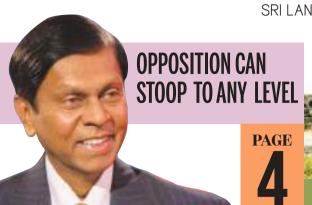
SUNDAY OBSER www.sundayobserver.lk

SRI LANKA'S ENGLISH NEWSPAPER WITH THE LARGEST CIRCULATION Vol.94 - No 13 Pages 140 Rs. 80.00 ★















'FAILED ASYLUM SEEKERS'

GERMANY TO DEPORT 30 SRI LANKAN TAMILS

MANY DETAINED UNDER HEAVY SECURITY

By Ananth Palakidnar

A significant number of Sri Lankan Tamils who have been denied asylum in Germany would be deported to Colombo this week, informed sources

A special law enforcement unit which was set up to track down Sri Lankans who had been denied asylum in Germa-

ny has rounded up a significant

locations throughout Germany. According to the sources, some 30 Sri Lankan Tamils who

have been detained at the Dusseldorf Airport in Germany are expected to be deported to Colombo early this week.

In addition, another undisclosed number of asylum seekers had also been arrested by the German authorities and are number of them from various currently being held in various

undisclosed locations under from Sri Lanka would not be heavy security pending deportation, the sources said.

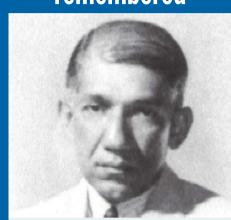
They added that a large number of asylum seekers who had entered Germany through various illegal channels had opted to go on the run after their asylum bid was rejected.

other European countries has said that future asylum seekers

accommodated since the battle against terrorism has ended in the country.

A manhunt has been launched in several European countries to nab illegal immigrants despite appeals from several human rights organisa-Germany along with several tions to consider their plight on humanitarian grounds, the sources said.

D. R. Wijewardene remembered



An all-night pirith chanting ceremony will be held on April 2 and a Sanghika Dana on April 3 at the Associated Newspapers of Ceylon Limited (ANCL), Colombo 10 to commemorate the 135th birth anniversary of its founder D. R. Wijewardene.

The management, a few special invitees including the chairman of the Wijeya Group of Companies, Ranjith Wijewardene and some members of the staff will participate in the religious observances to mark the occasion.

It will be held in keeping with Covid-19 nealth regulations



President Gotabaya Rajapaksa had a meeting with Local Government representatives at the Diyatha Uyana, Battaramulla on Friday. Local Government representatives from the Western, North Western and Southern Provinces attended the meeting. The President called upon Local Government representatives to join hands to move forward with the Government's policy and development campaign. President Gotabaya told Local Government representatives that the Opposition is spreading false propaganda on the Government's development program and called upon Local Government representatives to rectify such false propaganda campaigns. SLPP National Organiser Basil Rajapaksa was also present.

CASH PAYMENTS FOR VICTIMS OF CRASHED FIRMS

Govt provides Rs. 600,000 to each depositor

By Uditha Kumarasinghe

Nivard Cabraal said the Government has already made a payment up to Rs.600,000 to each person who had deposits in six finance companies which crashed during the tenure of the former Yahapalana Government. In addition to the Rs.600,000,

the Central Bank has also decided to pay another Rs.500,000 to each person bring-State Minister of Money and Capital ing the total amount to be paid to a depos-Market and State Enterprise Reforms Ajith itor to Rs.1.1 million, the State Minister told the Sunday Observer yesterday.

The Government has already paid Rs.25 billion to depositors and another Rs.10 billion will be paid in the near future, he said. Altogether, it would cost the Government around... **SEE PAGE 2**

DISSENT'

Sritharan hits out

the Tamil National Alliance (TNA) after Jaffna district parliamentarian S. Sritharan hit out

liamentarians M.

SEE PAGE 2



A tussle is brewing within

A. Sumanthiran and R. Sanakkiyan accusing them of attempting to sideline the senior TNA parliamentarian and Illankai Tamil Arasu Katchchi (ITAK) leader Mavai. S. Senathiraja. Sritharan accused his fellow parliamentarians ...

