

NO DECISION YET ON BANNING BURQA, NIQAB - MINISTER

WIDE CONSULTATIONS ON PROPOSAL

NO DIPLOMATIC TENSIONS WITH MUSLIM COUNTRIES

NATIONAL SECURITY ASPECTS CONSIDERED

ISHARA MUDUGAMUWA

Co-Cabinet Spokesman, Mass Media Minister Keheliya Rambukwella said the Government will make a decision on banning the Burqa and the Niqab carefully and wisely so as not to exert undue influence on any party.

He was responding to a question by a journalist at the Cabinet media

briefing held at the Government Information Department yesterday.

The Minister said the Muslim community in Sri Lanka has inherited a unique culture and the restrictions on the Burqa should be done in a manner that does not adversely affect their culture.

"However, if there is a threat to national security through clothing

such as the Burqa, it is imperative that action be taken in this regard. But it should not be hasty," he said.

When asked if the Government had taken any action on the issue of diplomatic tensions with pro-Sri Lankan Muslim countries due to the proposed ban on the Burqa, the Minister said it was an internal matter and would not affect diplomatic



Loan payments: Arrive at consensus on giving relief to entrepreneurs - PM

Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa instructed heads of banks to focus on the possibility of allocating a grace period to settle bank loans obtained by entrepreneurs affected by the Easter Sunday attacks and the COVID-19 pandemic.



He requested the banks to temporarily suspend acquisition of property of entrepreneurs who are unable to repay bank loans due to above reasons.

At a discussion held at the Finance Ministry on Monday, the Prime Minister told the Finance Ministry, the Central Bank and the relevant banks to discuss and arrive at a consensus on providing relief to the financial difficulties faced by the entrepreneurs.

He pointed out the importance of resolving this long standing problem in a manner that does not cause trouble to any party.



An islandwide campaign initiated by the Transport Ministry to raise awareness among the public to minimise road accidents caused by motorcyclists was launched at the Galle Face Green on Monday. According to statistics, motorcyclists are responsible for the highest number of road accidents in Sri Lanka. Nursing officer Pushpa Ramyani Zoysa educating a motorcyclist on road safety and the importance of following road rules to prevent accidents. It has been identified that not wearing helmets, high speed and drunk driving are common reasons for motorcycle accidents. Transport Minister Gamini Lokuge and Co-operative Services, Marketing Development and Consumer Protection State Minister Lasantha Alagiyawanna participated at the launch of the mobile programme. (Picture courtesy Transport Ministry)

Salley arrested



DILSHAN THARAKA

The CID arrested former Western Province Governor Azath Salley over a controversial statement made by him yesterday.

The Attorney General's Coordinating Officer, State Counsel Nishara Jayaratne said the Attorney General had advised the DIG CID that credible information has been disclosed of offenses committed under the Penal Code, Prevention of Terrorism Act and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) Act by Azath Salley by a speech made by him on March 10.

Adani Chairman thanks all for opportunity

WCT to be built on 35-year BOT basis

The joint venture to build the West Container Terminal (WCT) of the Colombo port will enhance the multi-dimensional strategic relationship between India and Sri Lanka, Adani Group Chairman Gautam Adani said.



Chairman Gautam Adani

He thanked the Sri Lankan Government for the opportunity offered.

"Grateful to the leaders of Government of India, Government of Sri Lanka, Sri Lanka Ports Authority and John Keells for the opportunity to build WCT, Colombo."

CIABOC withdraws case against former AG, others

SHAVINI MADHARA

The Commission to Investigate Allegations of Bribery or Corruption (CIABOC) yesterday informed the Colombo Chief Magistrate's Court that the case filed against former Attorney General Mohan Peiris and several others will be withdrawn.

The Commission to Investigate Allegations of Bribery or Corruption (CIABOC) had filed a corruption case before the Colombo Chief Magistrate's Court against



Don't panic over AstraZeneca vaccine halt in Europe - Minister

ISHARA MUDUGAMUWA

The government yesterday urged the public not to panic as certain European countries halted the use of the AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine.

Speaking at the weekly Cabinet media briefing held yesterday at the Government Information Department, Co-Cabinet Spokesman Plantation Minister Dr. Ramesh Pathirana said that

a number of European countries have suspended the use of AstraZeneca's COVID-19 vaccine amid fears the shot may have caused some recipients to develop serious blood clots.



Boy dies, 15 injured at Thalaimannar rail crossing



RASULA DILHARA GAMAGE
Northern Province Special Corr

A nine year old boy died and another 15 sustained injuries when a private passenger bus collided with a train at the railway crossing near Thalaimannar railway station around 2pm yesterday.

Around 30 passengers had been on board the bus and 20 of them were schoolchildren. Two passengers had sustained serious injuries.

AG directs CID: Edirisinghe siblings arrested

DILSHAN THARAKA

The CID arrested four former Swarnamahal Jewellers directors on charges of Money Laundering on Attorney General Dappula de Livera's directions yesterday.

They are Jeewaka Edirisinghe, Anjali Edirisinghe, Asanka Edirisinghe and Nalaka Edirisinghe, who served as directors of ETI Finance and Swarnamahal Jewellers.

Three students in assault case granted bail

MAHINDA P. LIYANAGE, Galle Central special correspondent

Three students including two students of the same school who were remanded and one other student who appeared in court for allegedly assaulting and injuring a student of a leading school in Galle

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Justice Minister Ali Sabry PC and Education Minister Prof. G. L. Peiris at the meeting.

Committee appointed to include 'Law' as a subject in school curriculum

A Parliamentary Sub-Committee has been appointed to formulate an appropriate methodology in order to include 'Law' as a subject in the school curriculum. This sub-committee was appointed at a special joint meeting of the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Education and Justice chaired by Education Minister Prof. G.L. Peiris and

Justice Minister Ali Sabry, PC recently.

Accordingly, a committee of eight members including State Minister Susil Premajayantha MPs Rauf Hakeem, S. Shriratharan, Weerasumana Weerasinghe, Sagara Kariyawasam, Amarakeerthi Athukorala, Diana Gamage and Major Sudarshana Denipitiya. Assistant Secretary General Tikiri Jayathilake was appointed

as the secretary to this sub-committee.

Justice Minister Ali Sabry said it was important to impart a basic understanding of the law to children as the public knowledge of the law is at a very low level. He emphasised that steps have been taken to provide citizen education in basic law in the developed countries and that there is an urgent need to incorporate

knowledge of law into the school curriculum.

Education Minister Prof. G.L. Peiris instructed the committee members that the report containing the recommendations be submitted within two months. Thereafter, the law subject should be included in the curriculum as soon as possible on the recommendation of an expert committee, the Education Minister said.

Rishad's Rs.1 bn lawsuit: Enjoining Order against Wimal

LAKMAL SOORIYAGODA

The Colombo District Court yesterday issued an Enjoining Order preventing Minister Wimal Weerawansa and three electronic media institutions from defaming All Ceylon Makal Congress (ACMC) Leader MP Rishad Bathiudeen in connection with a statement made by Minister Weerawansa during a public gathering recently.

This order will be effective until March 30. Colombo District Court Judge Amali Ranaweera

made this order pursuant to a libel lawsuit filed by MP Rishad Bathiudeen.

Plaintiff Rishad Bathiudeen states that, the first defendant Minister in a public speech held under the theme of 'Islamic Extremism Beyond the Easter Commission' on March 9, 2021 had made a defamatory statement with malicious intent. He further said the statement made by Minister Wimal Weerawansa as the chief speaker of the event had been aired by three private

television channels on the same day. The Plaintiff further pleads that by reason of the said defamatory statement, he has suffered grave injury and loss to his reputation, character and credit as an individual and as a politician.

Bathiudeen stated that he has suffered loss and damage which he assesses at One Billion rupees. Counsel Rushdhi Habeeb with Sandeepa Gamaethige, Raveena Silva instructed by counsel Evon Nirasha appeared for the plaintiff.

NO DECISION... From Page 01

relations between Sri Lanka and allied Muslim countries including Pakistan, whose Premier Imran Khan visited Sri Lanka recently. It will not cause any diplomatic problems, he said.

The Foreign Ministry yesterday issuing a press statement said the Government would initiate a broader dialogue with all parties concerned on the proposal to ban the wearing of the Burqa and the Niqab in Sri Lanka, and sufficient time would be taken to arrive at a consensus.

"Recent media reports have highlighted statements made in regard to a proposal to ban the wearing of the Burqa and Niqab in Sri Lanka. Foreign Secretary Admiral Prof. Jayanath Colombage has said a decision has not been taken by the Government to impose such a ban and it is merely a proposal, which was under wide discussion.

Salley arrested... From Page 01

Recently, Salley had allegedly said that he does not respect the law of the land but only respects and welcomes the Muslim Sharia Law.

Three students... From Page 01

were released on a surety of Rs. 200,000 each by Galle Additional Magistrate Pavithra Sanjeevani Pathirana yesterday.

The suspected students are alleged for assaulting and injuring a student of same school on March 8 while the victim was at the examination hall to sit for the G.C.E. O/L examination.

WCT to be built... From Page 01

This partnership is a symbol of the deep strategic relations between countries with great intertwined history. It will launch decades of container growth," he tweeted on Monday.

Meanwhile, the website of Adani Ports detailed that the WCT would be developed on a Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT) basis for a period of 35 years as a public-private partnership.

"WCT will have a quay length of 1,400 meters and alongside depth of 20 meters, thereby making it a prime transshipment cargo destination to handle Ultra Large Container Carriers.

AG directs... From Page 01

Coordinating Officer to the Attorney General, State Counsel Nishara Jayaratne said.

According to the final report of Presidential Commission of Inquiry, there was evidence that the directors of ETI Finance had used the deposits in undisclosed accounts for personal gain and had persuaded the public to accept deposits, indicating that the ETI Finance was a well-run financial institution at a time of severe liquidity crisis.

Evidence before the Commission has revealed that the ETI Finance Company had illegally obtained Rs.6.480 billion in deposits by maintaining undisclosed accounts with the Central Bank of Sri Lanka (CBSL) and that Swarnamahal Jewellers had illegally obtained Rs.7.2 billion in deposits from the public without being registered with the CBSL and without a valid license.

Don't panic over... From Page 01

"But Sri Lanka will continue administration of the Oxford AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine in Sri Lanka since only one batch of the vaccine has been temporarily suspended in certain European countries. Sri Lanka does not receive that particular batch of vaccine doses that have been suspended," he said.

Dr Pathirana further said that the COVID-19 vaccination programme is successfully continuing and the country will be able to control the virus in the next three months. Vaccines provided under the World Health Organization's COVAX facility are being used to vaccinate elderly people above 60 and another batch of vaccines is scheduled to arrive soon. As it was reported by international media Ireland, Bulgaria, Denmark, Norway, Netherlands, Germany, Italy, France, and Spain have decided to halt the rollout.

During his regular media briefing the World Health Organization's (WHO) Director General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said on Monday (15) that more countries have suspended the use of AstraZeneca vaccine as a precautionary measure after reports of blood clots in people who received the vaccine. That systems meant to protect public health were working, as several countries suspended the use of AstraZeneca's COVID-19 vaccine to investigate possible side-effects.

"This does not necessarily mean these events are linked to COVID-19 vaccination, but it's routine practice to investigate them, and it shows that the surveillance system works and that effective controls are in place," he said.

A WHO advisory committee plans to meet on Tuesday to discuss the vaccine, which Germany, France and Italy said on Monday they were pausing after several countries reported serious conditions in people who had received the shot.

Denmark and Norway had stopped giving the shot last week after reporting isolated cases of blood clots, bleeding or a low platelet count. Iceland and Bulgaria followed suit and Ireland and the Netherlands announced suspensions on Sunday.WHO Chief Scientist Soumya Swaminathan stated that there had been no documented deaths linked to COVID-19 vaccines.

"We do not want people to panic and no association has so far been found between the "thromboembolic events" reported in some countries and COVID-19 shots," she added.

Two held for printing Rs. 5,000 notes

Two suspects were arrested in possession of 124 counterfeit notes of Rs 5,000 denomination during a special raid conducted in Oluvil and Nindavur in the Akkaraipattu Police area on Monday, Police Spokesperson DIG Ajith Rohana said. The face value of the fake notes exceeds Rs. 600,000. He said another 20 partially printed counterfeit notes of Rs 5,000 denomination were also found in their possession along with a vehicle and equipment such as a printer, scanner, and ink.

The raid was conducted on the information provided by the Army Intelligence. The suspects are residents of Oluvil and Adalachenai. The Police Spokesman said the suspects along with the seized items would be handed over to the Criminal Investigations Department (CID) for further investigations. He also requested the public to be vigilant on fake notes as the circulation of such notes usually increases during festive seasons. He advised the public to check the watermark and the security thread in the currency notes to verify the authenticity.

Loan payments... From Page 01

The Prime Minister also pointed out the need of a Government Agency or an Authority vested with legal power to act as a mediator between entrepreneurs and banks to resolve loan payment issues.

Boy dies, 15 injured... From Page 01

Police had arrested the bus driver and the conductor for investigations.

"The Police are conducting investigations to ascertain whether the railway gates had been properly functioning at the time of the accident and whether the cause of the accident was reckless driving or negligence," Police Spokesman DIG Ajith Rohana said.

The injured persons had been admitted to Mannar and Thalaimannar hospitals. The bus was transporting schoolchildren.

CIABOC withdraws case against former... From Page 01

former Attorney General Mohan Peiris, Court of Appeal Judge A.H.M.D. Nawaz and former Chairman of Lanka Electricity Company (Private) Limited (LECO) M.M.C. Ferdinando.

When the case was taken up before the Colombo Chief Magistrate Buddhika Sri Ragala, Assistant Director General Subhashini Senanayake appearing on behalf of

the Bribery Commission informed the court that the case will be withdrawn due to a technical issue.

The Bribery Commission also stated that the Supreme Court had earlier issued an interim order preventing the case from being taken up for hearing after considering a writ petition filed by the defendants, but the Supreme Court had issued an

order on Monday allowing it to be taken up for hearing. The case was filed on charges of preparing an erroneous Attorney General's report to avoid taking legal action against irregularities committed in the purchase of lands for LECO during the period between December 1 and December 30, 2010, while Mohan Peiris was the Attorney General.

OBITUARY NOTICE

Mrs. CHANDRANI PREMASEELI DEDIGAMA

Chairperson - Dedigama Group of Companies, Maharagama

No. 75, Railway Avenue, Maharagama. Beloved wife of the late Mr. Dharmadasa Dedigama, passed away on 15.03.2021
Funeral will take place at 4.00 p.m. on Wednesday 17.03.2021 at the Godigamuwa General Cemetery, Maharagama.

Remains lie at the residence for last respects.

May you attain the Supreme Bliss of Nibbana at the end of the journey of Sansara!

Bereaved

Udaya Dedigama (Son)

Vinoda Dedigama (Daughter-in-law)

Ranjan Malin Dedigama (Son)

Roshini Dedigama (Daughter-in-law)

Saman Dedigama (Son)

Shirani Dedigama (Daughter-in-law)

Manori Dedigama (Daughter)

Late Kumudu Wimalaratne (Son-in-law)

Iruka Dedigama (Grandson)

Ashana Dedigama (Grand daughter)

Chamidu Dedigama (Grandson)

Ishanka Dedigama (Grand daughter)

Ashanka Wimalaratne (Grandson)

Thushen Wimalaratne (Grand daughter)

Rashmi Dedigama (Grandson)

Wagisha Sumathipala Dedigama (Grand daughter)

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and members of the family.

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Laws cannot be changed according to individuals' whims – Defence Secretary

"The law will be carried out against anyone who attempts to break through by sowing seeds of hate politics and disrupting peace," the Defence Secretary General Kamal Gunaratne (Retd) said.

"Irrespective of positions, every citizen should respect and follow the law of the country. It cannot be changed according to an individual's wish" he said.

"We are ready to swiftly act against anything detrimental to the healthy cooperation and reconciliation between the communi-

ties and religion," he said.

The Defence Secretary was speaking at the Maharagama Mahamegharamaya on Sunday responding to the media on a recently triggered issue while attending the 27th commemoration of the Chief Prelate of Maharagama Mahamegharamaya Ven. Ankumbure Sugunapalabhidhana Thera.

Cash donations along with a pack of dry rations were distributed among a number of low income families on the occasion. Maharagama Mahamegharama Chief Incumbent Ven Ankumbure Amarawansa Thera, Defence Ministry's Seva Vanitha Unit Chairperson Chithrani Gunaratne and devotees were present.



Defence Secretary General Kamal Gunaratne (Retd) distributing cash donations and dry rations.

Cabinet approval for Thripitaka Conservation Act

ISHARA MUDUGAMUWA

The Cabinet has given consent to the resolution by Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa in his capacity as the Buddha Sasana, Religious and Cultural Affairs Minister for passing a Thripitaka Conservation Act in Parliament to preserve the Thripitaka for the sake of future generations, Co-cabinet Spokesman Mass Media Minister Keheliya Rambukwella said.

The Legal Draftman has also been instructed to prepare the Bill.

Sri Lanka has been recognised as the centre for Buddhism. Therefore, it is

a responsibility of the Government to safeguard the Buddha Sasana and nurture it by giving the priority to Buddhism.

Commemorating the 2500 year Sri Sambudhatwa Jayanthi in 1956, the Thripitaka has been translated to Sinhala and published.

It has been declared as a national heritage by the gazette notification on February 7, 2019 to secure the Thripitaka while it has been prohibited to be conserved, provide erroneous definitions or translated without permission of the Government.

Plantations Companies file Writ Petition against daily wage hike

LAKMAL SOORIVAGODA

Twenty major plantations companies have filed a writ petition in the Court of Appeal seeking an order quashing the decision of the Wages Board to increase the daily wage of plantation workers to Rs. 1,000.

Agarapatana Plantations Limited, Balangoda Plantations PLC, Elpitiya Plantations PLC, Horana

Plantations PLC and 16 other plantations companies had filed the petition naming Labour Minister Nimal Siripala de Silva, Chairman of Wage Board for Rea, Rubber Ggrowing and Manufacturing Trade Prabath Chandrakeerthi and several others as respondents.

The petitioners feared that the Plantations Industry will have to face

dire consequences if they implemented the increment of workers daily wage to Rs 1,000.

The gazette notification on increasing the daily wage of Estate Workers to Rs. 1,000 was published on March 9.

The increase comprises Rs.900 as the minimum daily wage and Rs.100 as a Budgetary Relief Allowance.

Dentists' demands will be considered favourably – Minister Pathirana

ISHARA MUDUGAMUWA

Co-Cabinet Spokesman Plantation Minister Dr. Ramesh Pathirana yesterday said that the Government will respond positively to Dental Surgeons' requests.

The Minister was responding to a journalist at the Cabinet Media briefing at the Government Information Department.

He said that the Health Minister has already considered the demands of the Dental Surgeons. They are talking about a token strike on several major legal issues that affect them, he said.

One of the issues they raise is the retirement age. They are demanding to make it 61. New

recruitments to fill the vacancies, the waiting list appointments and the workload are among their other demands, he said.

The Minister said that the Dental Surgeons are doing a great service and it is the responsibility of the Government to provide them with the facilities.

'Reports on Easter Sunday attacks sent to AG's Department'

ISHARA MUDUGAMUWA

Co-Cabinet Spokesman, Minister Ramesh Pathirana yesterday said that reports including highly confidential ones on the multiple terrorist attacks on churches and hotels at several locations of the country on Easter Sunday have already been sent to the Attorney General's Department on the promise to keep the information confidential.

Minister Pathirana was responding to a journalist at the weekly Cabinet Media Briefing yesterday

at the Government Information Department.

The Minister said that only the Attorney General's Department has the authority to institute legal action against the culprits and the Cabinet Sub Committee appointed to look into the Easter Sunday attacks has no power to take legal action.

Minister Pathirana said that the Cabinet Sub Committee was appointed to scrutinise the ways to prevent such incidents in the future and it is now examining the measures

that need to be taken to prevent such incidents in the future.

The Committee headed by Minister Chamal Rajapaksa was appointed by the President to study in depth the findings and recommendations contained in the report on the Easter Sunday attacks and to advise on the next course of action. Ministers Johnston Fernando, Udaya Gammanpila, Ramesh Pathirana, Prasanna Ranatunga and Rohitha Abeygunawardena are the other members.

Two suspects arrested with ICE

The Police Narcotics Bureau (PNB) arrested two suspects along with 1.5 kilogram of ICE during a special raid in Dam Street on Monday, Police Spokesperson DIG Ajith Rohana said.

The suspects are a 29-year-old resident of

Saanchiarachchivatte in Colombo 2 and a 37-year-old resident of Saidu Street in Colombo 12.

"Heroin is not freely available in the market now and therefore, ICE is used instead. We are conducting constant raids,"

the Police Spokesman said.

He requested the people to support to eradicate the drug menace by providing any relevant information to hotline '1997'. The Police Narcotic Bureau (PNB) is investigating.

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ASTRAZENECA VACCINE: 'EXTRAORDINARILY SAFE'

Europe's medicines regulator has moved to stifle spiralling concern about the Oxford/AstraZeneca vaccine, saying the shot's benefits outweigh the risks after four major EU countries announced they were suspending its use.

Germany, France, Italy and Spain temporarily halted inoculations with the vaccine on Monday after reported incidents of bleeding, blood clots and a low count of blood platelets in some people who had received the AstraZeneca shot.

The European Medicines Agency (EMA) said in a statement that "many thousands of people develop blood clots annually in the EU for different reasons" and that the number of incidents in vaccinated people "seems not to be higher than that seen in the general population".

It said it was working closely with AstraZeneca and national health regulators, including the MHRA in the UK, where 11 million people have received the shot, to analyse all available data and establish whether the vaccine might have contributed.

The MHRA, which collects reports of side-effects on drugs and vaccines in the UK through its "yellow card" scheme, told *The Guardian* it had received more notifications up until February 28 of blood clots on the Pfizer/BioNTech than the Oxford/AstraZeneca vaccine - 38 versus 30 - although neither exceed the level expected in the population.

"Such reports are not proven side effects of the vaccine," a spokesman said. "Blood clots can occur naturally and are not uncommon."

The EMA's safety committee will meet on Tuesday and a decision on any further action will be announced on Thursday, it said, adding that it "currently remains of the view that the benefits of the AstraZeneca vaccine in preventing Covid-19, with its associated risk of hospitalisation and death, outweigh the risks of side-effects".

Amid fears that the suspensions might lead to people refusing to have the vaccine, Downing Street said the AstraZeneca jab "remains both safe and effective". Boris



Johnson's official spokesperson said there was "no evidence" that blood clots were any more likely to occur following vaccination.

Germany's health ministry said earlier the country's vaccine authority, the Paul Ehrlich Institute, "considers further investigation necessary after new reports of cerebral brain thrombosis in connection with vaccination in Germany and Europe".

It said the EMA should decide "whether and how the new findings will affect the approval of the vaccine". The health minister, Jens Spahn, said seven cases of cerebral vein thrombosis had been reported.

While this was a "very low risk" compared with the 1.6m jabs already given in the coun-

try, Spahn said, it would be above average if a link to the vaccine was confirmed. "The decision today is a purely precautionary measure," he said.

French President Emmanuel Macron said France would also stop administering the AstraZeneca shot "out of precaution...in the hope we can resume quickly if the EMA gives the green light" after this week's meetings.

Joining a growing number of European countries to temporarily halt the use of the vaccine in recent days, Italy's medicines authority Aifa said it was also suspending inoculations as a "precautionary and temporary measure" before the EMA decision. Spain and Slovenia later followed suit.

Denmark and Norway last week reported incidents of bleeding, blood clots and a low count of blood platelets in several people who had received the AstraZeneca shot, prompting Ireland and the Netherlands to join them on Sunday in making temporary suspensions.

A World Health Organization spokesperson, Christian Lindmeier, on Monday said it would communicate its findings and "any unlikely changes to current recommendations" as soon as it had inves-

tigated the incidents in Europe.

However, "as of today, there is no evidence that the incidents are caused by the vaccine, and it is important that vaccination campaigns continue so that we can save lives and stem severe disease from the virus," Lindmeier said.

Karl Lauterbach, a professor of health economic and epidemiology at the University of Cologne and a German MP, criticised Germany's decision. "Based on the data available, I consider this to be a mistake," Lauterbach said.

"Testing without suspension of vaccination would have been better because of the rarity of the complication. In the third wave, which is now picking up speed, the first vaccinations with the AstraZeneca vaccine would be lifesavers."

The Netherlands clarified on Monday that it had recorded 10 cases of "noteworthy adverse side-effects" from the AstraZeneca vaccine, while Denmark said "highly unusual" symptoms were seen in a 60-year-old recipient who died from a blood clot.

The agency said in a statement that the woman had "a low number of blood platelets and clots in small and large vessels, as well as bleeding". Norway also spoke of "unusu-

al symptoms" in three people under 50 being treated in hospital.

Two health workers in Norway have since died of brain haemorrhages, the national medicines agency said, adding that it could "neither confirm nor exclude that it has something to do with the vaccine".

Austria stopped using one batch of the AstraZeneca vaccine on March 8 after a 49-year-old nurse died from "severe bleeding disorders", and prosecutors in the northern Italian region of Piedmont on Monday seized a batch of 393,600 doses after a 57-year-old music teacher fell ill and died.

In the UK, Ruth Rankine, the primary care director at the NHS Confederation, said health leaders were concerned the decisions from some European countries "will affect how confident people in England are about getting immunised".

Rankine said this was "particularly worrying as it is coming at a time when national lockdown restrictions are beginning to be relaxed, when our vaccine stock has increased this week, and when we can see the benefits of the vaccinations coming through in reduced transmission".

Prof Andrew Goddard, the



president of the Royal College of Physicians, said: "As far as we are aware, there has been no demonstrable evidence of an increase in thromboembolic events, such as blood clots, among those who have been vaccinated in the UK."

Goddard said there was "evidence to suggest that those who are hospitalised with Covid-19 are at much higher risk of having a blood clot than the rest of the population, so we'd urge people to act responsibly and continue getting vaccinated when they're invited to."

AstraZeneca said 17 million people had so far received the jab and the 15 incidences of deep vein thrombosis (DVT) and 22 events of pulmonary embolism recorded were "much lower than would be expected to occur naturally in a general population" and "similar across other licensed Covid-19 vaccines".

Adding to the pharmaceutical firm's problems, AstraZeneca said at the weekend it would not be able to meet its delivery targets to the EU in the first quarter and could have problems in the second quarter too.

The company's initial target was for 120m doses in the first quarter of the year and 180m in the second. It then lowered its first-quarter target to 40m, citing "lower-than-expected output from the production process", but is now looking at just 30m.

Although it still aims to supply 100m in the second quarter, leaked documents suggest that figure may now

The European Medicines Agency said in a statement that "many thousands of people develop blood clots annually in the EU for different reasons" and that the number of incidents in vaccinated people "seems not to be higher than that seen in the general population".

be only 70m - meaning the company would have supplied 100m of the 300m doses it promised the EU in the first half.

AstraZeneca said on Saturday it hoped it would be able to compensate for production difficulties in its European plants with supplies from its global network which were being stymied by some countries' export restrictions.

The US is refusing to release 30m unused doses even though the vaccine has not been approved by US regulators, while the head of Sweden's vaccination programme said at the weekend there were clear "contractual obstacles" to AstraZeneca exporting supplies to the EU from the UK.

(*The Guardian*)



No proof Oxford vaccine causes blood clots

DAVID SPIEGELHALTER

Stories about people getting blood clots soon after taking the Oxford/AstraZeneca vaccine have become a source of anxiety among European leaders. After a report on a death and three hospitalisations in Norway, which found serious blood clotting in adults who had received the vaccine, Ireland has temporarily suspended the jab. Some anxiety about a new vaccine is understandable, and any suspected reactions should be investigated. But in the current circumstances we need to think slow as well as fast, and resist drawing causal links between events where none may exist.

As Ireland's deputy chief medical officer, Ronan Glynn, has stressed, there is no proof that this vaccine causes blood clots. It's a common human tendency to attribute a causal effect between different events, even when there isn't one present: we wash the car and the next day a bird relieves itself all over the bonnet.

Typical. Or, more seriously, someone is diagnosed with autism after receiving the MMR vaccine, so people assume a causal connection - even when there isn't one. And now, people get blood clots after having a vaccine, leading to concern over whether the vaccine is what caused the blood clots.

Call it luck, chance or fate - it's difficult to incorporate this into our thinking. So when the European Medicines Agency (EMA) says there have been 30 "thromboembolic events" after around 5m vaccinations, the crucial question to ask is: how many would be expected anyway, in the normal run of things?

We can try a quick back-of-the-envelope calculation. Deep vein thromboses (DVTs) happen to around one person per 1,000 each year, and probably more in the older population being vaccinated. Working on the basis of these figures, out of five million people getting vaccinated, we would expect significantly more than 5,000 DVTs a year, or at

The Pfizer trials had similar results, with more mild or moderate adverse events in the vaccine group but almost identical numbers of serious events.

least 100 every week. So it is not at all surprising that there have been 30 reports.

It would be so much easier if we had a group of people exactly like those being vaccinated but who didn't get jabbed. This would tell us how many serious events we could expect to happen to people that were the result of sheer bad luck. Fortunately, we do have such a group. In the trials that led to the vaccines being approved in the UK, volunteers were randomly allocated to receive either the active vaccine or a dummy injection. Everyone then reported any harms they experienced, but crucially nobody knew if they had received the real stuff or an inert injection. By comparing the numbers of reports from the two groups, we can see how many "reactions" were really owing to the active ingredients, and

how many were linked to the vaccination process, or would have happened anyway.

Some kind of adverse events were reported by 38 percent of those receiving the real vaccine but, rather remarkably, 28 percent of those who received the dummy also reported a side-effect. This shows that the vaccination process itself causes about two-thirds of all the reported harm. Of more than 24,000 participants, fewer than one percent reported a serious adverse event, and of these 168 people, slightly more had received the dummy than the active vaccine. So there was no evidence of increased risk from taking the AstraZeneca vaccine. The Pfizer trials had similar results, with more mild or moderate adverse events in the vaccine group but almost identical numbers of serious events.

Trials are short and comparatively small, and tend to include healthy people, so we need to collect real-world data as



the vaccines are rolled out. In the UK, adverse reactions are reported using the "yellow card" system, which dates back to the days when doctors filled in yellow cards to report side-effects. Up to February 28, around 54,000 yellow cards have been reported for the Oxford/AstraZeneca vaccine, from around 10 million vaccinations given (the Pfizer vaccine has a slightly lower rate). So for both vaccines, the overall reporting rate is around three to six reports per 1,000 jabs. That means a far greater number of side-effects are reported in the trials than through the yellow card system (of course, one factor in this underreporting may be the yellow card website, which appears designed for medical professionals rather than patients experiencing side-effects).

The vast majority of the side-effects reported through the yellow card system and in randomised trials are reports of direct reactions to the jab, such as a sore arm, or subsequent general flu-like symptoms of headache, tiredness, fever and so on, which subside in a few days. The most serious problem is anaphylactic reactions, and the advice is not to inject anyone with a previous history of allergic reactions to either a prior dose of the vaccine or its ingredients.

So far, these vaccines have shown themselves to be extraordinarily safe. In fact, it's perhaps surprising that we haven't heard more stories of adverse

effects. There could well be some extremely rare event that is triggered by Covid-19 vaccines, but there is no sign of this yet. We can just hope that this message gets through to those who are still hesitant because of the misinformation that has been spread about the supposed harm of vaccines, and the unhelpful comments made by some European politicians.

Will we ever be able to resist the urge to find causal relationships between different events? One way of doing this would be promoting the scientific method and ensuring everyone understands this basic principle. Testing a hypothesis helps us see which hunches or assumptions are correct and which aren't. In this way, randomised trials have proved the effectiveness of some Covid treatments and saved vast numbers of lives, while also showing us that some overblown claims about treatments for Covid-19, such as hydroxychloroquine and convalescent plasma, were incorrect.

But I don't think we can ever fully rationalise ourselves out of the basic and often creative urge to find patterns even where none exist. Perhaps we can just hope for some basic humility before claiming we know why something has happened.

(*David Spiegelhalter is chair of the Winton Centre for Risk and Evidence Communication at Cambridge*)
(*The Guardian*)



WE CAME OUT FIGHTING



1996
CRICKET
WORLD
CUP



Our spirits could have been crushed **25 years** ago, but we still came out strong. This was the tournament that made our cricketers household names around the world. We showed one of the best teams in the world who the better team was. It would change the way they saw us, and it would change the way in which we saw ourselves.

- They watched as we came out fighting ● And we did the unthinkable ● They followed our lead.



Depositing treasures in Sandahiru Stupa Chamber on March 28

The religious ceremony for depositing treasures in the Square Chamber of the Sandahiru Stupa will be held on March 28, Defence Secretary General Kamal Gunaratne (Retd) yesterday said.

The Chamber construction will be commenced after depositing the treasures, he said.

He was speaking at a

media briefing at the Defence Ministry.

The Defence Secretary said that devotees could deposit treasures from March 20 to 27 at the temple. A special committee has been appointed to collect the treasures from the public, he said.

The families of War Heroes could offer treasures in memory of their

beloved ones, he said. The Crest-Gem and the Minaret will be exposed in a procession all around the country, he said.

The Defence Secretary said that the Stupa, which is second only to Ruwanwelisaya, will be vested in public in November.

"Work will be carried out round the clock to construct the 39-foot tall

Square Chamber," he said. "The cylindrical upper part is over 23-feet tall and conical spire of the Stupa will be 73-feet tall.

The Crest-Gem is three-feet tall, he said.

"The Stupa was built with the contribution of Tri-Forces, devotees and donors," he said.

The assembly of Square Chamber rings,

building conical spire and minaret, placing sacred symbolic Crest-Gem, engravings, carvings and art work will be carried out soon.

Defence Ministry Liaison Officer Brigadier Dinesh Nanayakkara, Director Media Colonel Chandima Kumarasinghe, Ministry Officials and media personnel were present.



Defence Secretary General Kamal Gunaratne (Retd) addressing the press briefing.

Galle Prison kept in 'One Team, One Vision'

MAAHINDA P. LIYANAGE,
Galle Central Special Corr.

Galle Prison Superintendent Mohandas Nimal Santha has introduced several initiatives in accordance with the 'One Team, One Vision' concept. Thirty mobile phones, a large quantity of cannabis, tobacco and narcotics have been found

from the prison during the past several days, prison officials said.

The Superintendent Office said that several special programmes have been implemented for the inmates' benefit.

COVID preventive measures have been strengthened in the prison.

Navy receives training aids from India

Indian High Commissioner Gopal Baglay handed over training aids worth Rs. 22 million to the Commander Eastern Naval Area of the Sri Lanka Navy.

Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Karambir Singh, during his visit in December 2019, had committed to providing a number of training items to the Sri Lankan Navy. With a focus

on supporting Specialization courses being conducted at NMA, Sri Lanka Navy model of indigenously developed Varunastra heavy weight torpedo, working model of Light Weight Torpedo, Underwater Telephone, Gas Turbine cut Model, model of HMS Trincomalee and Bathy thermograph were delivered in Sri Lanka in 2020

and were operated by the Navy and the OEMs from India.

The High Commissioner said that the close cooperation between the two Navies is an essential part of the overall bilateral engagement. He handed over Kindle e-book readers and books to the library of the Naval and Maritime Academy.



Assistant High Commissioner of India Raakesh Natraj visiting the centre along with State Ministers Jeevan Thondaman and Seetha Arambapole.

Indian envoy visits TVTC

J.M.HAFEZZ
Akuena Group Corr.

Assistant High Commissioner of India Raakesh Natraj along with Estate Housing and Community Infrastructure State Minister Jeevan Thondaman and Skills

Development, Vocational Education, Research and Innovation State Minister Seetha Arambapola visited the Thondaman Vocational Training Center (TVTC) in Hatton on March 15.

The Assistant High

Commissioner briefed the State Ministers about the ongoing project under Indian Government's assistance to upgrade facilities at the Centre.

The Indian Government will also provide machinery, equipment and tools.

Coconut tree further protected

IRANGIKA RANGE

The coconut tree will be included in the Felling of Trees (Control) Act, to prevent felling coconut trees without approval, Plantation Minister Dr. Ramesh Pathirana said.

Under the Felling of Trees (Control) Act, prior permission has to be obtained when felling Jack trees, Bread Fruit trees and Palmyra trees. The coconut trees will

also be included in the Act.

The Minister was addressing a meeting to promote local industries in the Gampaha District yesterday.

Tourism Minister Prasanna Ranatunga also participated.

Minister Pathirana said that the Coconut Estates



(Control of Fragmentation) Board Act will be amended reducing the size of the coconut cultivation lands for selling.

"The maximum coconut cultivation land that could be sold is now 10 acres. We will bring that down to two acres," he said.

Cultivating rubber will be encouraged - State Minister Herath

Cultivating rubber will be promoted as an eco-friendly and income earning venture instead of growing it as exotic plant such as acacia and pine, Company Estate Reforms, Tea Estate Related Topics, Tea Factory Modernisation and Tea Export Promotion State Minister Kanaka Herath said.

He was addressing the Gampaha District Development Committee for the Development of Local Manufacturing Industries yesterday.

The State Minister said that many exotic plants cause environmental issues and certain plants have become a threat to native plants. "However, rubber could be cultivated as an eco-

friendly plant.

It is an economic crop as well," the State Minister said.

The State Minister said that some acacia and pine plantations in the Gampaha District have been identified and rubber will be replaced these plants.

"A kilo of good quality dry rubber is sold now at Rs. 450. It is increasing gradually," the State Minister said.

He said that quality "rubber acids" is required to produce rubber sheets. "Good rubber acids are not available in certain areas now," he said.



Quality of rubber acids should be tested with modern technologies and the Kegalle Rubber Development Office must be updated in this regard," the State Minister said.

He said that after establishing a Rubber Acid Quality Testing Unit, substandard rubber acids will have no place in the market.

The State Minister said that the import restrictions on rubber acids will be relaxed as a severe shortage of rubber acids prevails in several parts of the country.

Jumbo census to address Human-Elephant Conflict

The Wildlife Conservation Department will conduct an elephant census to help resolve the Human-Elephant Conflict.

The Presidential Committee, which was appointed to prepare a master plan to mitigate the Human-Elephant Conflict, has recommended a census.

The Committee has pointed out that the number of elephants in an area must be taken into account in controlling the conflict.

Therefore, a survey

will be conducted in an earmarked area using different methodologies such as waterhole counts, photographic cataloguing and genetic finger printing among others.

The Committee has proposed to allocate Rs. 10 million for the task.

The project will be carried out by the Wildlife Conservation Ministry along with other stakeholders including research institutes and universities.



A car toppled in Thalankudha along the Batticaloa-Kalmunai Highway in the Kattankudy Police area yesterday. The driver was hospitalised along with the two children who were in the car when it toppled. The Kattankudy Police are investigating. Picture by Sivam Packiyannathan, Batticaloa Special Corr.

Conservation of Namal Uyana begins

A.A.L.DIAS,
Matale District Group Corr.

The conservation work of the Galkiriyagama National Namal Uyana began recently assisted by the Central Cultural Fund (CCF).

"This historic site has revealed the true glory of our ancient heritage. Many of our historical sites have been designated as world heritage sites, but national heritage sites. We are working to rectify this situation through an expert committee," National Heritage, Per-



State Minister Vidura Wickramanayaka addressing the meeting.

forming Arts and Rural Arts Promotion State Minister Vidura Wickramanayaka said.

"The outdated archaeological laws and regula-

tions will be changed. The advice of the Maha Sanga is very important in this regard. Even today, national heritage has not been given its due value. Therefore, I request the new CCF Director General to carry out his duties properly during his tenure," the Minister said.

Namal Uyana Founder Ven. Wanawasi Rahula Thera also spoke. CCF Director General Gamin Weerasinghe and Archaeology Department Assistant Director Palitha Weerasinghe were present.

Interim Order on Ranjan's Parliamentary seat further extended

LAKMAL SOORIYAGODA

The Court of Appeal yesterday further extended its interim order directing Secretary General of Parliament (SGP) to maintain status quo (maintain existing state of affairs) regarding the Parliamentary seat of Samagi Jana Balawegaya (SJB) Gampaha District Parliamentarian Ranjan Ramanayake. The interim order will be effective until March 18.

Court of Appeal two-judge-bench comprising Justice (President) Arjuna Obeyesekere and Justice Mayadunna Corea made the order consequent to a writ petition by Ranjan Ramanayake claiming his

rights to function as a Parliamentarian.

The petition will be taken up for further support on March 18.

Additional Solicitor General Indika Demuni de Silva appearing for the Attorney General raised preliminary objections challenging the maintainability of the writ petition. She submitted to court that the petitioner cannot invoke Court's jurisdiction since Secretary General of Parliament has performed his ministerial duties as per the judgment delivered by the Supreme Court, convicting Ramanayake for committing the offence of Contempt of Court.

President's Counsel Faiz Mustapha PC appearing for the petitioner Ramanayake argued that Contempt of Court is not a criminal offence and thereby his Parliamentary seat would not be vacated.

On January 11, the Supreme Court convicted Ranjan Ramanayake for the offence of Contempt of Court and sentenced him to four years' rigorous imprisonment.

Ranjan Ramanayake is seeking an order restraining Secretary General of Parliament from taking any steps to inform the Election Commission that he has vacated his seat as a Member of Parliament.

Ramanayake said that irreparable harm and damage will be caused to him unless the interim relief is granted to the Petitioner inasmuch as he will be deprived of functioning as a Member of Parliament.

The Petitioner further stated that the People's franchise would also be adversely affected if he is wrongfully prevented as functioning as a representative of his electorate.

Ramanayake alleged that Secretary General of Parliament has not taken any step in terms of section 64 (c) of the Parliamentary Elections Act in respect of Premalal Jayasekara, who was elected as a Member of Parliament from the Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna (SLPP), which is the governing party and continues to sit and vote as a Member of Parlia-

ment despite his conviction of the offence of murder and has been imposed a sentence of death.

He alleged that Secretary General of Parliament would be acting illegally, unlawfully, and inter alia in violation of Article 12(1) and Article 12(2) of the Constitution, which guarantee the Petitioner the equal protection of the law and freedom from discrimination on the grounds of political opinion.

President's Counsel Faiz Mustapha with, M.A. Sumanthiran PC, Counsel Suren Fernando with Keerthi Thillekaratne under the instructions of Vidanapathirana Associates appeared for Ranjan Ramanayake. Additional Solicitor General Indika Demuni de Silva with Deputy Solicitor General Nerin Pulle, Senior State Counsel Awanthi Perera and Senior State Counsel Suharshi Herath appeared for the Attorney General.



Chinese Ambassador to Sri Lanka Qi Zhenhong met Customs Director General Major General (Retd.) G. Vijitha Ravipriya on Monday and handed yet another batch of PPEs including 585 sets of protective clothes and shoes, 50,000 disposable face masks, 9,600 KN95 face masks, 240 goggles, 1,500 pairs of disposable gloves and 10 sterilamps for front line officers fighting the COVID pandemic.

Dengue ails 3,000 in last three months

S.M.WIJAYARATNE,
Kurunegala Corr.

Over 3,000 dengue patients have been detected from January 1 to March 15 this year, Health Ministry Dengue Control Unit Director Dr. Aruna Jayasekara said.

Three persons had died of dengue. The Batticaloa District has reported the highest number of dengue patients.

About 35,000 dengue patients had been reported last year and 35 had died of dengue.

About 34 Public Health Inspectors (PHIs) and 235 Family Health Nurses (FHN) have been deployed to visit government schools of the Kurunegala and Puttalam Districts, Kurunegala DMO Dr. S.M.A.Priyadarshana said.

Obituaries

FERNANDO - KUMARI. Loving wife of Neville Fernando, mother of Sonali and Gehan (Australia), mother-in-law of Samath (late) and Ann, grandmother of Samara and Minol, Shenara, Ashanya, Atara, Gishen and Shavinda, beloved sister of Sujatha (Rani), Athula and Chula (late), Rohini (UK), Srma (Australia), Kanthi and Sunil (Australia), sister-in-law of late Danapala, late Heather, late Nihal, late Ranjith, late Ariyasena and Shanthi. Cortege leaves residence on Thursday 18-03-2021 at 4 p.m. for burial at Dambaduraya Church Cemetery.

020735

'Motorcyclists cause the highest number of road accidents'

S.M.WIJAYARATNE,
Kurunegala Corr.

Motorcyclists are responsible for the highest number of road accidents in the country, the National Council for Road Safety (NCRS) in its latest report said.

"During the last five years, 13,550 road accidents happened and motorcyclists

have caused about 5,592 accidents. About 5,677 motor cyclists had died in the accidents," the report said.

Many of those who died had been under the influence of liquor. High speed was another major reason for these deaths. In 2018, about 1,255 motorcyclists

had died of road accidents and in 2019, it was 1,098. In 2020, 950 motorcyclists had died in accidents.

