Committee,
State Engineering Corporation of Sri Lanka,
130, W.A.D. Ramanayake Mawatha,
Colombo 02.

10.03.2021

STATE MINISTRY OF RURAL HOUSING & CONSTRUCTION AND BUILDING MATERIALS INDUSTRIES PROMOTION

DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS

INVITATION FOR BIDS

- The Chairman, Department Procurement Committee, on behalf of the Department of Buildings now invites sealed Bids from eligible and qualified Bidders for the Works described below.

Description of Work	Estimated Cost (Rs. Million)	Contract Period (Days)	Bid Security (Rs.)
1 Renovation Works of Building No. 09 for Police Training School at Aralaganwila	12.8	126	150,000.00
2 Renovation Works of Building No. 10 for Police Training School at Aralaganwila	12.8	126	150,000.00
3 Renovation Works of Building No. 11 for Police Training School at Aralaganwila	12.8	126	150,000.00
4 Renovation Works of Building No. 12 for Police Training School at Aralaganwila	12.7	126	150,000.00
5 Renovation Works of Building No. 31 (Part A) for Police Training School at Aralaganwila	14.2	154	160,000.00
6 Renovation Works of Building No. 31 (Part B) for Police Training School at Aralaganwila	13.0	154	150,000.00

- Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding Procedure. *Since the estimated cost of this procurement is below Rs. 50 Mn. regional preference and CIDA Grade preference shall apply as stipulated in Public Finance Circular No. 04/2016(ii) & 03/2020.*
- To be eligible for contract award, the successful Bidder shall not have been blacklisted and shall be registered in the field of Building Construction for Grade **C6** or **C5** with the Construction Industry Development Authority (CIDA), valid until the date of closing of the Bids. Further, the registration should be valid at the date of award.
"The Bidders shall also register themselves with Registrar of Public Contracts, Sri Lanka, in terms of the Public Contracts Act No. 03 of 1987. The original certificate of registration (PCA 03) shall be submitted with the Bid. The procurement shall not be awarded to any bidder unless such bidder had submitted the PCA 03 certificate"
- Interested Bidders may obtain further information from the **Chief Engineer (Zone 04), Department of Buildings, Divisional Secretariat, Mannunai North, Batticaloa**, and inspect the Bidding Documents at the same address on any working day from 09.00 hrs to 16.00 hrs. Contact Numbers are : Phone : 065-2229801 Facsimile : 065-2229807.
- A complete set of Bidding Documents in English Language may be purchased by interested Bidders on the submission of a written application to the Chief Engineer (Zone 04), Department of Buildings, Divisional Secretariat, Mannunai North, Batticaloa from **09.03.2021 until 22.03.2021 from 09.00 hrs to 15.00 hrs** upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Rupees Four Thousand (Rs. 4,000/=).
- Bids shall be delivered or sent by Registered Post to the **Chairman, Department Procurement Committee, Department of Buildings, 2nd Floor, "Sethsiripaya", Battaramulla** to reach on or before **10.00 hrs on 23.03.2021.** Bids will be opened soon after closing at the Contract Branch, Department of Buildings, 2nd Floor, "Sethsiripaya", Battaramulla in the presence of the Bidders' Representatives who choose to attend.
- Bids shall be valid for a period of 91 days from the last date fixed for receiving of Bids or any extended period.
- All Bids shall be accompanied by a Bid Security which shall be :
 - in the form included in Section 09 of the Bidding Document.
 - in favour of Director General of Buildings
 - for an amount indicated in the above table
 - valid up to **19th July 2021**
 - issued by one of the agencies indicated in the **Clause 16.2** of the Bidding Data.
- Bidders are advised to enter "Sethsiripaya", premises at least 1 hour before the scheduled time for Bid closing due to security checking.

Eng. M.H.M. Ismail
Director General of Buildings,
Department of Buildings,
2nd Floor, "Sethsiripaya", Battaramulla.
www.buildings.gov.lk

PROCUREMENT NOTICE

DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENT PRINTING

The Chairman, Procurement Committee, Department of Government Printing, will receive Bids from Foreign Principals / Accredited Agents in Sri Lanka for the supply of following.

- White Printing Paper : 17" - 70 GSM**
 - Material : White Printing Paper
 - Quality : Wood Free & Surface Sized
 - Substance : 70 ± 2.5% GSM
 - Width : 17"
 - Quantity Required : 300 ± 10% Metric Tons
 - Bid Reference No : S.I. 2021/25
 - Bid Fee : Rs. 13,000.00
- White Printing Paper : 35" - 70 GSM**
 - Material : White Printing Paper
 - Quality : Wood Free & Surface Sized
 - Substance : 70 ± 2.5% GSM
 - Width : 35"
 - Quantity Required : 100 ± 10% Metric Tons
 - Bid Reference No : S.I. 2021/28
 - Bid Fee : Rs. 5,500.00

Closing of above Bids : 2 p.m. on **31.03.2021** and open the Bid Documents immediately after closing the same.