"DOCTORS' ISSUES PURPOSELY BLOCKED"

GMOA raps errant health officials

By Nadira Gunatilleke

President Gotabaya Rajapaksa's efforts to serve the poor people in the country have been obstructed by certain health officials who have purposely delayed doctors' appointments, transfers and promotions, the Government Medical Officers' Association (GMOA) Secretary Dr. Senal Fernando said.

He told the media in Colombo yesterday that health officials and others who purposely delay the official process and procedures are the Deputy Director General (Medical Services - 1) the Deputy Director General (Medical Services -2) of the Health...

SEE PAGE 2

By Manjula Fernando

The political parties which are registered under names depicting ethnic and religious biases will be required to revise their party names following a decision by the Election Commission last week.

Election Commission Spokesperson Channa de Silva said the Commission will meet party leaders to discuss this matter shortly. A release issued by Election Commissioner General Saman Sri Ratnayake, stated that the Commission will give... **SEE PAGE 2**

Govt mulls private sector Covid-19 vaccination



The Government will explore the possibility of permitting the private sector to get involved in the Covid-19 vaccination process, said Advisor to the President, Lalith Weeratunge.

He said that private hospitals will have to negotiate and import

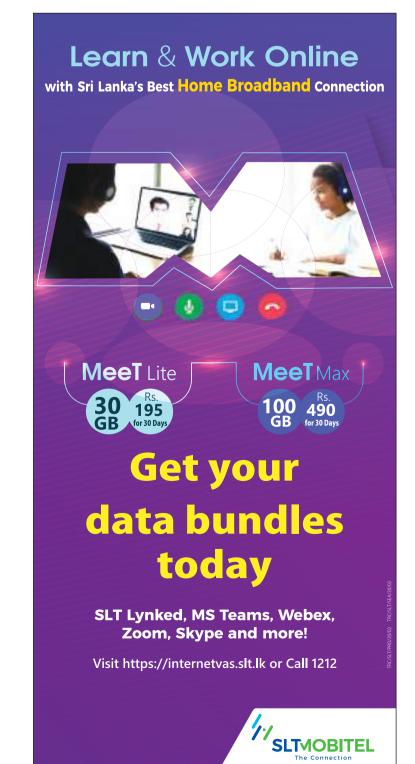
the vaccines directly from the global manufacturers themselves. "The Health Department will definitely not get involved in the 'buying and selling processes' of Covid-19 vac-

Weeratunge said that the Government would most likely permit this by mid-2021.

He said that private sector com-

panies or hospitals who hope to get involved in this process will have to first get prior approval from the Medical Council, Health Ministry and other relevant institutions on the brand, importation and inoculation process.

He also said that the Government is keeping a close tab on the current vaccination... **SEE PAGE 2**





Call for Sri Lanka to urgently mechanize agriculture!

AgStar leads agri technology

Sri Lanka must swiftly embrace the latest advances in agriculture if the country is to ensure efficient and sustainable use of existing farmlands assuring higher yields. Stepping in as farmers' one-stop agent of prosperity is the country's new trendsetter in agriculture AgStar PLC.

Farm mechanization is considered a long-felt need to bring agriculture out of its conventional trap which sees farmers across the country burdened with devastating low produce in the face of severe land degradation.

We offer farm mechanization solutions to the local farming community to help growers overcome labour scarcity, retain modern-day youth in farming, manage costs and quality of the harvest while achieving potentially optimal crop yields, says Mr. Ashan Ratwatte, AgStar's Director of New Business Development. The pledge epitomizes the company's vision of becoming farmers' one-stop agent of prosperity.