"Rs. 12 million has been allocated by the Government to educate motorcyclists in this regard this year," Kurunegala District Senior Divisional Secretary W.E.Jayatilake said.

01. MoU between Ministry of Education and the Pakistan's Higher Education Commission on providing scholarships

It is proposed to sign a Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Education and the Higher Education Commission of Pakistan to implement an educational and scientific knowledge exchange scholarship programme in the field of higher education within five years to strengthen mutual cooperation and expand educational opportunities in education in the two countries. The Government of Pakistan has agreed to provide 1,000 scholarships during the relevant period under this Memorandum of Understanding. This includes 800 full scholarships and 200 Semi-Scholarships for Free first degree course. It is also expected to exchange 50 Sri Lanka and Pakistan University faculty members between universities in the two countries for specific periods of time for research seminars and other academic activities. The proposal presented by the Education Minister to sign the relevant Memorandum of Understanding accordingly, was approved by the Cabinet of Ministers.

02. Obtaining the support of television to continue the teaching process during COVID-19

When schools were closed due to the epidemic in March 2020, the TV programme "Gurugedara" designed by the National Institute of Education was telecast by the Rupavahini Corporation's Channel Eye and Nethra channels to continue educational activities of the students those who are appearing for the Grade 5 Scholarship, GCE (O/L) and GCE (A/L) Examinations. With the aim of preventing the disruption of students' education due to the delay in the commencement of third school term

2020, the telecasting of Sinhala and Tamil medium educational programmes for grades 3 to 13 launched as the second phase of the Gurugedara programme from November 16, 2020. These programmes are telecast in conjunction with Channel "Eye" and "Nethra" channel. Accordingly the Cabinet of Ministers approved the proposal presented by the Education Minister to continuously telecast the Rupavahini Programme "Gurugedara".

03. Acquisition of SLTB's Shalika Stadium and Sports Complex through a free grant

The Shalika Stadium and Sports Complex are located in a land named "Anderson Golf Links Field" which covers an area of 3.4125 hectares and the land has been in the custody of the Ceylon Transport Board since 1966. The Cabinet of Ministers agreed to approve the combined proposal presented by the Transport Minister to transfer the land to the Ceylon Transport Board through a grant in accordance with the provisions of the Land Ordinance without the right to sell the land to another party and subject to recovery of its undeveloped value to the Government.

04. Programme to initiate Home-shop comprised of both a household and a shop in one household in every Grama Niladhari division targeting young women entrepreneurs selected from Samurdhi families.

The Highways Ministry has planned to implement a Home-shop in every Grama Niladhari division in association with other relevant line ministries targeting 25,000 young women entrepreneurs selected from Samurdhi families to strengthen the food distribution network. National level guidance for the project will be

CABINET DECISIONS

rendered by the task force for the economic revival and eradication of poverty while monitoring the project will be carried out by the State Ministry of Samurधि, House Economic, Micro-Finance, Self - Employments and Entrepreneurship Development. This programme is planned to be implemented by the 100,000 kilometers highways development programme covering the entire island. The proposed houses and shops will be constructed adjoining the roads those are proposed to be constructed under 100,000 kilo meter of roads development project whereas, those Home Shops are to be constructed in the sizes of 200, 300, 400 and 500 square feet. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers approved the proposal submitted by the Minister of Highways for the implementation of the said programme.

05. Obtaining goods transport aircraft for Sri Lankan Aviation Company Limited (SLA) on lease.

The fleet of Sri Lankan Aviation Company Limited is comprised of a large number of economical narrow body aircrafts. As a result of that, more attention has been paid on the passenger air routes network in the recent years. This has led to under utilization of aero goods transportation potential due to lack of suitable aircraft that cater the goods transportation facility. With the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic most of the aircraft companies have paid attention on aero goods transportation since

passenger transportation became limited. Sri Lankan Airlines currently operates freight operations to 26 destinations. Considering the current market changes, it has become a fine opportunity for the main aeronautical companies to enter into goods transportation market via main air routes seeking the goods transportation market share. Therefore, paying attention on the potential for air goods transportation, it has been planned to change the available Sri Lankan company structure strategically. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers granted approval to the resolution forwarded by the Tourism Minister on obtaining an air raft for goods transport on lease to Sri Lankan Aviation Company Limited subject to international competitive procurement methodology.

06. Imposing a Thripitaka (Three Doctrines) Conservation Act. This country has been recognised as the centre for Buddhism whereas it is a responsibility of the Government to safeguard the "Buddha Sasana" and nurture it by giving the priority to Buddhism. Commemorating the 2,500 year Sri Sambuddhathwa Jayanthi (Buddhist Anniversary) in the year 1956, the Thripitaka has been translated to Sinhala language and been printed thereby. Thripitaka has been declared as a national heritage by the gazette notification dated February 7, 2019 with the objective of securing the Thripitaka while it has been prohibited for

conservation, providing erroneous definitions or translations without the permission of the Government. The Cabinet of Ministers have given their consent to the resolution furnished by the Prime Minister as the Minister of Buddha Sasana, Religious and Cultural Affairs for passing a "Thripitaka Conservation Act" in the Parliament for the security of the Thripitaka for the sake of the future generations and thereby instruct the Legal Draftsman to prepare the draft act / bill in this connection.

07. Implementing the new tax proposals

A Bill has been drafted by the Legal Draftsman to amend the Inland Revenue Act, No.24 of 2017 and the Value Added Tax Act, No.14 of 2002 in order to implement tax reforms adduced by the "Economic Revival Origins" presented to introduce a simple, transparent and an effective tax system as pledged by His Excellency President to the people and the tax revisions and policy decisions relevant to the budget proposals submitted by the 2021 budget. Clearance from the Attorney General has been received for the above mentioned acts and the Cabinet of Ministers approved the proposal tabled by Prime Minister as the Finance Minister to publish this bill on the gazette and subsequently submit to the parliament.

08. Procuring construction machinery, equipment and goods transporting vehicles and supply them to the government institutions.

The government has planned to implement many development projects in Highway, irrigation, Building and other fields. However, it has been observed that implementing the said development projects as

expected will be difficult due to consider the volume of contractors in the construction industry and the local construction industry. Under that situation, a number of important projects identified are expected to be handed over to the government institutions engaged in construction works for implementation. Accordingly, it has been planned to increase the capacity of the said institutions engaged in the construction work by procuring and supplying earthmoving and construction machinery, road construction and building construction machinery required for the implementation of such projects, default building and goods transporting service providing and maintenance vehicles by the government. The Cabinet of Ministers granted approval for the proposal tabled by the minister of Highways to purchase the said machinery by following the relevant procurement process under the Supplier's Credit Facility scheme awarded by such equipment manufacturers in collaboration with local agents.

09. Supplying adequate stocks of rice to the market.

The Cabinet of Ministers noted the lack of adequate stocks of rice in the market at present under the controlled price and discussed possible alternatives. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers decided to first convert the stocks of paddy purchased from farmers by the Paddy Marketing Board into rice and distribute them continuously through the branch network of Sathosa and to consider alternative measures to be taken further considering the progress of the programme.

IN THE SUPREME COURT LIST OF CASES FOR WEDNESDAY, 17TH, MARCH, 2021.

- HON. SISIRA J. DE ABREW J. HON. PRIYANTHA JAYAWARDANE (P.C.) (J) HON. M.A. SAMAYAWARDHANA J. COURT NO. 502 (FROM 10.00 A.M. - 11.30 A.M.) TO BE MENTIONED 1.S.C.HC.CA.LA 92/20 - HCCA 25/17 2.S.C. Application FR 47/21 FOR GRANTING OF LEAVE 1.S.C. HC.CA.LA 333/18- HCCA 59/17 2.S.C. HC.CA.LA 143/18- HCCA 1747/17

- FOR ARGUMENT 1.S.C. Appeal 130/11 - CA No. 578/07 (FROM 11.30 A.M. - 12.45 P.M.) FOR LEAVE TO PROCEED 1.S.C. Application FR 363/19 2.S.C. Application FR 30/21 FOR GRANTING OF LEAVE 1.S.C. HC. LA 72/19 - CHC 194/17 2.S.C.HC.CA.LA 89/19 - HCCA 318/10 3.S.C. (Spl.) LA 249/16 WITH 253/16- CA 176/14 4.S.C. HC.CA.LA 352/19 - HCCA 144/18

- FOR ARGUMENT 1.S.C. CHC Appeal No. 32/14 - HC 436/09 (FROM 01.30 P.M. - 03.00 P.M.) FOR ARGUMENT 1.S.C. Application FR 119/15, 120/15, 121/15 & 122/15 HON. L.T.B. DEHIDENIYA J. HON. K.K. WICKRAMASINGHE J. HON. JANAK DE SILVA J.

- COURT NO. 403 (FROM 10.00 A.M. - 11.30 A.M.) TO BE MENTIONED 1.S.C. (Spl.) LA 240/20 - CA 215/19 2.S.C.HC.CA.LA 399/20 - HCCA 178/18 FOR SUPPORT 1.S.C. Appeal No. 79/16 - CA 165/15 FOR LEAVE TO PROCEED 1.S.C. Application FR 117/07 & 158/07 FOR GRANTING OF LEAVE 1.S.C.HC.CA.LA. 380/18 - HCCA 23/17 COURT NO. 403 CONTD..... (FROM 10.00 A.M. - 11.30 A.M.) FOR ARGUMENT 1.S.C. Appeal No. 102/13 - HCCA 43/07 2.S.C. Appeal No. 103/18 - CA 608/99 (FROM 11.30 A.M. - 12.45 P.M.) FOR LEAVE TO PROCEED 1.S.C. Application FR 179/19 WITH 191/09 FOR GRANTING OF LEAVE 1.S.C. (Spl.) LA 02/20 - CA 232/15 2.S.C. HC.CA. LA 91/20 - HCCA 55/16 3.S.C. HC.CA. LA 360/20 - HCCA 66/17 4.S.C. HC.CA. LA 398/20 - HCCA 140/18 5.S.C. HC.CA. LA 61/21 - HCCA 147/18

- FOR ARGUMENT 1.S.C. Appeal 74/19 - CA 765/00 (FROM 01.30 P.M. - 03.00 P.M.) FOR ARGUMENT 1. SC. Appeal No. 83/19 - HCCA 66/13 HON. MURDU N.B. FERNANDO P.C.J. HON. E.A.G.R. AMARASEKARA J. HON. A.A.U. WENGAPPULI J. COURT NO. 404 (FROM 10.00 A.M. - 11.30 A.M.) TO BE MENTIONED 1.S.C.HC.LA. No. 41/20 - HC (Civil) No. 30/19 2.S.C. Application FR 359/20 FOR GRANTING OF LEAVE 1.S.C.HC.CA.LA 523/19 - HCCA 74/17 2.S.C.HC.CA.LA 170/20 - HCCA 150/19

- FOR ARGUMENT 1.S.C. Appeal No. 56/18 - CA 18/13 (Top of the list) 2.S.C. Application FR 232/15 (FROM 11.30 A.M. - 12.45 P.M.) FOR LEAVE TO PROCEED 1. SC. Application FR 143/20 FOR GRANTING OF LEAVE 1.S.C. (Spl.) LA 227/20 - CA. 144/18 2.S.C. HC.CA.LA 391/20 - HCCA 49/19 3.S.C. HC.CA.LA 98/21 - HCCA 17/20 4.S.C. HC.CA.LA 99/21 - HCCA 67/16



- (FROM 01.30 P.M. - 03.00 P.M.) FOR ARGUMENT 1.S.C. Appeal No. 23/17 - HC 4451/A 2.S.C. Appeal No. 19/19 - HCCA 70/15

IN THE COURT OF APPEAL LIST OF CASES FOR WEDNESDAY, 17TH, MARCH, 2021.

- HON. ARJUNA OBEYSEKERE J. (P/CA) HON. MAYADUNNE COREA J. COURT NO. 301 AT 09.30 A.M. TO BE MENTIONED 1.350/17 Writ of Cert 2.187/20 Writ of Cert 3.465/20 Writ of Cert

- FOR SUPPORT 1.33/20 Writ of Cert 2.148/20 Writ of Cert 3.150/20 Writ of Cert 4.210/20 Writ of Cert 5.356/20 Writ of Cert 6.372/20 Writ of Cert 7.391/20 Writ of Cert 8.444/20 Writ of Cert 9.84/21 Writ of Cert 10.89/21 Writ of Cert 11.90/21 Writ of Cert 12.98/21 Writ of Cert 13.116/21 Writ of Cert 14.122/21 Writ of Cert 15.02/19 TRF

- NOTICE RETURNABLE 1.463/20 Writ of Cert FOR ARGUMENT 1.194/20 Writ of Cert HON. ARJUNA OBEYSEKERE J. (P/CA) HON. MAYADUNNE COREA J. COURT NO. 301 AT 12.00 NOON TO BE RESUMED 1.37/21 Writ of Cert HON. ARJUNA OBEYSEKERE J. (P/CA) HON. MAYADUNNE COREA J. COURT NO. 301 OTHERS TO BE MENTIONED 1.176/20 Writ of Cert FOR SUPPORT 1.215/20 Writ of Cert FOR ARGUMENT 1.99/20 Writ of Cert HON. K. PRIYANTHA FERNANDO (J) HON. SAMPATH B. ABAYAKOON J. COURT NO. 107 AT 10.00 A.M. FOR JUDGMENT 1.253/19 HC (Hon. K. Priyantha Fernando (J)) TO BE MENTIONED 1.34/19 PA 2.50/19 HC 3.146/19 HC 4.232/19 HC 5.293/19 HC 6.340 - 342/19 HC FOR ARGUMENT 1.185/19 HC 2.328/19 HC

- FOR ARGUMENT 1.119/19 HC FOR ARGUMENT 1.69 - 70/19 HC 2.81/19 HC HON. MENAKA WIJESUNDERA J. HON. NEIL IDDAWALA J. COURT NO. 204 AT 09.30 A.M. FOR ORDER 1.40/20 PA (Hon. Menaka Wijesundera J.) 2.119/20 PA (Hon. Menaka Wijesundera J.) TO BE MENTIONED 1.09/17 MCR WITH PHC 60/14, PHC 61/14 2.73/18 HC 3.52/17 PA 4.21/21 PA 5.402/18 HC

- HON. K. PRIYANTHA FERNANDO (J) HON. SAMPATH B. ABAYAKOON J. COURT NO. 107 OTHERS TO BE MENTIONED 1.119/19 HC FOR ARGUMENT 1.69 - 70/19 HC 2.81/19 HC HON. MENAKA WIJESUNDERA J. HON. NEIL IDDAWALA J. COURT NO. 204 AT 09.30 A.M. FOR ORDER 1.40/20 PA (Hon. Menaka Wijesundera J.) 2.119/20 PA (Hon. Menaka Wijesundera J.) TO BE MENTIONED 1.09/17 MCR WITH PHC 60/14, PHC 61/14 2.73/18 HC 3.52/17 PA 4.21/21 PA 5.402/18 HC

- FOR SUPPORT 1.22/21 PA 2.35/21 PA WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS 1.75/19 PA FOR INQUIRY 1.38/20 BA HON. N. BANDULA KARUNARATNE (J) HON. R. GURUSINGHE J. COURT NO. 205 AT 10.00 A.M. FOR JUDGMENT 1.778/09 Writ of Cert (Hon. N. Bandula Karunaratne (J) 2.211/18 HC (Hon. N. Bandula Karunaratne (J) ASSIGN COUNSEL 1.117/20 HC 2.119/20 HC 3.121 - 122/20 HC

- COURT NO. 205 AT 10.00 A.M. contd... TO BE MENTIONED 1.53/00 (F) DC 2.125/08 HC 3.165/17 HC 4.249/18 HC 5.407/18 HC FOR SUPPORT 1.18/21 PA 2.19/21 PA FOR ARGUMENT 1.33/15 HC 2.317/17 HC 3.303/18 HC 4.363/18 HC HON. N. BANDULA KARUNARATNE (J) HON. JANAK DE SILVA J. COURT NO. 205 AT 11.00 A.M. TO BE RESUMED 1.467/17 HC HON. N. BANDULA KARUNARATNE (J) HON. R. GURUSINGHE J. COURT NO. 205 OTHERS TO BE MENTIONED 1.107 - 108/18 HC 2.163/18 HC FOR SUPPORT 1.145 - 148/15 HC FOR ARGUMENT 1.161/16 HC 2.87/18 HC 3.231/18 HC HON. DEVIKA ABEYRATNE J. HON. P. KUMARARATNAM J. COURT NO. 110 AT 10.00 A.M. ASSIGN COUNSEL 1.120/20 HC 2.124/20 HC 3.126 - 127/20 HC FOR ARGUMENT 1.206/17 HC HON. DEVIKA ABEYRATNE J. HON. P. KUMARARATNAM J. COURT NO. 110 OTHERS TO BE MENTIONED 1.244/10 HC 2.220 - 221/18 HC FOR ARGUMENT 1.104/15 HC 2.298/15 HC 3.30/16 HC 4.216/17 HC 5.220/17 HC 6.374/18 HC HON. M. T. MOHAMMED LAFFAR J. HON. K. K. A. V. SWARNADHIPATHI J. COURT NO. 206 AT 10.00 A.M. FOR JUDGMENT 1.440/14 Writ of Cert (Hon. M. T. Mohammed Laffar J. TO BE MENTIONED 1.636 - 638/99 (F) DC 2.715/97 (F) DC 3.260/17 Writ of Cert 4.348/20 Writ of Cert

- COURT NO. 206 AT 10.00 A.M. contd... FOR SUPPORT 1.384/20 Writ of Cert 2.385/20 Writ of Cert HON. M. T. MOHAMMED LAFFAR J. HON. K. K. A. V. SWARNADHIPATHI J. COURT NO. 206 OTHERS TO BE MENTIONED 1.387/12 Writ of Cert with WRT 380/12 2.403/13 Writ of Cert 3.435/15 Writ of Cert 4.90/18 Writ of Cert FOR ARGUMENT 1.396/14 Writ of Cert

- 2.380/18 Writ of Cert HON. DR. RUWAN FERNANDO (J) HON. M. SAMPATH K. B. WIJERATNE J. COURT NO. 302 OTHERS TO BE MENTIONED 1.10/20 TAX HON. SOBITHA RAJAKARUNA J. HON. DHAMMIKA GANEPOLA J. COURT NO. 303 AT 10.00 A.M. FOR SUPPORT 1.46/19 Writ of Cert 2.62/19 Writ of Cert 3.70/19 Writ of Cert 4.316/19 Writ of Cert 5.450/19 Writ of Cert NOTICE RETURNABLE 1.463/19 Writ of Cert HON. SOBITHA RAJAKARUNA J. HON. DHAMMIKA GANEPOLA J. COURT NO. 303 OTHERS FOR SUPPORT 1.328/19 Writ of Cert with WRT 271/19 2.497/19 Writ of Cert 3.498/19 Writ of Cert FOR OBJECTIONS 1.466/19 Writ of Cert FOR ARGUMENT 1.04/19 Writ of Cert HON. D. N. SAMARAKOON J. HON. PRADEEP KIRTISINGHE J. COURT NO. 108 AT 10.00 A.M. FOR JUDGMENT 1.20/18 RII (Hon. D. N. Samarakoon J.) TO BE MENTIONED 1.323/13 RII FOR SUPPORT 1.11/20 RII 2.04/21 RII NOTICE RETURNABLE 1.02/20 RII TO BE RESUMED 1.TAX 16/15 FOR ARGUMENT 1.TAX 43/14 HON. D. N. SAMARAKOON J. HON. PRADEEP KIRTISINGHE J. COURT NO. 108 OTHERS NOTICE RETURNABLE 1.12/19 RII FOR ARGUMENT 1.906/00 (F DC HON. PRASANTHA DE SILVA J. HON. S. U. B. KARALLIYADDE J. COURT NO. 109 AT 12.30 P.M. NOTICE RETURNABLE 1.114/12 PHC HON. PRASANTHA DE SILVA J. HON. S. U. B. KARALLIYADDE J. COURT NO. 109 OTHERS TO BE MENTIONED 1.228/15 PHC 2.20/17 PHC NOTICE RETURNABLE 1.51/15 PHC TO BE RESUMED 1.02/14 BOR CIVIL APPEAL WESTERN PROVINCE (COLOMBO) LIST OF CASES FOR WEDNESDAY, 17TH, MARCH, 2021. HON. A.M. MOHAMMED MACKIE (H.C.J.) HON. D.F.H. GUNAWARDHANA (H.C.J.) (AT 10.00 A.M.) FOR JUDGMENT 203/15 13 (F) HCCA/Colombo (Hon. R.P. Hettiarachchi H.C.J.) TO BE MENTIONED 307/08 (F) HCCA/Colombo 109/17 (F) HCCA/Colombo 36/16 RA HCCA/Colombo 306/15 (F) HCCA/Colombo 75/16 (F) A,B HCCA/Colombo

- 121/17 (F) HCCA/Colombo FOR SUPPORT LA 152/19 HCCA/Colombo FOR ARGUMENT 55/17 (F) HCCA/Colombo 77/18 (F) HCCA/Colombo 185/16 (F) HCCA/Colombo 103/18 (F) HCCA/Colombo 189/15 (F) A HCCA/Colombo

- FOR SUPPORT 1.46/19 Writ of Cert 2.62/19 Writ of Cert 3.70/19 Writ of Cert 4.316/19 Writ of Cert 5.450/19 Writ of Cert NOTICE RETURNABLE 1.463/19 Writ of Cert HON. SOBITHA RAJAKARUNA J. HON. DHAMMIKA GANEPOLA J. COURT NO. 303 OTHERS FOR SUPPORT 1.328/19 Writ of Cert with WRT 271/19 2.497/19 Writ of Cert 3.498/19 Writ of Cert FOR OBJECTIONS 1.466/19 Writ of Cert FOR ARGUMENT 1.04/19 Writ of Cert HON. D. N. SAMARAKOON J. HON. PRADEEP KIRTISINGHE J. COURT NO. 108 AT 10.00 A.M. FOR JUDGMENT 1.20/18 RII (Hon. D. N. Samarakoon J.) TO BE MENTIONED 1.323/13 RII FOR SUPPORT 1.11/20 RII 2.04/21 RII NOTICE RETURNABLE 1.02/20 RII TO BE RESUMED 1.TAX 16/15 FOR ARGUMENT 1.TAX 43/14 HON. D. N. SAMARAKOON J. HON. PRADEEP KIRTISINGHE J. COURT NO. 108 OTHERS NOTICE RETURNABLE 1.12/19 RII FOR ARGUMENT 1.906/00 (F DC HON. PRASANTHA DE SILVA J. HON. S. U. B. KARALLIYADDE J. COURT NO. 109 AT 12.30 P.M. NOTICE RETURNABLE 1.114/12 PHC HON. PRASANTHA DE SILVA J. HON. S. U. B. KARALLIYADDE J. COURT NO. 109 OTHERS TO BE MENTIONED 1.228/15 PHC 2.20/17 PHC NOTICE RETURNABLE 1.51/15 PHC TO BE RESUMED 1.02/14 BOR CIVIL APPEAL WESTERN PROVINCE (COLOMBO) LIST OF CASES FOR WEDNESDAY, 17TH, MARCH, 2021. HON. A.M. MOHAMMED MACKIE (H.C.J.) HON. D.F.H. GUNAWARDHANA (H.C.J.) (AT 10.00 A.M.) FOR JUDGMENT 203/15 13 (F) HCCA/Colombo (Hon. R.P. Hettiarachchi H.C.J.) TO BE MENTIONED 307/08 (F) HCCA/Colombo 109/17 (F) HCCA/Colombo 36/16 RA HCCA/Colombo 306/15 (F) HCCA/Colombo 75/16 (F) A,B HCCA/Colombo

ADA KOTIPATHI SUPER JACKPOT Rs. 3,086,436/- Date: 15-03-2021 Draw Number: 3104 Colour: Yellow Winning Numbers: 05, 26, 27, 56 Taurus TOTAL VALUE OF PRIZES Rs. 11,685,060/-

ADA KOTIPATHI Monday Date: 15.03.2021 Draw No.: 1223 Colour: Red Total Value of Prizes Rs. 4,724,460/- Winning Numbers: 18, 25, 55, 75 English Letter: R

ශ්‍රී ධ්‍රී Monday Date: 15.03.2021 Draw No.: 3553 Colour: Blue Total Value of Prizes Rs. 4,276,820/- Winning Numbers: 18, 44, 61, 74 English Letter: P

කයෝදා Monday Date: 15-03-2021 Draw Number: 1741 Colour: Yellow Super Jackpot Rs. 22,836,024/- Total Value of Prizes Rs. 4,153,280/- Next Super Jackpot Rs. 22,995,040/-

SUPER BALL Monday Date: 15.03.2021 Draw Number: 1397 Colour: Purple Total Value of Prizes Rs. 4,585,680/-

ADA KOTIPATHI Today's Jackpot Rs. 118,259,135/-

Daily News



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Wednesday, March 17, 2021

A positive proposal

A proposal by Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa for State intervention to bail out businesses and commercial enterprises which have been unable to repay their loans obtained from banks, due to the collapse of these ventures during the COVID-19 pandemic would be welcomed by the business community who had fallen on bad times.

At a meeting with heads of banking institutions on Monday the Premier appealed to them to be flexible and desist from seizing the assets of failed businesses and instead allow them a reasonable time to get back onto their feet. He, therefore, urged them to temporarily halt the seizure of assets of the businesses in dire straits. He also called for a joint decision to be taken by the Central Bank and relevant banking institutions in collaboration with the Finance Ministry to ease the burden on stalled businesses *vis-à-vis* their loan repayments.

The PM also stressed on the need for striking a balance whereby both parties (businesses and banks) would not be placed at a disadvantage. In this respect he proposed that a separate State body or a Competent Authority be appointed to sort out details so that no party would stand to lose by the decisions arrived at.

At the outset of the Coronavirus, President Gotabaya Rajapaksa too appealed to the banking sector and leasing companies to go slow on their demands for repayment given the plight of the businesses as a consequence of the pandemic. How far this Presidential edict was complied with of course remains a question. Obviously the Banks and other lending agencies cannot afford defaulting on a large scale, if they are to remain in business and complaints of instances of non-compliance with the President's directive should also be viewed in this context. Thus the proposal for State intervention via a Competent Authority would see all the grey areas being addressed and matters sorted out to the satisfaction of all parties.

The PM's suggestion for the banks to hold their fire instead of resorting to auctioning the assets of businesses at this stage may also have been influenced by the hope that with the country now reverting to full activity the failed businesses could also pick up and reach a stage where before long they would be able to meet their commitments to the banks. However, it is difficult to predict how long it would take for certain enterprises to get going – for example, businesses connected to the tourism sector. True, the country has been opened to outside visitors, but it will be quite a while before the usual traffic materializes.

Most businesses which were forced into shut down one year back with the outbreak of the contagion are yet to resume. These enterprises have to pay back bank loans and pay compensation to any laid off workers. A majority of these businesses are small-time outfits and it would be a considerable time before they get back on their feet. Besides, some of these businesses are those dependent on other business activity and trades which are themselves in the doldrums, in a typical domino effect scenario.

The proposed Competent Authority would be in an unenviable position having to sort out this tangled web and devising an even-handed solution. The onus no doubt would be on PM Rajapaksa, who is also the Finance Minister, to use his undoubted persuasive powers to get the banks on to his side in throwing a lifeline to failed business enterprises. There is also the issue of mass scale unemployment resulting from the closure of businesses. This at a time the Government has embarked on a programme to provide 100,000 jobs to unskilled categories besides also absorbing graduate trainees in to State sector placements. The programme is bound suffer a setback if, on the one hand, the Government is providing employment in the State sector only to see this being frittered away by the loss of employment in the private sector.

With the steep rise in the Cost of Living, the problem also has the potential of getting out of hand. Hence, there is a need for a combined effort by all relevant sectors to come together in devising a solution to the crisis.

It is not only the established and/or small time businesses and commercial enterprises that have suffered but also the self employed who have no recourse to compensation. A typical example is the school van service which was the worst hit and continues to take a beating with schools only opening in fits and starts in the Western Province which has the largest number of schools in the country. School vans also have been dealt a double whammy in having to ferry restricted numbers as per the prevailing health guidelines. Ditto for the Office Van services. Many of these souls suffer in silence what with families to maintain and mouths to feed. Hence the urgent need for the Government to come up with viable solutions to these myriad issues thrown up by a deadly pandemic which still keeps dogging the population, a massive vaccination drive notwithstanding.



Spotlight on sugar imports

Bitter tussle over sweet substance

The Sugar Tax revision done in October last year with the stated intention of bringing down the prices of sugar in the local market landed the Government in a political minefield last week.

The Government was under fire by the Opposition that the benefit of sugar import tax cut did not trickle down to the public, but instead one large-scale businessman in particular, who had imported large volumes of sugar and sold them at higher prices than the cleared rate, unduly benefited from the move.

The topic soon became a political weapon for the Opposition camp which was waiting in the wings for fresh controversies to demerit the Government.

The Government however played above board at this instance by presenting the relevant facts and figures without alteration to the Public Finance Committee (PFC) of Parliament through a Finance Ministry Report presented on March 9. The Report was submitted on the instructions of the PFC headed by ruling party MP Anura Priyadarshana Yapa.

This indicated that the Government respected Parliament's authority over public finance and did not try to sweep the relevant information under the carpet.

Part of fiscal policy

As the media spotlight on the Report led to a flood of comments, mostly of political nature, Finance Ministry Secretary and Treasury Secretary S.R. Attygalle was given the not-so-easy task of taking the bull by the horns and confronting the misinterpretations of the figures.

Coming forward to speak to the press directly, Attygalle last Friday took great pains to clarify that it was not correct to say there was a "loss" when levies were deliberately lowered to bring down the prices of commodities in the market. He emphasised that the decision to reduce the sugar import levy from Rs. 50 per kilogram to 25 cents was a Government policy decision to ease the Cost of Living.

"The PFC had asked for the import data from October 13 to February and the figure of Rs. 15.9 billion had been arrived at by multiplying the import volume by Rs. 49.75. It is inaccurate to see it as a 'loss'. The Government from time to time changes taxes for reasons such as preserving foreign reserves, protecting local producers and controlling cost of living, etc."

"Even though there was not an immediate change in sugar prices, sugar prices did gradually come down in the market. Today a kilogram of sugar is about Rs. 115 but if the levy remained unchanged, it would have been around Rs. 175 per kilogram," Attygalle explained also pointing out that the import levy on several other essential items including canned fish and B-onions were also revised on the same day.

Having said that, the Treasury Secretary did not rule out the possibility that certain businessmen might have made profits due to overnight tax cut on sugar, but he tried to normalize



Cabinet Spokesman Minister
Keheliya Rambukwella



Treasury Secretary
S.R. Attygalle



SJB MP
Dr. Harsha de Silva



JVP MP
Vijitha Herath



the situation stating that, "it is the way the market works here and around the world".

"Prices tend to be sticky downwards, partly due to the oligopolistic nature of the market. However traders raise the prices overnight if taxes are hiked," he commented.

Interestingly, even though 60-odd traders are registered for sugar imports, Attygalle pointed out that large-scale sugar imports are in the hands of about six importers.

"This kind of tax changes had been made overnight in the past as well. For example, the import levy on sugar which was Rs. 30 per kilogram in 2015 was brought down to 25 cents in July 2016 and it was again raised to Rs. 15 in the same year. During that short period 145,000 MT of sugar had been imported. The very same importers were in this business during that period too," the Secretary remarked.

"The accusation would be justified if taxes were raised after the imports were made, but in this latest instance the levy still remains 25 cents," he contended.

Allegations

On behalf of the Opposition, the Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna (JVP) actively picked up the topic to score a few political marks long before the main Opposition party, the Samagi Jana Balawegaya (SJB), turned its head to it.

The JVP constantly raised the matter in political discussions and pocket meetings and it was the first to take the matter to the Courts of Law. JVP front-line member and former MP Sunil Handunnett, who had received praise from all quarters over his contributions as the Chairman of the Committee on Public Enterprises (COPE) in the last Parliament, especially to uncover the Central Bank Treasury Bonds scam, filed a Fundamental Rights petition on Friday seeking an order from the Supreme Court on the controversial matter.

Addressing a press conference on Sunday, JVP Parliamentarian Vijitha Herath questioned the rationale of the sudden drastic tax reduction when there was no shortage or higher demand for sugar. "This decision

turned the Government policy of uplifting national economy on its head," he commented.

He also raised concerns whether there had been a leak of information ahead of the tax revision also alleging that Pyramid Wilmar (Pvt) Ltd, the Company in question, has close links with the ruling party.

"About 8,200 MT of imported sugar stocks, which had been at a bonded warehouse at the time of the Gazette, had been cleared at revised rates and sold to state-run Lanka Sathosa at higher prices. This is similar to how the Treasury Bonds, which were bought at low prices by the Perpetual Treasuries, had been dumped on the Employees Provident Fund," he further alleged.

SJB MP Dr. Harsha de Silva, an economist and allegedly an active member in the infamous "Footnote Circle" in the last Parliament that attempted to cover up the now widely-known Bond Scam, saw the matter of sugar tax in a different lens and was keen to question on the controversy surrounding it.

He raised concern that the Company in question had imported 39 percent of the total volume of sugar imports to the country from October 2020 to February 2021, the period under review by the Finance Ministry Report to the PFC.

The Central Bank's 'External Sector Performance - January 2021' Report, which came out last week, added fuel to the Opposition's allegations as it revealed that the expenditure on imports of sugar and confectionery items had increased by 187 percent in January this year compared to the same period in 2020.

Digging deeper

As the allegations gathered steam, Cabinet Spokesman Minister Keheliya Rambukwella speaking to media in Kandy over the weekend took his time to dispel the doubts cast on the Government, explaining that reducing the sugar tax was intended to benefit the public.

Defending the Government's fiscal policy, the Minister observed that any tax revision would ultimately result in some factions gaining profits and others incurring losses. He spurned the Opposition's accusations of wheel-dealing stating that those were propagated to gain political mileage.

It was also reported that the Auditor General's Department has undertaken a special audit on the incident. That report will also find its way to Parliament, and in the meantime, the PFC will also delve deep into the matter in the coming days based on the information it has gathered.

Clearing the air of vagueness on the whole episode will help the Government to maintain its credibility and transparency. The Bond scam was like *hara-kiri* for the former Government and the people expected the succeeding Government not to repeat similar mistakes, but to take a hard-line on financial malpractices. In the post-Bond Scam scenario, the Government has a responsibility not to encourage 'business as usual', but to strive for positive transformations in all spheres to close existing loopholes in the system.



A meeting of Public Finance Committee in progress



Former MP Sunil Handunnett files FR petition at Supreme Court

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Money looks better in the bank than on your feet.

- Sophia Amoruso

Has the UNHRC become a marionette show?

Ranjiv Goonawardena of International Consultants who is an ardent defender of Sri Lanka had a virtual meeting with Lord Naseby on March 13. During the meeting, Lord Naseby outlined substantial errors of a report from the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on Sri Lanka. The following are his observations:

LTTE terrorist enterprise estimated to be valued over US\$1 billion

UN High Commissioner - Michelle Bachelet, failed to recognise that the transnational terrorist group the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), was one of the world's most ruthless and wealthiest terrorist groups. The Group is estimated to be worth over US\$1 billion.

It is understood that the group raised funds from human smuggling, made associations with other terror groups by selling and smuggling weapons and was involved in money laundering, drug trafficking, credit card fraud, financial crimes and other illegal activities. Other means of raising money was under duress from the Tamil businesses community and providing financial loans to Tamil businesses.

To prevent British soldiers being subject to allegations of war crimes, the UK Government is bringing in new laws to safeguard them

It is significant to highlight here that the UN Human Rights Council proceedings have been encouraged by the UK Government as the Chair of the Core Group. These proceedings attempt to take action against Sri Lankan soldiers on the basis of war crimes allegations. Britain's actions can be deemed as duplicitous and inconsistent as it is about to bring new legislation to effect, called the Overseas Operations (Service Personnel and Veterans) Bill, which was introduced to the UK Parliament in March 2020.

The main feature of the Bill is that no charges except for those heinous, evidence-based war crimes, may be laid after the lapse of five years of the date of the incident. This implies the UK cannot be a party to supporting any allegations of overseas war crimes other than those of the same type. In particular, it should not be applied for a fellow member of the Commonwealth, especially for one who stood alongside the UK in the Second World War as Sri Lanka did. Furthermore, Sri Lanka stood with the UK during the Falklands War, one of the very few countries to do so.

People have failed to remember the contribution Sri Lanka made with more than 12,000 in the Ceylon Volunteers Force which was mobilized in 10 Infantry units and three artillery regiments.

Incidentally, the UK Government is a major donor to the Human Rights Council, at US \$1,709,532. It has therefore become notably evident that powerful countries seem to have a different approach and mechanism, with regard to alleged human rights abuses by adopting a different way of mitigating and distancing themselves. For instance:



President Gotabaya Rajapaksa



Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa

The UNHRC is not supposed to be a weapon to terrorise small and emerging nations of the world, as it has evidently done in this case with Sri Lanka. It should rather be a beacon of light and justice with integrity.



UNHRC Chief Michelle Bachelet

International Criminal Court (ICC) prosecutor drops investigation into UK war crimes in Iraq

The prosecutor of the International Criminal Court, Fatou Bensouda's office said she was dropping a preliminary investigation into alleged war crimes by British troops in Iraq, even though she found a reasonable basis to believe they committed atrocities.

The ICC has been under fire by Washington for opening a full-fledged investigation into war crimes allegedly committed by US



Lord Naseby

troops on the territory of ICC member Afghanistan. Former US President Donald Trump last year imposed sanctions on Bensouda because of the investigation.

Public records will indicate that powerful nations can get away with daylight murder while other nations are harassed into submission.

The Human Rights Council is meant to be totally impartial and unbiased. However, in this instance it has failed on the basic principle for justice for all, not as they have depicted for the chosen few. The Human



The ultimate objective of the LTTE was to capture South India

Rights Council is not supposed to be a weapon to terrorise small and emerging nations of the world, as it has evidently done in this case with Sri Lanka. It should rather be a beacon of light and justice with integrity.

Everything has to be based on facts, evidence, due process and due diligence has to be carried out. It must never be based upon "shouting loud enough for a long time, repeat a lie often enough, till it becomes the truth" as seems to be the case regarding the proxy LTTE groups. They came to the Western Hemisphere as refugees and asylum seekers and are now in their second and third generation; being radicalised and indoctrinated by their elders to believe a falsehood. Apparently, the population of Tamils living in the countries which gave them refuge is over five million.

According to the above-mentioned population statistics there are more Tamils overseas than in Sri Lanka. This may explain why they are very vociferous to continually lobby their public office holders towards their separatist agenda, Tamil Eelam. The terror group is also influencing favourable Tamil asylum policies. They want to claim harassment in Sri Lanka to make it easier for them to bring over their kith and kin, and for the shadow-LTTE groups to continue to raise money. The proxy LTTE is continually engaged in terrorism and glorifies terrorism, hosting events annually, July 5, Black Tiger (Suicide Terrorist) Day and November 27, Heroes (Terrorists) Day to celebrate their dead cadres are examples of such glorification of terrorism.

The LTTE never had any democratic principles, there was never an election hosted but instead, they subscribed to a totalitarian mindset and idolised their dictatorial leader who controlled them without any transparency and no accountability.

The UN Human Rights Council was never supposed to be an enforcement agency, judge, jury and executioner. It was never given that mandate.

The Council was never established to isolate countries, intimidate and harass nations. It was designed to help countries to improve their human rights performance in a collaborative manner. The Council's job is to assist and to encourage, not to punish. This was the objective of those who created the Council in the first place, having terminated its predecessor. The High Commissioner has no authority to enforce Council resolutions.

The Constitution does not allow this but Michelle Bachelet, it seems, is going on an unauthorised path to enforce principles that



Ranjiv Goonawardena

have never been endorsed by the international community at all.

Former President and current PM Mahinda Rajapaksa

The only country in the whole world which defeated terrorism outright is Sri Lanka; it has been castigated and vilified by the UN Human Rights Council in Geneva. It was Mahinda Rajapaksa's leadership allied with his brother Gotabaya Rajapaksa that built the Armed Forces to a level and competence where they could face the military might of the Tamil Tigers funded by the Tamil Diaspora. Regrettably the West refused to sell modern armaments leaving Sri Lanka with no option but to seek help from China and Pakistan which was forthcoming. If the LTTE, i.e., the Tamil Tigers, a terrorist group proscribed in over 30 countries, had not been defeated, then there would undoubtedly have been a rogue State of Eelam created. The real goal of the LTTE was to capture the North and the East of Sri Lanka. Then they could have used Sri Lanka as a springboard to start the second insurgency phase for a guerrilla warfare campaign in South India as there are 67 million Tamils in Southern India.

That would have eventually led to the breakup of India for the third time in 73 years of its independence. India would have jeopardised its ability to become an emerging superpower if that prevailed. China would be the only power in Asia if that occurred. China considers itself as an emerging global superpower in economy, military, technology, diplomacy and soft power influence.

Lies, pathetic lies, and confessions

RAJPAL ABEYNAAYAKE

The SJB MP who said that the President planned and carried out the Easter Sunday attacks, has made a five-hour statement to the CID and confessed he had no such evidence, and that he made the statement by way of a joke.

Some joke. With this kind of humour, the man could set the country alight and claim that he set out to provide some light entertainment.

This, though, has become the political culture of the day. Where is the accountability for this type of cynical, calculated slander?

There are 9/11 conspiracy theories, but there are no Democrats who say that President George W. Bush planned the attacks on the World Trade Centre in New York. There aren't any Indian MPs who say that the Indian soldiers killed on the border with China, were in fact killed by PM Modi. No New Zealand Opposition MP says that the Christchurch mosque attacks were carried out in the direction of Premier Jacinda Ardern.

Dirty tricks

But yet, there are no calls for this SJB MP to resign. No political dirty tricks department of any country — no known democracy — has resorted to this level of concocted slander. But in Sri Lanka the UNP has been doing this for ages.

There was calculated slander against former Ministers such as T.B. Illangaratne about Swiss villas

he bought, etc., when the latter was so above board and unassuming that he is known to have never possessed even a vehicle of his own. But our political culture has deteriorated. Take a look at what happens in Parliament. MPs constantly speak to the sound of deafening jeers. This has become standard practice.

There have been jousts in other Parliaments too, but there has never been a situation in which MPs in any country — from Pakistan, to Denmark, to Japan, to India — have to speak over the constant din of jeers and boos.

When the Danish PM announced in the Danish Parliament that there was a camel named Ali that was given freedom along with four circus elephants who were bought from a circus by the Danish Government, she said there was unanimous support for the move, including from a Danish far-right party. At the end of the speech, she took a jab at the immigrant-skeptic Danish People's Party about the camel being named Ali. This party had wanted all Muslim immigrants sent back — but the Danish PM couldn't stop giggling when she said even this party supported the purchase of the camel Ali.

This sent the entire Parliament — all its Members including from the radical People's Party — into peals of laughter.

The above anecdote may be scoffed at as a trivial out of context example, but the context is that a Parliament can be civil and convivial, even when there is mention of extremely divisive issues.

Scourge of extremism

How our political culture deteriorated into a point where Parliament is a paradise for screaming hoodlums 24/7 is worthy of a special investigation. But this has become our reality.

Canadian MP Ramesh Sangha was booted from the Liberal caucus after making "baseless and dangerous accusations against a number of his caucus colleagues," stated a press release from Chief Government Whip Mark Holland, in January this year.

"As soon as the Chief Government Whip was made aware of these accusations, he consulted with the Prime Minister, and the necessary steps were taken. As of this afternoon, Sangha has been removed from the Liberal caucus," read the release, issued in January. He had been spreading conspiracy theories about opposition MPs supporting Sikh extremism.

It is doubtless comparably a far more extreme situation to have a local SJB MP accusing President Gotabaya Rajapaksa of having 'mas-termined' the heinous Easter Sunday attack. Here is the President of the country being accused baselessly of the most heinous type of terrorism.

But yet, we do not have the virtuosity — not even the so-called very good Christian Eran Wickremaratne — asking that the MP be reprimanded. But the MP himself has recanted the statement, and said that he made it without any knowledge of any attack of the sort he alleged. But the MP's garrulous lawyer goes around



SJB MP Ashoka Abeysinghe's caper landed him in the CID.

saying that the tape that clearly has the MP accusing the President "could have been doctored."

Not stopping at that, he has the audacity to claim that the MP being quizzed by the CID was a part of a plan by the Government "to muzzle opposition MPs." How did it come to this? It was S.W.R.D. Bandaranaike who they said, first got 'undesirables' into Parliament. The late premier Kotelawala is said to have boxed the ears of one of these new Members who addressed him with feigned familiarity as "John". But today's Parliament has become a gathering place for low lives and loudmouths.