Bidding Documents will be issued on official working days from 9.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. by the Supplies Division, Department of Government Printing at the below mentioned address on written application together with the above non-refundable fee pertaining to the item on or before 2 p.m. day prior to the closing date of Bids given above.

Further particulars could be obtained from my office during working days from 8.30 a.m. to 4.15 p.m.

Gangani Liyanage
Chairman, Procurement Committee

Department of Government Printing
118, Dr. Danister de Silva Mawatha, Colombo 08.
Telephone : 011-2694898
Websites : www.documents.gov.lk
www.npa.gov.lk
03.03.2021

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WESTERN PROVINCIAL COUNCIL

ENGINEERING ORGANIZATION

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST for INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT

Applications are hereby invited to obtain consultancy services from individual consultants for the building services in hospitals and special buildings managed by the Western Provincial Council to obtain following services.

- Central A/C systems
- Elevator Systems
- Fire Protection systems
- Sewerage Treatment Plants and Plumbing
- Medical Gas Systems\

Eligibility requirements:

- Chartered Mechanical Engineer with at least 10 years experience after obtaining Charter qualifications.
- Postgraduate Degree in Building Services Engineering with at least 5 years post qualifying experience in designing and maintenance of above mentioned building services systems.

Interested Consultants should have to send an application with complete Bio-data (CV), inclusive of all the information to justify that they are having required qualifications to provide the above mentioned services.

Full set of bidding document including "Request for Proposal" and " Terms of Reference" for consultancy services will be sent for shortlisted qualified applicants /candidates based on above given qualifications and experience.

Successful responsive consultant will be selected after Technical Evaluation, will be appointed as a consultant under Deputy Chief Secretary (Engineering) to obtain consulting service for one year period. Appointed consultant should have to work according to the requirement of service.

Qualified professionals having required qualifications should send an application with their complete bio-data (CV) including their educational, academic and professional qualifications and experience marked with caption to the effect "Expression for Interest for individual consultant" on the top left hand corner of the envelope containing applications to the following address by registered post, to receive on or before 22/03/2021.

Chairman,
Deputy Chief Secretary (Engineering) Procurement Committee
Engineering Organization,
5th Floor,
204, Denzil Kobbekaduwa Mawatha,
Battaramulla.

T.P:-0112 092504
Fax:-0112 092505
08.03.2021

PROCUREMENT NOTICE (GOSL FUNDS)

UCSC

UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO SCHOOL OF COMPUTING (UCSC) INVITATION FOR BID

- PROPOSED RENOVATION AND REHABILITATION OF ROOFTOP AREA [FIFTH FLOOR] IN NORTH WING, EAST WING AND WEST WING AT UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO SCHOOL OF COMPUTING.**
- PROPOSED REHABILITATION AND EXPANSION [SPECIAL TYPE MOVEABLE PARTITIONING AND CEILING WORKS] OF COMPUTER LABORATORY [GROUND FLOOR] AT UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO SCHOOL OF COMPUTING - STAGE II**

The Chairman, Department Procurement Committee on behalf of University of Colombo School of Computing (UCSC) invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for followings Procurements.

➤ **PROPOSED RENOVATION AND REHABILITATION OF ROOF TOP AREA [FIFTH FLOOR] IN NORTH WING, EAST WING AND WEST WING AT UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO SCHOOL OF COMPUTING.**

Procurement No	Period of Issuing Bidding Document	Non Refundable Tender Fee(LKR)	Pre Bid Meeting	Bid Security Amount (LKR)	Bids must be submitted on or before/ Closing Date & Time
UCSC/W/NCB/ENG/2021/01	10 th March 2021 up to 31 st March 2021	3,500.00	22 nd March 2021 at 10.30AM	150,000.00	2.30PM on 01 st April 2021

To be eligible for contract award the successful bidder shall not have been black listed and shall meet the following requirement.

- Construction contractors who are registered with the ICTAD for grade C6 or above in the field of Building works.
- Successful and timely construction/ refurbishment of completion and commissioning of at least one similar type building project minimum cost of Rupees 10.0 Million or above (Excluding VAT) during last Three years.

➤ **PROPOSED REHABILITATION AND EXPANSION [SPECIAL TYPE MOVEABLE PARTITIONING AND CEILING WORKS] OF COMPUTER LABORATORY [GROUND FLOOR LAB] AT UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO SCHOOL OF COMPUTING - STAGE II.**

Procurement No	Period of Issuing Bidding Document	Non Refundable Tender Fee (LKR)	Pre Bid Meeting	Bid Security Amount (LKR)	Bids must be submitted on or before/ Closing Time
UCSC/W/NCB/ENG/2021/02	10 th March 2021 up to 30 th March 2021	1,500.00	19 th March 2021 at 10.30AM	50,000.00	2.30PM on 31 st March 2021

To be eligible for contract award the successful bidder shall not have been black listed and shall meet the following requirement.