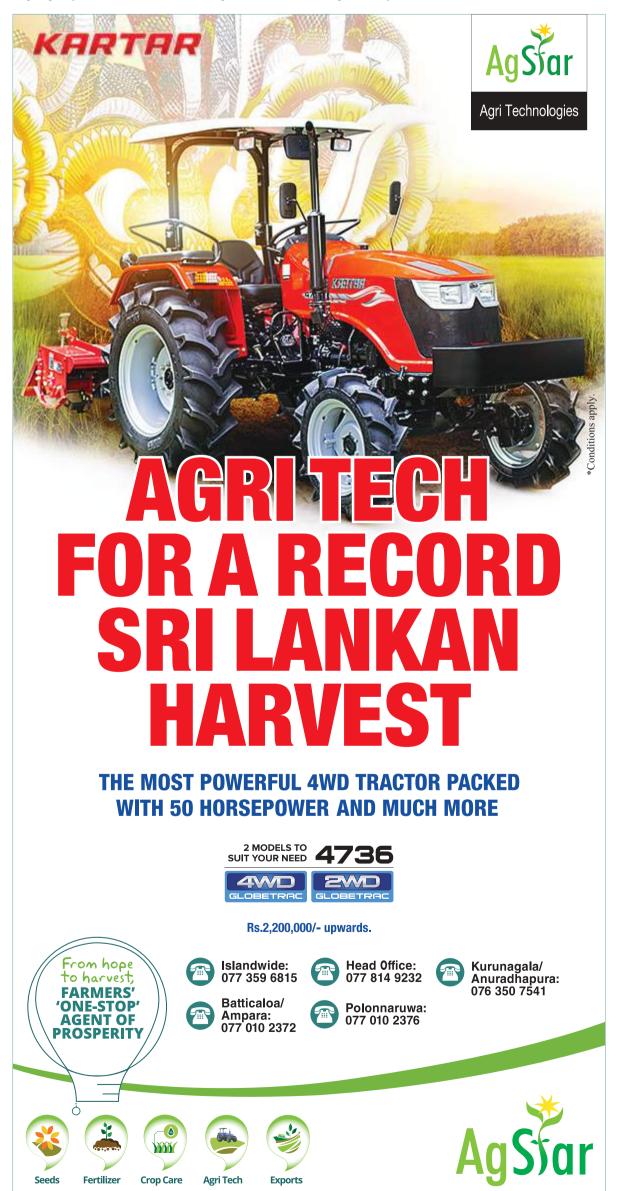
Scientific and sustainable practices in land preparation, selecting high-quality seed and planting materials, practicing good nutrition applications, water and crop care management are the pillars of success in agriculture. AgStar offers a wide range of state-of-art machinery solutions for most of these stages at the moment with the company endeavoring to offer futuristic solutions every step of the way, says Mr. Danushka De Soysa, Head of the Agri-Tech division.

There has been a considerable investment in technology in the local paddy cultivation sector especially in terms of land preparation and harvesting but other commercial crops have been somewhat neglected. We are filling a time-felt void by bringing a plethora of high-tech machinery to support vital stages of crop production from seed to harvest across the field, he said.

The Kartar tractor is among the first of AgStar's high-tech product spread. Mr. Ratwatte explains why:

In agriculture, perhaps the most crucial aspect is soil preparation. Preparing and managing the soil in a scientific way is critical to sustainable yield levels. We introduced KARTAR tractor with the most modern technological features to address this important point, he said, adding that Kartar is a custom-built tractor for Sri Lankan conditions, loaded not only with state-of-the-art features but with greatly enhanced safety and comfort.

Taking the most conservative projections for world population growth over the next 30 years, food production will need to double in order to ensure food security. As we see in Sri Lanka, the availability of labour and arable land has reached crisis point. One of the best ways Sri Lanka can ensure sustainability, as well as, profitability is to embrace mechanization without delay. AgStar is taking the lead in coming to the aid of the farmers, he says.



AgStar PLC, No.9, Bawa Place, Colombo 8.

t: +94 11 4 812 424, f: +94 11 4 810 706 | e: info@agstaragri.com | w: www.agstaragri.lk

News

GMOA raps errant health... From page 1

..Ministry along with the Health Sub Committee of the Public Service Commission (PSC) and some other relevant officials. At times, the Health Sub Committee acts beyond their mandate. The Government is unable to provide a satisfactory health service to the people due to the conduct of these people and committees, he said.

According to Dr. Fernando, when President Rajapaksa visits villages and meets people, they highlight their problems.

They often request doctors for state hospitals but the Government is unable to do so due to the conduct of errant officials and committees.

A letter with ten key issues had been sent to Health Minister Pavithra Wanniarachchi on March 26 requesting her to take prompt action to solve the issue.

GMOA Assistant Secretary Dr. Navin De Zoysa said that the former Health Minister and his wife were attempting to defame the Government through their henchmen who were appointed to top positions in the Health Ministry during the previous Yahapalana regime.