The people replace one set of garrulous Parliamentarians with another at each election. It is in this con-

text that the people look at the dysfunctional Provincial Councils and say a thankful prayer about having being spared that indignity. The sole *raison d'être* for the existence of the PCs became the breeding of a class of the most egregious political hoodlums. The PC sessions were mostly brawls, and that's hardly an exaggeration. The videos are there to prove it.

The Sri Lankan people have done nothing to deserve this. The commentators who should be subjecting cynical conspiracy theorists such as the aforementioned SJB MP to severe criticism, spend their time instead spreading Doomsday theories and holding the Government responsible. If you read Victor Ivan, Sri Lanka is hell on a daily basis, and the President is Satan presiding over this inferno. When MPs such as Abeysinghe confess to lies about "Gotabaya Rajapaksa" masterminding the Easter Sunday attacks, those such as Ivan react by trying to take down the President even harder.

The former Liberal Party leader the late Chanaka Amaratinga had this quaint idea that only the land owning elite should be legally allowed in Parliament. No committed democrat would agree, but such a policy would have at the very least kept the riff-raff away from Legislature, perhaps.

But MPs such as the aforementioned involved in the caper that landed him in the CID, are enabled by the others such as Harsha de Silva, who though he is no landowner as the late Chanaka Amaratinga would have liked, behaves as if he is

one. The man has a useless doctorate, or so we are told, but that too is brandished to show that he is an economist, when he is some irrelevant statistician.

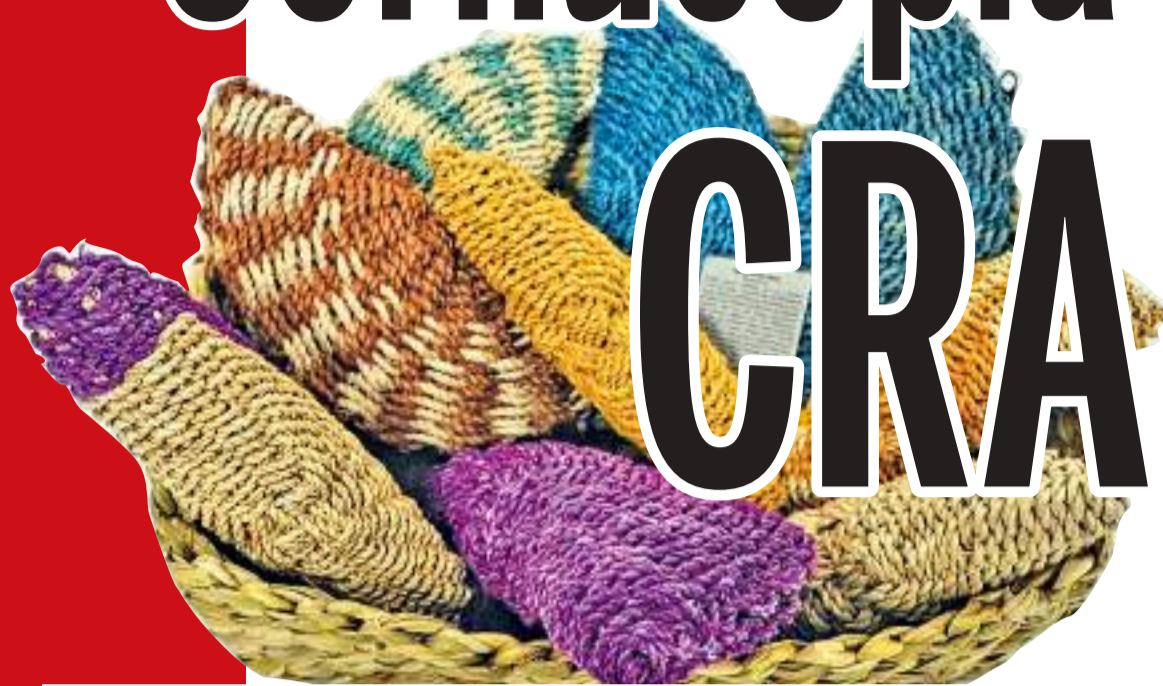
Minimum numbers

The Opposition is beyond redemption, and the people have curtailed these types of people by reducing their numbers in Parliament to the barest minimum. Kudos to the voters for that — but they cannot possibly keep the entire Opposition out of Parliament for the simple reason that there should be something in Parliament called the Opposition.

The JVP which acts as if it is the keeper of Parliament — a party with no representation to speak of — is often the worst offender in this regard and has a bunch of MPs who at least in spirit stand with those who concoct tales such as the SJB MP involved in the "Gotabaya" masterminded caper that ended up with him whimpering like a wounded puppy, confessing his sins to the CID.

Such low-lives should be kept out of Parliament. Even when these types are booted out of Parliament at elections, they are replaced in Opposition ranks particularly, with worse riff-raff, because the main Opposition party doesn't seem to have any membership to speak of other than regular con artists and riff-raff. Even the late lamented and lamentably garrulous Ranasinghe Premadasa from Jinthupitiya would have blushed, had he been around these days.

Cornucopia of CRAFTS



Some of the women employed by Kultura

How Niroshini Rathninda uses indigenous materials like corn husk to empower a winning entrepreneurship

LAHIRU FERNANDO

If women are self-employed and goal-oriented, it will make them more courageous and independent. Empowerment of women is not just the duty of a government but also should be achieved by women themselves. The contribution of the female population towards the economy of the country is as important as the contribution by men. But, fewer opportunities, policies discriminating women, social attitudes and also traditional gender roles prevent women from standing tall as independent human beings.

Despite such obstacles, there are instances where women have identified their strength, talents and opportunities to overcome these challenges. They can be either artistes, professionals, entrepreneurs or seek employment in other avenues. The path a woman takes towards employment or entrepreneurship is different for each woman. The life stories of such courageous women are interesting in some cases, while others are total tragedies.

Today we talk to one such woman who is an entrepreneur in an interesting industry which is the first of its kind in Sri Lanka. She is export-oriented entrepreneur Niroshini P. Rathninda, founder of S.A.P. Kultura Private Limited. This is a company that has been registered under the "2000 New Exporters Establishment Programme" with the Central Provincial Office of the Sri Lanka Export Development Board (EDB).

Could you introduce yourself?

I am an entrepreneur who introduced something unique to the Sri Lankan market based on a concept that originated in the Philippines.

What made you an entrepreneur?

It is actually a gift that was given to me somewhere in 2015. People might have received various special gifts in their lives. But this particular gift is special for me as it changed my whole life and finally became my winning path.

A gift?

Yes. It was a ladies' wallet. An officer of the EDB gifted it to me. It was brought from the Philippines and she asked me whether I could guess what it was made of. I had no idea. Then she told me it is made of corn husk and also encouraged me to inspect it thoroughly as to how it had been created. That was interesting. So, I started undoing the stitches step by step. That gave me an idea as to how it had been crafted.

What happened next?

At that time, I had no knowledge about stitching and knitting of this nature. Therefore, I met Mrs. Soma, an expert of this field, in 2016, and within a few hours learned to do the stitches and knitting following her instructions. For that I had to travel to Polonnaruwa. Thereafter, I started collecting the required material for my product, the corn husk. I went to several maize vendors and collected some husks. Using them I made my own product, the first one similar to the gift I had received.

What was the response to that?

I sent the first one to Mrs. Soma to inspect. There were some short-



At an exhibition overseas

Niroshini is an export-oriented entrepreneur. The EDB had facilitated her to participate at the Sri Lanka Design Festival held in November 2018. She has also participated at training/exposure visits and B2B meetings and product displays at the Manila FAME 2019 Exhibition held in Manila, Philippines in October 2019. As an entrepreneur, Niroshini has trained and inspired more than 3,000 women across the country.

comings, but she was satisfied with it. When the maize vendors knew that I was producing this wallet, they were hesitant to provide me the husks, as they usually throw it away. However, the EDB wanted me to develop this product. They sourced small supply groups in the rural areas which would supply me the materials.

What are your products?

I did not restrict my products to only the wallet, but experimented making other products such as flowers, baskets and bags using corn husk. Later, I thought of making these products using other similar materials too.

I wanted to try them with banana coir, reeds and water hyacinth.



Some of Kultura's creations

Currently, I have over 70 kinds of products made of all of these materials. Each and every product consists of my own designs.

Moreover, I made the use of YouTube to study more and more about these products. YouTube was really helpful. The entire process of producing a creation is done by hand and no machinery is used except for one. We have plans to experiment with other plants too. In addition, we expect to increase the use of machines to speed up the production.

How did you add value to your products?

I was dedicated to developing my dream step by step. At the beginning I just wanted to add a new product to my collection and had no idea of selling

anything. It was an interesting hobby for me to make such products on my own, but amidst various obstacles, discouragement and criticism. Sometimes my attempts failed as I had no proper knowledge of how to preserve these natural materials. In this case, the EDB, the National Crafts Council and the Industrial Development Board (IDB) assisted me to learn those techniques.

So now you have a registered business?

I had no idea if people will like the products of this nature. But, I started using my own products. Then people were very interested in my products and were keen to use them.

Accordingly, I thought of starting a business. My business Kultura Private Limited was registered in January 2019. The word 'Kultura' means 'handicrafts' in the Philippines.

With the business I shifted from my hometown Matala to Colombo.

At the beginning I was not in a position to pay for my supply chain properly. But I did not give up my attempts. I paid them with money I had for my own expenses.

How many are working under you?

My production process has three phases. The material suppliers, knitters and the final product is made by me based on my own designs.

There are about 100 individuals from various parts of the country including Matala, Mannar, Galwela, Kegalle and Bentota working with me. Most of them are women aged over 50.

The younger generation are reluctant to engage in these industries. My employees earn over Rs. 30,000 a month. This is an extra income for them. They work from home.

These groups are specialized in different materials. So we are able to finish a product within one or two days.

I visit them every week. As our materials are available anywhere in the country, production can be done throughout the year. Finally, extending a supportive hand for women is also my intention, as I know how helpless women are when they are economically weak.

What is Lady-Green?

Lady Green is the brand name of Kultura Private Limited.

My shop is located at the Nawinna Junction along the Old Kottawa Road.

We assure a guarantee of more than three years for our products for which we use only human-friendly preservatives. We are about to export our products to the US in the coming months.

As a woman entrepreneur, how do you feel today?

My journey was not a bed of roses. I have suffered a lot due to my weaknesses and various obstacles, discriminations and criticisms for being a woman. There were sleepless nights and nights I cried throughout.

However, those challenges were the main factor that gave me courage in return. I am happy with where I am today.

What I am doing is giving value to a bulk of garbage. The EDB was the place which changed my life.

We cannot blame anyone for not helping us. We have to dedicate ourselves to be successful. But it is good if somebody lends a helping hand.

Here I must be grateful to my supply chain, my family, the government institutions and the Chief of IGC Sanath Vidanagama for being my strength.

Fewer opportunities, policies discriminating women, social attitudes and also traditional gender roles prevent women from standing tall as independent human beings.



Training in progress



Niroshini P. Rathninda, founder of S.A.P. Kultura Private Limited

Kultura is a company that has been registered under the "2000 New Exporters Establishment Programme" with the Central Provincial Office of the Sri Lanka Export Development Board (EDB).

Wildlife farms in Southern China likely source of pandemic

A member of the World Health Organization investigative team says wildlife farms in southern China are the most likely source of the COVID-19 pandemic.

China shut down those wildlife farms in February 2020, says Peter Daszak, a disease ecologist with EcoHealth Alliance and a member of the WHO delegation that traveled to China this year. During that trip, Daszak says, the WHO team found new evidence that these wildlife farms were supplying vendors at the Huanan Seafood Wholesale Market in Wuhan with animals.

Daszak told NPR that the government response was a strong signal that the Chinese government thought those farms were the most probable pathway for a coronavirus in bats in southern China to reach humans in Wuhan.

Those wildlife farms, including ones in the Yunnan region, are part of a unique project that

the Chinese government has been promoting for 20 years now.

"They take exotic animals, like civets, porcupines, pangolins, raccoon dogs and bamboo rats, and they breed them in captivity," says Daszak.

The agency is expected to release the team's investigative findings in the next two weeks. In the meantime, Daszak gave NPR a highlight of what the team figured out.

"China promoted the farming of wildlife as a way to alleviate rural populations out of poverty," Daszak says. The farms helped the government meet ambitious goals of closing the rural-urban divide, as NPR reported last year.

"It was very successful," Daszak says. "In 2016, they had 14 million people employed in wildlife farms, and it was a \$70 billion industry."

Then on Feb. 24, 2020, right when the outbreak in Wuhan was winding down, the Chi-

nese government made a complete about-face about the farms.

"What China did then was very important," Daszak says. "They put out a declaration saying that they were going to stop the farming of wildlife for food."

The government shut down the farms. "They sent out instructions to the farmers about how to safely dispose of the animals — to bury, kill or burn them — in a way that didn't spread disease."

Why would the government do this? Because, Daszak thinks, these farms could be the spot of spillover, where the coronavirus jumped from a bat into another animal and then into people. "I do think that SARS-CoV-2 first got into people in South China. It's looking that way."

First off, many farms are located in or around a southern province, Yunnan, where virologists found a bat virus

that's genetically 96% similar to SARS-CoV-2, the coronavirus that causes the disease COVID-19. Second, the farms bred animals that are known to carry coronaviruses, such as civet cats and pangolins.

Finally, during the WHO's mission to China, Daszak said the team found new evidence that these farms were supplying vendors at the Huanan Seafood Wholesale Market in Wuhan, where an early outbreak of COVID-19 occurred.

The market was shut down overnight on Dec. 31, 2019, after it was linked to cases of what was then described as a mysterious pneumonia-like illness.

"There was massive transmission going on at that market for sure," says Linfa Wang, a virologist who studies bat viruses at Duke-NUS Medical School in Singapore. He's also part of the WHO investigative team. Wang says that after the outbreak at the Huanan mar-

ket, Chinese scientists went there and looked for the virus.

"In the live animal section, they had many positive samples," Wang says. "They even have two samples from which they could isolate live virus."

And so Daszak and others on the WHO team believe that the wildlife farms provided a perfect conduit between a coronavirus-infected bat in Yunnan (or neighboring Myanmar) and a Wuhan animal market.

"China closes that pathway down for a reason," Daszak says. "The reason was, back in February 2020, they believed this was the most likely pathway [for the coronavirus to spread to Wuhan]. And when the WHO report comes out ... we believe it's the most likely pathway too."

The next step, says Daszak, is to figure out specifically which animal carried the virus and at which of the many wildlife farms. (NPR)



Wuhan wet market

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New Dead Sea Scrolls discovered

Israeli archaeologists on Tuesday announced the discovery of dozens of new Dead Sea Scroll fragments bearing a biblical text found in a desert cave and believed hidden during a Jewish revolt against Rome nearly 1,900 years ago.

The fragments of parchment bear lines of Greek text from the books of Zechariah and Nahum and have been radiocarbon dated to the 2nd century AD, according to the Israel Antiquities Authority. They are the first new scrolls found in archaeological excavations in the desert south of Jerusalem in 60 years.

The new pieces are believed to belong to a set of parchment fragments found in a site known as "The Cave of Horror" — named for the 40 human skeletons found there during excavations in the 1960s — that also bear a Greek rendition of the Twelve Minor Prophets. The cave is located in a remote canyon in the Judean Desert south of Jerusalem.

The fragments are believed to have been stashed away in the cave during the Bar Kochba Revolt, an armed Jewish uprising

against Rome during the reign of Emperor Hadrian, between 132 and 136 AD.

The artifacts were found during an operation by the Israel Antiquities Authority in the Judean Desert to find scrolls and other artifacts to prevent possible plundering. The authority was holding a news conference Tuesday to unveil the discovery.

The Dead Sea Scrolls, a collection of Jewish texts found in desert caves in the West Bank near Qumran

in the 1940s and 1950s, date from the 3rd century B.C. to the 1st century A.D. They include the earliest known copies of biblical texts and documents outlining the beliefs of a little understood Jewish sect. (Fox)



New Dead Sea Scrolls

Our client is a well-established, diversified group of companies with substantial foreign shareholding, consisting of both private and public listed entities.

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Mrs. Julius & Creasy
Attorneys-at-Law,
Julius & Creasy Building,
371, R. A. De Mel Mawatha, Colombo 3.

INSTITUTE OF PHYSICS, SRI LANKA

Notice to the members

IPSL 41st Annual General Meeting

Saturday, March 20, 2021 at 3:00 pm

&

IPSL 37th Technical Sessions

Saturday, March 20, 2021 (from 8:30 am to 3.45 pm)

at
The Auditorium, Sri Lanka Association for the Advancement of Science, Colombo 07
Joint Secretaries

15.03.2021 - TOTAL PRIZE WINNERS PRODUCED BY NATIONAL LOTTERIES BOARD 788,585

TOTAL PRIZE MONEY DISTRIBUTED AMONG WINNERS Rs.29,876,250.00

Rs.2,000,000.00 PRIZES 01 | Rs.1,00,000.00 PRIZES 32

MAHAJANA SAMPATHA
DATE: 15-03-2021

Winnings Letter: **K** Wining Numbers: **8 2 8 7 4 3**

Prize	Structure	Prize Money	No. of Winners
1st Prize	8 2 8 7 4 3	Rs. 2,000,000/-	01
2nd Prize	8 2 8 7 4 3	Rs. 100,000/-	05
3rd Prize	8 7 4 3	Rs. 10,000/-	133
4th Prize	7 4 3	Rs. 1,000/-	1,208
5th Prize	8 2 8 7 4 3	Rs. 100/-	12,926
6th Prize	3	Rs. 20/-	128,385

Value of prizes won in this draw - **Rs. 12,050,910.00**

The Super Prize of next draw **Rs. 14,070,183.00**

Mega Power
DRAW NUMBER: 700
DATE: 15.03.2021

Winnings Letter: **F** Wining Numbers: **21 23 34 60 65**

Prize Structure	Prize Money	No. of Winners
1st Prize: If all 4 Numbers are correct	1,883,000.00	-
2nd Prize: If only 3 Numbers with English Letter is correct	180,000.00	05
3rd Prize: If all 3 Numbers are correct	1,000.00	39
4th Prize: If only 2 Numbers with English Letter is correct	100.00	198
5th Prize: Only 2 Numbers are correct	100.00	5,566
6th Prize: If only 1 Number with English Letter is correct	40.00	3,688
7th Prize: Only 1 Number are correct	20.00	92,622
8th Prize: Only English Letter are correct	20.00	16,976

Next Mega Super Prize **Rs. 122,856,962.00**

Next Power Super Prize **Rs. 20,938,204.80**

Next Grand Super Prize **Rs. 10,000,000.00**

Total Prizes Won in This Draw **Rs. 3,594,080.00**

Govisetha
DRAW NUMBER: 2722
DRAW DATE: 15/03/2021

Winnings Letter: **K** Wining Numbers: **19 22 47 52**

Prize	Combination	Prize	No. of Winners
1st Prize	If all 4 numbers are correct	Rs. 1,000,000.00	-
2nd Prize	If Letter & any 3 numbers correct	Rs. 100,000.00	05
3rd Prize	If any 3 numbers correct	Rs. 2,000.00	179
4th Prize	If Letter & any 2 numbers correct	Rs. 1,000.00	413
5th Prize	If any 2 numbers correct	Rs. 100.00	10,198
6th Prize	If Letter & any number correct	Rs. 40.00	6,681
7th Prize	If any number correct	Rs. 20.00	167,399
8th Prize	If only the letter is correct	Rs. 20.00	30,548

TOTAL WINNERS OF THIS DRAW **216,016**

TOTAL PRIZE MONEY WON IN THIS DRAW **Rs. 6,528,680.00**

Super Prize for the next draw **Rs. 74,799,064.80**

Dhana Nidhanaya
Official Results
Date - 15/03/2021
Draw Number - 464

Winnings Letter: **T** Wining Numbers: **06 14 26 32**

Prize	Combination	Prize	No. of Winners
1st Prize	If all 4 numbers are correct	Rs. 1,000,000.00	-
2nd Prize	If English Letter and 1 numbers correct	Rs. 100,000.00	04
3rd Prize	If English Letter and 2 numbers correct	Rs. 3,000.00	83
4th Prize	If any 2 numbers correct	Rs. 1,000.00	238
5th Prize	If any number correct	Rs. 100.00	5,396
6th Prize	If English Letter and 1 numbers correct	Rs. 60.00	3,631
7th Prize	If 1 number is correct	Rs. 20.00	91,248
8th Prize	If only English Letter is correct	Rs. 20.00	17,118

Total prize money won in this draw **Rs. 3,893,740.00**

Number of Prize Winners in this draw **117,708**

Next Draw Super Prize **Rs. 88,109,625.60**

Vasana Sampatha
Official Results
Draw No. 1671
Date 15.03.2021

Winnings Letter: **L** Wining Numbers: **12 25 57 93**

Prize	Prize Structure	Prize Money	No. of Winners
01 Prize	Four Numbers are correct	500,000/-	01
02 Prize	Three Numbers and English Letter are correct	100,000/-	03
03 Prize	Four Numbers are correct	1,000/-	60
04 Prize	Three Numbers and English Letter are correct	200/-	263
05 Prize	Four Numbers are correct	100/-	4,720
06 Prize	Three Numbers and English Letter are correct	40/-	3,829
07 Prize	Four Numbers are correct	20/-	96,574
08 Prize	Three Numbers are correct	20/-	22,888

Total prize money won in this Draw **Rs. 3,898,840.00**

Next Super Prize **Rs. 26,926,873.90**

Anna was born with the right to dual citizenship, because she has a Japanese mother and American father. She spent her life traveling between both countries, and says she felt deeply connected to the two cultures.

But Japan requires those with multiple passports to pick one by the age of 22 – an impossible choice for Anna, who requested a pseudonym for privacy reasons.

"I'm mixed race, I've lived both in Japan and the US, I speak both languages, I am completely split down the middle in terms of my identity," she said. "It's like asking someone whether they love their mother or father more. It's such a cruel question."

The past few decades have seen people travel and live abroad more, with the number of international migrants – people who changed their country of residence for at least a year – tripling from 1970 to 2015, according to the [International Organization for Migration](#).

At the same time, tolerance for dual citizenship has generally increased. In 1960, less than one-third of countries allowed citizens to acquire a second nationality, compared to three-quarters today, according to a 2019 paper by Maarten Vink, professor of political sociology of Maastricht University in the Netherlands.

Asia is an exception to that trend. It is the world's most restrictive region in terms of dual citizenship, with only 65% of countries and territories permitting it, according to the Maastricht Center for Citizenship, Migration and Develop-

Increased focus on dual citizenship in Asia

ment. To put that in perspective, 91% do in the Americas, which rank as the most liberal.

And some Asian countries are tightening their immigration laws. Japan reinforced its strict stance in January when a court upheld the country's ban against dual citizenship, rejecting a lawsuit filed by Japanese citizens living in Europe. Hong Kong took a harder line in February, barring dual citizens from receiving consular protection – a step never before taken in the Chinese city, where dual citizenship is not legally allowed but had been tolerated.

"Dual nationality is not recognized in the Chinese Nationality Law," said Hong Kong leader Carrie Lam in February. "That is very clear. We are strictly enforcing or implementing that particular policy."

There are a number of reasons why the region is so resistant toward dual citizenship, including histories of conflict and colonialism. But in some countries, critics say the ban on dual citizenship also reflects a tilt toward nationalism – and the desire to maintain a monoethnic, monocultural identity.

In Asia Pacific, only a few places accept dual citizenship



with no caveats, including Cambodia, East Timor, Australia, New Zealand and Fiji.

Most countries are against it, although some choose not to strictly enforce their policies, allowing people to keep multiple passports by simply not declaring them. Others allow dual citizenship in restricted forms: the Philippines permits it for those who were born Filipino citizens, but not for naturalized Filipinos. South Korea

allows children born to its nationals abroad to hold the passport of both their birth country and their parents.

One reason why many Asian countries oppose dual nationality is a belief that it can create divided loyalties among citizens, said Jelena Dzankic, co-director of the Global Citizenship Observatory (GLOBALCIT), an international citizenship research network. "The reason why, historically

and traditionally, countries have not been permissive of dual nationality is because, whom are you going to defend if the two of our countries go to war?" she said.

Japan drafted its current nationality laws shortly after World War II, when many Japanese Americans were put in internment camps in the US; other dual citizens renounced their loyalty to the Japanese Emperor for their own safety, said Atsushi Kondo, a law professor at Japan's Meiji University.

In one famous case, a US-born Japanese-American dual citizen worked in Japan for a company that oversaw American prisoners of war. Upon his return to the US after the war, he was sentenced to death on treason charges. He was eventually pardoned and deported to Japan – but for decades afterward, Japanese lawmakers pointed to this case as an example of the conflicting obligations that came with dual nationality.

"In wartime, double citizenship showed disadvantage," Kondo said. "But in peacetime, dual citizens have many advantages" – including visa-free travel to more countries, greater

international employment opportunities, potentially cheaper university education, and more. There are modern downsides, too – for instance, US dual citizens have to pay double taxation, but that's not the case for most countries.

The international context has now changed, and Japan's "beliefs are a little outdated," he added – yet the government is reluctant to open up immigration laws and risk upsetting conservative voters.

China's ban on dual nationality is also to ensure that its nationals are "only giving undivided loyalty to the government," said Low Choo Chin, a history lecturer at the Universiti Sains Malaysia. During the Cold War era, China's efforts to normalize relations with neighboring countries and end international isolation were hampered because "overseas Chinese were associated with revolutionary activities" and Communist uprisings, Low wrote in a 2016 paper. So, the Communist government formulated the current nationality

law in 1980 to resolve "diplomatic frictions" and to "end divided loyalty among the overseas Chinese."

Under Chinese President Xi Jinping, the government has cracked down on dual citizens, encouraging the public to report people secretly holding two passports. Those caught can find their access to public services curtailed.

The crackdown is part of the government's anti-corruption efforts against "dual nationals taking advantage of the grey areas in the law, and trying to evade legal sanctions with (their) foreign nationality status ... fleeing abroad, transferring their assets," said Low, pointing to estimates by the Chinese central bank that 18,000 corrupt officials may have fled the country with 800 billion Yuan (\$122 billion) between the mid-1990s and 2008.

The matter of citizenship was thrust to the fore during the Covid-19 pandemic. In the midst of a crisis that transcended national boundaries, governments were suddenly faced with questions like: Which citizens do we claim as our own? For whom are we responsible? Who do we protect?

Because China doesn't recognize dual citizenship, many Chinese nationals were forbidden from evacuating back to their country of second citizenship – even if that was their place of birth or primary residency. (CNN)



Only a few patients receive promising COVID treatments

Only a minority of patients are receiving some of the most promising coronavirus treatments.

COVID-19 is almost certainly going to be part of our lives for a long time, even with high vaccination rates. Antibody treatments could make it much less deadly – but only if patients get them.

Two still-unpublished studies found that two specific antibody therapies can prevent hospitalization and death among high-risk people with mild or moderate COVID-19 infections, Nature reports.

An antibody developed by Vir Biotechnology and GSK reduced the likelihood of hospitalization or death among clinical trial partici-

pants by 85%; The second, an antibody cocktail developed by Eli Lilly, reduced the risk of hospitalization and death by 87%; "It is not a replacement for vaccines, but it is a plan B," Jens Lundgren, an infectious-disease physician at the University of Copenhagen and Rigshospitalet, told Nature.

Only about 1 in every 6 or 7 coronavirus patients eligible to receive antibody treatments are actually receiving them, said Janelle Sabo, who leads COVID-19 therapeutics at Lilly.

That's an improvement from December and January, when only 1 of every 20 to 30 high-risk patients were receiving the treatments, she said. "The majority are

not being treated with the neutralizing antibody, despite the wide availability of it," Sabo said.

The federal government put the number higher, saying that 37% of outpatients at high risk of developing severe symptoms and hospitalization nationally now receive the antibody therapies.

"We are actively working to increase awareness of therapeutics and to provide them to more types of sites such as urgent care clinics, physician's offices, and ambulatory infusion sites," an administration official said.

Antibody therapies – like the Regeneron treatment that then-President Trump received when he caught the coronavirus – are most effective when they're administered early.

That means patients would need test positive soon after they are infected. But people often don't get tested until they are feeling sick, which could be too late; Once confirmed positive, a patient then has to have a conversation with a doctor who can connect that patient with a treatment center that infuses the therapies; "The issue is people aren't going to their primary care physicians to get tested. They're going to community centers and the pharmacy," Sabo said. That "puts a burden on the patient that typically in the health care transaction they don't have."; Finally, that patient has to get to the infusion center.

"We still don't know much about long haulers and reinfection rates and variants," Sabo said. "I think it would be premature to say [COVID]'s become manageable if you're not vaccinated." (Axios)



Facebook teams up with News Corp

Facebook is teaming up with News Corp Australia just weeks after the country passed a groundbreaking law requiring tech companies to pay for news content.

The three-year partnership was announced on Monday. It will allow content from much of Rupert Murdoch's local media empire, including The Australian newspaper, to be featured on Facebook News – a section of the platform that curates coverage from selected publishers. Terms of the deal were not disclosed. The agreement adds to a stream of new partnerships News Corp

has signed in Australia in recent weeks.

Sky News Australia, a broadcaster owned by a local News Corp subsidiary, has struck a separate deal with Facebook (FB), which "builds on an existing arrangement," News Corp (NWS) said in a statement Monday.

Last month, the conglomerate – which includes much of Australian media and some UK outlets, as well as the Wall Street Journal and New York Post in the United States – also unveiled an agreement with Google (GOOGL).

The partnership allows

News Corp's US, UK and Australian publications to be featured on Google's News Showcase platform. But it also is expected to include developing a subscription platform, sharing ad revenue and investing in audio and video journalism.

Google declined to share terms of that deal, but News Corp has claimed that it would receive "significant payments."

News Corp is already collaborating with Facebook in the United States, where its publications are paid to be featured on the social network. But the company had been pushing

for new rules in Australia, where debate had been fierce about a media code that forces Big Tech to pay publishers for news shared on their platforms.

The debate came to a head last month, just days before the law was passed. That was when Facebook decided to ban news content in Australia in anticipation of the law, forcing the pages of media organizations and even some unrelated essential services to go dark. It eventually restored news content there after the government agreed on making some changes to the legislation. (CNN)



Scientists stunned by fossils found deep beneath Greenland's ice sheet

Looking through the back of your freezer can unearth all manner of goodies that you'd likely forgotten about, but probably nothing quite as surprising as a discovery made at the back of a freezer at the University of Copenhagen.

A 15-foot tube of ice and dirt from Greenland, recovered in 1966 by a US military team that'd drilled over a mile down into the ice, was analyzed for the first time in 2019 – and there was much more than just sand and dirt in the samples.

In a study, published in the journal Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences on Monday, the international team of researchers describe the discovery of "perfectly preserved" twigs and leaves locked within their extracted ice cores. The existence of these plants implies that there was once vegetation in that spot now buried by ice, which shows that a decent portion of Greenland

must have been ice-free within the past million years. Scientist Andrew Christ reported that the samples are like a time capsule of Greenland before the ice. "Ice sheets typically pulverize and destroy everything in their path," he said, "but what we discovered was delicate plant structures. They're fossils, but they look like they died yesterday."

The implications of the discovery could be huge for studies on climate change, given that analysis of Greenland's ice sheet could help scientists predict how it will behave as temperatures rise and the ice melts as a result of human activity. It may also help them estimate how long the ice sheet will take before it melts completely, affecting sea levels worldwide.

In addition, the discovery suggests that Greenland could be more vulnerable to human-induced climate change than we first thought, given evidence that



most of the ice sheet has melted away at least once before in history – and that was without the aid of human greenhouse gases and emissions.

Now that the levels are higher, the ice could melt faster and with more extreme results. Greenland's ice sheet holds enough water to raise global sea levels by 20 feet,

which would have dire consequences for coastal populations as it melts.

Lead scientist Paul Bierman was emphatic about the need to address Greenland's ice problem immediately. "This is not a 20-generation problem," he said. "This is an urgent problem for the next 50 years." (CNET)

US doing better on Covid vaccines

Coronavirus developments in Europe are likely no longer early indications of what will happen weeks later in the U.S., due partly to America's progress vaccinating its population, Dr. Scott Gottlieb told CNBC on Monday.

The former Food and Drug Administration commissioner's comments on "Squawk Box" come one day after White House Chief Medical Advisor Dr. Anthony Fauci said the situation in Europe shows why U.S. states should not completely ditch pandemic precautions right now.

Italy is imposing more severe restrictions on business in certain parts of the country after a rise in new infections, including an upcoming nationwide lockdown for Easter weekend. Health officials in Germany also have warned about a rise in Covid cases.

"Earlier I said we were sort of four to maybe six weeks behind Europe, and we're pretty much there," Gottlieb said, referring to previous phases of the global

health crisis. "Everything that happened in Europe eventually happened here. Now I think the tables have turned. We're ahead of Europe."

"I don't think the conditions in Europe and the situation in Europe is necessarily predictive anymore of what's going to happen here

because we have much more immunity in our population both from prior infection – which they have as well – but also now from vaccination," added Gottlieb, a board member of Pfizer, which makes a Covid vaccine.

About 9.5% of the vaccine-eligible population across member states in the EU and European Economic Area have had at least one Covid shot, according to the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control. Roughly 7.5% of Italians aged 18 and up and 8.5% of Germans aged 18 and up have had at least one Covid vaccine dose, per ECDC data. (CNBC)



DEPARTMENT OF EXAMINATIONS, SRI LANKA

It is hereby notified that the Admission Cards and Time Tables in respect of the following Examinations have been dispatched to the addresses given in the applications or to the Heads of relevant Institutes.

	Examination	Dates of Examination	Venue
01	Efficiency Bar Examination for Officers in Grade I of Grama Niladhari Service - 2019 (2021)	20th March 2021	All Island
02	Sri Lanka Law College Entrance Examination -2021	21st March 2021	Selected Town in 9 Provinces

Candidates who have not received Admission Cards or those who require further information are kindly requested to communicate with the Institutional Examinations Organization Branch of this Department giving full name and address. Admission Cards can be downloaded from the Department's Website : www.slexams.com

Telephone : 011-2785230 / 011-2786150
Fax : 011-2784232

B. Sanath Pujitha
Commissioner General of Examinations

5/5/2/AD/2021
Institutional Examinations Organization,
Department of Examinations, Sri Lanka,
Pelawatta, Battaramulla.

16th March 2021

BANK OF CEYLON



Bankers to the Nation

BANK OF CEYLON

NOTICE UNDER SECTION 21 OF THE BANK OF CEYLON ORDINANCE (CHAPTER 397)
AS AMENDED BY ACT NO. 34 OF 1968, LAW NO. 10 OF 1974 AND ACT NO 54 OF 2000.

Mortgaged property situated at No. 606 B, Sri Summatissa Mawatha, Nawagamuwa, Ranala for the liabilities of Sintesi Limited of No. 606 B, Sri Sumanatissa Mawatha, Nawagamuwa, Ranala,

At the meeting held on 04.03.2021 the Board of Directors of this Bank resolved specially and unanimously,

That a sum of USD 2,389,932.33 (USD Two Million Three Hundred Eighty Nine Thousand Nine Hundred Thirty Two and Cents Thirty Three Only) is due from Sintesi Limited of No.606 B, Sri Sumanatissa Mawatha, Nawagamuwa, Ranala on account of principal and interest outstanding on the Term Loan facility up to 10.02.2021 together with further interest on USD 2,312,558.00 (USD Two Million Three Hundred Twelve Thousand Five Hundred Fifty Eight Only) at the rate of 1.5% p.a. from 11.02.2021 till the date of payment on Mortgage Bond No: 1648 dated 25.09.2007 attested by D.Kitulgoda N.P. on the property belonging to Sintesi Limited of No.606 B, Sri Sumanatissa Mawatha, Nawagamuwa, Ranala and immovable plant and machinery affixed to the land and premises.

That in terms of Section 19 of the Bank of Ceylon Ordinance (Cap.397) and its amendments, the Auctioneer Mr. M.H. Thusitha Karunaratne of T & H Auctions of No:50/3, Vihara Mawatha, Kolonnawa be authorized and empowered to sell by Public Auction the land, building and immovable machinery mortgaged to the Bank of Ceylon fully described in the first and second schedules hereunder for the recovery of the said sum of USD 2,389,932.33 (USD Two Million Three Hundred Eighty Nine Thousand Nine Hundred Thirty Two and Cents Thirty Three Only) due on the aforesaid Bond No. 1648 dated 25.09.2007 together with interest as aforesaid from 11.02.2021 to date of sale and costs and monies recoverable under Section 26 of the said Bank of Ceylon Ordinance and that the Relationship Manager (Recovery - Corporate) of the Bank of Ceylon -Lo publish notice of this resolution in terms of Section 21 of the said Bank of Ceylon Ordinance.

THE SCHEDULE ABOVE REFERRED TO AS DESCRIBED IN MORTGAGE BOND NO. 1648

THE FIRST SCHEDULE ABOVE REFERRED TO

All that divided and defined allotment of land marked Lot A in Plan No 384 dated 24th August 1978 made by T D W P Perera Licensed Surveyor from and out of Lands called - **Koshena and Koshenawatta** situated in the village of Nawagamuwa within the 13radeshiya Sabha Limits of Kaduwela in the Palle Pattu of Hewagama Korale Colombo District Western Province and which said Lot A is bounded on the NORTH by Pradeshiya Sabha Road from Oruwala to Nawagamuwa, Lots A1 and A2 of the same Plan, part of the same land in TP 234249 of G Elosingho & others part of the same land in TP 234249 of R Anthonis Fernando and land of Cornelis Fernando on the EAST by Lot A2 of the same Plan land in TP 183224 of Yakdeniyage Yasohamy Paddy Field in TP 53662 of Miriyagolla and Paddy Field of Cornelis Fernando and others, on the SOUTH by Paddy Field of Cornelis Fernando and others and Paddy Field claimed by the Trustees of Kotte Temple and on the WEST by A1 of the same Plan and Paddy Field claimed by the Trustees of Kotte Temple and containing in extent **Nine Acres Two Roods and Six Perches (A9.R2.P6.0)** together with the building and everything standing thereon according to the said Plan No. 384 and Registered under Volume/Folio G 1669/41 at the Land Registry of Homagama.

Which said allotment of land according to a recent figure of Survey Plan bearing No.2587 dated 13th July 2006 made by S M Jalaludeen Licensed Surveyor is described as follows:

All that divided and defined allotment of land marked Lot 1 depicted in the said Plan No. 2587 from and out of the Lands called **Koshena and Koshenawatta** situated in the Village of Nawagamuwa as aforesaid and which said Lot 1 is bounded on the NORTH by Road Lot A2 in Plan No.384 and Lands claimed by G Elo Singho and others, Y. Yasohamy, R Guneris and others and R Somapala on the EAST by A2 in Plan No. 384 and Lands claimed by G Elo Singho and others, Y Yasohamy R Guneris and others and R. Somapala, Ela, Paddy Fields claimed by Miriyagolla, Cornelis Fernando and others on the SOUTH by Ela, Paddy Fields claimed by Miriyagolla, Cornelis Fernando and others and the Trustees of Kotte Temple and Lot A1 in Plan No.384 and on the WEST by Ela Paddy Field claimed by the Trustees of Kotte Temple and Lot A1 in Plan No. 384 and containing in extent **NINE ACRES ONE ROOD AND SEVENTEEN PERCHES (A9.R1.P17.0)** together with the building and everything standing thereon according to the said Plan No.2587.

THE SECOND SCHEDULE ABOVE REFERRED TO:

All those the plant and machinery affixed to the land and premises fully described in the First Schedule above comprising:-

List of Immovable Machinery	Assets Description	Serial Number	Cost	Capitalized
1. CNC MACHINE				
CNC Vertical Machine Center		Model — V 1000		58,000.00
CNC Vertical Machine Center		Model — V 1000		58,000.00
CNC Vertical Machine Center (Freight charges)		Model — V 1000	2,153.72	
PALChgs. (CNC Vertical Machine Center)		Model — V 1000	2,999.01	
CNC Vertical Machine Center Model V 1000 With MX5 Controller Cooling System.		Model — V 1000		59,000.00
CNC Vertical Machine Center Model — V1000 With MX5 Controller Cooling System		Model — V 1000		59,000.00
2. LAMINATION MACHINE				
Fabric Laminating Machine		TGHU 4701602	560,774.54	
Rollers for lamination Machine.		-	32,829.94	
Rollers for lamination Machine.		-	32,829.94	

And everything else of every sort and description whatsoever now affixed to the land and premises fully described in the first schedule above.

Bank of Ceylon
Recovery Corporate Unit
"BOC Square"
No. 01, Bank of Ceylon Mawatha,
Colombo 01.

Relationship Manager
Recovery - Corporate



The Open University of Sri Lanka

BACHELOR OF EDUCATION HONOURS (SPECIAL NEEDS EDUCATION) DEGREE PROGRAMME

ENROLMENT OF STUDENTS FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR
2021/2022

Applications are called for 3rd year (Level 5) of this programme offered by the Department of Special Needs Education of the Faculty of Education of the Open University of Sri Lanka.

The Duration of this Programme is 4 years.

1 st Year- Level 3	}	Diploma Level courses offered by any Faculty/Department of the Open University of Sri Lanka or National Diploma in Teaching (Special Education) of the National Colleges of Education.
2 nd year- Level 4		
3 rd year- Level 5	}	Courses offered by the Department of Special Needs Education
4 th year- Level 6		

Calling application and registration for 3rd year (Level 5) of the B. Ed Hons (SNE) Programme will be conducted by the Department of Special Needs Education.

Applications are called from the applicants who already have completed a Diploma (Levels 3 & 4) from the Open University of Sri Lanka or National Diploma in Teaching (Special Education) from the National Colleges of Education to enroll in Level 5 of the B.Ed Hons. (SNE) Degree programme conducted by the Department of Special Needs Education.

Medium- English/Sinhala/Tamil

(The medium of instruction would be decided according to the number of students enrolled for each media)

Duration-2 Years

Academic Activities- Only in Colombo Regional Centre

Please Note:

For the future applicants of B.Ed Hons (SNE) Degree

An applicant who wish to enrol to the B.Ed (SNE) Degree programme need first to follow any Diploma Level Programme (Levels 3 & 4) conducted by the Open University of Sri Lanka. We encourage you to give your priority for any one of these programmes mentioned below.

1. Diploma in Early Childhood and Primary Education Programme (Levels 3 & 4)
2. BA Social Sciences Degree Programme (Levels 3 & 4)
3. Bachelor of Management Studies (Levels 3 & 4)
4. B.Sc. Natural Sciences Degree Programme (Levels 3 & 4)

offered by the Open University of Sri Lanka.

Students those who have completed the above mentioned Diploma Level Programme (Level 3 & 4), are able to enrol the last two years of the B.Ed Hons (SNE) Degree Programme conducted by the Department of Special Needs Education of the Open University of Sri Lanka.

Application Procedure

All entry criteria should be fulfilled on or before the date of registration of the relevant degree programme.

Submission of applications from : 7th March 2021 to 7th April 2021
Closing Date of Applications: 7th April 2021

Application Fee- Rs. 350

Application fee could be paid by visiting the website <https://reginfo.ou.ac.lk/applyonline/> through Debit/Credit Card. Applicants who do not have Credit/Debit cards may make the payment by cash at the Colombo Regional Centre, Open University of Sri Lanka / any Regional Centre.

Only online applications will be accepted. Those who need assistance with the online application process can call over at any one of the Regional and Study Centres listed below with the following information: Full name of applicant with address, National Identity card number, e-mail address, Mobile phone number.

Visit any one of the OUSL Regional and Study Centres to obtain information and assistance in the online application process.

Colombo (Nawala), Anuradhapura, Batticaloa, Jaffna, Kandy (Polgolla), Matara (Nupe), Badulla, Kurunegala, Ampara, Bandarawela, Gampaha, Galle, Ambalantota, Hattton, Trincomalee, Kilimochchi, Mullaitivu, Kalutara, Kegalle, Monaragala, Polonnaruwa, Puttalam, Ratnapura, Mannar, Kuliypitiya, Ambalangoda and Vavuniya.

Available Scholarships - Mahapola Scholarship, University Bursary, Enhancement Bursary, Enrolment Bursary
(Please contact Student Affairs and Welfare Division for more information - 0112881374)

For further information contact:

Public Relations Office, The Open University of Sri Lanka, Nawala, Nugegoda
from 9.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. (on all days except public holidays)
Public Information Office : 0112 881327 / 0112 881256

All other centres from 9.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. (on all days except Sundays, Mondays and Public Holidays)
Head/Dept. of Special Needs Education : 0112881515/492

The Registrar - The Open University of Sri Lanka

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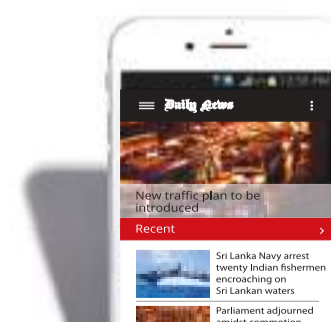
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“Health guidelines adhered to in COVID jab administration”



The COVID jab being administered to senior citizens in Boralesgamuwa

ANANDA KANNANGARA

Strict health regulations are adopted and adhered when storing and disposing injections and other waste during the COVID-19 vaccination programs all over Sri Lanka.