- Construction contractors who are registered with the ICTAD for grade C8 or above in the field of Building works
- Successful and timely construction/ refurbishment of completion and commissioning of at least one similar type building Project. [Internal Sound Proof Partitioning Works] minimum cost of Rupees 4.0 Million or above (Excluding VAT) during last Three years.

A complete set of bidding documents in English Language may be purchased by interested bidders on the submission of written application to the Assistant Bursar – Procurement, UCSC No 35 Reid Avenue Colombo 00700 and upon payment of a non-refundable fee as mentioned in the above table for each Bidding Document. The method of payment will be in cash to the Shroff Counter at the UCSC during 9.00 am to 3.30pm during the Period of issuing Bidding Documents. Bidding documents can be inspected free of charge, at the finance division UCSC during office hours.

Duly completed sealed set of bidding documents indicating relevant procurement number and the name on the top left hand corner of the envelope with duplicate to be addressed to the "CHAIRMAN DPC, UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO SCHOOL OF COMPUTING (UCSC)" shall be deposited to the Tender Box at the Finance Division 4th Floor of the UCSC No 35, Reid Avenue Colombo 07 on or before the bid closing time as mentioned in the above table. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened in the presence of the bidder's representative who chooses to attend in person at the address below, immediately after closing the bids

All bids must be accompanied by a bid security for each project as mentioned in above tables.

Director/ Chairman DPC
University of Colombo School of Computing (UCSC)
No 35 Reid Avenue Colombo 00700.
Tel: (0112) 581 245/47 Fax: (0112) 587 239

CEYLON ELECTRICITY BOARD

Moragolla Hydropower Project

VACANCIES

Applications are invited from citizens of Sri Lanka having the qualifications and experience specified below and preferably having worked previously in Government or private large projects, for the following post on fixed term contract basis for Moragolla Hydropower Project.

1. Electrical Engineer – Three (03) Vacancies
2. Civil Engineer – Two (02) Vacancies

Qualification and Experience:

- Bachelor's Degree in the field of Engineering specialized in relevant Engineering field from a recognized university with minimum 5 years experience in a job related to the required technical specialty.

Professional Competencies:

- Associate Membership or above of Institute of Engineers, Sri Lanka
- Ability to deliver technical services as required by the project and assist Project Director and Project Managers, as and when necessary.
- Proven ability to handle project activities related to the required area of specialization independently.
- Ability to function effectively in a team environment inspiring trust and co-operation of other team members.
- Ability to analyze and resolve problems related to his/her field in implementation of project activities.
- Computer literacy of computer applications such as MS Office, MS Project and AutoCAD
- Good public relation skills and ability to communicate in Sinhala and English effectively. Communicate in Chinese language will be an added advantage.
- Physically fit and able to work around for long periods of time at the site.

Additional Information

- Age Limit** : Applicants should be more than 30 years of age at the closing date of applications.
- Applicants over 45 years will be considered only on exceptional ground when technically competent people below 45 years of age are not found at the interview.
- Work Experience** : Five (05) years work experience in recognized organizations. Experience in Government or Private Sector large hydropower projects will be an added qualification for selection.
- Remuneration** : Within the framework of Management Circulars issued by the Ministry of Finance.
- Mode of Selection** : By an Interview in English Medium.
- Base Station** : Project site office, Moragolla, Gampola.
- Closing Date/Time** : March 31, 2021 at 10.00 hrs.

Terms & Conditions of Service:

1. The appointment will be on fixed term contract basis for a period of one year. The contract may be extended for further term depending on the requirement of the project. Project period is three years.
2. Those applicants who are already in the Public Service/Public Institutions should forward their applications through their Heads of Department, who should indicate whether the release is possible in case of selection for the post.
3. All applications shall be submitted with complete CV with full name, contact telephone numbers, email/ postal addresses, addresses of two non-related referees, certified copies of the NIC, Birth certificate, Educational certificates, Experience certificates, etc. and any other relevant documents.
4. Applications without complete documents as mentioned above shall be rejected.
5. Applications shall be sent to the address given below by **Registered Post or Courier service** on or before the closing date and time mentioned above. **Electronic submissions are not accepted.** The post applied for should be clearly marked on the top left corner of the envelope.
6. Applications received after the closing date/time will not be considered. Only short listed applicants will be called for interviews and any form of canvassing will be a disqualification.

Project Director
Moragolla Hydropower Project
Ceylon Electricity Board
Moragolla
Gampola 20500.