"It is very surprising how they ignore the instructions of Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa and do what they want even without informing the Health Minister".

Dr. Zoysa said that President Rajapaksa has already issued clear instructions to resolve matters through discussions and Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa said that the Cabinet paper presented by the former Health Minister Dr. Rajitha Senaratne to appease the members of a specific doctors' organisation will be withdrawn.

However, after a few days of the PM's statement, the Gazette notification was issued with amendments to the Medical Service Minute according to the requirements of a handful of henchmen of the former Health Min-

According to Dr. Zoysa, the former Health Minister is aware that this Government will be in power for decades ending his and his son's political careers since Sri Lanka has set records in the world when it came to controlling the Covid-19 pandemic while taking the country forward.

Now he and his wife are very active through their henchmen anchored in top positions at the Health Ministry, he

On one hand, the henchmen of the former Health Minister had blocked the Cabinet paper that sought to increase the retirement age of consultants as promised by the Government but on the other, they hurriedly amended the Medical Service Minute to defame the Government by pushing the GMOA to launch a strike, he said.

Govt provides Rs. 600,000 to... From page 1

...Rs. 35 billion to make these payments.

"We have enough money to make these payments as we had prudently set up the Deposit Insurance Fund (DIF) during the tenure of former President Mahinda Rajapaksa. With the use of the money in the DIF, the Government has been able to make payments and provide relief to 94 percent of the total number of depositors," he said.

State Minister Cabraal said during the past five years of the Yahapalana regime, six finance companies crashed leaving some 60,000 depositors in the doldrums. Thereafter, we ensured that the DIF will make payments to the affected depositors.

The ceiling that was placed on the payment to affected depositors was Rs.600,000. Those who had less than Rs.600,000 were paid in full, but anyone above Rs.600,000 was paid only up to Rs. 600,000. The Government through this process paid for thousands of depositors who were facing severe hardships.

He said thereafter Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa was very keen to provide further redress to the depositors who were in absolute distress and President Gotabaya Rajapaksa has also given his consent towards this end.

Therefore, the Prime Minister as the Finance Minister gave instructions to make those payments. At present, the Central Bank has decided to pay a further Rs.500,000 to the depositors and that will be provided in the near future. Altogether, each depositor will get Rs.1.1 million which means 94 percent of them would have been paid in full.

He said during the tenure of the then President Mahinda Rajapaksa, we didn't permit a single finance company to fail. We protected them and revived them. We looked after the financial sector. When 19 banks all over the world were failing and financial institutions were crashing during the worst time of the global economic recession, we didn't permit even a single financial institution in Sri Lanka to fall and they were performing well. Some had difficulties but we looked after them as well.

The State Minister said, "Emphasis will also be laid if more depositors need to be paid. Let's see how it goes in the next few weeks and months. We will deal with the remaining depositors and ensure that the loss they suffered will be at the lowest possible level.

Sritharan hits out at fellow... From page 1

WANTS TO BE A

MILLIONAIRE

...Sumanthiran and Sanakkiyan of undermining Senathiraja who is the senior most member in the TNA after veteran parliamentarian R. Sampanthan.

According to Sritharan, several meetings were held in the Eastern Province recently where Senathiraja was not invited.

"Certain moves were also made in the TNA without the consent of the hierarchy of the alliance.

There is a large number of young loyalists in the TNA but they have not been given due recognition", Sritharan said.

A conflict of interest has prevailed within the TNA for the past several years with the leader of Eelam People Revolutionary Liberation Front(EPRLF) led by former parliamentarian Suresh K. Premachandran leaving the alliance a few years ago.

ving the alliance a few years ago.

Former Chief Minister of the

Northern Province and parliamentarian C. V. Wigneswaran also quit the TNA and formed his own political party, the Tamil Makkal Kootani

Police in Jaffna are continuing the probe into the attack on the residence belonging to MP Sritharan.

A group of unidentified goons, armed with sharp weapons had arrived at the residence on motorcycles.