Medical Officer of Health, Boralesgamuwa, Dr. Inoka Liyanage said that all surgical needles used in the vaccination process are collected hygienically after use and sent to Homagama Medical Waste Collecting Centre from where they are re sent to Avissawella Clinical Waste Disposal Unit both of which are maintained by the Ministry of Health.

The plastic syringes as well as cotton waste too are also disposed under international health guidelines to ensure that there is no spread of any germs to the society from this vaccination process.

She said that the Colombo District has several vaccination programmes and Boralesgamuwa Medical Officer of Health is carrying out part of the Colombo District Programme to vaccinate senior citizens over 60 years of age under the United Nations 'Vaccine grant' programme.

*Prior to carrying out vaccination



Public Health Nursing Sister Boralasgamuwa, Sujatha Karunaratne with a COVID vaccination refrigerator

programs we make several advanced public announcements to residents in areas through loudspeakers. However due to several myths the turnout is still poor and this should be addressed."

Some believe that the vaccine is not good for patients with heart, diabetic and other similar diseases. "This is not true. However for people prone to allergies and who are on

long medications (like taking 'Warfarin') our medical staff at the vaccination center will advise what should be done."

Before the vaccination process we ensure that the recipient faces an interview where we advise on these issues. After taking the injection we request them stay for 20 minutes to check for any after effects and after that the person who receives the injection can carry on their life as usual.

"Once again it's a myth to say that when you take the 'Jab' that you get high fever and need to be hospitalised and take treatment and some even suffer from diarrhoea for a long period and some people also die. We have not received any complaints so far on after effects from the Jab."

"However one must remember that though the injection is taken people must continue with their C-19 safety precautions as this vaccine is mainly an immunize booster against the virus."

"We also provide them a Card where the details of the vaccine is provided along with the date for the second day for next vaccination



MOH Boralesgamuwa, Dr. Inoka Liyanage

which is after three months. This vaccination card is accepted globally and is useful when travelling overseas."

She also said that under their COVID-19 senior vaccination programmes they have already vaccinated around 7,000 senior citizens through weekend programs in the Boralesgamuwa area and they plan to vaccinate around 3,000 more by the end of the month to complete this programme.



State Ministry of Batik, Handloom and Local Apparel Products

"LAKSALA"



Sri Lanka Handicrafts Board

Registration of Suppliers / Contractors for the Supply of Goods Provision of Works and Services - 2021

Applications are hereby invited from recognized institutions, for the registration of suppliers and contractors who wish to register themselves for the fulfilment of under mentioned requirements of the Sri Lanka Handicrafts Board for the year 2021.

1. Category (A) - Statoinery.
2. Category (B) - Purchase of Goods
3. Category (C) - Obtaining of Services.
4. Category (D) - Civil Constructions, landscaping, interior decorations and related services.

Documents of details and description of the works to be carried out, and of the goods and services to be supplied and provided will be provided to the interested applicants, at the time of obtaining the application forms, relevant for each of the four (04) categories, mentioned above.


Although any person of the island can be registered as a Supplier and Supplies of areas of Colombo, Galle, Kandy, Nuwara Eliya and Kegalle, etc., where "LAKSALA" Showrooms are established, will be preferred.

Application forms could be obtained from the Administrative Division of the Sri Lanka Handicrafts Board, No. 215, Bauddhaloka Mawatha, Thummulla, Colombo 07, from 9.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. (from Monday to Friday) on working days of the week, from 18.03.2021 to 26.04.2021, upon payment of Rs. 1,000/= (One Thousand Rupees), per each category of items, from 18.03.2021 to 26.04.2021 as the registration fees.

Duly completed applications should either be sent by registered post, to the following address or hand delivered to the same address with caption to the effect a "Registration of Suppliers, Contractors and Service Providers - 2021".

Chairman,
Sri Lanka Handicrafts Board - Laksala,
No. 215, Bauddhaloka Mawatha, Colombo 07.
Telephone No:- 011-2055717, 205551.

SLT-MOBITEL joins CMC to for COVID-19 vaccination process through eChannelling



SLT-MOBITEL has collaborated with the IT Division of Colombo Municipal Council (CMC) to introduce yet another pioneering initiative through Mobitel's eChannelling service, enabling the convenient registration of persons for the COVID-19 vaccination.

As part of the first phase, senior citizens over the age of 60 years and residing within the city of Colombo can avail themselves of this facility online, free of charge.

CEO, Mobitel, Chandika Vitharana stated, "As an organisation that is committed towards uplifting the nation and its citizens through cutting edge connectivity solutions, we are delighted to have joined hands with the CMC to see this initiative through. We are especially gratified to be providing our services to the national cause of fighting the pandemic in this manner, and ensuring that members of the public are made aware of the importance of keeping themselves and everyone around them safe - all through the simple click of a button. While this facility is currently available in Colombo city limits during Phase 01, we are working on extending the service island wide along with the expansion of the vaccination process."


To use this unique service, citizens over the age of 60 can access the eChannelling website www.echannelling.com, or CMC website www.colombo.mc.gov.lk, or by using the eChannelling Mobile App and click on the 'COVID Vaccination' button which will then lead the user to a page displaying names of participating vaccination centres.

Customers can then select their preferred centre for the vaccination and a preferred time slot and proceed with the reservation by providing the required personal details such as name, NIC number and mobile number. A one-time password or OTP will be sent via SMS to the person's given mobile number, and upon its verification, the reservation is confirmed through an SMS and electronic receipt.

The vaccinations are available to be booked at the following centres:

- MOH District 01 & New Bazaar Maternity Home premises - No. 200, Sirimavo Bandaranayake Mw, Colombo 14. Contact - 2336625
- MOH District 2A at Ginthupitiya - No 27, Vivekananda Rd, Colombo 13. Contact - 2446342
- MOH District 2B office - Forbes Lane MCH Centre 73/12 Forbes Lane (Arnold Ratnayake Mw) Colombo 10. Contact - 2689833
- MOH District 3 office - Campbell Park grounds. Contact - 2691826
- MOH District 4 office - No 75, Kirula Rd, Colombo 5. Contact - 2582037
- MOH District 5 Office - No 40, Manning Pl, Wellawatta. Contact - 2588223

UN launches Only Together campaign



11 MARCH, NEW YORK — The United Nations today launched a new global campaign, Only Together to support its call for fair and equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines around the world.

The campaign stresses the need for coordinated global action to ensure vaccines are accessible in all countries, starting with health-care workers and the most vulnerable.

"Over the past year, we've all missed out on doing the things we love to do with others- eating, hugging, and going to school and work," said UN Deputy Secretary-General Amina J. Mohammed.

"Millions of us have lost someone we love or had our livelihoods taken away. An unprecedented global scientific effort for vaccines has given us hope to defeat the virus — but only if we work together to ensure everyone, everywhere has access to COVID-19 vaccines. Only together can we end the pandemic and transform a new era of hope." More than 2.5 million people around the world have died from COVID-19, according to the World Health Organization. The COVID-19 vaccines will stop people from dying, prevent new variants from emerging, reignite economies and offer the best hope to end the pandemic.

The biggest vaccine roll out in history is now underway with millions of doses being delivered around the world, including to some of the world's poorest countries, through the efforts of COVAX, the global vaccine equity mechanism. But these doses will initially only cover a small segment of the populations - healthcare workers and the most vulnerable.

By the end of 2021, COVAX aims to offer vaccines to nearly 30 percent of each participating country's population. But that progress pales compared to ten rich countries who possess nearly 80 per cent of all COVID-19 vaccines, with some planning to vaccinate their entire population within the next few months.

COVAX, which is led by the World Health Organization, GAVI and the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI), and in partnership with UNICEF, has 190 participating countries. It needs more than US\$2 billion to fully meet its goal to vaccinate those most in need by the end of the year.

Pledging new funding for COVAX is critical, but more can be done to scale up vaccine access by sharing excess vaccines, transferring technology, offering voluntary licensing or even waiving intellectual property rights.

INVITATION FOR BID

Supply of Printed Corrugated Boxes (250 g Master Packing) - 600,000 Nos. for Sri Lanka Thripasha Limited 2021/2022

Bid No. SLTL/MKT/06/2021

1. Chairman, Department Procurement Committee (Major) on behalf of the Sri Lanka Thripasha Limited invites sealed Bids from eligible and qualified Bidders for **Supply of Printed Corrugated Boxes (250g Master Packing) 600,000 Nos. for Sri Lanka Thripasha Limited for year 2021/2022 for the period of 12 months commencing from the date of award.**
2. Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding procedure.
3. Interested Bidders may obtain further information from Senior Manager (Tel. No. +94 0112236588) at the Sri Lanka Thripasha Limited and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address given below on working days between 9.00 a.m. and 3.00 p.m.
4. Bid Documents will be issued only to the Manufacturers or sole nominated representatives / accredited Agents of Manufacturers of the printed Corrugated Boxes offered for the Sri Lankan market, who are eligible to participate in this procurement. No bid will be accepted from foreign principals who do not have sole nominated representatives / accredited Agents in Sri Lanka.
5. A complete set of Bidding Documents in English Language may be purchased by interested Bidders from the Senior Manager at the Sri Lanka Thripasha Limited, P.O. Box 17, Negombo Road, Kapuwatta, Ja-Ela on working days between 9.00 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. up to **06.04.2021** on submission of a written request to the address below together with the **PCA3** issued by the Registrar of Contracts and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **LKR 9,400.00** by cash.
6. Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before **07.04.2021 at 2.30 p.m.** Late Bids will be rejected. The Bid shall be valid for **91 days** from the date of bid opening **07.04.2021 up to 07.07.2021.**
7. All Bids must be accompanied with a Bid Security issued by a commercial bank operating in Sri Lanka approved by the Central Bank, **amounting to Rs. 540,000.00.** The validity period of the Bid Security **shall be 119 days** from the date of bid opening **07.04.2021 up to 04.08.2021.**
8. Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidders' authorized representatives at the address below immediately after the time mentioned above (**07.04.2021 at 2.30 p.m.**)

The address referred to above is :

Chairman
Department Procurement Committee (Major),
Sri Lanka Thripasha Limited,
P.O. Box 17,
Negombo Road,
Kapuwatta,
Ja-Ela.

ARE YOU PROTECTED?

Say no to mobile banking fraud! Follow these simple guidelines:

- Obtain banking apps only from trusted sources, such as official app stores.
- Use a password, biometric passcodes (Finger Print, Face ID) to login in to the phone.
- Do not give two-factor passcodes (OTP, PIN) to anyone. (Eg:- over the phone or via text)
- If a banking app seems suspicious, do not process any transactions. Call the bank.
- Create unique and strong passwords for banking apps. Do not share the password.
- Login only from your own devices.




Saranath Hettiarachchi the weightlifter turned ruggerite

ALTHAF NAWAZ

Prop forwards are usually the largest and heaviest players in a team. In attack, their size and strength means that they are primarily used for running directly into the opponents defence, as a kind of battering ram to simply gain metres. Saranath Nuwan Hettiarachchi was a player who with his height and hefty build locked horns to play a key role occupying the prop forward position in all the teams he played starting from school, club and national team.

Saranath was born in 1981 in Kandy city and Nimal Hettiarachchi was his father a businessman while Kumari Marambe his mother was a housewife. He had two siblings with Ruwan his younger brother who represented the same school later locked horns for CR and FC and another brother Dinesh lives in Italy. He enrolled himself as a primary school kid at Dharmaraja College, Kandy in 1986 and went on to complete his higher studies by 2000. It is noteworthy that Dharmaraja College is another prominent school located in the hill capital which played a phenomenal role in the field of education and sports producing several personalities, who brought honour



Saranath Hettiarachchi

and fame to their 'Alma Mater' and the country.

Well known as Saranath in the sporting arena, he was very particular in maintaining a brawny frame from his small days. He launched his rugby career from the under-13 and went on to play in the 15 age group under the watchful eyes of coach Janak Samarasinghe, who was instrumental in teaching him the basics of the oval shaped ball. His under-17 coach was C.S. Ekanayake while the under-19 head coach was former Rajan and National player Hemantha Yatawara with

G. B. Ekanayake as the fitness coach. His involvement in rugby was an interesting one. He was highly captivated by weightlifting and played rugby as a secondary sport. Since he was performing exceptionally well in weightlifting, his coach pressurized him to focus purely on weightlifting rather than concentrating on other disciplines to give his best to the sport. But he decided to concentrate on rugby leaving out weightlifting, which was the stepping stone to his illustrious rugby career. He also took part in the under-13 cricket team while being a member of the weightlifting team. While being engaged in weightlifting he represented the college team in the 96kg weight class. In 1996, he won the first place whilst establishing a National record at the Junior National Tournament held in Negombo in the same weight class. Due to his quality performance in sports in 1997, he won school colours for weight lifting and also spared his free time in school to take part in soccer and athletics.

He started his rugby career with the under-13 age category and continued all the way up to play with the first XV team after representing the school teams in

1996 (under-15) and in 1997 (under-17). He played a dual role representing the first XV team drafting in as number eight and at times as a prop forward in the 1998/ 1999/ 2000 seasons. In 2000, he was awarded the "Dagoba" at the school Colours Nite for being the first ever rugby player in Dharmaraja history to represent the under-19 Sri Lanka National team. In the same year, he was appointed as games captain of Central Province and represented the winning Central Province team in the provincial league organized by SLRFU.

In 1999 he, represented the Junior Asian Rugby team in Taiwan under two great personalities with S.W. Chang as Manager and Ananda Kathurirachchi as head coach who guided them to win the Plate Championship in that tournament for the first time in history. In 2000, halfway through the school season he was selected by Kandy SC to play for them as a second row forward under the captaincy of Indrajith Bandaranayake. He then donned the Kandy jersey from 2000 to 2008 representing Kandy SC as prop forward under the captaincy of Indrajith Bandaranayake, Sajith Mallikarachchi, Pradeep

Basnayake, Sanjeeva Jayasinghe, Nalaka Weerakody, Radhika Hettiarachchi and Jeewa Galgamuwa.

During his peak playing for Kandy in 2001, he was called to join the Sri Lanka National Rugby team as a prop forward under late George Simpkin's tenure as the national coach and had a memorable career till 2007, playing in several tournaments for Sri Lanka under different captains including Viraj Prasanth, Haris Omar, Pradeep Basnayake, Sajith Mallikarachchi, Indrajith Bandaranayake while the coaches were Tony Amit, Tavita Tulagae-si (Laga), C. P. Abeygunawardena and late George Simpkin. In 2008, he won National colours for his contribution to Sri Lanka Rugby. In the same year he opted to hang up his boots with the intention of migrating to Australia. He is living in Melbourne, Australia since 2008 and working at Woolworths LTD as a manager building up and developing his career in Education. He obtained a Sports and Nutrition Degree at Melbourne University while following a Rugby Union and League coaching course at Rugby Australia. His wife is Mekala Dasanayake and has one child Helith aged nine years.

CFSL Online Youth Under 12 Girls Chess Championship 2021

Anujana Sendanayake wins Under 12 Girls Chess Championship

DHAMMIKA RATNAWEERA

Anujana Sendanayake of Ananda Sastralaya, Matugama won the Championship of the CFSL Online Youth Under 12 Years. Girls Chess Championship convincingly scoring 6 ½ points out of a possible 7 yesterday. Anujana was unbeaten throughout the event with victories against Nilani Dharmaseena, Yehansa Wickramasinghe, HGS Sanulya, Tharuli Ranganath, Gehansa Dange and Jenuki Alwis and a draw with Esandi Newansa.

Esandi Newansa and GHS Sanulya were placed equal second with six points each and Newansa won the silver medal due to the better tie breaker. Newansa was also unbeaten throughout the event with five wins against Chanudi Jayasinghe, Diyenka Rajaguru, Devhara Palliyaguru, Dulnima Rathnayake and Samsi Sithumsa while she drew the other two games with Anjana and Jenuki Alwis.

Sanulya had to be satis-



fied with the bronze medal with six wins each with Thanuki Jayathillake, Dulanya Ranasinghe, Thahani Cassim, Devhara Palliyaguru, Thejisa Thisarindi and Dulnima Rathnayake with a loss to the Champion.

The CFSL Online Youth Under 12 Years Girls Chess Championship 2021 was conducted by the Chess Federation of Sri Lanka (CFSL). A total of 84 players from all over the country participated in the event which was conducted on the Swiss System in seven rounds with a time control of 15 minutes + 10 seconds per each move played.

Sahan Dananjaya excels in Karate and Taekwondo

DILWIN MENDIS

Moratuwa Sports Special Correspondent

Karate Orange Belt Holder and Taekwondo Player Ranhulu Sahan Dananjaya Mandis has brought honour and fame to his Alma Mater Sugathananda Vidyalaya, Madampe with his achievements on the sports field. He was admitted to this school in 2011 when P. Kumararatne was the Principal and his first class teacher was Mrs. Geethika Jayasuriya.

At the early stages at school Sahan was not interested in sports. But his parents Nandika Mandis and Iresh Roshani Paris encouraged him to do karate and in 2017 he was handed over to school Karate Coach and Master in Charge M. Malla-warachchi. In the same year Sahan participated in the Puttalam District Karate Do Tournament and won a Gold Medal for Kumite in his first attempt itself and a Silver medal for Kata in the under 13 age category.

His second tournament was the Karate Do North Western Provincial Meet and Sahan won a Bronze for Kumite and in the All Island National Championship he won a Gold for Kumite.



Sahan Dananjaya and other members of the ISKU team on tour of Hyderabad, India for the Karate Cup 2019. (Picture by Dilwin Mendis, Moratuwa Sports Special Correspondent)

In the following year at the Puttalam District Karate Championship he won Golds for Kumite and Kata and at the North Western Province Karate Championship he won a Silver for Kumite and a Bronze for Kata.

To enhance his skills in his first attempt himself and a Silver medal for Kata in the under 13 age category.

His second tournament was the Karate Do North Western Provincial Meet and Sahan won a Bronze for Kumite and in the All Island National Championship he won a Gold for Kumite.

and Sahan won a Gold Medal for Kumite under 14 age category and this performance was a great boon for his karate career and he was awarded the Orange Belt.

In addition to Karate he did Taekwondo under Mr. Mallwarachchi at school in 2019 and at the 10th Cadet Taekwondo Championship under 13 category he won a Silver Medal and in the Taekwondo National Cadet Championship in the same age group he won a Bronze. His Principal Ranjan de Silva and Prefect of Games, Saman Kumara are always supportive of him.



Sahan Dananjaya

Mahamaya Girls going great guns in cricket

UPANANDA JAYASUNDERA

Kandy Sports Special Correspondent

Mahamaya Girls' School, Kandy established in 1932 is one of the best schools in the country in education as well as sports at present. The main sport in the school is undoubtedly swimming, in which the school has emerged All Island Champions for the last 20 years. Other than swimming the school has outstanding teams in cricket, hockey, netball, table tennis, chess and basketball.

Mahamaya Girls School is one of the few schools in the Province playing softball as well as hard ball cricket. The game became popular in Mahamaya in the year 1985 when Nita Pilapitiya was the Principal of the School and at that time there were two cricket teams, Senior and Junior captained by Thushara Tennakoon and Manjula Kalpage respectively. Thushara is the sister of former Skipper of Dharmaraja College, Kandy and NCC Cricketer Thilina Tennakoon. Manjula is the sister of former Sri Lanka Test player Ruwan Kalpage and from there cricket continued at



The present Cricket team of Mahamaya Girls School, Kandy (Pictures by Upananda Jayasundera-Kandy Sports Spl. Cor)

Mahamaya under the captaincy of Yasamali Hettiarachchi and Shalika Gannoruwa.

Under Yasamali's captaincy Mahamaya Girls college won the Kandy Mayor's Cup Softball Cricket tournament beating Swarnamali Balika in the finals in the mid nineties. Under Shalika Gannoruwa, Mahamaya became third in hardball cricket in 2008 in which the cricket team of Anuradhapura emerged champions and Kegalle Team became runners-up. Shalika is the daughter of Ajith Gannoruwa former cricketer of Dharmaraja College and Central Province in the late Sixties. For any sport to thrive especially at school level

the particular sport must have the backing of the school authorities and the former sports loving Principal of Mahamaya, Indra Withanachchi along with the former Deputy Principals Vishaka Herath, Uthpala Seneviratne, Himali Senadheera and the former Prefect of Games, Dharmika Mahawattage were there to support the students who were involved in sports activities. With the encouragement of the present principal of the school, S. Samarakoon and the present POG Nilu Wijekoon the cricket team is getting popular day by day.

Mahamaya qualified for the last Tape Ball Cricket Tournament



The present captain of the senior cricket team of the school, Isiri Meegammana.

under the captaincy of Dedunu Bagya conducted by the Sri Lanka Cricket and the two cricket Teams, Under 15 and Over 15 are in top form in cricket at present.

History book on 70 years of Air Force Sports launched

The Sri Lanka Air Force (SLAF) recently launched "Glorious Sporting History", a book covering its rich sporting performances from 1951 to 2021. In line with its 70th Anniversary. The book encompasses the outstanding sports achievements of sportsmen and women, coaches and administrators of yesteryear who have rendered an immense service to uplift sports in the SLAF as well as Sri Lanka. The history book was the brainchild of Air Marshal Sudarshana Pathirana, the Commander of the Air Force and the President of the Air Force Sports Council. Air Commodore Padman de Costa, the former Secretary of the Air Force Sports Council and Defence Services Sports Board authored the book. (D.R.)



Commander of the SLAF Air Marshal Sudarshana Pathirana handing over the book to Minister of Youth and Sports Nimal Rajapaksa. Air Commodore Padman de Costa is also in the picture

Sri Lankan Olympic stars of yesteryear

Wimalasena ran the Mexico marathon after 36 injections

Rupasinghe Arachchige Wimalasena Perera, participated in the 1968 Olympic Games in Mexico in the marathon event and was an excellent long distance runner during his time.

The city of Mexico where the marathon was held was 7,347 feet above sea level and the climatic conditions resulted in Wimalasena falling sick and being hospitalised for three weeks.

He was given 36 injections and yet, considering that he was sent for the Olympics with great expectations, Wimalasena participated in the marathon without heeding medical advice. He competed with 87 others and came in 51st place.

Born on May 30, 1945 he had his early education at Wedamulla Maha Vidyalaya, Kelaniya and secondary education at Sri Dharmaloka Maha Vidyalaya.

During schooldays he was popular as a football player. Before and

after football practices it was a habit for him to run one mile.

Wimalasena, won the 1,500 metres at the Western Province Schools Sports Meet held in 1962 at the Royal College Grounds. In 1962, he came seventh in the marathon conducted by the Ceylon Track and Field Club as a 17-year-old schoolboy.

In 1963, at the Junior Athletics Championships he won the 1,500 metres event in four minutes 12.7s and created a junior schools athletics record.

In 1964, his entry form to participate in the trials for the Olympics in Rome for the marathon was rejected because Wimalasena was too young at that time.

In 1964, he left school and joined the Army which was a decisive turn in his life. He received training under Colonel P. D. Ramaniyaka and became the Army champion defeating the National

champion R. J. K. Karunananda, who participated in the 1964 Olympics.

In the same year, he participated in the 10,000 metres event at the National Championships and won it in 32.0 minutes. He was awarded the Governor's Cup for this victory.

Wimalasena was successful in improving on the existing Ceylon marathon record of two hours and 33 minutes established by Linus Dias by returning a time of 2 hours 27 minutes and 17.8s at the trials for the Asian Games in 1966.

At the Asian Games he came seventh in the marathon. Although he participated in the Commonwealth Games in 1966, he had to retire from the event due to a shoulder injury.

In 1967, he set a new marathon record while improving on his earlier record by completing it in 2 hours 22 minutes and 5s. He was



Wimalasena Perera

also able to win Silver Medals in the Open 3,000m and the 10,000m events in 1967 in Singapore.

Wimalasena who won the National Marathon Championship in 1969 came in fourth place the same year at the marathon event held in Hong Kong.

Wimalasena retired from athletics in 1973 after the Army Inter-Unit Athletics Meet and since then, he has been devoting his time and experience to coaching the younger generation. (C.D)

WORLD OF SPORTS

(MARCH 17)
LOCAL EVENTS
CRICKET

(Inter-Schools U-19):
D. S. Senanayake vs De
Mazenod at Wijerama
Mawatha

VOLLEYBALL

Galaxy Trophy Tournament
at Volleyball House,
Dadella

SNOOKER

Lanka Plate Tournament
final at MICH, Dematagoda

FOREIGN EVENTS
CRICKET

(Tour match):
West Indies President's XI
vs Sri Lanka at Antigua (1st
day)
Afghanistan vs Zimbabwe
(1st T20) at Abu Dhabi
India Women vs South
Africa Women (5th ODI) at
Lucknow
(Sheffield Shield):
Queensland vs Victoria at
Brisbane (3rd day)
(Road Safety World Series):
1st semi-final at Raipur

FOOTBALL

(Champions League):
Chelsea vs Atletico Madrid
Bayern Munich vs Lazio
(Spanish League):
Sevilla vs Elche

TENNIS

Dubai Championships at
Dubai Duty Free Tennis
Centre
Mexican Open at Princess
Mundo Imperial
Monterrey Open at
Sonoma Club, Mexico
St. Petersburg Ladies'
Trophy at Sibur Arena

BADMINTON

All-England Tournament at
Birmingham

World Rugby
launches new
women's tourney

DUBLIN, TUESDAY: World
Rugby on Tuesday
announced the launch of
a new global women's 15s
competition to "super-
charge" the sport.

The annual WXV competi-
tion, starting in 2023, will
have three tiers and is aimed
at raising competitiveness
in the build-up to an expanded
16-team World Cup in 2025.

It is being supported by
an initial \$6.4 million (\$9
million) from the global gov-
erning body.

Sixteen teams will be
involved and the competi-
tion will take place within a
new September-October
global window, except in a
World Cup year.

Teams will qualify via
existing annual regional
competitions, such as the
Women's Six Nations. These
competitions, played within
a new window, must be com-
pleted by June each year.

A new annual cross-region
competition will be estab-
lished that will act as one of
the main qualification routes
for the top tier of WXV. This
will feature Australia, Cana-
da, New Zealand and the
United States.

The aim is to provide a
regular annual international
competition for these teams,
where previously there was
none.

There will be no promo-
tion or relegation to the
top tier in the first cycle
but there will be movement
between tiers two and
three. World Rugby has
also announced a commer-
cial programme to boost
the game.

"This is a landmark
moment for the sport,"
said World Rugby chair-
man Bill Beaumont.
"Today's announcement of
a new, global international
15s calendar will underpin
the future success and
accelerate the development
of the women's game."

"By establishing a uni-
fied international 15s cal-
endar and introducing
WXV we are creating a
platform for the women's
international teams to
compete in more consist-
ent, competitive and sus-
tainable competitions at
regional and global level."

Royal thrash Trinity in U-19 Cricket Tourney



Royal College appeal for a dismissal. Pic by Hirantha Gunathilaka

DHAMMIKA RATNAWEERA

Skipper Ahan Wickramasinghe made a superb 118 in 119 balls as Royal College notched-up an 83-run victory over Trinity in their Inter-Schools Under-19 Limited Over Cricket Tournament match played at Reid Avenue yesterday.

Royal made 234 all out in 49.3 overs while the Trinitians managed to score only 156 runs in 45.2 overs.

Wickramasinghe completed his century with nine fours and two sixes while Sadisha Rajapaksa who made 46 in 71 balls was run out after adding 87 runs for the third wicket.

Kavindu Pathirathna was the most successful Royal bowler as he finished with three for 31 while Dan Poddiwela and Sonal Amarasekata took two wickets apiece.

Meanwhile, opener Chamath Wickramasinghe scored 74 with eight fours and right-arm medium paceman Hansamana de Silva finished with impressive figures of four for 12 in 6.1 overs as Richmond College beat S. Thomas' College by four wickets in their fixture played at Mount Lavinia.

Chief scores

• **At Reid Avenue** (Royal won by 83 runs)
Royal: 234 in 49.3 overs (Sadisha Rajapaksa 46, Ahan Wickramasinghe 118, Ranuda Somaratne 3/22)

Trinity: 156 in 45.2 overs (Ranuda Somaratne 50, Kavindu Pathirathne 3/31)

• **At Mount Lavinia** (Richmond won by four wickets)

• **S. Thomas':** 163 in 42.1 overs (Anuk Pali-hawadana 40, Rayan Fernando 77, Hansama-na de Silva 4/12)

• **Richmond:** 166/6 in 45 overs (Chamath Wickramasinghe 74, Nathan Caldera 4/26)

• **At Uyanwatta Stadium** (St. Sebastian's won by 36 runs)

• **St. Sebastian's:** 180/9 in 50 overs (Suki-tha Prasanna 60, Chakila Perera 33, Sachira Rashmika 3/44, Hirantha Lakshan 3/32)

• **St. Thomas', Matara:** 144 in 44.4 overs (Nipun Samarasinghe 59, Chrishane Perera 3/25)

• **At Ananda Mawatha** (Ananda won by six wickets)

• **Zahira:** 151/9 in 50 overs (Naleem Zeith 34, Adil Ismaly 34 n.o., Isuru Ayesh 3/26)

• **Ananda:** 152/4 in 32.5 overs (Hansaja Jayasinghe 61 n.o.)

• **At Ruwanwella** (Bandaranayake Col-lege, Gampaha won by seven wickets)

• **Dudley Senanayake Central College:** 86 in 34 overs (Lahiru Dedigama 53, Kanishka Malinga 3/41)

• **Bandaranayake College, Gampaha:** 87/3 in 18.1 overs (Navod Silva 35 n.o.)

Danushka Gunathilaka reprimanded by ICC



Danushka Gunathilaka has been reprimanded for breaching ICC Code of Conduct

Sri Lanka have been fined 40 percent of their match fees for maintaining a slow over-rate against the West Indies in the third ODI in Antigua on Sunday.

Richie Richardson of the Emirates ICC Elite Panel of Match Referees imposed the sanction after Dimuth Karunaratne's side was ruled to be two overs short of the target after time allowances were taken into consideration.

Karunaratne pleaded guilty to the offence and accepted the proposed sanction, so there was no need for a formal hearing.

Meanwhile, Sri Lanka all-rounder Danushka Gunathilaka has been reprimanded for breaching Level 1 of the ICC Code of Conduct during the same match.

The incident occurred in the 35th over of the West Indies' innings when Gunathilaka used inappropriate language towards Nicholas Pooran upon his dismissal.

Gunathilaka admitted the offence and accepted the sanction proposed by the Match Referee and as such, there was no need for a formal hearing.

On-field umpires Joel Wilson and Leslie Reifer, third umpire Gregory Brathwaite and fourth umpire Nigel Duguid leveled the charges. (ICC)

Kurunegala YCC stun NCC to reach SLC T20 semis

Opener Gayan Maneeshan hit a fine 56 as Kurunegala YCC created a major upset to beat the more fancied NCC by 63 runs in their SLC T20 Cricket Tournament quarter-final match played at the P. Sara Oval in Colombo yesterday.

Kurunegala YCC made 155 for five wickets in their 20 overs with Maneeshan leading the way while Sameera Sandamal made 46.

NCC chasing the target were bundled out for 92 runs in 14.5 overs with Naveen Samarawickrama causing most of the damage with three for 14.

Meanwhile, the defending champions CCC beat Ragama CC while SSC defeated Colts CC to enter the semi-finals while Army SC recorded a thrilling six-run victory over Negombo CC.

Chief scores

• **At P. Sara Oval** (Kurunegala YCC won by 63 runs)

• **Kurunegala YCC:** 155/5 in 20 overs (Gayan Maneeshan 56, Sameera Sandamal 48, Lahiru Kumara 4/17)

• **NCC:** 92 in 14.5 overs (Naveen Gunawardena 3/14)

• **At CCC Grounds** (CCC won by six wickets)

• **Colts CC:** 117 in 19.4 overs (Prabath Jayasuriya 4/16)



Gayan Maneeshan of Kurunegala YCC plays a shot. Pic courtesy SLC

• **SSC:** 118/4 in 17.2 overs (Nuwanidu Fernando 41)

• **At P. Sara Oval** (CCC won by 57 runs)

• **CCC:** 150/5 in 20 overs (Lasith Abeyratne 54, Ashan Priyanjana 41)

• **Ragama CC:** 93 in 17 overs (Malinda Pushpakumra 4/20)

• **At CCC Grounds** (Army CC won by six runs)

• **Army CC:** 164/5 in 20 overs (Thulina Dilshan 39, Himasha Liyanage 33 n.o.)

• **Negombo CC:** 158/9 in 20 overs (Dilshan Munaweera 59, Madawa Warnapura 55, Heshan Hettiarachchi 5/38). (D.R)

Rajans win Bandula Warnapura Trophy

HAFIZ MARIKAR

Dharmaraja College won the Bandula Warnapura Trophy when they defeated Nalanda College on the first innings in their Inter-Schools Under-19 traditional cricket encounter which concluded at the Lake View Grounds in Kandy yesterday.

The Rajans after dismissing their opponents for 122 runs in the first innings went on to score 187 with Dimalsha Siriwardane (45), Pulidu Perera (32) and Malitha Hapuarachchi (30)

making valuable contribu-
tions.

Chief scores

• **Nalanda:** 122 and 264 (Vinuja Ranpul 78, Jimuthu Eranga 51, Chanul Athukorala 39, Sajitha Vithanage 24 n.o., Dimalsha Siriwardane 5/58, Upenra Warnakulasooriya 2/94)

• **Dharmaraja:** 187 (Dimalsha Siriwardane 45, Pulidu Perera 32, Malitha Hapuarachchi 30, Sajitha Vithanage 4/48, Lisula Sigeru 2/18, Rashan Dissanayaka 2/19).



Sea Hawks SC's Mohamed Hasmeer celebrates after scoring a goal

Sea Hawks edge out Blue Eagles 2-1

Two classic goals by Mohamed Hasmeer helped Sea Hawks SC edge out Blue Eagles SC 2-1 in their Pre-League Football Tournament encounter played at the Sugathadasa Stadium in Colombo yesterday.

Both goals came in quick succession early in the first half which enabled the winners to notch up a comfortable victory.

The winners netted the first goal in the third minute of the first half through striker Hasmeer

and three minutes later he further increased the lead with another spectacular goal.

Blue Eagles scored their solitary goal through Jeewantha Fernando in the 53 minutes. (AN)

SL confront CWI President's XI today



Dimuth Karunaratne

Roston Chase

Sri Lanka Captain Dimuth Karunaratne said that the ODI series defeat would make them even more determined to make an impact in the upcoming Test series against the West Indies.

Sri Lanka will begin their preparations for the Test series with a two-day practice match against the Cricket West Indies (CWI) President's XI at the Coolidge Grounds in Antigua commencing today.

"The Tests will be a different ball game and the boys are shaping up well. We've done

well in the last series against the West Indies and we're looking forward to those games," Karunaratne said.

In fact this will be the only practice match for the Lankans before they take on the West Indies in the opening Test match commencing on Sunday (21) at the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium in Antigua.

The teams

• **CWI President's XI Squad:** Roston Chase (Captain), Darren Bravo, Shamarr Brooks, Shannon Gabriel, Jahmar Hamilton, Keon Hard-

ing, Kavem Hodge, Shai Hope, Kyle Mayers, Shayne Moseley, Veerassamy Permaul, Anderson Phillip and Kemar Roach.

• **Sri Lanka Squad:** Dimuth Karunaratne (Captain), Dinesh Chandimal, Niroshan Dickwella, Dushmantha Chamera, Dhananjaya de Silva, Wanindu Hasaranga, Lasith Embuldeniya, Asitha Fernando, Oshada Fernando, Vishwa Fernando, Suranga Lakmal, Ramesh Mendis, Pathum Nissanka, Dasun Shanaka, Roshan Silva and Lahiru Thirimanne. (D.R)

Daily News Business

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Local motor industry targets USD 1.5 bn export revenue



Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa launches the Standard Operating Procedures on Vehicle Manufacturing, Vehicle Assembling and Manufacture of Vehicle Accessories in Sri Lanka with Minister of Industries, Wimal Weerawansa and other Ministers at the event. Picture by Dushmantha Mayadunna

SHIRAJIV SIRIMANE

The government temporarily halted the import of vehicles not to create any hardships to the public but to create a new business vertical from Sri Lanka in the automobile sector, said Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa at the launch of the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for automobile Manufacturing and Assembly in Colombo on Monday.

He said that when the decision was taken there was a buffer stock of imported vehicles in Sri Lanka sufficient for two years. He said that due to the import ban of vehicles today several local investors have moved in the assembly of vehicles and also component manufacturers have reinvested to increase production.

"With the launch of SOP we anticipate a new dimension in the local motor industry and we anticipate an export revenue in the excess of over USD 1.5 billion in the next two years and create over 20,000 new high paying employment opportunities."

The Prime Minister said that though there were talks of a SOP in the past 10 years such a scheme was never initiated before and thanked the Minister of Industries Wimal Weerawansa for speeding up the SOP and making it a reality. He also assured that policy decisions and concessions offered by SPO are to stay and applied to local and foreign entrepreneurs to aggressively move and invest in this sector. The long-term objective of this SOP is also to save the annual Rs. 1,820 billion in foreign exchange for the importation of vehicles.

Minister of Industries, Wimal Weerawansa said that the SPO defines the government policy framework formulated to give confidence for investors to create a new revolution in the motor industry. The automotive, vehicle assembly and auto parts manufacturing industries are not isolated. "They are associated with the rubber manufacturing industry, metal and non-metal manufacturing industry and

the electronics manufacturing industry. For all these industries to develop, a country's vehicle manufacturing, vehicle assembly and auto parts manufacturing industries must be developed first and this is the objective of launching this SOP."

As and when this industry gets stronger in Sri Lanka it will also help to reverse the brain drain allowing young students graduating from universities with degrees in engineering and technology to be employed in these industries at high paying positions."

A skilled workforce too will be created targeting this segment when this industry expands rapidly.

"The launch of the SOP has set up a solid government policy framework to give confidence for investment for the automotive industry with this new turnaround we hope that companies already in the automotive industry as well as new companies will add their investments to this sector."



PIM initiates Prof. Sisira Jayakody Memorial... PAGE 19

Fitch affirms Dialog Axiata at 'AAA(lka)'; Outlook stable

Fitch Ratings has affirmed the National Long-Term Rating of Sri Lanka-based telecoms company Dialog Axiata PLC at 'AAA(lka)'.

The Outlook is Stable. Mobile-Market Leader: Dialog's Stand Alone Credit Profile (SCP) of 'aaa(lka)' is underpinned by its market leadership in the expanding mobile and pay-TV segments. "We believe Dialog will continue to gain revenue market share, given its superior execution and mobile networks."

The company has a solid financial profile, with consistent revenue growth, a stable operating EBITDA margin and a low Fitch-forecast 2021 FFO net leverage of 0.4x-0.5x (2020 estimate: 0.5x). Strong Revenue Growth: Based on unaudited reported results, revenue and EBITDA rose by 3% and 6%, respectively in 2020, before the operating lease adjustment under Sri Lankan financial reporting standard 16.

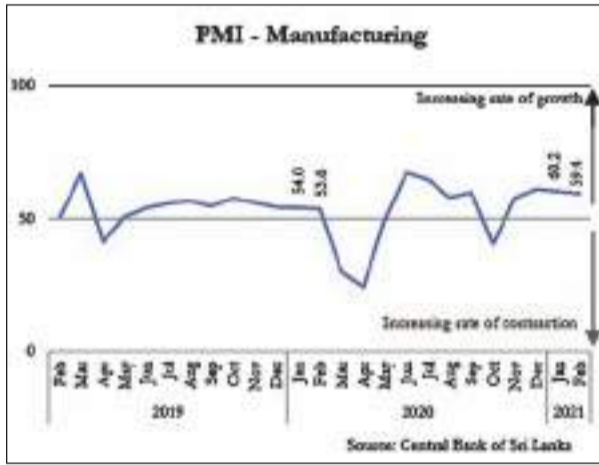
Dialog's growth outperformed the GDP contraction of 5% in the nine month ending September 2020, amid the pandemic. TO PAGE 18

Purchasing Managers' Index expands in Feb.

Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) sustained its expansion in February 2021 recording an index value of 59.4, owing to the expansion in production and new orders.

Further, stock of purchases and employment as well as suppliers' delivery time remained expanded to sustain the overall manufacturing sector PMI at an elevated level. Production sub-index increased during the month, especially in the manufacture of food & beverages sector, anticipating the upcoming festival demand while new orders recorded a high index value.

Employment expanded at a higher rate in February compared to January, particularly in the manufacture of food & beverages sector, in-line with increase in production. However, employment in the manufacture of textile and wearing apparel sector remained in the neutral threshold during the month.



expanded at a higher pace, the Stock of purchases expanded at a slower rate mainly due to the piled-up stocks during the previous month, owing to anticipated supply disruptions due to Chinese New Year holidays. Further, the suppliers' delivery time sub-index lengthened at a slower pace during the month.

Expectations for manufacturing activities in the next three months remained at improved levels with the expectation for the normalisation of economic activities

within the country as well as in major export markets. Services PMI increased to 56.5 in February 2021 indicating a further improvement in the services sector. This increase was underpinned by the expansions observed in new businesses, business activities and expectations for activity.

New businesses increased in February 2021, particularly with the improvements observed in financial services, other personal services and real estate activities sectors. TO PAGE 18

HNBA Group delivers solid growth in 2020

Records Rs 1.17 bn PAT for FY 2020

HNB Assurance PLC (HNBA) and its fully owned subsidiary HNB General Insurance Limited (HNBI) recorded a Profit After Tax (PAT) of Rs 1.17 billion for FY 2020, growing 16% compared to the corresponding period last year, whilst the Group's Gross Written Premium (GWP) reached Rs 10.4 billion for the year under review.

Sharing his views on the financial growth, Rose Cooray, Chairperson of HNBA and HNBI stated, "2020 undoubtedly was a challenging year to all of us."

However, amidst the unprecedented adverse challenges presented by the outbreak of this global pandemic, as a Group, HNBA was able to surpass the Rs 1 billion mark in PAT for the second consecutive year, auguring well for the agility and resilience of the businesses to quickly recalibrate itself in the midst of the unprecedented calamity to continue to create and deliver value to all its stakeholders."



Prasanth Fernando, Lasitha Wimalaratne and Sithumina Jayasundara

Chief Executive Officer Prasanth Fernando shared his thoughts stating, "Our teams proved their mettle last year, by maintaining their resolute focus on the end goal, driven by an agile mindset, the thirst for prompt and meticulous execution and being focused on digitalization; whilst as an organisation, our philosophy has always been Putting People First, be it staff, agents,

contract staff and customers. In this regard, these results that we are indeed proud to present have been achieved without any curtailment of their remuneration or benefits."

"The Management Team was able to successfully manage the change process with regards to adapting and evolving to the new normal as well as embracing technology that helped us operate in environments within which movement was constrained."

According to the daily exchange report of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka (CBSL), the current buying rate of the US Dollar yesterday stood at Rs. 195.28 and the selling rate of the US dollar stands at Rs. 200.06. This is the highest selling

rate recorded for a US dollar since, April 09, 2020. During that day, the selling rate of the US dollar stood at Rs.200.47.

This is the third time in history that the selling rate of a US dollar has exceeded the Rs.200 mark.

Fitch assigns Seylan Bank's Basel III Sub Debt, 'BBB+(lka)'

Fitch Ratings has assigned Seylan Bank PLC's (A(lka)/Stable) proposed Basel III-compliant subordinated unsecured debentures a National Long-Term Rating of 'BBB+(lka)'.

The final rating is the same as the expected rating assigned on 21 August 2020, and follows the

receipt of documents conforming to information already received.

The bank expects the proposed subordinated debentures to qualify as Basel III-compliant regulatory Tier 2 capital. The proposed debentures include a non-viability clause whereby

they will convert to ordinary voting shares if so determined by the Monetary Board of Sri Lanka. The bank plans to use the proceeds to fund loan growth and strengthen its funding and Tier 2 capital bases. The debentures are to be listed on the Colombo Stock Exchange.

Seylan's proposed and outstanding Sri Lankan rupee-denominated subordinated debt is rated two notches below the National Long-Term Rating anchor. Fitch affirmed Seylan's National Long-Term Rating at 'A(lka)/Stable' on 5 August 2020.

Rupee depreciates further

According to the daily exchange report of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka (CBSL), the current buying rate of the US Dollar yesterday stood at Rs. 195.28 and the selling rate of the US dollar stands at Rs. 200.06. This is the highest selling

rate recorded for a US dollar since, April 09, 2020. During that day, the selling rate of the US dollar stood at Rs.200.47.

This is the third time in history that the selling rate of a US dollar has exceeded the Rs.200 mark.