Tel : 081-2085565
Fax : 081-2353018

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

Ref. No: HDS/LND/10/F/1/5

The land described in the schedule below has been acquired by the state for a public purpose. For further particulars please see Part III of Government Gazette No. 2215/46 dated 19.02.2021 of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.

SCHEDULE

Province : Southern
District : Hambantota
Divisional Secretary's Division : Hambantota
Minor Division : Magampattuwa
Grama Niladhari Division : No. 91, Kaliyapura & No. 95, Gonnoruwa
Village : Gonnoruwa & Kaliyapura
Plan No. : F.T.P. 4/278/645
Lot Nos. : E 3352 - E 3430 (Lots 61)
Extent : 3.7214 Hectares
Divisional Secretary, Divisional Secretariat, Hambantota

Divisional Secretariat, Hambantota
03.03.2021

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

Notice is hereby given that our Client GUANGZHOU TIGER HEAD BATTERY GROUP CO., LTD. of NO. 132 NORTH GONGYE ROAD, HAIZHU DISTRICT, GUANGZHOU, CHINA is the Owner and Sole Proprietor of the following Trade Mark (formerly owned by Guangzhou Light Industry and Trade Group Ltd. of 407, Yanjiangdong Road, Guangzhou, China):-



The said Trade Mark is used in Class 09 in respect of the following goods.

"Batteries"

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 trade mark 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

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The said Trade Mark is used in Class 09 in respect of the following goods.

"Batteries electric; Chargers for electric batteries; Portable power supply (rechargeable battery); Accumulators, electric; Signal lanterns; Wires, electric; Charging stations for electric vehicles; Connections for electric lines; Electrical adapters; Light-emitting diodes (LED)."

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 trade mark 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:

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Employment Opportunities



CEYLON SHIPPING CORPORATION LTD (CSC)

(Ministry of Ports & Shipping)



VACANCY

Applications are invited to recruit a suitable candidate holding citizenship of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka and possessing the relevant qualifications and experience for the following post.

1) Post of General Manager - HM 2-3 (01 Vacancy)

➤ **Qualifications** :
External Candidates :
A Degree in Business Administration, Business Management, Public Administration, Marketing Management, Commerce, Engineering, Science or Mathematics which is recognized by the U.G.C.
And
Post Graduate Degree in relevant field or Corporate membership of a recognized professional institution in Maritime Field.
And
At least 18 years experience in Managerial Level and of which 5 years of experience should be at Senior Managerial Level with a proven track record in a Corporation, Board or reputed Mercantile Establishment after obtaining the first degree.

Internal Candidates :
A minimum of Three (03) years experience as a Deputy General Manager (HM 2-2) of Ceylon Shipping Corporation Ltd.

➤ **Salary scale** : HM 2-3 – 2016 : Rs. (98,215 – 12 x 2700 – 130,615)
The selected candidate will be placed on the initial point of HM 2-3 Salary Scale on Rs.98,215/-
In addition to this salary all government approved allowances for State Owned Enterprises will also be paid.

➤ **Age Limit** : Should be not less than 35 years and not more than 55 years. The upper age limit will not apply to the internal and Government Sector candidates.

➤ **Method of Recruitment** : By an structured Interview

➤ **Fringe Benefits** :
1. E.P.F / E.T.F
2. Surgical & Hospitalization cover for indoor and outdoor treatments
3. Comprehensive Personal and Accident Cover
4. Encashment of non utilized Medical Leave
5. Annual Bonus / Festival Loan as applicable
6. Staff Loans and Housing Loans on concessionary terms
7. Subsidized vehicle loan
8. Professional Allowance as per the MSD Circular No: 5/2017
9. The Transport will be provided as per PED Circular No: 1/2015 (i)

General Instructions :

- All Applications together with Copies of the Certificates of Educational / Professional qualifications certified by the applicant as true copy together with Birth Certificate, other relevant certificates and addresses of two non-related referees should be forwarded by registered post to reach the Chairman CSC or email to hr@csc.lk on or before **20th March 2021**.
- Please indicate the post applied on the top left hand corner of the envelope.
- Applications from employees of Public Sector Organizations should be forwarded through the respective Heads of Institutions.
- Late and incomplete applications will not be considered
- Please note that the applicants will be evaluated at an Structured Interview by a Panel appointed by the appointing authority.

Non-conformity with the above requirements will result in the application being rejected. Canvassing of any form will be a disqualification.

Chairman
Ceylon Shipping Corporation Ltd.
No. 27, MICH Building,
Sir Razik Fareed Mawatha (Bristol Street), Colombo 01.
Further inquiries : Tel. 071 445 2898

Classifieds

Employment

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Professional Consultancy Services

Any labour issue, fraud prevention call 0722062919. 018622

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