Name change... From page 1

... time for the existing political parties to change their names in line with the new rule. "It is against the Constitution of the country to have party names with references to ethnicities or religions," the release stated adding, therefore, the Election Commission will not register new political parties in the future with names inconsistent with the Constitution. The decision to inform the political parties to adhere to this rule was taken at a meeting headed by EC Chairman Nimal Punchihewa last week. Many registered political parties including the Sri Lanka Muslim Congress (SLMC), Tamil National Alliance (TNA) and the Jathika Hela Urumaya will be required to follow suit. Among other decisions taken at the meeting were to immediately seek parliamentary approval for the amended law to include persons turning 18 years of age into the electoral register within three months.

The relevant amendments to the "Registration of Electors Act No 44 of 1980" have already been approved by the Cabinet of Ministers and gazetted by the President. However, the House is yet to approve the law. A re-registration drive will be conducted in Jaffna and the Wanni districts to provide franchise rights to people who were mistakenly listed as dead during the battle against terrorism since 1985.

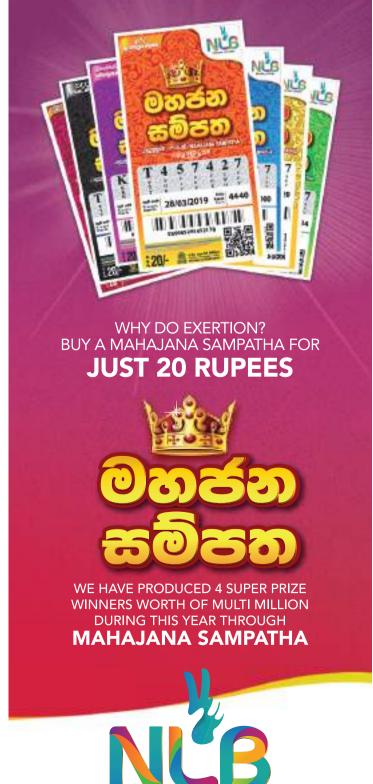
The Election Commission will display such names in the Government Gazette, Election Commission website, District Secretriats, District Election offices, PS offices and Grama Niladhari offices till April 23 to offer a second chance to enter the names of such persons in the 2020 electoral register.

Govt mulls... From page 1

...process to ensure its high quality and random tests are carried out regularly before they are released to the public.

He also said that it was unfortunate that some of the Colombo 'elite' class still prefer not to get vaccinated as they are not keen to go to the designated places stipulated by the Government for reasons best known to them. "The Covid-19 vaccine is not compulsory for all citizens and no person would be vaccinated without his or her consent." Weeratunge said that the vaccination process began in the Western Province since it was a high-risk area and the inoculation process will commence in other areas soon. Media Minister Keheliya Rambukwella said that the inoculation process in other areas outside the Western Province will commence when the Government receives the Sputnik V Covid-19 vaccine from Russia. The Minister said that the Cabinet has approved funds to purchase the Sputnik V vaccine and that it would be possible to provide two doses of it to 3.5 million people.

A spokesman for the Epidemiology Unit of the Health Ministry said that over 1.6 million Covid-19 immunisations have been done to date.



NATIONAL LOTTERIES

Legal action against errant coconut oil importers

Trade Minister Dr. Bandula Gunawardana told Parliament on Friday that legal action will be taken against those who imported unrefined coconut oil that contained carcino-

The Minister said that no political intervention will be allowed when the culprits are brought to book. He said, "In Dambulla, traditional coconut oil producers had revealed to the media that there is an attempt to release a consignment of imported coconut oil that contains carcinogens. When this was published in the media, I called the Chairman of the Consumer Affairs Authority and asked him to investigate. It was learned that unrefined coconut oil has been imported to the country for a long time."

Minister Gunawardana said investigations revealed that the oil contained toxins and the stock of oil has been stored in warehouses for re-export. "These stocks have not been released to the market. They have to be re-exported," he said.



Dr. Bandula Gunawardana

THE SRI LANKA STANDARDS INSTITUTION AND THE FOOD DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH INVESTIGATED THE MATTER. DUE TO THE **QUANTITY OF COCONUT OIL WHICH IS UNFIT FOR** HUMAN CONSUMPTION IN THESE CONTAINERS, IT HAS BEEN ORDERED TO RE-EXPORT IT

Dr. Gunawardena said the Sri Lanka Standards Institution and the Food Division of the Department of Health investigated the matter. Due to the quantity of coconut oil which is unfit for human consumption in these containers, it has been ordered to re-export it.