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SHARES - COLOMBO STOCK EXCHANGE

Market Statistics on 16.03.2021

Security	Volume	**V.W.A. Previous Close	Open	High	Low	**V.W.A. Yesterday's Close	Change (Rs.)
Main Board							
A.SPEN.HOT.HOLD.	30,994	30.00	30.10	30.10	29.90	29.90	(0.10)
ABANS	100	156.00	156.00	156.00	156.00	156.00	0.00
ACCESS ENG SL	238,441	23.00	23.00	23.00	22.00	22.50	(0.50)
ACL	127,696	38.90	39.00	39.00	36.60	37.50	(1.40)
ACL PLASTICS	306	250.00	252.00	252.00	235.00	246.25	(3.75)
ACME	24	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.40	6.50	0.00
AGALAWATTE	1,369	29.00	29.00	29.70	28.00	28.20	(0.80)
AHOT PROPERTIES	6,450	38.00	37.50	37.50	37.00	37.00	(1.00)
AITKEN SPENCE	136,089	58.90	58.10	58.10	54.60	56.30	(2.60)
ALLIANCE	538	50.90	51.80	51.80	49.50	50.60	(0.30)
AMANA BANK	859,737	3.20	3.20	3.30	3.20	3.30	0.10
AMAYA LEISURE	512	18.00	19.00	19.00	17.60	18.00	0.00
ASIA ASSET	19,693	5.70	5.70	5.90	5.60	5.70	0.00
ASIRI	78,209	24.30	25.00	25.00	24.00	24.00	(0.30)
ASIRI SURG	18,001	13.80	13.80	13.80	13.00	13.30	(0.50)
BAIRAHA FARMS	143	131.25	136.00	136.00	135.50	135.50	4.25
BALANGODA	9,677	13.00	13.90	13.90	12.50	12.60	(0.40)
BUKIT DARAH	7	325.50	321.00	321.00	312.00	325.50	0.00
C M HOLDINGS	2,189	88.10	88.00	88.00	86.00	87.40	(0.70)
C T HOLDINGS	80,000	170.00	169.50	170.00	169.50	170.00	0.00
CARGILLS	834	235.00	235.00	235.00	233.00	234.00	(1.00)
CARSONS	31	270.00	270.25	283.75	270.00	270.00	0.00
CDB [CDB.X0000]	10,688	72.20	69.40	72.00	69.30	70.00	(2.20)
CENTRAL FINANCE	13,333	84.10	83.30	84.90	83.00	84.20	0.10
CENTRAL IND.	118,197	102.75	102.00	104.00	99.00	100.00	(2.75)
CEYLONCO INS.	3,210	1,884.25	1,920.25	1,920.25	1,920.00	1,920.25	36.00
CEYLINCO INS. [CINS.X0000]	484	1,099.75	1,065.00	1,065.00	1,000.00	1,065.00	(34.75)
CEYLON GUARDIAN	40,811	118.50	118.50	118.50	115.00	115.75	(2.75)
CEYLON INV.	4,378	61.20	61.00	61.00	56.10	60.00	(1.20)
CEYLON TOBACCO	559	999.50	1,010.00	1,010.00	999.00	999.75	0.25
CHEMANEX	8,146	80.00	79.90	79.90	75.60	79.30	(0.60)
CHEVRON	32,693	92.90	94.00	94.00	91.50	92.30	(0.60)
CIC	71,275	54.60	54.60	54.60	52.20	53.20	(1.40)
CIC [CIC.X0000]	235,814	43.40	43.40	43.50	42.30	43.10	(0.30)
CITRUS LEISURE	27,251	8.60	8.40	8.50	8.00	8.50	(0.10)
COLD STORES	4	641.50	621.00	621.00	621.00	641.50	0.00
COLOMBO CITY	100	920.00	887.00	887.00	875.00	875.25	(44.75)
COLOMBO LAND	2,150	25.50	24.30	24.60	24.30	24.60	(0.90)
COMMERCIAL BANK	51,020	87.70	87.70	87.90	86.30	87.20	(0.50)
COMMERCIAL BANK [COMB.X0000]	43,488	80.10	80.00	81.40	80.00	81.00	0.90
CONVENIENCE FOOD	1	1,250.25	1,110.00	1,110.00	1,110.00	1,250.25	0.00
DANKOTUWA PORCEL	137,640	11.20	11.10	11.40	10.80	11.20	0.00
DFCC BANK PLC	54,648	60.00	60.00	60.00	58.50	60.00	0.00
DIALOG	343,033	13.10	13.20	13.20	13.00	13.20	0.10
DIMO	157	526.00	525.00	535.00	500.25	515.00	(11.00)
DIPPED PRODUCTS	1,763,393	48.70	49.00	49.00	45.60	48.30	(0.40)
DOCKYARD	2,682	75.10	75.00	75.00	70.00	72.20	(2.90)
DURDANS	220	102.50	102.25	102.25	100.00	100.00	(2.50)
E B C REASY	20,824	32.20	32.40	32.40	30.00	30.60	(1.60)
EAST WEST	42,551	10.60	10.80	10.80	10.00	10.10	(0.50)
EASTERN MERCHANT	650	5.10	5.10	5.10	5.10	5.10	0.00
EXPOLANKA	3,583,041	46.60	46.50	46.80	44.50	46.00	(0.60)
FORT LAND	10,791	13.00	13.70	13.70	12.80	13.00	0.00
GRAIN ELEVATORS	10,560	118.00	118.00	118.00	113.00	115.75	(2.25)
HAYCARB	265,213	98.20	101.00	101.00	94.00	97.00	(1.20)
HAYLEYS	619,447	58.70	59.00	59.00	54.20	56.30	(2.40)
HAYLEYS FABRIC	273,835	14.50	14.50	14.80	14.10	14.40	(0.10)
HAYLEYS FIBRE	2,512	47.30	47.10	47.20	46.30	47.10	(0.20)
HDFC	4,669	34.00	34.00	34.00	33.50	33.50	(0.50)
HEMAS HOLDINGS	59,342	80.00	80.10	81.40	80.00	80.00	0.00
HNB	26,616	130.00	130.50	132.00	128.75	129.00	(1.00)
HNB ASSURANCE	61,998	56.10	56.60	58.80	55.90	56.10	0.00
HNB [HNB.X0000]	112,775	101.25	102.00	102.00	100.50	101.00	(0.25)
HORANA	10	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	0.00
HOTELS CORP.	2,000	11.60	11.50	11.50	11.10	11.30	(0.30)
INDUSTRIAL ASPH.	21,572,744	0.40	0.40	0.50	0.40	0.40	0.00
JKH	283,698	148.00	150.00	150.00	147.50	148.50	0.50
KANDY HOTELS	2,500	5.10	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	(0.10)
KEGALLE	1,897	100.25	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	(0.25)
KELANI CABLES	1,236	111.25	119.75	119.75	111.50	112.50	1.25
KELANI TYRES	26,511	75.80	75.80	76.80	74.00	74.10	(1.70)
KELANI VALLEY	8,030	40.10	41.80	42.00	40.70	41.70	1.60
KINGSBURY	41,891	6.10	6.20	6.20	5.60	5.70	(0.40)
KOTAGALA	13,607	6.00	5.90	6.00	5.80	5.90	(0.10)
L O L C HOLDINGS	619,768	304.75	305.00	305.00	289.25	302.50	(2.25)
LANKA ALUMINIUM	51,599	16.10	16.80	16.80	16.00	16.20	0.10
LANKA HOSPITALS	4,139	41.00	41.60	41.60	40.00	40.00	(1.00)
LANKA IOC	37,657	20.00	20.80	20.80	20.00	20.00	0.00
LANKA TILES	14,016	186.75	186.75	186.75	177.50	181.25	(5.50)
LANKA WALLTILE	47,092	191.00	190.00	190.50	178.00	185.00	(6.00)
LAUGFS GAS	3,228	21.00	20.80	20.90	20.00	20.00	(1.00)
LAUGFS GAS [LGL.X0000]	4,537	16.20	16.00	16.00	15.50	15.60	(0.60)
LAXAPANA	38,077	14.20	14.20	14.20	13.90	14.00	(0.20)
LEE HEDGES	612	66.60	71.90	71.90	66.70	66.70	0.10
LION BREWERY	591	540.00	540.00	540.25	540.00	540.00	0.00
LMF	34,653	150.75	149.50	149.75	143.50	147.50	(3.25)
LVL ENERGY	8,775	9.30	9.50	9.50	9.30	9.30	0.00
MALWATTE	810	13.40	13.40	13.40	10.80	11.40	(2.00)
MALWATTE [MAL.X0000]	3,145	7.80	7.70	7.70	7.50	7.50	(0.30)
MELSTACORP	62,989	46.30	47.00	47.00	45.00	45.50	(0.80)
MERCHANT BANK	60,957	7.00	7.00	7.20	7.00	7.00	0.00
MULLERS	210,420	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.00
NAT. DEV. BANK XD	14,495	81.20	81.60	82.00	81.00	81.80	0.60
NATIONS TRUST	179,333	55.80	56.00	56.00	54.90	55.00	(0.80)
NAWALOKA	9,496	4.90	5.20	5.20	4.90	5.00	0.10
NESTLE XD	115	1,152.00	1,152.25	1,170.00	1,140.00	1,151.50	(0.50)
OVERSEAS REALTY	3,976,345	16.00	16.00	16.10	15.70	16.00	0.00
PAN ASIA	97,747	16.00	16.00	16.10	15.90	16.00	0.00
PANASIAN POWER	258,256	3.50	3.60	3.60	3.40	3.50	0.00
PEOPLE'S INS	47,726	31.00	30.90	31.90	30.60	31.30	0.30
PEOPLES LEASING	276,378	12.30	12.20	12.20	12.10	12.10	(0.20)
PIRAMAL GLASS	554,315	9.70	9.70	9.70	9.40	9.50	(0.20)
PRINTCARE PLC	490	28.00	29.00	29.00	29.00	29.00	1.00
R I L PROPERTY	119,717	6.40	6.40	6.50	6.30	6.50	0.10
REGNIS	21,032	45.40	45.00	46.00	44.50	45.00	(0.40)
RENUKA AGRI	136,845	3.60	3.50	3.60	3.40	3.50	(0.10)
RENUKA FOODS	13,000	13.70	13.60	13.60	13.40	13.40	(0.30)
RENUKA FOODS [COCO.X0000]	7,388	11.70	11.80	11.80	11.00	11.10	(0.60)
RENUKA HOLDINGS	9,002	14.50	15.00	15.00	14.50	15.00	0.50
RENUKA HOLDINGS [RHL.X0000]	3,071	10.90	10.90	10.90	10.10	10.80	(0.10)
RESUS ENERGY	364	24.10	23.90	23.90	23.80	23.80	(0.30)
RICHARD PIERIS	172,177	16.30	16.30	16.30	15.50	15.90	(0.40)
ROYAL CERAMIC	98,275	253.25	255.50	255.50	240.00	249.00	(4.25)
S M B LEASING	2,005,970	0.60	0.50	0.60	0.50	0.50	(0.10)
S M B LEASING [SEMB.X0000]	139,903	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.20	0.20	(0.10)
SAMPATH	312,670	154.25	156.00	156.00	153.25	154.25	0.00
SANASA DEV BANK	255,891	56.80	57.00	58.00	56.60	57.30	0.50
SEYLAN BANK	35,317	51.90	51.50	52.00	50.10	51.20	(0.70)
SEYLAN BANK [SEYB.X0000]	250,568	44.50	44.50	45.90	42.00	44.40	(0.10)
SEYLAN DEVTS	15,848	15.70	15.80	16.00	15.80	15.80	0.10
SIERRA CABL	276,088	6.20	6.10	6.20	5.90	6.00	(0.20)
SIGIRIYA VILLAGE	420	34.00	34.40	34.40	33.50	33.50	(0.50)
SINGER FINANCE	12,655	13.80	13.80	13.90	13.80	13.90	0.10
SLT	24,230	32.80	33.90	33.90	32.00	32.50	(0.30)
SUNSHINE HOLDING	13,089	80.10	80.00	80.00	78.80	79.30	(0.80)
SWISSTEK	18,577	107.50	109.75	110.00	102.75	105.00	(2.50)
TALAWAKELLE	22,098	39.90					

NEWS

HNB with HNBA introduce Group Life Cover for members of CFA Society Sri Lanka

Hutton National Bank PLC (HNB) and its fully owned subsidiary HNB Assurance PLC (HNBA), introduced an exclusive Group Life Cover for Members of CFA Society Sri Lanka, who hold HNB-CFA Co-branded Credit Cards.

The benefits of this Cover are customised in accordance with the Prime GroupLife Policy of HNBA, and will provide financial coverage in the event of death, disability or critical illnesses. Members with the Credit Card can opt in for options that

also include comprehensive coverage for their spouses. "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. Chief Operating Officer of

HNBA, Lasitha Wimalaratne stated, "HNB and HNBA have come together with this unique tie-up as an opportunity for both businesses that would also offer significant long-term value creation for our customers at CFA Society Sri Lanka."

"A holder of this special Credit Card can avail themselves the exclusively customised benefits of the Prime GroupLife Policy, including comprehensive coverage in the unforeseen events of death, Total and Permanent Disability Benefit due to an accident or sickness, Partial and Permanent

Disability Benefit due to accident and also Critical Illness Benefit for 39 illnesses."

"As a revolutionary solution developed in association with our Parent Company, HNB, we trust that this exclusive offer would enhance value and provide peace of mind for Policyholders and their loved ones, in their needs for protection in the financial services spectrum."

HNB Assurance PLC (HNBA) is one of the fastest growing Insurance Companies in Sri Lanka with a network of 63 branches.



Left to Right: Vice President, CFA – Aruna Perera, Director, CFA – Ravindra Abeyesuriya, President, CFA – Dinesh Warusavitharana, Chief Operating Officer, HNBA – Lasitha Wimalaratne, DGM Retail and SME Banking, HNB -Sanjay Wijemanne, Head of Partnerships Business, HNBA – Sanesh Fernando, Head of Network Management and Business Development, HNB – Supun Dias Executive – Corporate Solutions, HNBA – Ashani Dharmasuriya.

Over 800 graduates from CIPM Business School receive honours

CIPM Sri Lanka – the Nation's leader in human resource management held its 2020 graduation ceremony at the BMICH, Colombo where over 800 graduates from the CIPM Business School received their well-deserved honours.

The graduands represented students who followed the M. Sc in HRM & Development from the University of Salford, Manchester, UK, and CIPM National Diploma in Training & Human Resource Development (NDTHRD) and CIPM Professional Qualification in Human Resource Management (PQHRM).

The graduation ceremony was held in two sessions. Chief Guest of the morning session Dr. Sarath Weerasekera – M. P., Minister of Public Security and the Chief Guest of the afternoon session, Ajith Nivard Cabraal – M. P., State Minister of Money & Capital Market and State

Enterprise Reforms, Guests of Honor Gowrie Rajan – Director, Sun Match Company and Deepthi Lokurachchi – Group Chief Executive Officer, Lanka Hospitals Corporation PLC joined CIPM President – Jayantha Amarasinghe, Members of the CIPM Executive Council, CEO, CIPM faculty members and staff at the ceremony which was held under the timely theme of "Transforming the World of Work".

"CIPM SL, with the absolute commitment of our resource personnel, have taken you through the knowledge acquisition process



Memorable moments at the CIPM Graduation Ceremony 2020

and you have become qualified young professionals in managing people and business. We hope you will remain as part of our professional community as members of CIPM." Jayantha Amarasinghe-President, CIPM Sri Lanka said.

"It requires to be acknowledged that the CIPM Business School has been able to operate a professional learning and teaching experience which is consistently ranked as the very best in the market," he added. Chief Guest of the morning

session Sarath Weerasekera said "CIPM is a pioneering body in the island in the profession of human resource management". Referring to his experience and career, he also said love for your country/institution that you work, knowledge and appreciation of the history and literature of the country and a sensitive heart are additional 3 essential qualities which will inspire you to be a successful leader. The Chief Guest of the afternoon session Ajith Nivard Cabraal

said that CIPM has chosen a very appropriate theme for the graduation as the new normal brought about by the pandemic not only transforms the way we work, it also requires transformation of the worklife, transformation of ideas and transformation of individuals as well to successfully face the challenges of the pandemic. He further added that as everything is changing at an increasing pace, each person has to change and transform accordingly to be successful.

Orel Corporation embarks on global portfolio 'Empowering Humanity'

The prevailing COVID-19 pandemic re-defined how people sourced basic needs with little or no physical contact to minimize the risk of infection and as a part of this effort, innovative conglomerate.

Orel Corporation embarked on a new global portfolio brand titled 'Empowering Humanity' that encompassed easy-to-use applications to enable easy access to daily essentials and requirements needed by the community.

This led to a team of four self-empowered women at Orel to make inroads into launching the futuristic brand OrelBuy, a premier online store offering a safe, quick and easy way of purchasing everyday items from home with delivery offered to the doorstep.

Heshani Wijewardena, Manager Merchandising, Iroshini Kumaraige, Process Engineer, Priyanka Perera, the Head of 14 Business Units and Wijayanthi Karunakaran, Assistant Manager Administration, Digital Commerce, collaborated to enhance and extend the services of the brand, which since its launch, has expanded its partnership with a variety of merchants and is continuously adding new products to its online store. Moreover, payments are completely cashless via OrelPay, the payment partner for OrelBuy that offers the simple swipe of a QR code option.

Given the remote work status and challenges around manufacturing in such an environment, conceptualizing and developing this application wasn't an easy task. "Although there was a pandemic in force, we still operated in an extremely dynamic environment where we had to embrace rapid change



The innovative ladies managing the OrelBuy Brand

and incorporate improvements in real time, that was essential to support our journey to make the brand a success," explained Iroshini. She said even though these changes proved challenging, the team's determination and positive attitude led to the brand being enthusiastically embraced by the general public.

Wijayanthi agrees, adding she "believes that special personality traits like energy, drive and being naturally empathetic made it easier for us women to embrace change and continue to thrive in a demanding industry like ours."

Explaining the specific manufacturing role played by the team in ensuring the business viability and success of OrelBuy, Heshani said it was a case of continuously following up with importers and local suppliers on orders and incorporating the shortest and safest ways to obtain raw material and finished goods in Sri Lanka due to sourcing

restrictions. "Securing the right suppliers for OrelBuy was extremely challenging during the pandemic as we couldn't predict anything because the supply chain landscape kept changing frequently and we always worked with a backup plan" she said.

The power team believes that despite the challenges in managing the day-to-day operation remotely and ensuring the smooth functionality of OrelBuy, it's the company's inclusive and open culture that keeps all teams motivated.

"We believe that building and fostering a diversity and inclusion strategy that is truly lived in our organization is a catalyst for success and a foundation for innovation which in turn will translate to long-term business benefits for OREL and we will continue to drive and align diversity and inclusion efforts across the entire organization at all points affirmed Chaminda De Silva, General Manager, Business Development, OREL Corporation.

PIM initiates Prof. Sisir Jayakody Memorial Research Centre

It was a poignant moment for the Postgraduate Institute of Management (PIM) when it initiated the Prof. Sisir Jayakody Memorial Research Centre, recently. It was an appropriate gesture of appreciation of a scholar whose life-ambition was to elevate research activities and promote high quality scholarly works. It was the late Prof. Sisir Jayakody who elevated the PIM's research activities to a well-knit unit of activities that provided the much-desired impetus and inputs for the Institute to be on a par with all recognized research centres.

During the 5 years of his stewardship as Head of the PIM's Research Centre he

had a strong vision to create the most sought-after doctoral programme in Sri Lanka, which he tirelessly pursued to achieve through the PIM. He firmly believed that without research, a relevant and modern curriculum does not exist. Consequently, the PIM's research activities have now been recognized as of high standard, as many a student who were involved in the Institute's research activities have gained recognition in internationally reputed seats of learning. He was a leading scholar in management research in recent times



Priyanka Jayakody, together with sons of late Prof. Jayakody open the plaque, in the presence of Dr. Nilakshi Galahitiyawa, Head of Research Centre (extreme left), Prof. Ajantha Dharmasiri, Director, PIM and many other scholars.

who raised the bar of scholarly work with international accolades.

His research articles that were carried in reputed international research journals stand as monuments for his commitment to engage in research activities. Further evidence of

his firm commitment to elevate research as a management discipline is the contributions, he made to the Sri Lankan Journal of Management (SLJM), PIM's flagship journal, and his serving as member of the journal's Editorial Board.

RDB International Women's Day 2021

Parallel to the International Women's Day 2021, Regional Development Bank has organized a series of programmes in the month of March.

The initial programme of this series, "International Women's Day Celebration – 2021" was held at a grand scale on 08th March 2021 at Randula Grand Venus Hotel, Ranmuthugala, Kadawatha.

On that occasion, programmes such as

- Presentation of awards to the winners of "Diri Abhimani" Competition held to select the Best Woman Entrepreneur of the year 2020,
- Launching the RDB "Diri Abhimani" Competition 2021,
- Signing of agreements with RDB Liya Saviya Plus Brand Ambassador,
- Signing of a MoU with Social Security Board,
- Introducing an online marketplace seilama.lk for entrepreneurs,
- Presenting loans to entrepreneurs symbolically,
- Edification programmes on entrepreneurship, were held.
- Thilanga Semsinghe, Private Secretary to Hon. State Minister of Samurdhi, Household Economy, Micro Finance, Self-Employment and Business Development Shehan Semsinghe,
- Regional Development Bank, General Manager / Chief Executive Officer Damitha K. Rathnayake,
- University of Kelaniya, Head of the Department of Commerce and Financial Management, Dr. Nalaka Wickramasinghe,
- Sri Lanka Social Security Board, Chairman, Saman Handaragama,
- RDB Liya Saviya, Brand Ambassador, Wageesha De Silva,
- Veteran Actresses Manohari Wimalathunga and Sriyani Mahawatta,



RDB, General Manager receiving Thilanga Semsinghe, Private Secretary to Hon. State Minister of Samurdhi, Household Economy, Micro Finance, Self-Employment and Business Development Shehan Semsinghe



Signing of an MoU with the Social Security Board



Introducing an online marketplace seilama.lk for entrepreneurs



University of Kelaniya, Head of the Department of Commerce and Financial Management, Dr. Nalaka Wickramasinghe addressing the ceremonial gathering

- K.D Iranganie Wijerathne, Nadeeka Priyadarshane Gajanaik and O.R. Manjula who secured 1st, 2nd and 3rd places at national level at the

- RDB Diri Abhimani 2020 Competition,
- Several RDB customers and RDB employees



Presenting loans to entrepreneurs symbolically



Thilanga Semsinghe with winners of Best Woman Entrepreneur 2020 Competition

ComBank support Phase 2 of Koggala mangrove restoration project



Volunteers at work at the Koggala mangrove restoration project supported by Commercial Bank

A protective boundary of 3,750 mangrove saplings is to be planted around Kath Duwa, an island in the Koggala Lake, with the continued support of the Commercial Bank of Ceylon to the 'Koggala Mangrove Restoration and Conservation Project' of Wildlife and Ocean Resource Conservation (WORC) of Sri Lanka.

Phase 2 of this project follows the immense success of the first phase, during which the Bank funded the planting of 2,000 mangrove plants, 750 mangrove associates

and 500 terrestrial plants on this 13.5-acre island in Habaraduwa, which is situated close to 'Madol Duwa', the island made famous by Martin Wickramasinghe's novel. Phase 2 seeks to prevent marsh-edge erosion and will continue to utilise the barrel planting method which proved efficient in the first phase.

Patricia Scotland, Secretary General of the Commonwealth's Blue Charter Action Group commended the project on her visit to Sri Lanka in 2019 and identified it

as the best mangrove planting site in the country, the Bank said. The first phase took two years to complete in conformity with conservation and habitat restoration methods, as promised by WORC.

The primary objective of the project is the restoration of the degraded ecosystem and to inspire a culture and community of environmental stewardship in the area.

Besides funding and monitoring the restoration project, Commercial Bank has also supported WORC to build partnerships with

local communities, raise education and awareness, and collaborate with the organisation to identify sustainable livelihoods and business opportunities associated with the project and help kick start related activities.

These contributions enable the Bank to play a part in the development of eco-tourism in the Koggala lagoon by supporting the local community through reducing the impact of erosion and providing education on how to carry out activities in a more environmental-

ly responsible manner. The Koggala Lagoon has a surface area of approximately 7.27 km² and is largely fed by several connected streams.

Thanks to its rich biodiversity and ecosystem, it is one of the main attractions for tourists visiting the Southern coast. It sustains a few scattered small islands with mangrove swamps along their shorelines. The 'Koggala Mangrove Restoration and Conservation Project' that is implemented in 'Kath Duwa' seeks to remedy part of this problem.

Wildlife and Ocean Resource Conservation is a not-for-profit organisation focused on conservation and ecosystem restoration in Sri Lanka. It supports community-based sea turtle conservation in Panama and Pottuvil, mangrove forest conservation and restoration in Koggala, and coral reef conservation and restoration in Rumassala.

WORC offers travel experiences in all of these areas and all income from ecotourism is used to fund ongoing conservation and restoration work.

Samanthi Priyadarshani, Best Woman Entrepreneur in Anuradhapura District



Samanthi Priyadarshani with the award

Samanthi Priyadarshani of Anuradhapura Rajangane has been chosen as the best Woman entrepreneur 2020 in Anuradhapura district at an island-wide programme organized by the Sri Lanka Woman's Bureau for appreciating most courageous Woman entrepreneur.

Samanthi received her award as the most courageous entrepreneur in Anuradhapura district at a ceremony held recently at Suhurupaya, Battharamulla, parallel to the Women's Day Celebrations themed 'A Country, A Nation, A World, She IS'.

The Women's Affairs Officer of the Anuradhapura District Secretariat Thakshila Ranaweera told Daily News that Samanthi has been felicitated in several occasions for her talents.

She has received two Presidential Awards and 10 national level certificates of appreciation. Samanthi has got the opportunity to represent the country to represent trade exhibitions held in China Japan etc, the District Women Affairs officer emphasized. She said that Samanthi has volunteered to train courageous prospective young women in the creation of handicrafts.

Allianz Lanka celebrates International Women's Day

Allianz Lanka, one of Sri Lanka's leading insurance companies, motivated and inspired several of its female employees at an event held at its head office, to celebrate International Women's Day.

Sriyani Kulawansa, former Olympian and acclaimed Sri Lankan hurdler, together with Dr. Piyanjali De Zoysa, a clinical Psychologist shared insights from their lives, the challenges and adversity they faced and overcame whilst always maintaining a positive mindset. They further encouraged the audience to follow their dreams and not be restricted by the notions of society and reiterated the importance of a healthy work-life balance. The event was well attended by employees across its wide network of branches.

Furthermore, the company has established a Female Sales force, where women are provided continuous training and development thereby leading to opportunities to be empowered and are recognised for their outstanding achievements regularly. This program has proven to be a success as evidenced by the increasing number of female



Sriyani Kulawansa, former Olympian and acclaimed Sri Lankan hurdler, together with Dr. Piyanjali De Zoysa, a clinical Psychologist being interviewed by an employee from Allianz Insurance

hires in an industry largely dominated by males.

"At Allianz we have always believed in being an equal opportunity employer. This has led to greater camaraderie and team spirit among our employees, which has helped us grow from strength to strength. This International Women's Day we took time to appreciate our female employees and the hard work they put in every single day," said Ishani Senaweera, Chief Human Resource Officer, Allianz Insurance Lanka Ltd. In addition to its female sales force, Allianz Lanka established Women in Leadership Employee

Resource Group across the company. This program advocates for female leadership at Allianz Lanka, both within and outside the working environment. It also increases and fosters the active participation of women in all positions of leadership and promotes women's economic and social justice issues, equality, and labour solidarity.

Further, the Women in Leadership program will serve as a resource to the organisation in support of female employee's development and leadership and will align its action in support of the organisation's diversity and inclusion goals.

Brilliant Cuts wins Bronze at NCE Export Awards

Brilliant Cuts was recognized for the second year by the National Chamber of Commerce as the company won the Bronze Award in small category (Gem and Jewellery sector) at the 28th Annual NCE Export Awards Ceremony 2020.

The achievement procured by Brilliant Cuts has reaffirmed the company's significant contribution to the Sri Lankan gem and jewellery industry, bringing a newfound hope for the future of the industry to reach milestones within the wider international market.

Vindya has laid the foundation to build her own brand, Lustre, through Brilliant Cuts, and as a result she was previously awarded with the Women Entrepreneur Non-Traditional Business Award, Gold, at the Sabaragamuwa Province Best Entrepreneur of the Year 2020 award ceremony, the Provincial Youngest Entrepreneur of the Year 2019 award

from Sabaragamuwa Chamber of Commerce, and the Bronze Award from National Chamber of Exports (small category) at the Sabaragamuwa Province Best Entrepreneur of the Year 2019 award ceremony.

The concept of both Brilliant Cuts and Lustre are such that they operate as two local platforms which open a creative space for novice and expert lapidary artists to uplift their talent further, and pave a rewarding career path for themselves in the Sri Lankan gem and jewellery industry, by pushing the boundaries of developing creative flair.

The company strives to address these issues in the future with stronger and effective means of distribution. As the industry progresses towards innovation and modernity, Brilliant Cut is undoubtedly at the forefront of being a catalyst towards accelerating such progressive initiatives.



Vindya Perera, Managing Directress Brilliant Cuts



Honouring the values that define the Sinhala and Tamil New Year - togetherness, benevolence, and prosperity - Sri Lanka's premier private sector bank HNB PLC encouraged its cardholders to celebrate new beginnings in style with its new 'HNB Avurudu Jayayi' promotion.

HNB fosters prosperity with bountiful 'Avurudu Jayayi' cards promotion

Well-known for its Avurudu promotions and discounts, HNB's credit and debit card deals in 2021 aim to surpass customer expectations entirely by partnering with an even wider range of the most popular local and international retail brands. In keeping with the theme of prosperity, the seasonal card offers encompasses multiple outlets in the fashion, hospitality, fine dining, supermarkets, online, healthcare, education, lifestyle, jewellery and autocare sectors.

"We've just come out of one of our most challenging years to date, and we're beginning to return to a sense of normalcy. As the nation's leader in retail banking, we're committing to giving our customers unmatched value this well-deserved holiday season so that they can

celebrate Avurudu to their heart's desire," commented HNB Head of Cards Gauthami Niranjana.

Providing exciting offers up to 70% off on travel and hospitality at upscale hotels, the Bank has placed an emphasis on affordable luxury living this season, in an effort to be responsive to the demands of its increasingly discerning clientele, together with discounts up to 40% off on leading fashion brands islandwide.

Additionally, keeping pace with the latest consumer trends, HNB notably offers cardholders exclusive discounts on Apple products, including iPhones, iPads, and Apple Watches sold at Abans and buyabans.com with up to 48 months 0% installments plans for convenient

repayments. Furthermore, cardholders can enjoy offers up to 30% off at a range of delightful restaurants with their loved ones during this season.

In addition to the above, any day is a shopping day with the amazing offers up to 25% off, given by the Bank for their Credit and Debit cardholders, at leading supermarket brands throughout the week, to entertain and celebrate in style.

"Above all, the Sinhala and Tamil New Year is a way of expressing gratitude - to nature, to tradition, and to each other. We're hoping to honour this spirit with our Avurudu Jayayi promotion, and display our genuine appreciation for our customers with these generous

discounts and 0% installment plans," continued Gauthami. The Bank extends further convenience and satisfaction to cardholders, through zero interest instalment plans up to 12 months in addition to these attractive discounts, for any Credit card transaction till April 30, 2021.

Currently, HNB offers credit cards ranging from Visa Gold, Platinum, Signature and Infinite, as well as MasterCard Gold, Platinum and World, while each cardholder is provided with a host of other exclusive benefits, including the waiver of joining fees and free supplementary cards with no joining or annual fees with the longest interest free credit period of 55 days for repayments.

SLT-MOBITEL introduces 'Mobitel Non-Stop Lokka'

SLT-MOBITEL, the National ICT and Telecommunications Service Provider, launched its newest data proposition, the Mobitel Non-Stop Lokka, for a range of nine most popular social media applications, following the successful introduction of the attractivedata packages for YouTube, Social Networking & Instant Messaging.

Devised to provide endless benefits to customers across a range of applications including Facebook, WhatsApp, Viber, IMO, Twitter, Messenger, Instagram, LinkedIn, and YouTube, SLT-Mobitel's all-in-one proposition enables customers to stream, chat and scroll across nine social media & networking platforms and engage to their heart's content. In addition, the package also provides extra 2GB data for other usage.

As a pioneer in promoting exciting broadband services and offers to their loyal customers, SLT-Mobitel strives to constantly provide the best in mobile data and broadband services to their existing and prospective customers. With affordable smartphone solutions and ever-growing demand for value-added data packages, SLT-Mobitel offers a personalized combination of endless data plans which include more social media platforms into the mix.

SLT-Mobitel's latest data proposition covers a mix of nine social media & networking platforms that are mostly frequented or followed by Sri Lankan mobile users at an affordable rate.

Currently the package is available for pre-paid customers and will be introduced to post-paid customers in the near future.



Pelwatte affirms commitment towards women empowerment

Pelwatte Dairy Industries recently came to the fore in devoting to a timely social endeavor by empowering more than 100+ plus women led families and more than 1200 women employed in the dairy industry.

In keeping up with its vision of diversity and inclusion in workplace, Pelwatte initiated several projects together with World Vision International supporting women in rural communities.

Pelwatte practices a non-discriminatory employer policy and offers equal pay and flexible work rosters for both men and women while paying special attention for women's needs. The company has been offering opportunities to milk suppliers and dairy farmers within the growing workforce of auxiliary industries that are being nurtured.

Harshan, the Human Resources Manager at Pelwatte Dairy Industries assured that "In a vividly male saturated industry, we ensure that Pelwatte remains an equal opportunity employer while looking into ways to fit in at least 25% of females in our leader boards and senior management by end of 2024. Our development initiatives, field officers and our community managers have been truly supportive in achieving our vision and plans."

Pelwatte Industries joined forces with World Vision International (WVI) in several projects to empower women. Pelwatte together with WVI donated cattle to women-led families while helping to establish cattle sheds and fodder production centres. WVI's Dairy Development Project focuses on increasing quality of milk production and productivity of small-scale dairy farmers.



The Project builds capacity through technical training, business training and increasing knowledge in milk handling and cattle management. The project has established producer groups and provided necessary infrastructure with cooling facilities. As part of this project, all milk-based industries in Nuwara Eliya district will be trained with necessary knowledge on how to increase productivity by using latest technologies in milk production.

Pelwatte is a truly Sri Lankan brand which has been engaging in fostering an inclusive society with equal opportunities for women.

Pelwatte has provided equal pay opportunities and pioneered in addressing gender pay gaps in its efforts to support women.

Pelwatte ensures a safer work place for everyone in its efforts to uplift women. The company requires all employees to follow clearly defined, behavioral standards to eliminate any form of verbal or physical harassment or discrimination in workplace.

Guideline Marketing wins two Star Awards

Guideline Marketing was recognized with Two Star Awards in manufacturing sector and the Best Covid Control Award at the Star Awards-2020 ceremony organized by the department of business promotions, ministry of industries.

The awards night was recently held at Grand Kandyani Hotel in Kandy with Lalith U. Gamage, governor central province gracing the occasion as chief guest. H. M. Lahiru Kumarasinghe, GM, Guideline Marketing (Pvt) Ltd received the awards from the Chief Guest. "Our top priority is to keep customers trust unblemished in all our services. As a result of that, we have been continuously able to win star awards for several years. I am grateful to all the members of my staff whose wholehearted dedication contributed significantly to this achievement. Also I thank our loyal customers for being with us and having trusted us for so long," Kumarasinghe, the GM, stated.

Guideline Marketing has expanded in many avenues over the years. Today the company imports and distributes high quality electrical and electronic appliances for house-



H. M. Lahiru Kumarasinghe, GM, Guideline Marketing receives the award

hold requirements while manufacturing sofas and furniture of high standard. On line marketing is available with Guideline Marketing with home delivery of orders. Guideline Marketings' product range includes certain handmade items related to traditional architecture (vastu). Plans are ahead to export their furniture and other products to South Asia. The company's head office and the main factory are located at Pujapitiya and showrooms are located at Weragampitiya and Hasalaka. Guideline sales team is dedicated to supply best quality imported electric and electronic items and furniture to any place in the country with warranties.



Signs



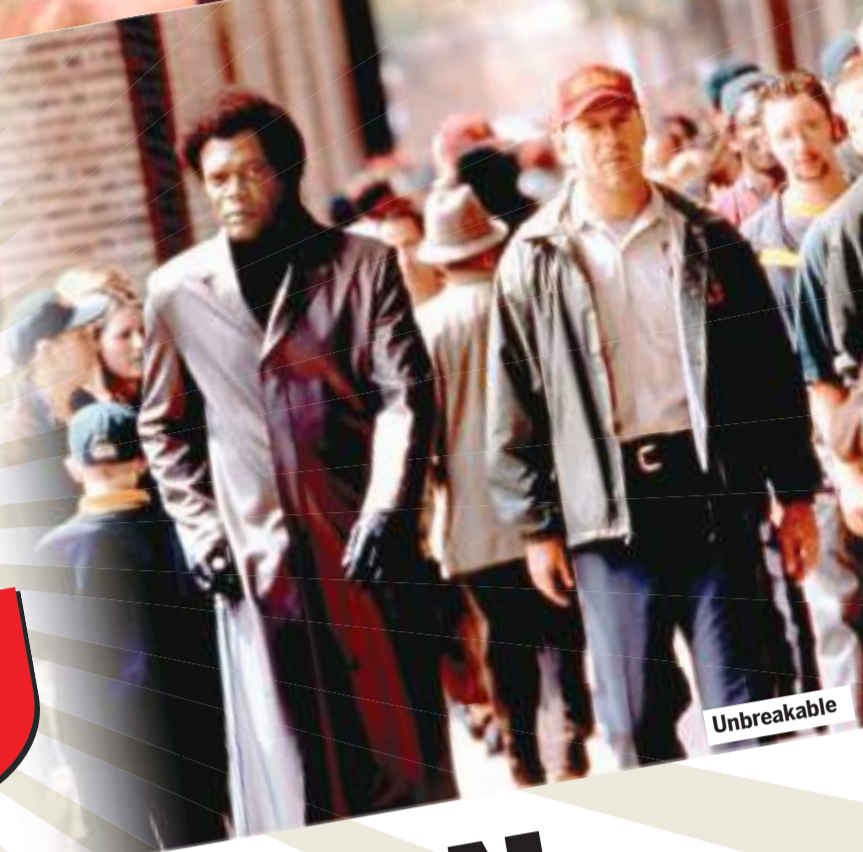
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Unbreakable

M. NIGHT SHYALAMAN: DIAL M FOR MANOJ

MADAPATHACHINTAKA

At his best, M. Night Shyamalan can be fascinatingly enigmatic. There's simply no taking away from the pleasures of his early efforts: *The Sixth Sense* (1999), *Unbreakable* (2000), and *Signs* (2002). It was on the strength of the first of those films that Newsweek called him a Spielberg in the making. Today, of course, he is anything but, yet this shouldn't detract us from assessing him in a way that's both fair and critical.

It's safe to say that Shyamalan's love affair with the mainstream press is over. When you go through the all too tepid reviews of his later efforts, you discern a feeling of betrayal in the critics; it's as though, having staked everything they had, they just couldn't bear seeing him descend to the lower depths. It is precisely because you can't rely on these writers to give us an objective account of his rise and fall, of the supposed drop in quality of his recent work, that we must look at his films from a different, I would say radically different, perspective. For the pleasures of Shyamalan's early work are not completely absent in the work he churns out now. There's still a bit of magic left in him.

Indians haven't really fared badly in Hollywood. Mira Nair didn't, and neither did Shekha Kapur. M. Night Shyamalan didn't either, for a while. But while Nair and Kapur came from a distinctly Indian setting – and it shows, even in as mundane a work like Kapur's *Elizabeth* (1996) – Shyamalan, who was only six when he arrived in the United States, does not seem to have imbibed the Indian-ness that crops up in the films of those two auteurs.

In that sense Shyamalan shares a great deal with another émigré Indian director known for dazzlingly uneven plots, Tarsem Singh; though they operate in completely different genres, both have a

track record of making critics want more and giving them much less, and in the narratives they opt for, both have a tendency to transform the most mundane material into something exciting, even evocative. How else can you describe Shyamalan's *Signs*, which combines a pastor flirting with doubt with a possible extraterrestrial invasion? Or *Signs*' *The Cell* (2000), where Jennifer Lopez tries to enter the mind of a serial killer?

It may be just my opinion, but I believe most critics have not really explored how Singh, and more pertinently Shyamalan, have "transcended" their land of birth without totally evading, avoiding, or exiting it. Indian-American cinema doesn't get more Indian-American than Mira Nair's *Mississippi Masala* (1992); indeed the very title of Nair's film conjures up an evocative, if not enigmatic, cultural melange. It's the kind of melange you don't get or seem to get in Shyamalan's movies. There's a trace of it in some of Singh's movies: not just in the weirdly surreal visuals of *The Cell*, but also the Bollywood-style song-and-dance sequences in his reinterpretation of *Snow White*, *Mirror Mirror* (2012). I suppose the difference between these two is that one has stayed longer in India than the other: unlike Shyamalan, Singh obtained his education in New Delhi and only then migrated to California.

This in contrast to even Singh, Shyamalan's films have a distinctly Ameri-

can feel to them. It's tempting to rationalise the plot of *The Sixth Sense* as an Americanised version of an Indian film about reincarnation – I can think of at least one that bears a comparison, Bimal Roy's *Madhumati* (1958), which incidentally came out at around the same time Hitchcock's *Vertigo* did – but really, such rationalisations don't stand a first viewing of that film. *The Sixth Sense* is in, and of, America in much the same way *Unbreakable* is in and of it.

Unbreakable is even more American in mood and conception in that it delves into the most American of all genres, the comic book. In the two sequels that followed it – the fascinating *Split* (2016) and the much inferior *Glass* (2019) – he expands on these thematic concerns until he reaches breaking point. Shyamalan is at his eclectic best when he keeps back and stands ground: he does so in *Unbreakable*, even more so in *Split*, and hardly at all in *Glass*. There's a big gap between the profundity of his themes and the tricks of his trade that he uses and deploys to reduce those themes to their bare essentials: he gets the job done on that count in *Signs* – arguably his best work – and fails to do so in *The Village* (2004), which couldn't survive even a stellar cast (including the great William Hurt).

Critics generally point at Shyamalan's penchant for twist endings as his Achilles Heel, and in this they are, more often than not, right. The disjuncture between the profundity of his stories and the lack of any discernible effort to provide a



footing for those stories come out mainly, if not only, on account of his obsession with the twist. Without revealing any spoilers, the twist works sufficiently well enough in *The Sixth Sense*, *Unbreakable*, and *Signs*, and deteriorates with *The Village*, *Lady in the Water* (2006), and *The Happening* (2008), before going down completely in *The Last Airbender* (2010) and *After Earth* (2013). Even an interesting effort as *The Visit* (2015) misses the bus at several points; to give one example without revealing too much, how can two children spend a week at their grandparents' without their mother getting to know how those grandparents look like?

Those who take Shyamalan to task over these weaknesses argue that he's an egotist. To a not inconsiderable extent they are right: from the messiness of his plots to the cameos he so carefully stages, he seems to be aspiring to the ranks of a Hitchcock. But as Brian De Palma learnt well on his own, you cannot be another Hitchcock if all you do is imitate his style: there must be something more, and the difference between De Palma and Shyamalan is that, in his weaker films, the latter lazily lets go of inserting that "something more" into the story. De Palma may be pretentious, but he's less an egotist than an ardent

cinophile; Shyamalan, on the other hand, seems to enjoy himself most when he is full of himself.

Even *Signs*, taken today as his last great work (it's my personal favourite), suffers from the convulsions of egotism. As Doug Walker ("The Nostalgia Critic") has shown in his review on YouTube, he begins to sag, literally, when Shyamalan makes his appearance – a cameo the plot does not call for – and engages in a spot of philosophising that neither contributes to nor supplements the storyline. Moreover, when you think about it, the twist – "Swing the bat!" – tends to compare

unfavourably with the twists in *Unbreakable* and *The Sixth Sense* – still the best twist ending of them all – in how it tweaks an insignificant plot point and boosts it, to put it charitably, beyond proportion. When the solution to the story lies in two words uttered by a character who dies in a different time and setting, the director must engage and interest his audience, showing that this revelation actually means something. Earth-shattering as it may be to Shyamalan, the effect of swinging the bat – literally and metaphorically – is lost on audiences simply because that twist never gels with the rest of the plot.

I suppose it's easy to pin down this failing on Shyamalan's infamous egotism, and for once, I would agree with the critics. Shyamalan has become so confident of himself at this point that he feels that anything can, and will, go: even a weak twist. And why? Because according to Newsweek, he's supposed to be the next Spielberg.

In the history of the cinema I can't think of another director whose reputation the press inflated so much, only to deflate it later on. Brian De Palma offers a tentative comparison here, but for all his faults, De Palma never fell victim to mass media hysteria. Au contraire, throughout his career he found favour with just two major critics (Roger Ebert and Pauline Kael). The gushing tones of the reviews that greeted *The Sixth Sense*, *Unbreakable*, and *Signs*, on the other hand and viewed in retrospect today, border on the emotionally over-the-top. Peter Bogdanovich enjoyed a similar reputation in the 1970s, but even Bogdanovich had his unforgiving critics, most notably Pauline Kael. Shyamalan did not.

Whether the praise got to Shyamalan's head so much that he chose to overdo himself after *Signs*, of course, is a moot point; as *The Visit* and *Split* clearly show, he is not incapable of producing a truly effective horror-suspense film, if he tries hard enough. I sincerely hope he gives us at least a passing glimpse of his early work – the meticulous craftsmanship and the narrative power – in his upcoming film, *Old*. Slatford release this July, *Old* promises much (it's about a group of islanders who realise they're aging rapidly on the beach they've trekked out to). Will it revert to the same old – pun intended – or will it give us the kind of enigma that Shyamalan proved himself capable of, once? I'm not entirely sure, but to be on the safe side let's not trust Newsweek on this.



The Visit



The Sixth Sense

ARISTOTELIAN APPROACH TO PLATONIC LOVE

TITLE: Degodavarama
AUTHOR: Gamini Kandepola

Reading the novel was an experience. It started with modern young professionals spending their life in normal circumstances. Two of them were having an affair. The other a good friend, educated young people thrown together through circumstances. Away from home alone in their occupations, except for the strong bond between them.

The novel moves from one incident to another while it revolves around research carried on by the lady doctor among them. The narration and development of the novel, though the extremely readable novel, does not dazzle the reader through experiments in form or language. The complication and suspense of the story are deep enough. On reading, one may find layers of perspectives highlighted or toned down provoking and providing food for thought.

It is a journey into the social-cultural concept of a very 'Sri Lankan' and rural image- 'Kalukumara' which still does exist in society. The prince who affects young girls. The social, Psychological, sexual were to be the subject of research. The study also revolves around a young man - a character found in the book who is deprived of the release of sexual pleasures due to his unusual face and behaviour. He had been named by the villages as Kalukumara.



Love conversation

An image running through the novel reminds me of a theory expressed by Aristophanes in Plato's dialogue 'The Symposium'. The after-dinner conversation is about love. Each participant at the gathering is called upon to express his views on love. Aristophanes, the Comic poet provides his interpretation. According to him, all humans had been 'a whole' in the very early stage.

They resembled two people pasted together, had two heads, four hands and four legs. The gods fearing their strength had cut them in half and moved the head in each half to the other side. However, these wholes

It is a journey into the social-cultural concept of a very 'Sri Lankan' and rural image- 'Kalukumara' which still does exist in society. The prince who affects young girls. The social, Psychological, sexual were to be the subject of research. The study also revolves around a young man - a character found in the book who is deprived of the release of sexual pleasures due to his unusual face and behaviour. He had been named by the villages as Kalukumara.

had been of three kinds. Those consisting of 1. Male+ Male 2. Male + Female and 3. Female +Female. On being separated they were eternally seeking for their other half - to unite.

Thus the 1st and the 3rd became people who craved for 'same sex' relationships. While the 2nd united with the opposite and begot children. The result was they lived a worldly life while the others were free to pursue Philosophy and other branches of knowledge!

The suffering caused by conventions and so-called social norms is explained in detail through certain incidents. It really is a complex socie-



ty that one is forced to live in. Yet humans have in many cases made it worse by not accepting the natural. And society is fast in its judgement of others.

Conclusive stage

The lady doctor continues her study despite the opposition of her boyfriend. The attraction of Kumara to the female body through a practical experiment daring all conventions and rules in an unorthodox manner.

It is also a poignant fact that he does not use sex in any way for entertainment or impact. This shows maturity and discipline. Nor does the writer resort to any preaching and not refer to any religion. Yet the lesson he arrives is at is amazing. The reality of all things is conveyed to us, the readers as well as the characters in the story convincingly. Thereby quenching the fire.

Most novels as the Classical Critics point out are clever at the beginning of the story and the development strategy yet fail the reader miserably in the conclusive stage. Yet it is in this stage that the writer's skill outshines. Furthermore, he proves that the end need not leave the reader in tears to impart an impact.

Reviewed by Professor Kamani Jayasekera

Compiled with meticulous care



Professor SUNANDA MAHENDRA

The two volumes of Sinhala books lying before me are a welcome variant of the existing pattern of other encyclopaedia published by any book publisher. They are academic surveys as well as popular reading material needed for several purposes at a given time. I am referring to the two volumes as compiled by the well-known film director, lyricist as well as the academic known to the world as Professor Sunil Ariyaratne. The two volumes are titled Sinhala Chitrapata Gitavaliya, the first volume containing the songs of Sinhala films from 1967 to 1971 and the second volume from 1972 to 1976.

At a glance, a reader who is bound by a desire to be familiar with the details of a particular song belonging to the particular period cited, has to just scan the index of these two books that are meticulously arranged. I use the term 'meticulous' as the two hefty or bulky volumes are meticulously arranged in the manner of a postgraduate research project in the social sciences.

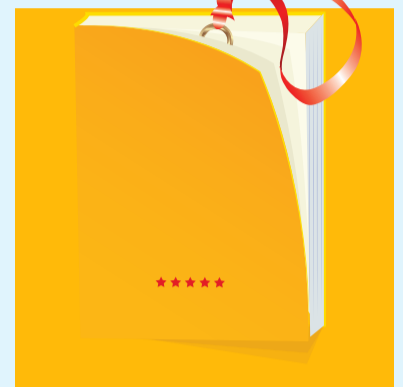
The two volumes too are supplemented with long prefaces on several topics such as the type of films for which the songs are created, the previous places where the lyrical compositions or the songs were printed, some factor pertaining to the type of recipient or the audience to which the song was catered, some of the scenes for which the particular song came to be written or created etc.

Perhaps all these could go as significant factors for the reader. All these factors go on to say that the compiler, Professor Sunil Ariyaratne, has left no stone unturned in the process of collecting items or material for his two volumes. The material thus collected are predominantly archival sources or collector's items that lay hidden in various places. This also goes to say that the venture of the investigative process had been arduous or at least time-consuming. Professor Ariyaratne had been engaged in this type of survey from his days of development as an erudite scholar.

For example, he is credited to be the indefatigable collector and compiler of all the plays of the celebrated Tower Hall dramatist John de Silva and a few others. Here too he is seen as a scholar delved in a certain function perhaps unseen as a resourceful process that eclipses the various learning processes in Media and Communication Studies. The attempt cannot be overlooked or undermined as futile either in Social Sciences or in Humanities. The two volumes will come as learning material as well as good teaching material in creative communication as well as language teaching and the use of language that comes as suitable expressions of a particular event in a visual medium. To the best of my awareness, this kind of compilation has not been performed by any academic belonging to any local university or any other seat of learning in our country. In this respect, this attempt on the part of Professor Sunil Ariyaratne is commendable and a media tribute.

The users presumably at time goes on may come from various media channels where content-embedded could be enhanced via the material and found in these two volumes. The compiler has taken extra care in the use of language that times had defaulted. He uses the exact original lines of a song for example with extra care leaving justice to the creators.

As an extra dimension of these two volumes, I as a reader felt that this is by and large is a fulfil-



BOOKMARK

ment of source material the teaching of cinematography. As a film director, Professor Ariyaratne may have a sensitive grasp of the need for a song, and the type of content it should embrace and who would sing it with whose creative direction. Why a particular song is remarkable and why another is not so could be discerned.

In this direction, the need for songs in films too is underlined as a guiding line of interest. Who sings what type of song for what purpose could emerge as a theory of communication from the two volumes. A reader who is avidly fond of songs and lyrics of films in our country may find solace from this compilation. The photo copies of most of the documents from which the songs are collected too are embedded. They too go to express various nuances of the contents of the particular films.

As such, those who take an active interest in the film aesthetics too are helped indirectly. From a historical perspective, the two volumes may need the scrutiny of the local film aesthete. A discriminative teacher could make use of these songs in order to make use of practical lessons in creative communication. This may result in the gradual taste-building process.

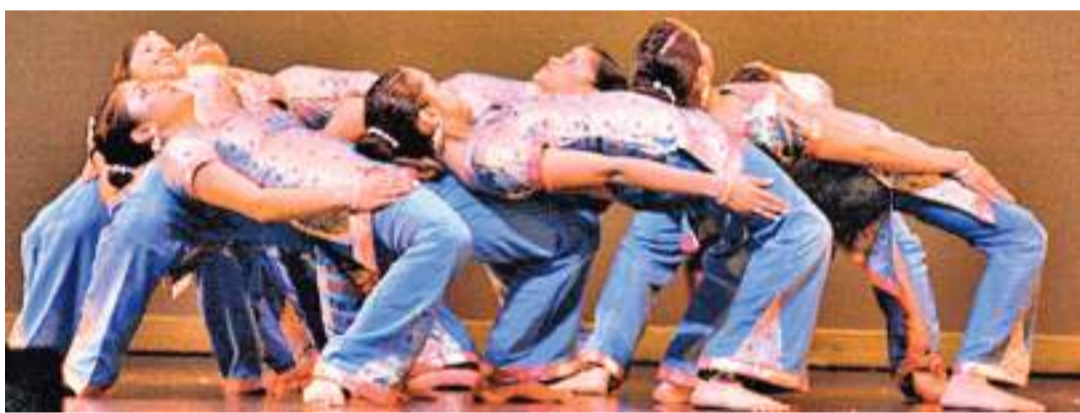
As pointed out by the well-known Media critic Denys Thompson in his Discrimination and Popular Culture the film song as well as film music play a vital role in the changing aspects of media technology. If we compare what we know about science and technology with what we know about the behaviour is created via media channels, we can easily see that we are in the act of discrimination as a behaviour pattern.

In the context of popular culture of our country as well as in other countries, a major segment of the musical culture is based on the songs and their patterns as depicted in the films. Even the well-known operas and ballads have been transformed into visuals in films. In this direction, the learned compiler has taken care to compartmentalise films into various categories. In this direction, quite a number of local films have ushered in unique pioneers whose names and functions too are cited. The growth of the earliest gramophone rewards came as a result of films is a factor unforgettable.

On the other hand, some of the singers in the films known by the term playback singers, gradually emerged as veteran singers in the radio and television channels. They too become gradually popular actor singer who played a dual role by singing as well as performing in visuals. Some of the well-known opera or theatre singers too had the chance of becoming playback singers. A number of such events are recorded in these two volumes.

All in all, as a reader I found that the research that could be branded as a visual cum sound survey is remarkably resourceful for the average reader as well as the serious-minded investigative reader in search of new vistas in communication and media surveys.

Roots and routes of Bharatha Natyam



Dr SUBASHINI PATHMANATHAN

Bharatha Natyam originated from the ancient temple art form called Sathir. The origin of Bharatha Natyam could be traced back to the 19th and 20th century. Earlier temple female Sathir dancers, of South India, and Northern Sri Lanka were called Sathirkaaris. They danced in the temple festivals, and temple occasions, these Sathir dances were called Sathir Kacheris. Devadasis were the sathirkaaris. Their dance took place throughout the night.

It was good entertainment for devotees as well as for the audience. Northern Sri Lanka is divided from India by eighteen miles' sea called Palk Strait. Hence Sri Lankan Tamil music, dance, devotional music, Pun music, temple paintings, temple sculptures, are very much influenced by the South Indian culture, practices, and traditions, not only the Sri Lankan Tamils but all the Tamils living outside India, are also influenced by the Indian culture and traditions.

Today Bharatha Natyam is regarded as the Tamil Nadu state classical dance, and it is also regarded as a Tamil cultural dance form that is totally based on Hindu philosophy and Hindu religion.

ART REVIVAL

With the passage of time when the Devadasis lost their reputation due to certain reasons in South India and consequently practising Sathir in Temples, was also legally banned in India. In Northern Sri Lanka Sathir gradually lost the reputation, yet it was practised in the Jaffna village temples till the nineteen seventies.

When the art was waning Rukmani Devi Arundale and Krishna Iyer, revived the art and renamed it as Bharatha Natyam. Bharatha Natyam dance started growing in a steady stable and new dimension form. Earlier there were four different styles in Bharatha Natyam, but later two different styles only flourished. One is Pandanallur style and the other is Vazhuvoor style. Rukmani Devi was the student of the guru Panhandler Meenakshi Sundaram Pillai. Rukmani Devi established the institution Kalasethra in 1936 and after, many students from Sri Lanka studied at Kalasethra. Several others studied at the Vazhuvoor School. The Vazhuvoor School does not have any particular institution, but the students studied under the individual outstanding Gurus, most of them studied under Vazhuvoor Ramiappillai.

Most of the students went from Colombo, and Jaffna to India to learn Bharatha Natyam. Even

many of the outstanding individual dancers from India and dance troupes from India visited Sri Lanka and had numerous programmes, and conducted a few lecture demonstrations. Among them who visited Sri Lanka was Balasarawathi, 'the queen of Abinaya' in 1943, along with her troupe and gave a performance at the Jaffna Townhall.

FUSION WITH OTHER ART FORMS

Later, Travancore Gopinath and Thankamani also gave a performance that was not a pure classical Bharatha Natya show, but it was an admixture of Kathakali and Bharatha Natyam. Similarly, the famous Mrinalini Sarabai visited Sri Lanka with her husband and gave a performance. In 1954, Kamala Lakshman gave an excellent performance under the guidance, of her Guru Vazhuvoor Ramiappillai at the Saraswathy Hall, Colombo, and Jaffna.

Traditional dance forms in any society must have certain norms and defined links with cultural, linguistic, regional, and religious factors.

These traditional dance forms generally have a certain long-standing historical background, and historical developments, in different periods. Almost all the traditional cultural dance forms are systematically categorized into different steps, different hand gestures, eye movements, and neck movements and different names for different foot positions, and different foot movements. Traditional dancers vehemently are supposed to stick within a certain limited framework.

Even some of the traditional dance forms like Russian Ballet, western dance forms, Eastern dance forms, South American dances, Far East Asian dance forms, and South-East Asian dance forms, are systematically confined into defined dance techniques. Each traditional form has its own distinguish makeup, and stage decorations, distinguish costumes, and selective ornaments. Most of the ornaments have certain names, as well as certain significance for the purpose of use. Some of the traditional dance forms are only performed by solo dancers, some are only by female dancers alone, and some are by female and by male dancers together.

TRADITIONAL DANCE FORMS

At the end of the last quarter of the 20th century, a new trend of dance form has developed by modern choreographers. They insert numerous ideas of their creativity into these dances and also borrow techniques from numerous other traditional dance forms. They mainly borrow the nuances, tech-



niques, steps, costumes, ornaments, and makeup from various, different traditional dances, and along with these dances, they also combine their creativity dances and name these as modern dances. The choreographers borrow techniques from Russian Ballet, Gymnastics, circus, and body movement exercises.

No proper clarified, defined, categorized steps are followed in these so-called modern and fusion dance forms. Besides these, they add jumps, hops, twists, and sudden turns in these dances. These dances are called 'modern dances or fusion dances'.

The choreographers adopt their own designed costumes. Most of the choreographers adopt their idealistic music and select their musical instruments. The musical instruments used for these dances are an admixture of Western and Eastern instruments. Even the choreographers adopt numerous modern technologies, for the stage decorations and also for the lighting and sound system.

The main aim of the choreographers is to attract the audience for these so-called modern fusion dances are generally performed and practised by female and male dancers. Generally, these male and female dancers participate together in groups. Mainly the younger generation is attracted and encouraged by these baseless art forms. Even some of the schools in the metropolitan areas encourage these modern dances, to attract the younger generation for fashion shows, and extra activities at the school level.

This present trend of fusion dance forms affects all the pure classical dances in this present era. Even the pure Bharatha Natyam is also affected by this present trend in numerous ways. The present Bharatha Natyam teachers and choreographers are fully responsible for this new trend, which is a matter to be regretted.



The Unmarriageable Man soon to be released

Ashok Ferrey's first book in five years, **The Unmarriageable Man**, will be launched at **Sarasavi Bookshop, One Galle Face Mall, Colombo 3, on March 27 at 4.30 pm.**

When his Sri Lankan father dies, Sanjay de Silva decides to visit England - for no other reason than that his father has always pre-

vented him from doing so. It is 1980. Sanjay arrives in London to find that real estate has become the national obsession, the Tulip Fever of the age. He meets and falls in love with Janine, old enough to be his mother, infamous within the acid-tongued Sri Lankan community as a socialite of the very highest class, with *royal clients*.

Sanjay becomes the only

Asian builder in one of London's most violent parts, Brixton - where the black inhabitants are fast being replaced by young white yuppies, where every girl looks like Princess Diana though not every boy looks like Prince Charles. But all is not well with that first house he buys. At night there are voices...

At its deepest level, **The**

Unmarriageable Man is about grief: how each of us copes in our own inimitable way, often running directly against the grain of received wisdom. How, as Sanjay is about to find out, 'grief is only the transmutation of love, of the very same chemical composition - liquid, undistilled - the one inevitably turning to the other like ice to water.'

Dr ANAMIKA BISWAS

In the villages of Bengal, one can sight grandmothers and aunts all sewing together in the evening using up the last precious hours of daylight and still continuing to be productive. From their constantly working fingers, emerged Kantha quilts of unique beauty. Durable exquisitely worked and on fabric that always had that sentiment of having belonged to an older beloved family member; old sarees, and dhotis were all recycled before the new-age Green movement arrived.

The cloth that had belonged to one generation was transformed into something lovely, useful, and with a whole new value and memorabilia for future generations. Kanthas are treasured as family heirlooms and there is nothing but the creative instinct of the craft women who are constantly making more and more beautiful examples of this craft.

AUTHENTIC HANDCRAFTED COSTUMES

Katha or Kantha is a simple stitch embroidery that originated in Bengal in the 18th century. This traditional embroidery is now fancy for many designers and couturiers to create authentic handcrafted costumes. Though the story of the origin of Katha is as humble as it can be. The farmer and commoner in colonial times had limited resources, the people of Bengal found a way to create something useful and beautiful from the old fabric that would, in a richer part of the world, be thrown away.

The poor could not afford to throw anything away so they collected used torn sarees and old cloth and sew them together in a running stitch to make Kanthas. These Kathas were handcrafted by grandmothers for their future generations-grandchildren. There are more than one reason for crafting and creating the Kantha- first one was as mentioned earlier- lack of resources, secondly the used cotton cloth would be very soft and adding layers would not make it bulky yet it will become like soft-cushions to be used for a newborn and lastly and symbolically the fabric

ART AND CRAFT OF UP-CYCLING

KANTHA



Kantha for Dress material

is considered a kind of a blessing by the elders of the family as it was worn by them. Kantha is embedded with the love, affection and positive vibes of the elders of the family.

Kantha was primarily a bed cum quilt for a newborn. The practicality and aesthetics of the Kantha led to its many more usages such as clothing and nappies for newborn. The basic material and tool needed for the Kantha are- old torn sarees, a needle and unimaginable re-cycling of

multi-coloured thread which is pulled out from the borders of the sarees. Gradually, imaginative and creative instinct took over this craft and these Kanthas become part of heirloom and gifts for the wedding.

STRICT SYMMETRY

Kantha, is now more generally refers to a specific type of stitch. From the beginning and most basic kantha stitch is a simple, straight, running stitch. With the time,



Home made Katha

more elaborate patterns have developed known as "nakshi kantha". Nakshi is a Bengali word, naksha, which means artistic patterns. Nakshi Kantha refers to motifs influenced by the religion, culture of the creator/craftswomen.

This most humble of cloths gave free rein to the imaginations of the women; kanthas narrated tales of folk beliefs and practices, religious ideas, themes and characters from mythology and epics and sometimes social and personal lives of the arti-

KANTHA, IS NOW MORE GENERALLY REFERS TO A SPECIFIC TYPE OF STITCH. FROM THE BEGINNING AND MOST BASIC KANTHA STITCH IS A SIMPLE, STRAIGHT, RUNNING STITCH. WITH THE TIME, MORE ELABORATE PATTERNS HAVE DEVELOPED KNOWN AS "NAKSHI KANTHA". NAKSHI IS A BENGALI WORD, NAKSHA, WHICH MEANS ARTISTIC PATTERNS. NAKSHI KANTHA REFERS TO MOTIFS INFLUENCED BY THE RELIGION, CULTURE OF THE CREATOR/ CRAFTSWOMEN.

sans as well. No strict symmetry is followed, some of them may also have a lotus as a focal point, with stylised flora and fauna.

This story of Kantha is not known to many as what they have bought or experienced is the modern version of Kantha whereas the true authentic Kantha stitching can be claimed as the earliest example of up-cycling efforts of discarded and used material in a humblest and customary way much before the Green Movement appeared on the global scenario.

GAMINI FONSEKA'S BIRTH ANNIVERSARY ON MARCH 21

ACTOR UNRIVALLED

ISURU THAMBAWITA

The lamp of the Sinhala cinema lit by the veteran film director late Dr Lester James Peries was brightened by the renowned artiste late Dr Gamini Fonseka.

Born on March 21, 1936 in Dehiwala, Gamini Fonseka began his career as an actor in 1956. The film titled *Rekava* (The Line of Destiny) directed by legendary Dr Lester James Peries was the turning point of Gamini Fonseka's destiny.

It was S. Thomas' College, Mount Lavinia, from which Gamini Fonseka received his primary education. Taught by Kalasuri Arienes Ahubudu, Gamini Fonseka had possessed a brilliant knowledge of the Sinhala language. As pointed out by the critics, even at that time, Gamini Fonseka, by imitating both teachers and the staff members of the school, had gained popularity among the schoolmates. He used to watch stage dramas with his father and play those characters at home. It is said that the inmates of the area had never missed out on the chance of watching little Gamini's performances.

Being the most mischievous and talented boy in the classroom, Fonseka was asked by his teacher to participate in the school concert. Little Gamini could amaze the whole audience by making the sound of Tabla alone with the fingers. No doubt Dr Gamini Fonseka was less criticised and more praised by the critics had remained unshaken like a rock.

When young Gamini Fonseka went to the famous dramatist and filmmaker named Sirisena Wimalaweera to seek an opportunity for a film. He had disheartened young Gamini Fonseka. But as a miracle of destiny, Dr Lester James



Peries who had realized Gamini Fonseka's inborn skills, had given him an opportunity to act in *Rekhava*.

Fonseka worked as the second assistant director in *Bridge on the River Kwai* directed by one of the most renowned American film directors David Lean who had witnessed Gamini Fonseka's talents and capabilities. He called Gamini the American actor.

No one might have thought that Dr Gamini Fonseka whose name had been etched on our hearts as an actor, can be regarded as a poet. Out of all the songs penned by this versatile artist Dr Gamini Fonseka, it can be said that these songs had stolen our hearts.

Sondura Numba Mata sung by Victor Rathnayake, *Sudo Man adarey* sung by Sujatha Aththanayake and *Mihi pita agalak himi nethi minihek* sung by Pandit Amaradeva are some golden hits. *The dream*

woman is an English song penned by Gamini Fonseka.

Nidhanaya (The Treasure) directed by Dr Lester James Peries had brought the Sinhala cinema to the international arena. In this film, Gamini Fonseka played the role of a bankrupt businessman named Willy Abenayake who sacrificed his beloved wife named Irene Abenayake to gain a hidden treasure in a rock.

As pointed out by the critics, the climax of the film is the last scene in which Willy Abenayake stabs Irene Abenayake to death. It can be said that the spectators had been bewitched by the last scene in which Gamini Fonseka had rolled his eyes back in order to portray that he was possessed by a devil.

Dr Gamini Fonseka, the most renowned king of Sinhala cinema whose purpose was to lead a ray of light to Sinhala cinema breathed his last at the age of 68 after rejuvenating the Sri Lankan Film industry.



A SINHALA DEPARTMENT FOR YUNNAN UNIVERSITY

The Foreign Languages Faculty of Yunnan University has established a Sinhala Department. Founded in 1923, the university is among the first-rate national universities in China. The Foreign Languages Faculty includes European, Asian and African languages in addition to English, French and Japanese in the postgraduate level. About 25 students have been enrolled for the first batch.

Sugath Ratnayaka serves as its founding Sri Lankan lecturer. Ratnayaka obtained his Bachelor's and Master's Degrees from Kelaniya University. He had also served as a Consultant at China Radio International for four years before taking up the current position. Besides Ratnayaka, three Chinese lecturers also serve as Sinhalese Language lecturers. Sinhalese Language is already taught as a main subject at several Chinese universities. They include Beijing Foreign Studies University, Chongqing Normal University and Minzu University.

Sinhala Department pays atten-



tion to the cultivation of "double compound" talents, that is, to train talents who combine foreign language and literature with regional country studies, and which are not common language and common language. To achieve this goal, the Sinhalese Department has not only offered basic language courses such as "basic Sinhalese", "Sinhalese Reading", "selected Sinhalese Literary works" and "Sinhalese Visual listening and speaking" for undergraduates, but also offered courses on humanistic quality such as "Sri Lanka profile", "Sri Lankan History" and a second foreign language (usually English).

Sinhala major carries out small class teaching, and the Institute of Foreign languages carries out a custom-made training model for Sinhalese students to train practical talents with multiple skills and wide caliber.

In addition to studying in the language target country for half a year, students can also take courses in other majors in the school on a voluntary basis and obtain a second professional degree or minor certificate according to their individual learning conditions.

BOOK LAUNCH



Veteran writer Ravindra Withanage's *Foundation to Combined Mathematics* was launched at the National Library and Documentation Services Board recently. Senior literary critic Dr WA Abeyasinghe delivered the keynote speech while GC Dayaratne elaborated the importance of studying mathematics. The book is written to bridge the gap between the Advanced Level syllabus and the Ordinary Level syllabus. The book could come in handy for the students who follow GCE Advanced Level in mathematics stream.



TITLE: The Secret Midwife: Life, Death and the Truth about Birth
AUTHOR: Katy Weitz

Strongest supporter, best friend, expert, cheerleader and chief photographer . . . Before, during and after labour the role of a midwife is second to none. The Secret Midwife reveals the highs and lows on the frontline of the maternity unit, from the mother who tries to give herself a DIY caesarean to the baby born into witness protection, and from surprise infants that arrive down toilets to ones that turn up in the lift.



Rs3570 Available at Sarasavi Bookshop



NEW ON THE SHELF

TITLE: Corona Dosthara
AUTHOR: GA Mathupema

The novel depicts the life of a village lad, Sumanarathna who ends up as a medical doctor/specialist thanks to Dr CWW Kannangara's Free Education Policy. He is one among the millions of Sri Lankan poor students who were benefited by Dr Kannangara's far sighted, prudent decision.



Rs500 Published by Piyasara Publishers, Kalutara North

Corona Dosthara portrays the village lifestyle as it is - family bonds, their virtues, innocence as well as their ignorance about the illnesses, a cross section of Sri Lanka's medical profession, and hopes and aspirations of medical researchers. More than all the novel is a handbook on viruses, communicable diseases such as Dengue and Covid 19.

The protagonist remains a humane, patient-centered doctor to the very end of the novel, setting an example for those who are running solely after materialistic goals.

In his writing career spanning over fifty years, GA Mathupema has penned over 35 books in English and vernacular on myriad topics ranging from psychology to children's literature. A teacher by profession, GA Mathupema has been quite popular among his students as an erudite English Literature lecturer. He has also served as an Instructor at NIE, Maharagama.

TITLE: Futureproof 9 Rules for Humans in the Age of Automation
AUTHOR: Kevin Roose

Futureproof 9 Rules for Humans in the Age of Automation
Kevin Roose

The machines are here. After decades of sci-fi fantasies and hype, artificial intelligence has leapt out of research labs and Silicon Valley engineering departments and into the center of our lives. Algorithms shape everything around us, from the news we see to the products we buy and the relationships we form. And while the debate over whether or not automation will destroy jobs rages on, a much more important question is being ignored.

Rs2535 Available at Sarasavi Bookshop



TITLE: My Mama
AUTHOR: Annemarie van Haeringen

My Mama is an amusing story about a cheeky baby elephant who describes his mother while we follow another story in the illustrations familiar and funny for both parents and children.

Rs2160 Available at Vijitha Yapa Bookshop

TITLE: Chain of Iron
AUTHOR: Cassandra Clare

The Shadow hunters must catch a killer in Edwardian London in this dangerous and romantic sequel to the #1 New York Times bestselling novel Chain of Gold, from New York Times and USA TODAY bestselling author Cassandra Clare. Chain of Iron is a Shadow Hunters novel.

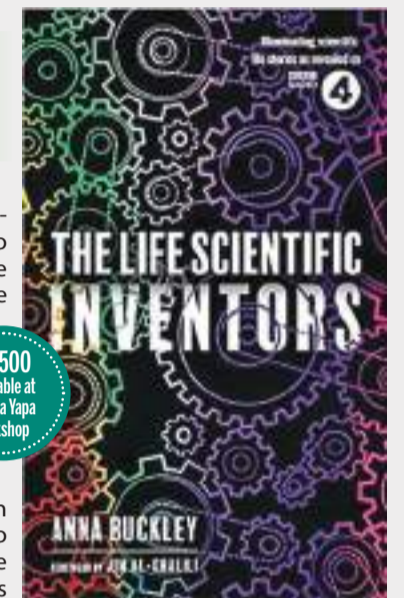
Rs2435 Available at Sarasavi Bookshop



TITLE: The Life Scientific: Inventors
AUTHOR: Anna Buckley

Judging by the ingenious individuals who have come into The Life Scientific studio in the last eight years, there is no simple answer. Mathematicians, electricians, molecular biologists and mechanics can all transform lives. Some think with their hands, others make things in their minds. Most have a vision of the future. All are driven by a passionate determination to solve problems. These intimate accounts, based on interviews recorded for the popular BBC Radio 4 programme The Life Scientific, chart the life journeys of scientists and engineers working in Britain today from childhood interests to innovation. Explaining what they did when and why, they make science seem straightforward and exciting, revealing moments of disappointment, creativity, frustration and joy.

Rs1500 Available at Vijitha Yapa Bookshop



Daily News

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*T&C apply | Results may vary from person to person

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ශ්‍රී ලංකාවේ ප්‍රථම ආදර්ශ කුරුඳු සැකසුම් කිරීමේ කර්මාන්තශාලාවේ පරිහරණය කරන, ප්‍රමිතියට අනුකූලව කුරුඳු සැකසුම් කිරීමේදී පහසුවෙන් නිෂ්පාදන ධාරිතාවය වැඩිකර ගැනීමට සහ දිනක මෙහෙය යටතේ කාන්තාවන් පමණක් වුවද යොදවා කුරුඳු සැකසුම් බේරීමට හැකි නව තාක්ෂණික යන්ත්‍ර සහ උපකරණ විකිණීමට ඇත.

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Face book - Dassanayake Waluwa Plantation

දසනායක වලව්ව ප්ලාන්ටේෂන්, කොස්ගොඩ.

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AMENDMENT NOTICE

INDEPENDENT TELEVISION NETWORK LTD.

Procurement of Broadcast IT Local Area Network Equipment / Switches

Tender No. : ITN/Q/42/2020

This refers to the Invitation for Bids (IFB) published in 'Daily News' on 24.02.2021 in respect of above.

This is to inform that the closing date of the above bid has been extended up to 2.00 p.m. on 06th April 2021 due to some amendments to the Technical Specification and General Conditions of the bid.

The tender details are available on the Website www.itn.lk and bid documents could be obtained from the Manager (Procurement), Independent Television Network Ltd., Wickramasinghepura, Battaramulla, Sri Lanka, upon payment of a non refundable fee of Rs. 12,500.00 (inclusive of VAT) in cash during office days (Monday to Friday, except Mercantile Holidays) from 9.30 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. till 05th April 2021.

Bids will be opened at 2.30 p.m. on 06th April 2021 at the office of the Engineering Division of ITN, Wickramasinghepura, Battaramulla.

Interested bidders may obtain further information from the Deputy General Manager (Engineering) of Independent Television Network Ltd. Tel. 94 11 2774592 / E-mail: engineering@itn.lk or Manager (Procurement) Tel. No. 94 11 2775493 / E-mail : supplies@itn.lk.

Those who have already collected bid documents will be informed of the amendments in due course.

**Chairman,
Procurement Committee,
Independent Television Network Ltd.,
Wickramasinghepura,
Battaramulla.**

16.03.2021

MINISTRY OF PUBLIC SECURITY

REGARDING THE TIME OF THE PRE BID MEETING

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

PROCUREMENT OF VEHICLES

SRI LANKA POLICE SPECIAL TASK FORCE

Procurement References -

PS/03/PB/PR/08/15/2021, PS/03/PB/PR/08/16/2021, PS/03/PB/PR/08/17/2021, PS/03/PB/PR/08/19/2021, PS/03/PB/PR/08/21/2021, PS/03/PB/PR/08/22/2021

The paper advertisement for the purchasing of the vehicles for the STF was published in the newspaper dated 14.03.2021. The time, when the pre bid meeting is to be held was not mentioned in that advertisement, besides it will be held on 23.03.2021 at 2.00 p.m. at the given place, in the above dated newspaper. Furthermore, other information in the paper advertisement remains unchanged and necessary action will be taken accordingly.

For further clarifications, please contact:

Address	Telephone/Fax Number
Chief Accountant Ministry of Public Security 14th Floor, Suhurupaya Battaramulla. E-mail: caminlofinance@gmail.com	T/phone: 011-2887697 Fax: 011-2887784

Chairman,
Ministry of Procurement Committee (MPC),
Ministry of Public Security

QUOTATIONS FOR SUPPLY OF 80 GSM - D/S ART PAPER IMP/ADV/2021/02

Sealed quotations are hereby invited from foreign principals and local suppliers for the supply of "80 GSM - D/S Art Paper" as specified below.

Quantity	Description
20 MT	80 GSM - D/S Art Paper - Gloss - Size: 24"x35"

Packing : Palletized packets with extra Seaworthy Export packing with moisture barrier.

Foreign Offers

The bidders should quote both **FOB** and **CIF Colombo** prices (on at sight as well as 90 days usance). **CIF offers should clearly detail Cost, Freight & Insurance charges** separately. **ANCL reserves the right to place the order on FOB or on CIF term.**

Offers with samples and specifications should be submitted in a sealed envelope marked as "Quotations for 80 GSM - D/S Art Paper" on the top left hand corner.

Local Offers

Ex - stock price indicating transport charges, VAT and other levies separately with samples should be submitted in a separate cover in the same manner.

Offers should be sent to the **Head of Procurement to reach on or before 31 March 2021 at 2.30 p.m.** which will be opened immediately. No separate documents will be issued. Suppliers may use their own formalities.

Probable date of delivery, validity of price, terms of payment etc. to be clearly indicated on the offers.

Acceptance of new sources/ product is subjected to a quality test.

The successful bidder should provide a Performance Bond to the value of 05% with a validity period of 90 days.

Bidders or accredited representatives will be allowed to be present at the opening. However, The Associated Newspapers of Ceylon Ltd. reserves the right to accept or reject any or all offers without assigning any reason whatsoever.



**Head of Procurement
The Associated Newspapers of
Ceylon Ltd.,
No. 35, Lake House,
D.R. Wijewardene Mawatha,
Colombo 10
For Details: 2429451, 2429452**

Geological Survey & Mines Bureau Ministry of Environment



Provision of Space Facilities for Offices on Rent or Lease Mullaithivu Regional Office

A building is required on Rent or Lease from Mullaithivu or Mankulam area to maintain the Mullaithivu Regional Office of this Bureau. The building should consist of the following requirements :

- > The extent of the building should be more than 1500 sq.ft.
- > Should consist of a minimum of 03 rooms.
- > Should be located within three (03) Kilometres in close proximity to a Main Road from city limits.
- > Should be a building with proper approval obtained from the relevant local government institute.
- > Internal and External toilet facilities should be available.
- > Separate pipe water and electricity facilities should be available.
- > A safety fence or a wall right round the building with a gate should be available.
- > There should be parking facilities for at least 03 vehicles.
- > It should be located with easy access.

Relevant quotations along with the copy of the deed of the premises and the Plan and contact numbers of the building owner, marked "Quotations for rent or lease of a building for Mullaithivu Regional Office" on the top left-hand corner of the envelope should either be sent to reach the undermentioned address or deposited in the Tender Box kept at the Administration Division of the Head Office at or before 2.00 p.m. on 07.04.2021. Tenderers or their authorized representatives could participate at the time of opening of Tenders.

N.B.

1. It is the responsibility of the building owner to insure the said building for fire, theft or disaster when the selected building is provided to the Bureau on rental or lease basis.
2. The quotations submitted by the building owners will be submitted for Government assessment.

**Chairman,
Procurement Committee,
Geological Survey and Mines Bureau
No. 569, Epitamulla Road,
Pita Kotte.**



UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO

PROCUREMENT NOTICE

Supplying, Installation, Training and Maintaining, Enterprise Resource Planning System (ERP System): Human Resource Management Software System for the University of Colombo (UOC/NAE/ERP/NCB/2021)

1. Chairman, Department Procurement Committee (Major), University of Colombo, Colombo 03 invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for Supplying, Installation, Training and Maintaining of Human Resource Management Software: Enterprise Resource Planning System (ERP System) for The University of Colombo as described below.
2. Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding (NCB) procedure.
3. Bidder should have at least five years of experience in the relevant field in Sri Lanka.
4. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from the Senior Assistant Registrar/ Non-Academic Establishments (Contact No. 011-2553866/ 011-2553644) of the University of Colombo and inspect the bidding documents from the Non-Academic Establishments Branch of the University from 9.30 a.m. to 3.30 p.m. from 15.03.2021 to 07.04.2021 free of charge and through the (www.cmb.ac.lk/http://cmb.ac.lk/category/procurements)
5. A complete set of bidding documents in English may be purchased by interested bidders on submission of a written application to the Senior Assistant Registrar/Non Academic Establishment, University of Colombo and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Rupees 5000/- Non-refundable fee can be paid to the University Bank Account No. 505170600013 at People's Bank Thimbirigasyaya Branch. The documents may be purchased until 2.30 p.m. from 15.03.2021 to 07.04.2021.
6. Bids must be delivered in duplicate to the address below, on or before 2.30 p.m. on 08.04.2021. Please indicate the "Enterprise Resource Planning System (ERP System): Human Resource Management Software System" on top of the left corner of the envelop.
7. All bids must be accompanied by an unconditional on demand Bid Security of Rs. 210,000/- (Two hundred and ten thousand rupees only) from any commercial bank registered under the Central Bank of Sri Lanka as specified in BDS ITB 20.2.
8. A pre-bid meeting will be held on 25.03.2021 at 10.00 am in the Board Room 1 of the College House, University of Colombo, 94, Cumaratunga Munidasa Mawatha, Colombo 03.
9. Late bids will be rejected. The bids shall be deposited in the 'Tender Box' available in the Registrar's Office of the University, or sent under registered cover to be received before the deadline at the address given below. The bids will be opened in the Board Room 02 of the College House, University of Colombo at 2.30 pm on, 08.04.2021, in the presence of the bidders or their authorized representatives who choose to attend the bid opening.

**The Chairman
Department Procurement Committee (Major)
University of Colombo,
94, Cumaratunga Munidasa Mawatha,
Colombo 3.**

QUOTATIONS FOR SUPPLY OF 60 GSM - WOODFREE PRINTING PAPER IN REELS IMP/ADV/2021/05

Sealed quotations are hereby invited from foreign principals and local suppliers for the supply of "60 GSM - Woodfree Printing Paper in Reels" as specified below:

Quantity	: 100 MT
Description	: 60 GSM - Woodfree White Printing Paper
Reel Width	: 34 1/2"
Reel Diameter	: 40" (minimum) to 50" (maximum)
Inner Code	: 03"
Caliper	: Not more than 75 microns

Packing : Strong Sea Worthy export Packing with Moisture barrier.

Foreign Offers

Bidders should quote both **FOB** and **CIF Colombo** prices, (on at sight as well as 90 days usance) **CIF offers should clearly indicate detailed Cost, Freight & Insurance charges** separately. **ANCL reserves the right to place the order on FOB or on CIF term.**

Offers with samples and specifications should be submitted in a sealed envelope marked as "Quotations for 60 GSM - Woodfree Printing Paper in Reels" on the top left hand corner.

Local Offers

Ex-stock price indicating transport charges, VAT and other levies separately with samples should be submitted in a separate cover in the same manner.

Offers should be sent to the **Head of Procurement to reach on or before 29th March 2021 at 2.30 p.m.** which will be opened immediately. No separate documents will be issued. Suppliers may use their own formalities.

Probable date of delivery, validity of price, terms of payment etc. to be clearly indicated on the offers.

Acceptance of new sources / product is subjected to a quality test.

The successful bidder should provide a Performance Bond to the value of 05% with a validity period of 90 days.

Bidders or accredited representatives will be allowed to be present at the opening. However, The Associated Newspapers of Ceylon Ltd., reserves the right to accept or reject any or all offers without assigning any reason whatsoever.



**Head of Procurement
THE ASSOCIATED NEWSPAPERS OF
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NATIONAL BUILDING RESEARCH ORGANISATION (NBRO)

STATE MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY AND DISASTER MANAGEMENT



Reduction of Landslide Vulnerability by Mitigation Measures Project (RLVMMMP)

Funded by Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)

Loan No: L0124 A, Country : Sri Lanka

Landslide Mitigation Works in Between Culvert No. 5/11 And 5/13 Dehiowita-Deraniyagala Noori Road & LHS of Aranayaka - Hulankapolla Road in Kegalle District, Digana Kundasale & Dangolla Lower Circular Road in Kandy District - Package 4B

RFP Reference Number : RLVMMMP/WORKS/04B

1. The Government of Sri Lanka has already obtained financing from the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) towards the cost of the Reduction of Landslide Vulnerability by Mitigation Measures Project (RLVMMMP), and intends to apply part of the proceeds towards payments under the contract on Landslide Mitigation Works in Between Culvert No. 5/11 And 5/13 Dehiowita- Deraniyagala Noori Road & LHS of Aranayaka - Hulankapolla Road in Kegalle District, Digana Kundasale & Dangolla Lower Circular Road in Kandy District at an estimated total cost of **LKR 238 Million (USD 1.2 Million) excluding contingencies and VAT**:-

2. The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee on behalf of the National Building Research Organisation, now invites sealed Tenders from eligible Tenderers for above work located in Kandy & Kegalle Districts. [Between Culvert No. 5/11 And 5/13 Dehiowita-Deraniyagala Noori Road & LHS of Aranayaka - Hulankapolla Road in Kegalle District, Digana Kundasale & Dangolla Lower Circular Road in Kandy District] Construction period of this contract shall be 365 calendar days and defects liability period shall be 365 days after completion of construction works.

To be eligible for contract award, the successful Tenderer shall not have been blacklisted/debarred and shall meet the following requirements:

a) Domestic Tenderers should have been registered and hold a valid registration in the Construction Industry Development Authority (CIDA/ICTAD) (previously known as ICTAD) — Grade C3 or above under Building & Civil Engineering or Grade SP1 under Soil Nailing & Stabilization. Any Foreign Contractor who wishes to carry out any "Construction Contract" as the main/lead party shall obtain a Temporary Registration Certificate for Foreign Contractor upon succeeding its Tender. Please refer Gazette No. 2085/19 dated 23.08.2018 "Registration of Foreign Contractors" - this can be downloaded from www.documents.gov.lk & visit www.cida.gov.lk for more details.

b) Only eligible Tenderers with the following key qualifications should participate in this tendering:

A Financial

i. The Tenderer shall demonstrate that it has access to, or has available, liquid assets, unencumbered real assets, lines of credit, and other financial means (independent of any contractual advance payment) sufficient to meet the construction cash flow requirements estimated as **LKR 65 Million (USD 0.33 Million)** on the subject contract(s) net of the Tenderer's other commitments;

ii. The Tenderers shall also demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the Employer, that it has adequate sources of finance to meet the cash flow requirements on works currently in progress and for future contract commitments.

iii. The audited balance sheets or if, not required by the laws of the Tenderer's country, other financial statements acceptable to the Employer, for the last 5 years (2015 - 2016 to 2019 - 2020) shall be submitted

and must demonstrate the current soundness of the Tenderer's financial position and indicate its prospective long-term profitability. (As the minimum requirement, a Tenderer's net worth calculated as the difference between total assets and total liabilities should be positive. Negative trend of profitability may also be cause the rejection of Tender).

iv. Minimum Average annual volume of construction work performed in last five years. (since 1st January 2015) shall be at least **LKR 408 Million (USD 2.05 Million)**;

B Construction Experience

General Experience

i. Experience under construction contracts in the role of prime contractor, JV member, subcontractor, or management contractor for at least the last 05 years, starting from 1st January 2016;

Specific Experience

ii. One contract minimum value of **LKR 197 Million (USD 0.98 Million)** that has been satisfactorily and substantially completed as a prime contractor, joint venture member, management contractor or sub-contractor between 1st January 2011 and Tender submission deadline

Or
Maximum of 03 contracts in similar construction techniques completed simultaneously and total value equal or more than **LKR 197 Million (USD 0.98 Million)** that has been satisfactorily and substantially completed as a prime contractor, joint venture member, management contractor or sub-contractor between 1st January 2011 and Tender submission deadline, shall also be considered;

iii. For the above and any other contracts [substantially completed and under implementation] as prime contractor, joint venture member, or sub-contractor between 1st January 2011 and Application submission deadline, a minimum construction experience in the following key activities shall have been successfully completed, within any one year of that period:

- Construction of Soil nails/ Soil Anchoring and associated works: **480 m per year**;
- Construction of horizontal drains: **300 m per year**;

C Key Equipment & Personnel

Proposals for the timely acquisition of essential equipment and staff listed in the items 4 & 5 of Section III of the tender document.