A party has requested an investigation from the CID in this regard. We urge the IGP to expedite the investigation and find out the culprits. Sri Lanka Standards Institute (SLSI) Director General Dr. Siddhika Senaratne issuing a media release on Friday, said it has been observed that the media and social media have hyped a fabricated and false allegation that senior officials of the Sri Lanka Standards Institution had authorised the sale of unhealthy coconut oil imported to the country by four importers.

The SLSI, being the standards body for quality to the nation, will not compromise the set standards for any commodity or material that will be detrimental to the lives and livelihood of Sri Lankans.

The media release added that the SLSI continuously conducts laboratory testing for Aflatoxin in coconut oil imported into the country by all importers to ascertain that it conforms to the set standard of 10micro

Contrary to false media reports, 13 containers of coconut oil have not been approved for sales to consumers by any authority. The Consumer Affairs Authority has also decided to test the quality of coconut oil in the market.

"Kotugoda Dhammawasa Mahanayaka Thera rendered yeomen service"



Kotugoda Dhammawasa Mahanayaka Thera

President Gotabaya Rajapaksa said the Chief Prelate of the Amarapura Sect Ven. Aggamaha Panditha Kotugoda Dhammawasa Mahanayake Thera always sought to propagate social well-being, prosperity, unity and well-being of the people.

The President was speaking at the final rites of the Mahanayaka Thera held with full State Honours at Independence Square, Colombo on Thursday.

President Rajapaksa said that the late Mahanayaka Thera had rendered yeomen service to the country and the nation and was known to not only the local Buddhist devotees, but also to the entire Buddhist world. The late Mahanayaka Thera had exceptional oratory skills and his ser-

mons were admired by all followers in Sri Lanka and overseas.

Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa's message was read out by Minister Chamal Rajapaksa. It said the Chief Prelate's demise had taken from our midst, one of the most erudite monks, who was well known for his Dhamma sermon and immense service to the Sasana.

Opposition Leader Sajith Premadasa said that the Chief Prelate's demise was an irreparable loss to the country and to the Buddha Sasana. The late Mahanayaka Thera always offered advice and guidance to the country's leaders and raised his voice at crucial junctures for the country. He was the very epitome of discipline as an erudite Bhikkhu who propagated Buddhism throughout the world. Several members of the Maha Sangha, Colombo Archbishop Malcolm Cardinal Ranjith and several other lay leaders also spoke. Supreme Prelate of the Amarapura Sect, Dharmapala Wanshalankara, Saddarma Keerthi, Sri Tripitaka Vageeshwara, Prawachana Keerthi Sri Sasana Sobana Sri Sumangala Vidyawathasa, Most Venerable Agga Maha Panditha Mahopadya Kotugoda Dhammawasa Thera passed away on March 22 at the age of 88 while receiving treatment at a private hospital in Colombo.

The Government declared March 25 as a National Day of Mourning in view of the final rites of the late Chief Prelate.



The power line that boomeranged

BADULLA: The man laid a trap using a live power line to protect his Chena from wild animals that roam the village after dusk but at the end of it all it was his wife that had to pay the supreme sacrifice.

The incident was reported from Hali Ella, Badulla.

The 56-year-old victim had ventured out into the Chena at dawn to pluck some beans and greenery to be prepared for breakfast on the day when she stepped on to the deadly wire.

The victim's husband would lay the live wire trap after dusk each day and disconnect the power shortly at dawn before the other members of household wake up.

Mail order drugs

POLICE HQ: Some 27 grams of 'Kush' and 38 grams of 'Kush Oil' were discovered neatly concealed among foreign mail that arrived from the United Arab Emirates (UAE) recently.

The mail addressed to a fake name was opened after it had remained unclaimed. The Police Narcotics Bureau (PNB)

has uncovered details of a racket that smuggles narcotics to Sri Lanka via air-

The case has now been handed over to the Police Narcotic Bureau (PNB).

Executive in hot water

HEIYANTHUDUWA: He was a Senior Executive of a private company and owed the company a sizeable amount of cash and so he staged a fake robbery that backfired.

He owed his employer Rs. 2,384,000 after spending the cash on his family and other personal needs.