3. Tender will be conducted through International Open Competitive tendering using a Request for Tender (RFT) as specified in the AIIB's Interim Operational Directive on Procurement Instructions for Recipient, June 2, 2016.

4. Interested eligible International and Local Tenderers may obtain further information from Project Director - RLVMMMP (Tele: 011 2559869) and inspect the Tender document during office hours from 09.00 to 14.00 hours at National Building Research Organisation,

No. 99/1, Jawatta Road, Colombo 05 on working days. The tender documents can also be inspected on www.nbro.gov.lk commencing from 17.03.2021 to 03.05.2021. Tender documents downloaded via web, shall not be accepted.

5. For the submission of tender, the Tender document in English language can be purchased from 18.03.2021 to 03.05.2021 by interested eligible Tenderers upon the production of a letter requesting tender documents, on a business letterhead, addressed to the Director General, National Building Research Organisation, No. 99/1, Jawatta Road, Colombo 05 and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **LKR 40,000.00**. The method of payment shall be in cash to the NBRO cashier. Further, register online www.drc.gov.lk of Registrar of Companies for getting PCA 3 form. Registration process has been converted into online system, through web:eroc.drc.gov.lk.

6. A pre-tender conference will be held at the Auditorium of National Building Research Organisation, No. 99/1, Jawatta Road, Colombo 05, commencing at 10.00 hrs on 26.03.2021. A Site visit will be held on 24.03.2021 commencing from NBRO-Kandy District office at 08.00 hrs.

7. Tenders must be delivered to the address below on or before 14.00 hrs on **04.05.2021**. Electronic Tenders will not be permitted. Late Tenders will be rejected. Tenders will be publicly opened soon after closing, in the presence of the Tenderers' designated representatives and anyone who has been chosen to attend, at the address below.

8. All Tenders must be accompanied by a Tender Security of **LKR 4 Million or equivalent amount in freely convertible foreign currency**.

Tender security shall only be an unconditional guarantee issued by a commercial bank recognized by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka accepted by the Employer in accordance with the format given in Section IV — Tender Forms. For the purpose of conversion of the required Tender security amount to a freely convertible currency, the selling exchange rate published by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka, 28 days prior to the deadline for Tender submission shall be applied.

If the Tender security is obtained from a bank based in another country, it shall be confirmed by a corresponding bank in Sri Lanka, recognized by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka, in accordance with the format given in Section IV — Tender Forms.

9. Attention is drawn to the Procurement Regulations requiring the Recipient to disclose information on the successful Tenderer's beneficial ownership, as part of the Contract Award Notice, using the Beneficial Ownership Disclosure Form as included in the Tender document.

10. The address(es) referred to above is: Project Director, Project Management Unit, Reduction of Landslide Vulnerability by Mitigation Measures Project, National Building Research Organisation, No. 99 / 1, Jawatta Road, Colombo 05, Sri Lanka.

Chairman, Project Procurement Committee, State Ministry of National Security and Disaster Management, Vidya Mawatha, Colombo 07, Sri Lanka.

My No : RG/NB/11/2/14/2021/Bg/a1

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

1. I hereby give notice under Section 04 of the Land Registers Reconstructed Folio Ordinance (Cap. 120) that Land Register Folios, particulars of which appear in Column 1 of the schedule hereto, affecting the lands described in Column 2, thereof which have been found to be missing or torn, have been reconstructed in full in provisional folios and relate to the connected deeds, particulars of which are shown in Column 3 of the said schedule.
2. The provisional folio will be opened for inspection by any person or persons interested therein at the Office of the Registrar of Lands Delkanda, 26.03.2021 to 09.04.2021 between the hours of 10.00 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. on all working days.
3. Any person desirous of lodging any objection against any entry included in a provisional Folio or against any of the particulars contained in any such entry and any person desiring to make a claim for the insertion of any entry or of any particulars alleged to have been improperly omitted from any entry must do so, by an objection or claim in writing addressed to the undersigned which must be sent under registered cover and must reach the Office of the Registrar General not later than 16.04.2021. The matter in respect of which the objection or claim is made must be clearly and fully set out in the objection or claim, and the objection or claim must be accompanied by all documentary evidence relies upon the support of it.

SCHEDULE

Particulars of Damaged Folios of the Land Registers	Particulars of Land	Particulars of Deeds Registered
Folio No. 187 of volume 1321 of Division M of the Land Registry Delkanda in Colombo District	All that allotment of land Lot No. A in Plan No: 481 and Asst. Nos. 1234, 1236, 1236/3 and 9 Dated 20.05.1981 made by O.S. Ranasinghe, Licensed Surveyor of the land called 'Kurunduwatta alias Mawathabodawatta' situated at Welikada Kotte Road in the Palle Pattu Salpiti Korale in the District of Colombo, Western Province and bounded on the, North by : Property owned by the heirs of the late W. Don Pawlis East by : Lot B South by : Lot C West by : Kotte Road Extent : A:00 R:00 P:12.10	01. Deed of Gift No. 329 written and attested by Hemalatha De Silva Notary Public on 12.09.1981. 02. Deed of Mortgage No. 476 written and attested by Hemalatha De Silva Notary Public on 10.10.1982.

W.M.M.B. Weerasekara
Registrar General

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

LANKA ELECTRICITY COMPANY (PVT) LIMITED

INVITATION FOR BIDS

Lanka Electricity Company (Private) Limited

(Ref. ERD/SDD/PROC/2021/044/T001)

Sealed Bids are invited from the prospective Suppliers to supply & delivery of

Pole Top Covers - 10,000 Nos.

Bidding Documents could be obtained from the Procurement Department, Lanka Electricity Company (Private) Limited, 4th Floor, No. 411, E.H. Cooray Building, Galle Road, Colombo 03, from **9.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. on working days**, on payment of a non-refundable fee of Rs. 4,000.00. Bidding documents will be issued from **17th March to 06th April, 2021**. Draft Bid Document (Not for Bid) is available on www.promise.lk or www.leco.lk website for reference purpose.

Completed Bid documents shall be addressed to General Manager, Lanka Electricity Company (Private) Limited under sealed cover. Bid Documents shall be placed in the Tender Box at the Ground Floor of the address below, not later than **2.00 p.m. on 07th April, 2021**. Bids will be opened immediately after the closing time in the presence of the Bidders who wish to attend.

General Manager
Lanka Electricity Company (Private) Limited,
411, Galle Road,
Colombo 03.
Tel : 011 2371660 / 2371637

GOVERNMENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA

MINISTRY OF WATER SUPPLY

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (EOI)

RECRUITMENT OF INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT – REVERSE OSMOSIS DESALINATION EXPERT

For Jaffna-Kilinochchi Water Supply & Sanitation Project

Contract No: PD/JKWSSP/SWRO PLANT/RO EXPERT/2021/01

ADB LOAN NO: 3603 / 3604 - SRI

The Ministry Consultant Selection Committee (MCSC) on behalf of the NWSDB invites eligible consultants to indicate their interest in providing the services described herein. Interested consultants must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services by submission of information requested in this Expressions of Interest (EOI), such as description of similar assignments undertaken, experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skilled staff, etc. Consultants may associate to enhance their qualifications.

To be eligible and qualified for Individual Consultant, the successful consultants shall have fulfilled the requirements as follows:

Position	Qualification	General Experience	Project Related Experience
Reverse Osmosis Desalination Expert	Essential • Degree in Engineering (Civil, Chemical, Mechanical or Electrical) from a recognized University and Membership of IESL or recognized Professional Institution <i>Preferable</i> • Masters in a Water Related Engineering discipline	20 years in design and construction of water supply works	• 5 years in design and construction of desalination works • Design and construction of at least two reverse osmosis desalination plants capacity more than 15,000 m ³ /day • 5 years operating and maintaining one or more reverse osmosis desalination plants capacity more than 15,000 m ³ /day <i>Preferable</i> • Held a senior leadership role in large water supply projects for minimum 10 years

Consultant will be selected in accordance with the procedures set out in the Guidelines for Selection and Employment of Consultants, published by National Procurement Agency following Individual Consultant Selection (ICS) method.

Interested consultants must prepare and submit an EOI in a standard form, ADB's recommended Template for EOI (individual Consultants), which can be obtained either by downloading from the ADB website : www.adb.org or NWSDB website : www.waterboard.lk, or by contacting the Project Director, Jaffna Kilinochchi Water Supply and Sanitation Project, NWSDB, Jaffna, (Tel: 021-2220256, fax 021-2220257) Email: pdjkwssp@gmail.com between **0900 hours and 1600 hours** on normal working days from **17th March 2021**.

Duly completed EOI hardcopy shall be dispatched either by registered post or hand delivered to the Director (Procurement), Ministry of Water Supply, No: 35, "Lakdiya Medura" Pelawatta, Battaramulla in an envelope clearly titled – "Expressions of Interest for Recruitment of Individual Consultants – Resident Engineer (Mechanical) for Jaffna – Kilinochchi Water Supply & Sanitation Project" and post to apply, to reach on or before **10:00 hours** on **31st March 2021**.

Chairman,
National Water Supply and Drainage Board

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MINISTRY OF WATER SUPPLY

NATIONAL WATER SUPPLY & DRAINAGE BOARD

BID NOTICE

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

No.	Name of Contract & Contract No.	Non Refundable Fee (Rs)	Bid Security Requirements	Eligibility Requirements	Estimated Cost (Rs.) Excluding VAT	Place of Issuing of Documents & Contact Person	Closing Date and Time
CIVIL TENDERS							
01	Supply, Delivery, Laying and Jointing or Fixing of uPVC/DI Pipes, Specials, Fittings, Valves, Accessories & Manhole Covers for Pipe Line Extension (Balance Work) for Manhole Covers for Pipe Line Extension (Balance Work) for Bingiriya Industrial Zone Contract No.: RSC(NW)/P&D/PL/RC(BOI)/BIN/2020/52	20,000/- + VAT **	Rs. 700,000/-	Registration with CIDA in the field of Water Supply and Sewerage Grade C4 or C3 and Registration of the contract as per the Act. No. 3 of 1987 with the registrar of public contract	75.10 million	Tenders & Contracts Section, NWS&DB, Galle Road, Ratmalana. Tele: 011-2605328 Fax: 011-2635885	07/04/2021 10.00 hours
02	Renovation of No.04, Twin Family Quarters, Landscaping Family Quarters Premises, Water Tank Structure for Quarters Contract No.: RSC/N/DGM/RH/RENOV/QUARTERS/2020/086	6,000/- + VAT **	Rs. 91,000/-	Registration with CIDA in the field of Building Construction Grade C5 to C9 and Registration of the contract as per the Act. No.3 of 1987 with the registrar of public contract	9.05 million	RSC (Northern), NWSDB, Jaffna Road, Vavuniya. Tele: 024-2225719 Fax: 024-2225088	21/04/2021 14.00 hours
03	Calling Rates for Repairing of Pipe Line Leaks at Area Engineer (Ja-ela) Area in Manager (Kelaniya) Region Contract No.: RSC(W/N)/LAYING/KEL(O&M)/2021/35	12,500/- + VAT **	Rs. 308,250/-	Registration with CIDA in the field of Water Supply and Sewerage Grade C5 to C9 and Registration of the contract as per the Act.No.3 of 1987 with the registrar of public contract	20.55 million	Regional Support Center (W/N) Office, No.433/4A, Ganemulla Road, Kadawatha Tele: 0112922129 Fax: 0112922146	31/03/2021 10.00 hours
04	Construction of Bulkmeter Chambers in Trincomalee Region Contract No.: RSC(E)/DGM/NRW/CHAMBER/TRINCO/2020/33R	4,000/- + VAT	Rs. 34,000/-	Registration with CIDA in the field of Building Construction/ Water Supply and Sewerage Grade C5 to C9	2.23 million	Regional Support Centre (East), NWSDB, No. 48A/1, Kandy Road, Maddikali, Trincomalee Tele: 026-2222519 Fax: 026-2225225	31/03/2021 10.00 hours
05	Renovation of Water Treatment Plant at Giriulla Water Supply Scheme Contract No : RSC(NW)/O&M/C/NRW/GIRI/2021/05	4,000/- + VAT	Rs. 40,000/-	Registration with CIDA in the field of Building Construction Grade C5 to C9	3.99 million	RSC (North -Western) Office, NWSDB, Dambulla Road, Kurunegala Tele: 037-2221161 Fax : 037-2230086	07/04/2021 14.00 hours
06	Laying and Jointing of HDPE/DI Pipe and Fittings for Distribution improvement at Divithotawela Water Supply Scheme Contract No : RSC(UVA)/DGM(UVA)/REH/DIVITHOTAWELA/2021/34	12,000/- + VAT **	Rs. 314,000/-	Registration with CIDA in the field of Water Supply and Sewerage Grade C5 to C9 and Registration of the contract as per the Act.No.3 of 1987 with the registrar of public contract	20.9 million	Tender Section, NWSDB, Mediriyia Road, Badulla Tele: 0552230934 Fax: 0552230974	24/03/2021 14.00 hours
07	Distribution improvement in Magiripura area in Haputhale Water Supply Scheme Contract No : RSC(UVA)/DGM(UVA)/NRW/HAPUTALE/2021/42	12,500/- + VAT **	Rs. 277,500/-	Registration with CIDA in the field of Water Supply and Sewerage Grade C5 to C9 and Registration of the contract as per the Act.No.3 of 1987 with the registrar of public contract	18.81million	Tender Section, NWSDB, Mediriyia Road, Badulla Tele: 0552230934 Fax: 0552230974	24/03/2021 14.00 hours
08	Construction of New Office Building on Existing Store Building at Kaduwela Maintenance Office (Stage I) Contract No:WC/M(K)/BATTARAMULLA/2020/05-RH	4,000/- + VAT	Rs. 67,500/-	Registration with CIDA in the field of Building Construction Grade C5 to C9	4.50 million	RSC (W-C), No. 175A, Kaluthota Building, Nawala Road, Nugegoda, Tele:/Fax: 011-2856420-3	31/03/2021 10.00 hours
09	Renovation of Quarters at Pelanwatta Pump House Premises of Pelanwatta Water Supply Scheme Contract No: WC/M(MHG)/PLN(QTR)/2020/RH/01-R	2,000/- + VAT	Rs. 10,000/-	Registration with CIDA in the field of Building Construction Grade C5 to C9	0.96 million	RSC (W-C), No. 175A, Kaluthota Building, Nawala Road, Nugegoda, Tele:/Fax: 011-2856420-3	31/03/2021 10.00 hours
10	Hiring Services for Leak Repair works at Gampola Zone Contract No: RSC-C/CS/O&M/GAMPOLA/2021/57	6,000/- + VAT **	Rs. 64,900/-	Registration with CIDA in the field of Water Supply and Sewerage Grade C5 to C9 and Registration of the contract as per the Act.No.3 of 1987 with the registrar of public contract	6.49 million	RSC (Central), Gatambe, Peradeniya Tele : 081-2386068 Fax: 081-2388027	31/03/2021 14.00 hours
11	Connection Transferring in Dambawela Kossinna Road and Ruppelinda Welegammedda Road Contract No: RSC-C/CE (O&M)/KNPIWSP/CIVIL/AMPITIYA/2021/70	4,000/- + VAT	Rs. 29,000/-	Registration with CIDA in the field of Water Supply and Sewerage and Building Construction Grade C5 to C9	2.1 million	RSC (Central), Gatambe, Peradeniya Tele : 081-2386068 Fax: 081-2388027	31/03/2021 14.00 hours
12	Renovation works of Prospect hill Quarters at Udu Yatinuwara Water Supply Scheme Contract No : RSC-C/CS/CIVIL/REH/UDU/YATI/MEEWATHURA/2020/193	2,000/- + VAT	Rs. 13,000/-	Registration with CIDA in the field of Building Construction Grade C5 to C9	1.3 million	RSC (Central), Gatambe, Peradeniya Tele : 081-2386068 Fax: 081-2388027	31/03/2021 14.00 hours
13	uPVC Pipe Branch Connection and Connection Transferring at Sammanthurai Water Supply Scheme Contract No: RSC(E)/AGM(ES)/C/BC&CR/STR/NRW/AMP/2020/41	4,000/- + VAT	Rs. 55,000/-	Registration with CIDA in the field of Water Supply and Sewerage Grade C5 and C9	3.5 million	AGM (ES), NWSDB, Sri Dhammaratne Mawatha, Ampara Tele: 063-2223926 Fax: 063-2224975	25/03/2021 10.00 hours
Reference to the advertisement dated 2021.02.24, Construction of Erukkalampiddy Water Treatment Plant (Improvement) at Erukkalampiddy Water Supply Scheme Contract No:RSC/N/T&C/GOSL/TP/ERUKKALAM/2020/067 Please note that the Closing date of this tender has been extended up to 31/03/2021.							
M&E TENDERS							
14	Supply and Installation of Electrical Power Distribution Panel for Nuwara Wewa Water Treatment Plant Contract No: RH/NC/DGM/SUP/TPN/2021/001	6,000/- + VAT **	Rs. 106,600/-	Manufacturers 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 (NC), Godage Mawatha, Anuradhapura Tele : 025-2235993 Fax: 025-2225609		31/03/2021 14.00 hours
15	Supply and Installation of submersible type pumping set and accessories to the sewerage system of Kurunegala. Contract No : RSC(NW)/O&M/P/RH/STP /2021/06	4,000/- + VAT	Rs. 30,000/-	Manufacturers or their local accredited agents	RSC (North-Western) Office, NWSDB, Dambulla Road, Kurunegala Tele: 037-2221161 Fax : 037-2230086		07/04/2021 14.00 hours
16	Supply & Installation of CCTV Security Camera System and Accessories for Central South Water Treatment Plant at Meewathura Water Supply Scheme Contract No: RSC-C/O&M/CS/S&I/O&M/CSWTP/2021/54	2,000/- + VAT	Rs. 13,000/-	Manufacturers or their local accredited agents	RSC (Central), Gatambe, Peradeniya Tele : 081-2386068 Fax: 081-2388027 Prebid meeting on 29/03/2021 @ 10.00 hrs. at Kandy South Meewathura T/P		31/03/2021 14.00 hours
17	Supply and Installation of 02 Nos Vertical Multistage Pumping Sets and Accessories for Mount Temple Booster Pump House at Gampola Water Supply Scheme Contract No: RSC-C/M&E/S&I/PUMP/ENERGY/GAMPOLA/2021/46	6,000/- + VAT **	Rs. 70,000/-	Manufacturers or their local accredited agents and Registration of the contract as per the Act.No.3 of 1987 with the registrar of public contract	RSC (Central), Gatambe, Peradeniya Tele : 081-2386068 Fax: 081-2388027 Prebid meeting on 22/03/2021 @ 10.00 hrs. at Meewathura T/P		31/03/2021 14.00 hours
18	Supply, Delivery and Installation of Hydrated Lime Screw Feeder unit for ECTAD Water Treatment Plant at Konduwattuwana Contract No: RSC(E)/AGM(ES)/S&I/LSVF/KWTP/RH/KWTP-AMP/2020/57	6,000/- + VAT **	Rs. 130,000/-	Manufacturers or their local accredited agents and Registration of the contract as per the Act. No. 3 of 1987 with the registrar of public contract	AGM (ES), NWSDB, Sri Dhammaratne Mawatha, Ampara Tele: 063-2223926 Fax: 063-2224975		25/03/2021 10.00 hours
19	Supply, Delivery, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of 20KG/HR Pre Chlorinator System for ECTAD Water Treatment Plant at Konduwattuwana-Ampara Contract No: RSC(E)/AGM(ES)/S&I/PRE.CL/KWTP-ECTAD/RH/AMP-KWTP/2020/58	6,000/- + VAT **	Rs. 120,000/-	Manufacturers or their local accredited agents and Registration of the contract as per the Act. No. 3 of 1987 with the registrar of public contract	AGM (ES), NWSDB, Sri Dhammaratne Mawatha, Ampara Tele: 063-2223926 Fax: 063-2224975		25/03/2021 10.00 hours
20	Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Variable Frequency Drives for Akkaraipattu Booster Pump House at Akkaraipattu Region Contract No: RSC(E)/AGM(ES)/S&I/VFD/AKBPH/RH/AKP/2020/74	4,000/- + VAT	Rs. 42,000/-	Manufacturers or their local accredited agents and Registration of the contract as per the Act. No. 3 of 1987 with the registrar of public contract	AGM (ES), NWSDB, Sri Dhammaratne Mawatha, Ampara Tele: 063-2223926 Fax: 063-2224975		25/03/2021 10.00 hours
SUPPLY TENDERS							
21	Supply and Delivery of Cationic Polyacrylamide (PAM) for Kalatuwawa Water Treatment Plant Contract No : RPC/WP/G/KAL/LAB/O&M/2021/15	6,000/- + VAT **	Rs. 55,000/-	Manufacturers or their local accredited agents and Registration of the contract as per the Act. No. 3 of 1987 with the registrar of public contract	RSC (Western-Production), NWSDB, Udumulla Road, Mulleriyawa, New Town, Tele: 0112418532 Fax: 0112549199		07/04/2021 14.00 hours
22	Supply & Delivery of Engine Driven Generator (5KVA) Contract No: JICA/NC/DGM/SUP/QUO/2020/131R	2,000/- + VAT	Rs. 5,600/-	Manufacturers or their local accredited agents	RSC (NC), GodageMawatha, Anuradhapura Tele : 025-2235993 Fax: 025-2225609		31/03/2021 14.00 hours
23	Supply & Delivery of 5,000 L/Day RO Plants for CKD Prevention Project Contract No: RC(CKD)/NC/DGM/ROPLANT/2020/373	4,000/- + VAT	Rs. 52,500/-	Manufacturers or their local accredited agents	RSC (NC), GodageMawatha, Anuradhapura Tele : 025-2235993 Fax: 025-2225609		31/03/2021 14.00 hours
24	Supply and Delivery of Wheel Type Mini Excavators for Kandy North Pathadumbara Integrated Water Supply Project Contract No: KNPIWSP/SUPPLY/2019-20	20,000/- + VAT **	Rs. 500,000/-	Local accredited agents of reputed manufacturers for Supply of Machinery and Equipment and Registration of the contract as per the Act. No. 3 of 1987 with the registrar of public contract	Kandy North Pathadumbara Water Supply Project, NWSDB, Pahala Kondadeniya, KatugastotaTele: 081-2492287 Fax : 081-2492286		07/04/2021 14.00 hours
25	Supply and Delivery of Mobile Workshop Trucks for Kandy North Pathadumbara Integrated Water Supply Project Contract No: KNPIWSP/SUPPLY/2019-21	12,500/- + VAT **	Rs. 250,000/-	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	Kandy North Pathadumbara Water Supply Project, NWSDB, Pahala Kondadeniya, Katugastota Tele: 081-2492287 Fax: 081-2492286		05/05/2021 14.00 hours
26	Supply and Delivery of Crew Cabs for Kandy North Pathadumbara Integrated Water Supply Project Contract No: KNPIWSP/SUPPLY/2019-22	20,000/- + VAT **	Rs. 500,000/-	Local accredited agents of approved manufacturers for Supply of Crew Cabs and Registration of the contract as per the Act. No. 3 of 1987 with the registrar of public contract	Kandy North Pathadumbara Water Supply Project, NWSDB, Pahala Kondadeniya, Katugastota Tele: 081-2492287 Fax: 081-2492286		28/04/2021 14.00 hours
27	Supply and Delivery of Boom Crane Trucks for Kandy North Pathadumbara Integrated Water Supply Project Contract No: KNPIWSP/SUPPLY/2019-23	12,500/- + VAT **	Rs. 250,000/-	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	Kandy North Pathadumbara Water Supply Project, NWSDB, Pahala Kondadeniya, Katugastota Tele: 081-2492287 Fax: 081-2492286		21/04/2021 14.00 hours
SERVICE TENDERS							
28	Cleaning & Maintenance of Balagolla Treatment Plant and surrounding area in Kundasale Water Supply Scheme Contract No: RSC-C/CE/SER/O&M/KUNDASALE/2021/42	4,000/- + VAT	Rs. 46,000/-	As per the Document	RSC (Central), Gatambe, Peradeniya Tele : 081-2386068 Fax: 081-2388027 Prebid meeting on 29/03/2021 @ 10.00 hrs. at Manager (Central - East) Office		31/03/2021 14.00 hours
HIRING OF VEHICLES							
29	Hiring of Three Nos. of Double Cabs for Deduru Oya Water Supply Scheme of Kurunegala Region Contract No: RSC(NW)/O&M/HV/O&M/DEDURU-OYA/2021/02	4,000/- + VAT	Rs. 10,000/-	As per the Document	RSC (North -Western) Office, NWSDB, Dambulla Road, Kurunegala Tele: 037-2221161 Fax : 037-2230086		07/04/2021 14.00 hours
30	Hiring of a Van for Tenders and Contracts Section at Rathmalana Contract No: T&C/VEH-HIRE/2020/01	2,000/- + VAT	Rs. 20,000/-	As per the Document	Tenders & Contracts Section, NWS&DB, Galle Road, Ratmalana. Tele: 011-2605328 Fax: 011-2635885		07/04/2021 10.00 hours
HIRING OF MACHINES							
31	Hiring of a Backhoe Loader for OIC Office at Moratuwa Contract No: W-S/P&C/BACKHOE(02)/DEHI/O&M/2020/75	6,000/- + VAT **	Rs. 81,000/-	As per the Document	RSC (WS), NWSDB, No.07, Angulana Station Road, Angulana, Moratuwa Tele/Fax: 0112730341, 0112224888		01/04/2021 10.00 hours
VEHICLE SERVICE							
32	Service Contract for Servicing of Excavator/vehicles/Air Conditions/ Motor Cycles at Anuradhapura Ground Water Office Contract No: GWP/NC/DGM/V.SERVICE/2020/305R	4,000/- + VAT	Rs. 22,000/-	Registered Vehicle Service Organizations	RSC (NC), Godage Mawatha, Anuradhapura Tele : 025-2235993 Fax: 025-2225609		24/03/2021 14.00 hours
WATER BILL PRINTING							
33	Printing, Supply & Delivery of Water Bills (Normal & Red) for Anuradhapura and Polonnaruwa Regions Contract No: O&M/NC/DGM/BILL PRINTING/2021/047	4,000/- + VAT	Rs. 39,000/-	Registered Printing Service Providers	RSC (NC), Godage Mawatha, Anuradhapura Tele : 025-2235993 Fax: 025-2225609		31/03/2021 14.00 hours

Please register online www.drc.gov.lk of Registrar of Companies to get PCA 3 form (only for tenders marked as ""). Further, please use gmail for registration.

Bidding documents will be issued on production of a letter of request on a business letterhead together with the payment receipt of non-refundable tender fee during 09.00 hours to 15.00 hours on normal working days up to day before the closing date.

Bidding documents may be inspected free of charge at the place of issuing documents during normal working hours.

Bids will be opened soon after closing in the presence of the bidders' authorized representatives who choose to attend. Late bids will be returned unopened.

Chairman, National Water Supply and Drainage Board



UNIVERSITY OF SRI JAYEWARDENEPURA

Rent out of a Building for the Faculty of Engineering, University of Sri Jayewardenepura

The University of Sri Jayewardenepura is looking for a suitable building located within 500 metres of the Faculty of Engineering, 41, Lumbini Avenue, Ratmalana, which should fulfill the following requirements.

- Extent of the Building Space :** To be used for minimum of two Lecture Halls (for 50 Students) and 06 staff rooms, (For Academic Staff)
- Nature of Rent :** Full Time
- Ownership :** Sole ownership or joint ownership is acceptable. Title should be clear.
- Value of payment :** As per the assessment of the Government Chief Assessor
- Adequate power and running water supply is required.
- Building space should be covered with fence or wall.
- Should be able to rent out for three years subject to the annual renewal of the lease agreement.
- Adequate Sanitary facilities (Please mention the Toilets count for both Ladies and Gents separately)
- Value of Square Feet.

Interested parties are kindly requested to submit the following information by registered post addressed to "Registrar, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Gangodawila, Nugegoda" to receive on or before 01.04.2021.

Information to be submitted :

- Name and address of the Bidder and a copy of the National Identity Card.
- Location of the land, address and the Assessment No.
- Extent of the Land : A certified copy of the deed and a certified copy of the Survey Plan of the relevant land.
- Grama Niladhari Division and Number
- Present usage of the land indicating earliest date of availability.
- Contact Telephone Number.
- Plan of the land or sketch of the location from the Main Road.

Further details may be obtained by calling the Assistant Registrar / Faculty of Engineering on Tel. No. 011-3041607.

**Registrar
University of Sri Jayewardenepura
Gangodawila, Nugegoda.**

GOVERNMENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA



**MINISTRY OF HIGHWAYS
ROAD DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

Transport Connectivity & Asset Management Project

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

FOR

INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT FOR CONSULTANT POSITION TO SUPPORT RDA FOR REVIEWING SPECIFICATIONS OF POROUS ASPHALT AND ADDRESSING SKIDDING PROBLEM IN EXPRESSWAYS

Contract No: LK-RDA-185004-CS.INDV

Loan No: IDA 5788-LK
Project ID: P132833

- The Ministry of Highways has embarked on the Transport Connectivity and Asset Management Project (TCAMP) with financial and technical assistance from the World Bank.
- There is a problem of frequent accidents in certain identified location of the Expressways due to skidding of the vehicles and also due to very low visibility resulted from splash and spray in wet weather. Addressing this problem will contribute greatly for improving safety of Expressways in the Country.
- A part of the loan proceeds intends to apply for payments of cost involved in consultancy service to support RDA for reviewing specifications of Porous Asphalt and addressing skidding problem in Expressways.
- In recent years, there is a significant improvement in the performance and use of porous asphalt surface course, better known as Open Graded Friction Courses (OGFCs). New mixture designs offer reduced splash and spray in wet weather, improved wet-pavement skid resistance, better visibility of pavement markings and reduced noise levels.
- The Office of TCAMP now invites eligible Individual consultants to express their interest in providing the Services to Support RDA for Reviewing Specifications of Porous Asphalt and Addressing Skidding Problem in Expressways. Request for Expressions of Interest (REOI) document and detailed draft terms of reference can be obtained by E-mailing the request to: pdoprc@gmail.com Interested consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services. The short-listing shall be based on the information furnished by the Individual Consultant in regard to the selection criteria specified in the draft Terms of Reference attached with REOI.
- The attention of interested Individual Consultants is drawn to section VII, 7.36, Approved Selection Methods for Individuals Consultants, Open Competitive Selection of Individual Consultants: World Banks Regulations for IPF Borrowers July 2016 revised November 2017 and August 2018.
- Hard copies of Expressions of Interest must be submitted by 08.04.2021 (14.00 hrs.) at the address mentioned below:

Room : Office of the Procurement Consultant, Ministry of Highways
Address : 7th Floor, "Maganeguma Mahamedura" Denzil Kobbekaduwa Mawatha, Koswatte, Battaramulla, Sri Lanka.

- Expressions of Interest will be opened on 08.04.2021 (15.00 hrs.)
- The following documents are to be furnished by the Individual Consultant as part of the Expressions of Interest.
 - Signed copy of Letter for Expressions of Interest
 - Signed copy of field EOI submission format
 - Signed curriculum vitae (as per the format attached in EOI submission format).
- Further information or clarification on REOI can be obtained via email to pdoprc@gmail.com or at the address mentioned below prior to 01.04.2021 (15.00 hrs)

**Project Director
Transport Connectivity and Asset Management Project (TCAMP)
Tel: +94-11-2884594/5
E-mail: pdoprc@gmail.com
Facsimile: +94-11-2884610**

**Chairman,
Ministry Consultants Procurement Committee (CPCM),
Ministry of Highways,
7th Floor, "Maganeguma Mahamedura",
Denzil Kobbekaduwa Mawatha,
Koswatte, Battaramulla,
Sri Lanka.**

- CORRECTION NOTICE -

**Ministry of Irrigation
Moragahakanda - Kaluganga
Development Project**

**Removal of Damaged Material
2020 - II**

**Invitation for Bids for the Sale of
Damaged Material**

This refers to the above titled advertisement published on Page No. 18 of Daily News on 06th March 2021.

Please note that Item No. 03 should be corrected as follows :

03. Relevant Application Forms could be obtained from the Accountant on submission of the receipt obtained from the Cashier of Moragahakanda - Kaluganga Development Project for the payment of a non-refundable fee of Rs. 1000/= from 9.00 a.m. on 08.03.2021 up to 3.00 p.m. on 29.03.2021.

The other contents remain unchanged.

**Eng. D.B. Wijayaratne
Project Director
Moragahakanda - Kaluganga
Development Project
Koongahawela.**

**NOTICE UNDER SECTION 07 OF THE
LAND ACQUISITION ACT. (CHAPTER 460)
AS AMENDED BY THE LAND ACQUISITION
(AMENDMENT) ACT No. 28 of 1964**

My No. Miga/3/Ath/163
Miga 3/Ath/164
Land Ministry No. 4-3/7/2012/HW/247
4-3/7/2012/HW/375

It is intended to acquire the land described in the schedule below. For further particulars please see Part III of Government Gazette No. 2216/10 dated 23rd February 2021 of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.

SCHEDULE	
Province	- Western
District	- Gampaha
Divisional Secretary's Division	- Negombo
1) Grama Niladhari Division	- 158 A, Wella Street (South) and 156A Munnakkaraya (North) - Wella Street (South), Katukampu (Division No. 3 and 2, Municipal Council of Negombo)
Preliminary Plan No.	- Gam. 4070
Lot No.	- 01-56 (56 Lots)
Total Extent	- 0.0863 Hectare
2) Grama Niladhari Division	- 159, Periyamulla and 160, Udayarthoppuwa - Periyamulla (Division No. 8, Kundanwila, Municipal Council of Negombo)
Preliminary Plan No.	- Gam. 4104
Lot Nos.	- 01-52 (52 Lots)
Total Extent	- 0.0984 Hectare

**A.U. Pathirana,
Divisional Secretary and Land
Acquisition Officer, Negombo**

**Divisional Secretary's Office,
Negombo.
12.03.2021**

**Repeat
Your
Ad
For
Better
Offers**

CHANGE OF NAMES

I, Gihan Indika Hewawitharana of No. 245, Welabada Road, Kirimatiyana North, Lunuwila in the Dankotuwa Divisional Secretariat Division, District of Puttalam do hereby notify the Republic of Sri Lanka and the General Public that my children namely 1. Yovindu Dulnath Hewawitharana 2. Kaveen Lakmitha Hewawitharana will hereafter be known as 1. Virath Abinuka Hewawitharana, 2. Ovin Odana Hewawitharana.

*Marriage
Proposals*

in the
Sunday Observer
Is the best way to fulfil
your Future Dreams

CORRECTION NOTICE

State Printing Corporation

With reference to the advertisement that appeared in 'Daily News' of 12.03.2021 please note that the Para 3 should be corrected as follows.

- A complete set of bidding documents in English Language may be purchased by the interested Bidders on submission of a written application to Supplies Manager, State Printing Corporation, Panaluwa, Padukka on any working day from 9.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. from 12.03.2021 until 02.04.2021 upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Rs. 5,000/= per set. The method of payment will be cash.

State Printing Corporation

SINGER FINANCE

GIGANTIC AUCTION SALE OF

75 Nos. Diesel & Petrol Motor Vehicles, Motor Cycles & Three Wheelers

On Saturday 20th March 2021

To Be Held At G.L.P. Bird Park, Butthagamuwa Road, Rajagiriya.

Viewing - Thursday 18th and Friday 19th March

At the Venue of No 1009/13A, Sumudu Mawatha,
Athurugiriya Road, Malabe & No.485, Talangama North, Battaramulla.

Between 9.00 a.m - 4.00 p.m

AUCTION SALE 1 - 9.00 am to 12.00noon		
VEHICLE NO.	MODEL	YEAR
MOTOR COACH		
NW NB-5XXX	MOTOR COACH - MITSUBISHI FUSO	2007
WP ND-1XXX	MOTOR BUS - ZONDA YCKB 128HG	2010
WP ND-8XXX	MOTOR BUS - HINO KC-RU3F50B	1996
WP ND-1XXXX	MOTOR BUS - ZONDA YCK 6128 HG	2010
E2-8XXX	MOTOR BUS - ISUZU	1989
WP ND-1XXXX	MOTOR BUS - ZONDA YCK 6128 HG	2010
MOTOR CAR		
WP XX-3XXX	MOTOR CAR - MICRO PANDA CROSS	2013
WP MW-4XXX	MOTOR CAR - TOYOTA DAA-ZFW30	2011
NP GF-9XXX	MOTOR CAR - MAZDA 626 GLX	1998
WP GE-1XXX	MOTOR CAR - TOYOTA COROLLA	1996
NC HP-7XXX	MOTOR CAR - HAYUNDAI ACCENT	2001
SP HZ-0XXX	MOTOR CAR - HYUNDAI ACCENT GLS	2000
19-1XXX	MOTOR CAR - MITSUBISHI C62A	1991
SP KD-2XXX	MOTOR CAR - PERODUA KELISA GX M	2004
WP GA-3XXX	MOTOR CAR - TOYOTA CORONA	1986
NW KA-8XXX	MOTOR CAR - SUZUKI UA HTS1S	2003
NW KE-3XXX	MOTOR CAR - MINI COOPER 105-13	2004
JEEP		
WP KH-0XXX	MOTOR JEEP - MAHINDRA SCORPIO REV - GLX	2006
MOTOR LORRY		
CP LL-5XXX	MOTOR LORRY - HINO BDG-XZU349M OUTRO	2007
42-5XXX	MOTOR LORRY - NISSAN CONDOR CLOSED	1985
4 WHEEL TRACTOR & HARVESTER		
WR	COMBINE HARVESTER - BROWNS LZ-S DE	2018
NC RE-2XXX	4 WHEEL TRACTOR - JOHN DEERE CLASSIC	2015
VAN		
MP HY-5XXX	VAN - SUZUKI V-DESIGN-EVERY	1998
SG HL-1XXX	VAN - TOYOTA REGIUS	1999
E2-3XXX	VAN - NISSAN CARAVAN	1989
E2-9XXX	VAN - TOYOTA	1994
251-1XXX	VAN - TOYOTA LH113K	1993
57-2XXX	VAN - TOYOTA HIACE	1990
NW PB-9XXX	VAN - JINSEI HAISE	2010

AUCTION SALE 2 - 12.30pm to 4.00pm		
VEHICLE NO.	MODEL	YEAR
MOTORCYCLE		
NP BGL-5XXX	MOTOR BIKE - TVS APACHE	2018
SP BDR-6XXX	MOTOR BIKE - BAJAJ PULSAR 100 UG4	2016
EP BFT-0XXX	MOTOR BIKE - BAJAJ PULSAR 150 UG4.5	2017
NP BHL-1XXX	MOTOR BIKE - YAMAHA YZF-R-15	2018
CP BHD-0XXX	MOTOR BIKE - HONDA CB UNICORN 160	2018
NW BID-3XXX	MOTOR BIKE - BAJAJ PULSAR 150	2019
NP BGH-3XXX	MOTOR BIKE - BAJAJ PULSAR -200NS	2017
WP BEH-1XXX	MOTOR BIKE - HONDA DIO SCV 110	2016
NC BFI-8XXX	MOTOR BIKE - BAJAJ CT 100	2017
NC BGJ-2XXX	MOTOR BIKE - YAMAHA FZ-S VER 2.0	2018
EP BIF-2XXX	MOTOR BIKE - BAJAJ PULSAR 150 UG4.5	2017
NW BIE-1XXX	MOTOR BIKE - YAMAHA FZ VER 3.0	2019
NP BHT-4XXX	MOTOR BIKE - HONDA UNICORN	2018
NP BIM-0XXX	MOTOR BIKE - YAMAHA MT - 15	2019
WP BHF-6XXX	MOTOR BIKE - HONDA SHINE	2018
WP XJ-6XXX	MOTOR BIKE - BAJAJ PULSAR 135 LS	2012
THREEWHEELER		
SP YY-4XXX	THREE WHEELER - BAJAJ RE 205	2012
CP YX-7XXX	THREE WHEELER - BAJAJ RE 205	2012
SP YR-5XXX	THREE WHEELER - BAJAJ RE 205	2011
SP YT-4XXX	THREE WHEELER - BAJAJ RE 205	2011
SP YP-8XXX	THREE WHEELER - BAJAJ AUTO AR4S	2008
SP YP-8XXX	THREE WHEELER - BAJAJ RE 205	2011
WP YB-2XXX	THREE WHEELER - BAJAJ RE	2017
WP YL-7XXX	THREE WHEELER - BAJAJ RE 205	2011
WP YD-4XXX	THREE WHEELER - BAJAJ RE 205	2011
WP AAA-8XXX	THREE WHEELER - BAJAJ RE 205	2012
SG YC-4XXX	THREE WHEELER - BAJAJ AR4S-UG	2010
SP YX-3XXX	THREE WHEELER - BAJAJ AR4S-UG	2010
NP YF-6XXX	THREE WHEELER - BAJAJ RE 205	2010
WP YD-0XXX	THREE WHEELER - BAJAJ AUTO AR4S	2008
WP YA-0XXX	THREE WHEELER - BAJAJ AR4S-UG	2010
SG YQ-3XXX	THREE WHEELER - BAJAJ RE 205	2011
CP YA-0XXX	THREE WHEELER - BAJAJ AR4S-UG	2010
NW YU-0XXX	THREE WHEELER - BAJAJ RE 205	2011
SP YD-5XXX	THREE WHEELER - BAJAJ AUTO AR4S	2008
NP YB-7XXX	THREE WHEELER - BAJAJ AR4S-UG	2010
WP YR-9XXX	THREE WHEELER - BAJAJ AUTO AR4S	2008
SG YZ-7XXX	THREE WHEELER - BAJAJ RE 205	2012
SP AAC-9XXX	THREEWHEELER - PIAGGIO APE	2012
SP ABC-1XXX	THREEWHEELER - PIAGGIO APE	2015
SP ABA-3XXX	THREEWHEELER - PIAGGIO APE	2015
EP AAZ-5XXX	THREEWHEELER - TVS KING	2015
UP ABH-5XXX	THREEWHEELER - TVS KING	2015

- Conditions of Sale**
- Entrance : By a non refundable Ticket of Rs. 1000.00 per person & a refundable deposit of Rs. 3,000.00 per person on the day of Auction.
 - Payment : Non - refundable initial deposit of 25% in Cash at the fall of the Hammer & Balance 75% & Removal latest by 3:00 pm on **Wednesday 24th March 2021** to be paid to Singer Finance, No. 498, R. A. De Mel Mawatha, Colombo 03.
 - Only 125 participants will be allowed to the each auction and tickets will be issued on first come first serve basis.
 - The Management has the right to withdraw any vehicle (s) from the Auction without prior notice.
 - The decision of the Auctioneer will be final. According to the Government Health rules



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70/1A, Butthagamuwa Road, Katapalawana, Rajagiriya.
Tel: +94 71 750 5 798
e: ajayaththauctioneer@gmail.com

COLOMBO DISTRICT

- AVISSAWELLA** 036-2230446
Famous Bake House, No. 31, Seethawakapura
- ANGODA** 011 3069404
Kotikawatte Junction, Kudabuthgama.
- ATHURUGIRIYA** 011 2760479, 011 4874968
267, Godagama Road,
- BATHTHARAMULLA** 011 2866705, 077 0736770
West Town, Bake House, Sweet House,
- BORALESGAMUWA** 071 6505533, 011 2519954
No. 17, Wewa Rd,
- HANWELLA** 011 4967962, 011 4967960
Sithumina Newspaper Agency, 144, High Level Rd, Pahathgama,
- HOKANDARA** 071 8685437
No. 501, North Hokandara,
- HOMAGAMA** 011 2892262, 077 7304046
"Aradanas", Senanayake Shopping Complex, Station Road,
- KADUWELA** 011 2579609
Nayana Bake House
- KADUWELA** 011 2412291, 011 4443566
375/1, Pahala Bominiya, Yakkala,
- KALUBOWILA** 077 3551145, 011 2767259
No 195, Hospital Road,
- KESBEWA** 011 2703415
Seedevi Newspaper Office, 19, Horana Rd,
- KIRULAPONE** 071 5439396, 011 2514166
Ramani Book Shop, 27-A High Level Rd,
- KOTTAWA** 011 2842549, 071 2510950
Srisara Groceries, No. 101/2,
- MAHARAGAMA** 077 7686683, 011 2896373
Supermarket Complex, 88, High Level Rd,
- MALABE** 011 2791782
Kumudu Stores,
- MEEGODA** 011 2858290, 011 2831120
Nandana Stores, No. 635/3, Padukka Rd,
- MORATUWA** 011 2647410, 077 5486719
Wijesekara Stores,
- MORATUWA** 0112 657326, 0114 212909
S.J.M. Fareed, 222, Egoda Uyena, Modera
- MT. LAVINIA** 011 2724820
Dayal Stores, Galle Rd,
- NUGEGODA** 077 3458785, 011 2811833
Ekawaththa Rd, Miritana,
- NUGEGODA** 011 2846100, 077 1652800
No. 4, High Level Plaza, Delkanda,
- PADUKKA** 011 2859186, 011 5638677
No. 03, Hanwella Road,
- PILYANDALA** 011 2619967, 072 8069487
No. 06, Seeko Gardens, Gedabuwana,
- PITAKOTTE** 011 2823960, 077 0858585
No. 435, Pothgala,
- RAJAGIRIYA** 011 2861338
No. 51/2A, Rajahewawitharana Road,
- RATHMALANA** 011 2626106, 011 2632006
Thusitha Newspaper Agency, Galle Rd,
- RAWATHAWATTE** 011 2655153, 071 4274689
No. 3, Soysa Road, Galle Road
- UDAHAMULLA** 077 6859780, 011 2810042
No 138, Station Rd,

classified@lakehouse.lk
011 2 429 342 | 011 2 429 343
Fax - 011 2 429 375 / 011 2 429 380

UVA PROVINCIAL COUNCIL CHIEF SECRETARY'S OFFICE

INVITATION / REQUEST FOR PROJECT PROPOSALS

Project Proposals are hereby invited, for the lease of Roofs of the Buildings, belonging to the Institutions of the Uva Provincial Council, for the generation of Electricity Power by way of Solar Power Energy Generation, on the roof-tops of the said buildings.

- Documents relating to these project proposals could be obtained from the Office of the Deputy Chief Secretary (Administration) and the acceptance of the Proposals will be closed at 10.00 a.m. on 07.04.2021.
- All the details, concerning calling of these Project Proposals could be downloaded from the Official Website of the Uva Provincial Council (www.up.gov.lk)
- For further details, please contact : **Telephone : 055-2229393.**

**Chairman
Procurement Committee,
Office of the Chief Secretary,
Uva Provincial Council.**

NOTICE

My Number : POL.ELH/LND/01/06/004 Number of the Ministry of Lands : 4-3/9/2014/IR/427

The Land Acquisition Act (Chapter 460) as amended by the Land Acquisition Act (Amended) No. 28 of 1964

Notice under Section 07

It is expected to acquire the following land described morefully below, under Puwakgaha Ulpatha Wewa Tank Development Project. Please refer the Government Gazette Extraordinary No. 2214/5 dated 08.02.2021, for further details.

Schedule	
District	: Polonnaruwa
Divisional Secretariat Division	: Elahera
Grama Niladhari Division	: No.10, Kottapitiya South
Name of the Village	: Kottapitiya
Name of the Land	: As published in Govt. Gazette Extraordinary
Extent	: As published in the Govt. Gazette Extraordinary
Plan Nos.	: F.T.P. No. 2, Supplementary Plan 102, 196 Sheet No. 214, 212
Lot Nos.	: 9137, 9139, 9141, 9143, 0146, 9147, 9148, 9150, 9120, 9121, 9123, 9126, 9127, 9128, 9131, 9132, 9134
Address	: Divisional Secretariat, Elehera

**Divisional Secretary
Land Acquisition Officer**
Date 08.03.2021

INVITATION FOR BIDS (NCB)

TENDER NO. : NSB/PT/2021/05

PROCUREMENT OF CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR VERIFICATION AND VALIDATION OF DATA MIGRATION FROM THE LEGACY SYSTEMS TO THE TARGET SYSTEM

The Chairman, Procurement Committee, National Savings Bank, No. 255, Galle Road, Colombo 03, invites sealed Bids for Procurement of Consultancy Services for Verification and validation of Data Migration from the Legacy Systems to the Target System.

Description of the Procurement	Procurement of Consultancy Services for Verification and Validation of Data Migration from The Legacy Systems to the Target System
Method of Procurement	National Competitive Bidding (NCB)
Applicable non-refundable Tender Fee	Rs. 2,000/=
Value of the Bid Bond to be submitted	Rs. 60,000/=
Last Date & Time of Issuing Bid Documents	06.04.2021 at 3.00 p.m.
Date & Time of Closing Tender	07.04.2021 at 10.00 a.m.

- It is mandatory for any person who acts as an agent or sub agent, representative or nominee for and on behalf of any Tenderer to register himself before applying for Tender and the contract after the tender is awarded.
- Bid Documents could be obtained from the Supplies Manager, Supplies Division, National Savings Bank, No. 255, Galle Road, Colombo 03. Tender Forms will be issued from 17.03.2021 between 8.30 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. on working days till 06.04.2021 on submission of a written request.
- Perfected Bidding Documents should be accompanied by a Bank Guarantee / Bid Bond acceptable to the National Savings Bank, for the value relevant to the Tender as indicated above and issued by a commercial bank and valid for a minimum period of 105 calendar days from the date of opening the Tender.
- Bids will be opened immediately after closing at 10.00 a.m. on the due date and the Bids received after 10.00 a.m. will be rejected and returned unopened.
- National Savings Bank reserves the right of rejecting any or all Bids and the right of accepting any portion of a bid without adducing any reasons.

Further details could be obtained from the agm.audit@nsb.lk

**Chairman - Corporate Procurement Committee - Major
National Savings Bank,
No. 255, Galle Road,
Colombo 3.**

STATE PHARMACEUTICALS CORPORATION OF SRI LANKA

INVITATION FOR BIDS (NCB)

INVITATION OF TENDERS FOR SALE OF REDUNDANT ITEMS

TENDER No: AD/2/RI/42/2021
Closing Date & Time: 2nd April 2021 at 11.00 a.m.

The Chairman, Departmental Procurement Committee, State Pharmaceuticals Corporation of Sri Lanka invites sealed bids from bidders for sale of Redundant Items.

Above redundant items could be inspected on working days from 18.03.2021 to 01.04.2021 between 9.00 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. in the head office premises of the Corporation at No. 75, Sir Baron Jayathilake Mawatha, Colombo 01.

Redundant Item List & Form of Price Schedule could be obtained at the Reception Counter of the State Pharmaceuticals Corporation, No. 75, Sir Baron Jayathilake Mawatha, Colombo 01 during working days from 18.03.2021 to 01.04.2021 till 3.00 p.m. on payment of a non-refundable tender fee of Rs. 500.00 + VAT to the Cashier of State Pharmaceuticals Corporation, No. 75, Sir Baron Jayathilake Mawatha, Colombo 01.

Your quotation addressed to The Chairman, Departmental Procurement Committee, State Pharmaceuticals Corporation of Sri Lanka, No. 75, Sir Baron Jayathilake Mawatha, Colombo 01 should be sent either by Registered post or deposited in the box kept in the Internal Audit Department of this building at or before 11.00 a.m. on 02nd April 2021.

Bidders should strictly adhere to the following conditions:

- Offers should be submitted in duplicate that clearly & separately marked as "Original" & "Duplicate" and to be inserted in properly sealed two separate envelopes.
- "Tender No, Time & Date of closing" should be indicated on the top left corner of the envelope.
- Alternative Bids will not be accepted.

Late Bids will not be considered. Tenders will be opened immediately after the closing of the tender. Tenderers or their authorized representatives will be permitted to be present at the time of opening of tender.

SPC reserves the right of rejecting any or all bids and the right of accepting a Bid without adducing any reasons.

Further information required could be obtained from the Administrative Officer on (011) 2 320 007 only on working days between 9.00 a.m. and 4.00 p.m.

**THE CHAIRMAN,
DEPARTMENTAL PROCUREMENT COMMITTEE,
STATE PHARMACEUTICALS CORPORATION OF SRI LANKA,
NO. 75, SIR BARON JAYATHILLAKE MAWATHA,
COLOMBO - 01.
0112320356 - 9**

GOVERNMENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA

MINISTRY OF HIGHWAYS

ROAD DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Transport Connectivity & Asset Management Project

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FOR CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR PREPARATION OF ASSET INVENTORY AND VALUATION OF ROAD ASSETS IN ROAD DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Contract No: LK/RDA/155947/CS/QCBS

**Loan No: IDA 5788-LK
Project ID: P132833**

- This request for Expression of Interest follows the General Procurement Notice dated 11.03.2016 published in World Bank web site on preparation of the Transport Connectivity and Asset Management Project (TCAMP).
- The Government of Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka (GOSL) has received a loan from the World Bank towards the cost of TCAMP and intends to apply part of the proceeds of this loan to finance the consultancy assignments for "Preparation of Asset Inventory and Valuation of Road Assets in Road Development Authority".
- Under this assignment, the RDA desires the Consultant to develop the valuation methodology; undertake a pilot trial of the methodology; prepare a valuation report template and populate for the pilot trial area; and conduct training on all aspects of the assignment. The RDA are also considering implementing a Valuation Module within their SLRAMS system, in which case the Consultant would be asked to support that process.
- The Road Development Authority (RDA), the implementing agency of TCAMP now invites Expression of Interest (EOI) from eligible consultants internationally, with proven track records on conducting similar Road Asset Valuation assignments in Road Authorities to indicate their interest in providing the aforesaid services as Asset Valuation Consultant.
- The duration of the Contract shall be **09 months.**
- Interested Consultants shall provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform these services in the prescribed formats. A soft copy of EOI submission formats and draft Terms of Reference (TOR) of the consultancy assignment will be available in the RDA website or can obtain by E-mailing the request to: pdoprc@gmail.com on or before the date as specified in **Clause 9.**
- A consultant will be selected in accordance with the selection procedures based on Quality and Cost Based Selection Method (QCBS) as set out in the World Bank's Guidelines: World Bank Regulations for IPF Borrowers July 2016 revised November 2017 and August 2018.
- Interested consultants may obtain further information at the address below during office hours from 09.00 hrs to 15.00 hrs local time, Monday to Friday inclusive, except Mercantile Holidays.

Project Director
World Bank Funded Road Transport Connectivity and Asset Management Project
No. 122, Main Street, Battaramulla, Sri Lanka.
Telephone: +94-11-2884594/5
Facsimile Number +94-11-2884610
Email: pdoprc@gmail.com

- One original and two (02) copies (one electronic as a PDF file) of the Expression of Interest shall be submitted in a sealed envelope clearly marked "Preparation of Asset Inventory and Valuation of Road Assets in Road Development Authority" and should be delivered to the address below on or before **14.00 hrs on 23.04.2021.**
- The submission shall be opened immediately thereafter in the Conference Room of the office of the Ministry of Highways in the presence of firms or their representatives, who choose to attend.

Room : Office of the Procurement Consultant, Ministry of Highways
**Address : 07th Floor, "Maganeguma Mahamedura"
Denzil Kobbekaduwa Mawatha, Koswatta
Battaramulla, Sri Lanka.**

**Chairman,
Ministry Consultants Procurement Committee (CPCM),
Ministry of Highways,
7th Floor, "Maganeguma Mahamedura",
Denzil Kobbekaduwa Mawatha,
Koswatta, Battaramulla,
Sri Lanka.**

Daily News Classifieds, the Housewives' companion



Invitation for Bids (IFB)

Supply, Delivery, Installation and Training of Wavelength Dispersive Sequential X-Ray Fluorescence Spectrometer (WDXRF) System to the Postgraduate Institute of Science (PGIS), University of Peradeniya

Contract No : PGIS/NCB/GE/2021/02

- The Chairman, Departmental Procurement Committee (Major), on behalf of the Postgraduate Institute of Science now invites sealed Bids from eligible Bidders for Supply, Delivery, Installation and Training of **Wavelength Dispersive Sequential X-Ray Fluorescence Spectrometer (WDXRF) System** to the Postgraduate Institute of Science, University of Peradeniya.
- Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding (NCB) Procedure.
- To be eligible for contract award, the successful Bidder shall not have been blacklisted and shall have a minimum of 5 years' experience in the field of analytical instrumentation and capable of routine maintenance and on site repairing whenever needed.
- Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from the Assistant Registrar over the Telephone No. 081-2385665 and inspect the Bidding documents in English Language at General Administration Division, PGIS between 9.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. from 17th March 2021 up to 05th April 2021. Tenders should be submitted on forms obtainable from the Assistant Registrar, Postgraduate Institute of Science, P.O. Box 25, Peradeniya or downloadable from the PGIS Website i.e. www.pgis.lk along with a non-refundable Tender Deposit of Rupees Five Thousand (Rs. 5,000/=) to the Shroff / PGIS or by producing the bank slip after depositing an equivalent amount to PGIS A/C No. 0081041788 at BOC (Peradeniya). The documents will be issued until 05th April 2021.
- Duly filled and sealed Bids marked **PGIS/NCB/GE/2021/02** on the top-left hand corner of the envelope should be delivered in **duplicate** to the address below to reach on or before 2.30 p.m. on 07th April 2021. Late Bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened immediately after closing in the presence of Bidders' representatives who choose to attend at the address below.
- All Bids shall be accompanied by a Bid Security for a value of Rs. 600,000.00 obtained from a bank approved by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka, valid up to 04th August 2021 written in favour of the **Director, Postgraduate Institute of Science.**

**Chairman,
Department Procurement Committee (Major),
Postgraduate Institute of Science (PGIS),
P.O. Box 25,
Peradeniya.**

17th March 2021

**At the District Court of Kaduwela
Notice under Section 16 of the Civil Procedure Code**

Case No : 566/SP/2020
Nature : Special
Procedure :
Value : Rs. 10,000/-
Ven Namadasewwa Sugathasoma Thero
Sri Bodhi Viharaya
Highbrid Watte, Rosalle.

Plaintiff

- Vs -

- Janasetha Peramuna** - 185/B, Devala Road, Robert Gunawardena Mawatha, Battaramulla.
- Ven. Battaramulle Seelarathana Thero** Leader of the Party / General Secretary 185/B, Devala Road, Robert Gunawardena Mawatha, Battaramulla.
- Mahinda Deshapriya** - Chairman Elections Commission Elections Secretariat, Sarana Mawatha, Rajagiriya.
- T.A.C.N. Thalangama Returning Officer** (Pasbage Korale Pradeshiya Sabha) No. 65, District Secretariat, Kandy.
- Attorney General** Attorney General's Department, Colombo 12.

Defendants

Abovenamed Defendant No. 01 Janasetha Peramuna and all members of the said Janasetha Peramuna with a common relationship are hereby notified that the abovenamed Plaintiff has made a complaint to this court against the abovenamed Defendants seeking relief as pleaded in the application.

It is further notified that the said case will be called at 9.30 a.m. on 26.03.2021 at this Court.

**By Order of the Court
Signed
Registrar**

On this 11.02.2021

Replies to Classifieds

&

Casual Advertisements published C/o the

Daily News

should only be sent by ordinary post.

Replies sent under registered cover will not be accepted.

**a/c 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, Chankanai, Chawakachcheri, Chilaw, Chunnagam, Dambulla, Gallewela, Monaragala, Hattton, Homagama, Horana, Ja Ela, Jaffna, Kadawatha, Kadunuwela, Kaduwela, Kalawanjikuldi, Kalpitiya, Kelaniya, Kilinochchi, Kiribathgoda, Kirindiwela, Malabe, Matare, Negombo, Nittambuwa, Panadura, Piliyandala, Point Pedro, Pugoda, Ratnapura, Rikilagaskada, Thirunelveli, Trincomalee, Vauniya, Welimada, Dehiattakandiya, Galgamuwa, Kaluthara, Kegalle, Kelaniya, Kurunegala, Nawalapitiya, Ragala, Rajagiriya, Wellawaya, Kohuwala, Nuwaraeliya, 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.



**Head of Division - Gold Loan
Alliance Finance Co. PLC
No. 722, Kotte road,
Rajagiriya.
Tel: 0115 573600**

**Geological Survey & Mines Bureau
Ministry of Environment**



**Provision of Space Facilities for Offices on Rent or Lease
Puttalam Regional Office**

A building is required on Rent or Lease from Chilaw area to maintain the Puttalam Regional Office of this Bureau. The building should fulfil the following requirements

- > The extent of the building should be more than 2500 sq.ft.
- > Should consist of a minimum of 04 rooms.
- > Should be located Three (03) Kilometres from Chilaw Town Limits facing Colombo-Puttalam Main Road or 500 metres from Chilaw Bus Stand (Facing Chilaw-Kurunegala Main Road).
- > Should be a building with proper approval obtained from the relevant local government institute.
- > A minimum of two internal toilets and external toilet facilities should be available.
- > Separate pipe water and electricity facilities should be available.
- > A safety fence or a wall right round the building with a gate should be available.
- > There should be parking facilities for at least 04 vehicles.
- > It should be located with easy access.

Relevant quotations along with the copy of the deed of the premises and the Plan and contact numbers of the building owner, marked **"Quotations for the rent or lease of a building to Puttalam Regional Office"** on the top left hand corner of the envelope should either be sent to reach the undermentioned address or deposited in the Tender Box kept at the Administration Division of the Head Office at or before 2.00 p.m. on 07.04.2021. Tenderers or their authorized representatives could participate at the time of opening of Tenders.

N.B.

- It is the responsibility of the building owner to insure the said building for fire, theft or disaster when the selected building is provided to the Bureau on rental or lease basis.
- The quotations submitted by the building owners will be submitted for Government assessment.

**Chairman,
Procurement Committee,
Geological Survey and Mines Bureau
No. 569, Epitamulla Road,
Pita Kotte.**



**GOVERNMENT OF SRI LANKA
MINISTRY OF WATER SUPPLY**

WATER SUPPLY & SANITATION IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Credit No.: Cr. 5685-lk

BID NOTICE

- The Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka has received a credit from the International Development Agency of World Bank towards the cost of Water Supply and Sanitation Improvement Project and it is intended that part of the proceeds of this credit to payments under the contracts given below.
- The Chairman, Procurement Committee now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for projects described below.

Name of Contract & Contract No.	Non Refundable Fee (Rs)	Bid Security Requirements (Rs)	Eligibility Requirements	Place of Issuing of Documents & Contact Person	Closing Date and Time
Project Procurement Committee (Major)					
Works Tenders					
Balance Work of Oddusudan, Puthukudiyiruppu and Mullaitivu Urban Water Supply Schemes in Mullaitivu District. Contract No: MWS/WaSSIP/Mullaitivu/Puthukudiyiruppu/BW/Oddusudan/2020/14	Rs.3,500/-	Rs.360,000/-	Registration with CIDA (ICTAD) in the field of Water Supply and Sewerage C4 or C5 and Certificate of Registration of Public Contracts in Sri Lanka according to the Act No. 3 of 1987 of the Government of Sri Lanka and subsequent gazette notification and the paper advertisement appeared on 16.10.2018 on Ceylon Daily News.	Project Director's Office, Water Supply and Sanitation Improvement Project, No. 230, E.W. Perera Mawatha, Jubilee Post, Nugegoda Tel/Fax: 011-2890943/ 011-2890941	07th April 2021 10.00 hours
Rehabilitation of Group 07 (Hanguranketha) Nuwara Eliya Rural Water Supply Scheme. Contract No: MWS/WaSSIP/NuwaraEliya/Hanguranketha/RE/ Group 07/2020/04	Rs.20,000/-	Rs.1,600,000/-	Registration with CIDA (ICTAD) in the field of Water Supply and Sewerage C4 or C3 and certificate of Registration of Public Contract in Sri Lanka according to the Act No. 3 of 1987 of the Government of Sri Lanka and subsequent gazette notification and the paper advertisement appeared on 16.10.2018 on Ceylon Daily News.	Project Director's Office, Water Supply and Sanitation Improvement Project, No. 230, E. W. Perera Mawatha, Jubilee Post, Nugegoda Tel/Fax: 011-2890943/ 011-2890941	19th April 2021 12.00 hours
Rehabilitation of Group 06 NuwaraEliya Rural Water Supply Scheme. Contract No: MWS/WaSSIP/NuwaraEliya/NuwaraEliya/RE/ Group 06/2018/32	Rs.20,000/-	Rs.1,285,000/-	Registration with CIDA (ICTAD) in the field of Water Supply and Sewerage C4 or C3 and certificate of Registration of Public Contract in Sri Lanka according to the Act No. 3 of 1987 of the Government of Sri Lanka and subsequent gazette notification and the paper advertisement appeared on 16.10.2018 on Ceylon Daily News.	Project Director's Office, Water Supply and Sanitation Improvement Project, No. 230, E. W. Perera Mawatha, Jubilee Post, Nugegoda Tel/Fax: 011-2890943/ 011-2890941	19th April 2021 13.00 hours

- Bidding documents will be issued on submission of a written application on the applicant's letterhead to the office of Project Director.
- Bidding documents can be collected between 09.30 hours & 15.30 hours on normal working days up to the closing date.
- Interested bidders may obtain further information from Water Supply & Sanitation Improvement Project and inspect the bidding documents free of charge at the place of issuing documents during normal working hours.
- Bids shall either be hand delivered or dispatched by registered post or courier to the address given above.
- All Bids will be opened at the same address soon after closing in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend. **Late bids will be returned unopened.**

**Project Director,
Water Supply & Sanitation Improvement Project**

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<p>Matara Branch</p> <p>MATARA No.99, Upper Floor, Main Bus Stand 041 223 5412</p>	<p>Nugegoda Branch</p> <p>NUGEGODA 4th Floor Savisri Complex, High Level Road 011 282 8114</p>
<p>Jaffna Branch</p> <p>JAFFNA No.06, Srampirady, Off Stanley Road 077 616 4901</p>	<p>Maradana k/v Branch</p> <p>MARADANA No.383, D R Wijewardena Mawatha, Colombo 10 011 242 9336</p>
<p>Kataragama Branch</p> <p>KATARAGAMA Opposite Kataragama Bus Stand, Pussadewa Mawatha 047 223 5291</p>	

LAKE HOUSE HEAD OFFICE HOT LINES
1949, 011 242 9342, 011 242 9333
No.33, D R Wijewardena Mawatha, Colombo 10

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MANAGER FRONT OFFICE

Hotline: 1949



VELANAI PRADESHIYA SABHA

Request for EXPRESSION OF INTEREST For Recreational Activities for Tourists at Mandaitivu Eco-Tourism

- The Chairman now invites eligible service providers to indicate their interest in providing the Recreational Activities for Tourist to implement at ECOTOURISM at Mandaitivu.
- Interested service providers must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services (Brochures, description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skilled staff etc). Service providers may attach documents to show their qualifications.
- Interested Service Providers may obtain further information at the address given below from 17.03.2021 to 30.03.2021 between 9.00 am and 4.00 pm.
Address: Chairman, Velanai Pradeshiya Sabha, Vangalavady, Velanai, Jaffna.
Contact No: 021 221 1506, 021 221 1505, Fax No: 021 221 1506
Email: velanai@sabha.lk
- A complete set of Expression of Interest (EOI) documents may be purchased by interested service providers on the submission of a written application to the Velanai Pradeshiya Sabha, Vangalavady, Velanai, Jaffna from 17.03.2021 until 30.03.2021 from 9.00am to 3.00 pm upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Rs. 1000/-. The method of payment should be by cash.
- Expression of Interest shall be delivered or sent by registered post to the above address on or before 31.03.2021 at 2.00 pm. Late EOI will be rejected. EOI will be opened soon after closing in the presence of the service providers/ representatives who choose to attend.
- The Chairman, Velanai Pradeshiya Sabha reserves the right to accept or reject any EOI.
- Basic requirements.
 - The service provider should ensure that he/ she have a good business culture in Jaffna,
 - The service provider should ensure that their Tourism & boating activities and operation cannot affect the Jaffna's culture and traditions.
 - The service provider should ensure that they have fully insurance arrangements for both boating assets and passengers.
 - The service provider should ensure that their boating activities should be feasible for environment (should be done with environmental friendly manner)
 - The service provider should keep the leisure area clean and beautiful.

N.Karunakarumoorthy
Chairman,
Divisional Procurement Committee,
Velanai Pradeshiya Sabha,
Vangalavady, Velanai,
Jaffna,
17.03.2021



TENDER NOTICE

NATIONAL SAVINGS BANK

Installation And Commissioning of the Machine Room Less Passenger Lift For Three Storied Steel Building at NSB Head Office

Sealed tenders are called by the Chairman, Corporate Procurement Committee (Minor) of National Savings Bank from eligible Contractors for the Supply, Installation and Commissioning of the Machine Room Less Passenger Lift for the proposed Three Storied Steel Building at NSB Head Office.

The eligible bidders should have a satisfactory experience in supply and installation of Elevators, Escalators and Travellators.

Tender documents can be examined free of charge and could be obtained from the Assistant General Manager (Engineering) of the National Savings Bank at his office from 17th March 2021 to 6th April 2021 during working days from 8.30 am to 3.00 p.m. after submitting a request to the AGM (Engineering) and upon making a non refundable payment of Rupees Five Thousand (Rs. 5,000/=) in cash to the Head Office Branch of National Savings Bank.

The contractors should possess the following requirements to be eligible for the tender.

- * Average of the annual volume of lift installation work completed in the last five years shall be at least worth Rs. 23.49M
- * The minimum amount of liquid assets or credit facilities (after setting apart for other contractual commitments) and exclusive of any advance payment which may apply to this contract shall not be less than Rs. 4 million for this project.
- * Experience in the installation of at least one passenger lift of a nature and complexity equivalent to the Works and to a value of Rs. 4,000,000/- or above, in one contract, in the public sector over the last 5 years is a must to comply with the requirements. The works cited should be at least 70 percent completed)

The sealed tender with a duplicate in separate envelopes, indicating "The Supply, Installation And Commissioning of the Machine Room Less Passenger Lift for Proposed Three Storied Steel Building at NSB Head Office" on the top of left corner of the envelope should be sent by the Registered Post or hand delivered to the Assistant General Manager (Engineering), Premises Division, National Savings Bank, 255, Galle Road, Colombo 03, to reach him on or before 2.30 p.m. on closing date of 7th April 2021.

Tenders will be opened immediately after the closing of tenders at the above address and Tenderers or their authorized representatives can be present at the time of opening of tenders.

For further details, if necessary, contact the Assistant General Manager (Engineering) of National Savings Bank on telephone 0112573928.

**Chairman
Corporate Procurement Committee (Minor)
National Savings Bank
255, Galle Road
Colombo 03**

INVITATION FOR BID

Supply of Printed Polythene Reel Type Packing Materials (PET/MET PET/LLDPE) for 250g Pack - 75,000 Kg. to Sri Lanka Thripasha Limited

Bid No. SLTL/MKT/07/2021

- Chairman, Procurement Committee on behalf of the Sri Lanka Thripasha Limited invites sealed Bids from eligible and qualified Bidders for Supply of Printed Polythene Reel Type Packing Materials (PET/MET PET/LLDPE) for 250g Packs - 75,000 Kg. to Sri Lanka Thripasha Limited for year 2021/2022 for the period of 12 months commencing from the date of award.
- Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding procedure.
- Interested Bidders may obtain further information from Senior Manager (Tel. No. +94 0112236588) at the Sri Lanka Thripasha Limited and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address given below on working days between 9.30 a.m. and 2.30 p.m.
- Bid Documents will be issued only to the Manufacturers or sole nominated representatives / accredited Agents of Manufacturers of the Printed Polythene Reel Type Packing Materials (PET/MET PET/LLDPE) offered for the Sri Lankan market, who are eligible to participate in this procurement. No bid will be accepted from foreign principals who do not have sole nominated representatives / accredited Agents in Sri Lanka.
- A complete set of Bidding Documents in English Language may be purchased by interested Bidders from the Senior Manager at the Sri Lanka Thripasha Limited, P.O. Box 17, Negombo Road, Kapuwatta, Ja-Ela on working days between 09.30 a.m. and 03.00 p.m. up to 06.04.2021 on submission of a written request to the address below together with the PCA3 issued by the Registrar of Contracts and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of LKR 13,400.00 by cash.
- Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before 07.04.2021 at 02.30 p.m. Late Bids will be rejected. The Bid shall be valid for 91 days from the date of bid opening 07.04.2021 up to 07.07.2021.
- All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security issued by a commercial bank operating in Sri Lanka approved by the Central Bank, amounting to Rs. 843,750.00. The validity period of the Bid Security shall be 119 days from the date of bid opening 07.04.2021 up to 04.08.2021.
- Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidders' authorized representatives at the address below immediately after the time mentioned above (07.04.2021 at 2.30 p.m.)

The address referred to above is :

**Chairman
Major Procurement Committee,
Sri Lanka Thripasha Limited,
P.O. Box 17,
Negombo Road,
Kapuwatta,
Ja-Ela.**

Ministry of Irrigation

Moragahakanda - Kaluganga Development Project

Disposal of Construction Materials removed from use 2020 - I

Invitation for Quotations for Sale of Unused Construction Materials and Construction Materials removed from use

- Quotations are invited for sale of Construction Material removed from use belonging to the Moragahakanda - Kaluganga Project. These goods could be inspected from 08.03.2021 up to 29.03.2021 between 9.30 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. at the Welwala Stores and the Moragahakanda Stores of the Moragahakanda - Kaluganga Development Project.
- A person applying could submit quotations for one material or for several materials or for all materials using one application.
- The relevant applications could be obtained from the Accountant of the Moragahakanda - Kaluganga Development Project Office from 9.00 a.m. on 08.03.2021 up to 3.00 p.m. on 29.03.2021 by submitting the receipt obtained after paying a non-refundable fee of Rs. 1000/= to the Cashier of the Moragahakanda - Kaluganga Project.
- Details of the materials for sale will be issued along with the application.
- Further details, if necessary regarding this matter could be obtained by interested applicants by calling on Tel. Nos. 066-2057854 / 066-2053605 / 0662053606.
- Duly completed application should be submitted along with a refundable deposit of Rs. 10,000/= .
- Quotations will be accepted up to 9.30 a.m. on 30.03.2021 and quotations received thereafter will be rejected.
- Quotations will be opened at 10.00 a.m. on 30.03.2021 and the applicant or only his representative could participate on this occasion.
- All activities regarding sale of unused and used construction material removed from use will be conducted under Covid-19 health precautions and only the applicant or his representative should be involved in this matter.

**Eng. D.B. Wijayarathne,
Project Director,
Moragahakanda-Kaluganga Development Project,
Kongahawela.**

Invitation for Initial Selection Works (Design and Build Contract)

SPECIFIC PROCUREMENT NOTICE Invitation for Initial Selection



DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA
NATIONAL WATER SUPPLY AND DRAINAGE BOARD
SANITATION AND HYGIENE INITIATIVE FOR TOWNS (SHIFT-1)
IN SOUTH WEST SRI LANKA

AFD CREDIT FACILITIES AGREEMENT NO: CLK 1013 01K

PACKAGE 2: PLANT AND DESIGN-BUILD CONSTRUCTION OF
WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT AND EFFLUENT DISPOSAL SYSTEM
FOR NEGOMBO MUNICIPAL COUNCIL AREA

CONTRACT No.: NWSDB/AFD/SHIFT-1/DB/PACKAGE-2/2019-02

17th March 2021

The Government of Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka has received funds from Agence Française de Développement ("AFD") toward the cost of the Sanitation And Hygiene Initiative For Towns (SHIFT-1) In South West Sri Lanka, and it intends to apply part of the funds to payments under the contract for Plant and Design-Build Construction of Wastewater Treatment Plant and Effluent Disposal System for Negombo Municipal Council Area / Contract No. NWSDB/AFD/SHIFT-1/DB/PACKAGE-2/2019-02. The Employer intends to initially select a maximum of 6 firms for Design and Construction of Wastewater Treatment Plant and Effluent Disposal System for Negombo Wastewater Management System. Wastewater Treatment Plant will be of an Activated Sludge type using a "reverse A2O" process meeting the Central Environmental Authority, Sri Lanka discharge requirements at a capacity of 16,000 m³/day. It is expected that invitations for bid will be made in June 2021.

Interested eligible Applicants may obtain further information from the office of Assistant General Manager, (Tenders and Contracts), National Water Supply & Drainage Board (NWSDB) (address below) from 18th March 2021 to 20th April 2021 during 9.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. on normal working days. A complete set of the Initial Selection documents in English Language may be purchased by interested Applicants (a) on the submission of a written application to the address below and (b) upon payment of a nonrefundable fee of LKR 500,000 or in USD 2900 plus VAT. The method of payment will be in cash or Bank Draft in favour of National Water Supply and Drainage Board. The documents will be sent by courier and the firms shall make pre-paid arrangements with a reputed courier service to collect and dispatch the documents to them. In such a case, the firm requesting the Initial Selection documents shall provide its courier service with a letter authorizing to collect the Initial Selection documents. Under no circumstance will NWSDB be held responsible for late delivery or loss of the documents to be sent to the applicant.

Applications for Initial Selection should be submitted in clearly marked envelopes and delivered to the address below by 1400 hrs on 21st April 2021. Late applications may be rejected.

Address to obtain further information from and inspect the Initial Selection documents

Assistant General Manager, (Tenders and Contracts),
National Water Supply & Drainage Board (NWSDB),
Galle Road, Ratmalana, Sri Lanka

Tel: +94 11-2605328 or +94 11-2638999 Ext. 1750

Fax: +94 11-2635885

E-mail: agmtenders@waterboard.lk

Address for submission of Applications for Initial Selection

Director (Procurement)
Office of the Director (Procurement),
Ministry of Water Supply,
"Lakdiya Medura", No 35, Sunil Mawatha,
Pelawatta, Battaramulla, Sri Lanka

Tel: +94 112 177240 Ext: 115/526/508/503

Fax: +94 112 076982

Email: dprocurement@mcpws.gov.lk

**Chairman
National Water Supply & Drainage Board (NWSDB)**

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High Level Road
011 282 8114

Associated Newspapers of Ceylon Limited
No 35, D R Wijewardene Mawatha, Colombo 10

1949

Invitation for Bids (IFB)

MEDIRIGIRIYA PRADESHIYA SABHA-POLONNARUWA DISTRICT CONSTRUCTION OF SHOPPING COMPLEX AT MEDIRIGIRIYA TOWN

- The Chairman, Council Procurement Committee on behalf of the Medirigiriya Pradeshiya Sabha, now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the project as described in the table below.
- Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding Procedure. Since the estimated Value of work to be performed under this procurement (excluding VAT and other taxes) is below Rs. 50 Mn, regional preference and CIDA grade preference shall apply as stipulated in Public Finance Circular No.04/2016(iii).
- To be eligible for contract award, the successful bidder shall not have been blacklisted and shall meet CIDA registration mentioned in table below.
- Qualification requirements are ,
 - Average of the annual volume of construction work performed in the last three years shall be at least **Rs 45 Million**
 - Experience in the construction of at least one contract of a nature and complexity equivalent to the Works over the last 5 years (to comply with this requirement, works cited should be at least 70 percent completed); **more than Rs. 15 Million**
 - Following technical and managerial Staff:
 - Bsc. Engineer, at least two-years experience of similar nature of work**
 - Employing a Technical Officer (NCT Civil/NVQ 5) who has engaged in three similar projects in last five years**
 - The minimum amount of liquid assets and/or credit facilities net of other contractual commitments and exclusive of any advance payments which may be made under the contract shall be not less than **Rs 10 Million**, Additional details are provided in the Schedule (Section 5) of the bidding document.
- Interested bidders may obtain further information from Chairman, Pradeshiya Sabha, Medirigiriya, Polonnaruwa, (T.No — 027-2248842 Fax-027-2248842 e. mail-ncpmgps@gmail.com) and inspect the bidding documents at, the address given above, on working days from 17.03.2021 until 06.04.2021 from 09.00hrs to 15.00 hrs.
- A complete set of Bidding Documents in English language may be purchased by interested bidders on submission of a written application to the Chairman, Pradeshiya Sabha, Medirigiriya, Polonnaruwa, from 17.03.2021 until 06.04.2021 from 09.00 hrs to 15.00 hrs. upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Rs.8000.00. The method of payment will be in cash.
- Bids shall be delivered in duplicate to the Chairman, Pradeshiya Sabha, Medirigiriya, Polonnaruwa, at 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.
- Bids shall be valid for a period of 91 days — (up to 07.07.2021.)
- Bids shall be accompanied by a Bid Security as per the information given in the table below.
- The Pre Bid Meeting will be held on 26.03.2021 at 1100 hrs at Medirigiriya Pradeshiya Sabha Office premises.

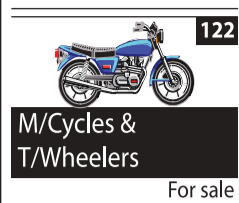
No.	Description of Work	Estimated Cost (Rs.)	Contract Period	Required Grade	Required Bid Security	
					Security Amount	Validity Period
01	Construction of Shopping Complex at Medirigiriya Town	30.00 Mn	270 Days	C5-C4 Building Construction	300,000.00	04.08.2021

**Chairman
Procurement Committee,
Pradeshiya Sabhawa,
Medirigiriya,
Polonnaruwa.**

17.03.2021

Classifieds

Automotive



WP AAD-2702
Bajaj, 2012, UP
AA-0325 Bajaj,
2015, three-wheel
for highest offer.
Vallibel Finance
PLC. No. 310, Galle
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General



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Ministry of Industries PARANTHAN CHEMICALS COMPANY LIMITED INVITATION FOR BIDS

Sealed Bids are invited by the Chairman, Department Procurement Committee from eligible suppliers for the supply of following Items,

Description	Size	Quantity
Plastic Bottles with Inner Lid and Cap	1 Liter	50,000 Nos.
	500 ml	50,000 Nos.
Plastic Bottles with Cap	1 Liter	50,000 Nos.
	500 ml	50,000 Nos.
Induction sealing foil for HDPE Bottle	28 mm Can size	50,000 Nos.

* Specifications are attached with the Bid Document.

Note : Bid opening date will be **31st March 2021 at 10.00 a.m.**

Those who wish to apply, should download the Tender Document from following website or send an email requesting the Bidding Document.

Website :	Email :
https://pccl.gov.lk/	dhananjika@pccl.gov.lk

Bidders or their authorized representatives will be permitted to be present at the opening of Bids. Late Bids will be rejected.

**Chairman
Department Procurement Committee
PARANTHAN CHEMICALS COMPANY LIMITED**

**No. 100/25,
Sri Ramanathan Mawatha,
Colombo 13.**

**Tel. Nos. 011-2437557
071-3633203**

PROCUREMENT NOTICE NATIONAL HOSPITAL - KANDY

INVITATION FOR BIDS UNDER OPEN COMPETITIVE BIDDING PROCEDURE FOR DISPOSAL AND BURIAL OF UNCLAIMED DEAD BODIES, OTHER DEAD BODY PARTS, STILL-BORN BIRTHS AND INFANT DEAD BODIES OF THE NATIONAL HOSPITAL, KANDY - 2021

Sealed Bids are invited by the Chairman, Regional Procurement Committee of the National Hospital, Kandy up to 10.30 a.m. on 07.04.2021 from Contractors possessing three years experience for disposal and burial of unclaimed Dead Bodies, Still-Born Births and other Dead Body parts of the National Hospital, Kandy.

The relevant Bids should be sent to the Chairman, Regional Procurement Committee, National Hospital, Kandy by Registered Post to be received before 10.30 a.m. on 07.04.2021 or could be inserted in the Tender Box kept in the Chief Accountant's Office. The words "**Bids for disposal of Dead Bodies and other body parts of the National Hospital, Kandy - 2021**" should be marked on the top left-hand corner of the envelope containing the Bids.

Bids will be opened in the Director's Office at 10.30 a.m. on 07.04.2021.

General Conditions :

- A non-refundable Bid Form Fee of Rs. 5000.00 should be paid to the Shroff of the National Hospital, Kandy and the original copy of the receipt thus obtained should be submitted along with a letter of request and a copy of the Business Registration Certificate, certified by the Issuing Office of this document, to obtain Bid Forms.
- A copy of the receipt obtained from the Shroff's Division for payment of Rs. 200,000.00 as Bid Security or a Bank Guarantee obtained from a recognized commercial bank drawn in favour of the Director, National Hospital, Kandy, valid up to 07.10.2021 should be submitted by you or your Institution along with the Bids.
- Bid Documents in A.M. Subject Form could be obtained from 17.03.2021 up to 06.04.2021 during normal working days of the week from 9.00 a.m. to 2.30 p.m. from the Administration Division of the National Hospital, Kandy.
- A letter of authority issued by the applicant and the Identity Card of the representative in proof of identity should be submitted when a representative is calling over to obtain applications.
- Bids should be submitted according to the conditions and specifications issued with the Bid Documents and the Bids of those Bidders who fail to do so will be rejected.
- You are hereby informed that the decision of the Regional Procurement Board is deemed final.

**Chairman
Regional Procurement Board
Kandy**

Employment Opportunities

LAND TITLE SETTLEMENT DEPARTMENT VACANCIES

RECRUITMENT FOR THE POSTS OF DEPUTY / ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER ON PERMANENT BASIS AND CONTRACT BASIS

Recruitment of presently employed Grade II and III Officers of the Sri Lanka Administrative Service (SLAS) on permanent basis and of retired Officers of the Sri Lanka Administrative Service (SLAS) on contract basis, for the posts of Deputy / Assistant Commissioners lying vacant in the Land Title Settlement Department's Regional Offices islandwide, are being made by this Department.

Regional Offices, where vacancies exist for the Posts of Deputy / Assistant Commissioner Battaramulla, Homagama, Balangoda, Ratmalana, Mirigama, Tangalle, Tissamaharamaya, Thambuttegama, Mihintale, Thirappane, Moneragala.

01. Post : Deputy / Assistant Commissioner (Permanent Basis)

- Qualifications : Should be a Grade II and III Officer of the Sri Lanka Administrative Service (SLAS).

02. Post : Assistant Commissioner (Under Contract Basis)

- Qualifications : Should be an Officer of the Sri Lanka Administrative Service (SLAS)
 - Should be a formerly retired person from the Public Service.
 - Should not have been subjected to a disciplinary action, during the tenure of service.
 - Should be between 60-67 years of age.
 - Should have to submit a Medical Certificate, obtained recently to affirm and prove that the applicant is fit for the service of works and is physically and mentally fit and sound and in good health, and the certificate should be submitted at interview.

II. Method of Selection :

Qualified and suitable Officers will be selected upon the recommendations of the interview board, accordingly.

III. Allowances and other facilities :

Allowances and other benefits and grants are offered as per the Public Administration Circular No. 03/2018.

How to Apply :

Applications from the Officers who are already in the Service (employed) should be forwarded through their respective Heads of the Departments / Institutions and applications from the retired Officers should be a self-prepared with complete Bio-Data (CV)/Curriculum Vitae sent by Registered Post to the following address, to receive on or before 31.03.2021. Late applications received after the closing date will be rejected. On the top left hand corner of the envelope enclosing applications should be clearly marked with the caption to the effect "**Application for the vacant posts in the Sri Lanka Administrative Service**".

**Commissioner General of Land Title Settlement
Land Title Settlement Department,
No. 1200/6, "Mihikatha Medura",
Rajamalwatta Road, Battaramulla.**

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CEYLON FISHERY HARBOURS CORPORATION (CFHC)

VACANCY

Applications are hereby invited from citizens of Sri Lanka for vacancy mentioned below.

Designation : Land Officer

General conditions, Academic and professional Qualifications and Experience which should be fulfilled by the applicants are mentioned in the **CFHC** website. (www.cfhc.gov.lk)

Duly Completed applications should reach the **Human Resources Manager, Ceylon Fishery Harbours Corporation, Rock House Lane, Colombo 15** on or before **04.00 pm** on **31st March 2021**.

**Chairman
Ceylon Fishery Harbours Corporation**

CEYLON FISHERY HARBOURS CORPORATION (CFHC)

VACANCY

Applications are hereby invited from citizens of Sri Lanka for vacancies mentioned below.

**Designation: Civil Engineer (Construction)
Civil Engineer (Design and Planning)
Electrical Engineer**

General conditions, Academic and professional Qualifications and Experience which should be fulfilled by the applicants are mentioned in the **CFHC** website. (www.cfhc.gov.lk)

Duly Completed applications should reach the **Human Resources Manager, Ceylon Fishery Harbours Corporation, Rock House Lane, Colombo 15** on or before **04.00 pm** on **31st March 2021**.

**Chairman
Ceylon Fishery Harbours Corporation**