When it came to payback time, the

man in sheer desperation came up with the plan to fake a robbery to convince his employer that the money had been

Cheered on by his wife and brother-in-law, the man lodged a complaint with the Heiyanthuduwa Police that he had been robbed of Rs. 2,384,000 while proceeding to the bank to deposit the

However, the police were not convinced as the man made contradictory statements and under interrogation he confessed to the lie.

The executive and his brother-inlaw now face multiple charges that include embezzlement and making a false complain to police.

Cop on the mat

POLICE HQ: A Police Constable of the Sapugaskanda Police was arrested along with 393 grams of heroin with a street value of Rs. 4 million at the Respiratory Hospital in Welisara.

The 35-year-old suspect was picked up in 'sting' operation by undercover detectives when he reported for duty at the Welisara Respiratory Hospital.

Another 286 grams of heroin were found stashed in his home Jayanthi Mawatha, Mulleriyawa.

Sleuths also found out that the suspect is an accomplice of large scale heroin trafficker Rasika Ruwan Kumara alias 'Navy Ruwan'.

He was later handed over to the Police Narcotic Bureau (PNB).

500 die in road accidents

POLICE HQ: Over 500 persons died and another 1,054 persons were critically injured in road accidents from the start of this year, police statistics revealed last week.

Another 2,488 persons also sustained minor injuries.

Some 1, 284 vehicles were also damaged during the time.



To find out more about this extraordinary air conditioner call us now!

[Consumes as little as one unit of electricity for a full night's cool]

Price is Rs 119,500 upwards



Midea

Accumulated Global Sales up to 120,000,000 Units

INTRODUCING • (ACTIVECIean



TREME (INVERTER)

Forbes 500 Companies



SCAN ME

0117 273 737 HOTLINES 0715 653 653

Telesonic Lanka No: 18, Daisy Villa Avenue, R. A. De Mel Mawatha, Colombo 04. Email: ac.sales@telesoniclanka.com | Web: www.telesoniclanka.com

🚹 TelesonicLK 🔯 telesonicsrilanka

HSBC **(X**







AIA IS THE BEST LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY IN SRI LANKA **2 YEARS IN A ROW!**

- Highest Capital Adequacy Ratio
- 30 years of Customer Dividends (9.18% declared for 2020)
- Prudent and secure investments
- Strong backing of AIA Group with over 100 years of experience

Pensions, Health and Life Insurance



Interview |



People told not to be misled by disinformation campaign

Opposition can stoop to any level -Ajith Nivard Cabraal

Powerful elements providing financial, consultancy support to campaign

-By-**Uditha** Kumarasinghe

State Minister of Money and Capital Market and State Enterprise Reforms Ajith Nivard Cabraal said the same set of people who were against the battle against terrorism, reconciliation, redevelopment of the North and the East are acting once again to discredit the Government and bring down our country.

He appealed to the people not to be misled by this disinformation and false propaganda campaign carried out by the Opposition in order to gain their narrow political objectives. The State Minister in an interview with the Sunday Observer said the present Opposition will stoop to any level to create this disinformation against the Govern-

We are aware that some powerful elements are providing financial and consultancy support to this campaign. This is an organised crime where some big people have got involved and so this kind of effort needs to be brought to light.

Excerpts

Could you explain the outcome of Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa's recent visit to Bangladesh where you were also a part of the delegation?

A: I think it had several key achievements. The most important one is he built a very sound rapport with the Bangladeshi Government and the Prime Minister which is very helpful and useful. One of the main effects of that was the immediate support to Sri Lanka at the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC). In addition, we found that there were many instanc-

es of Sri Lankan investments in Bangladesh. Actually, when you do a complete assessment there is about a billion dollars of Sri Lankan investments in Bangladesh in the apparel, power, energy and banking sectors. So, that is a huge investment in Bangladesh. At the same time, we discussed South-South cooperation where Sri Lanka and Bangladesh can exchange investments within their reserve banks as well. That is another useful cooperation that we can talk about for the future.

We also discussed the possibility of additional flights and having Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) including the exchange of students and intellectuals between two countries. We also laid emphasis on the possibility that soft skills are imparted particularly in the field of tourism where we can assist them and we can also help them with other instances such as human resource man-

There was a wide range of ways in which we could cooperate. Sometimes, we think we can only cooperate with the countries in the West. I think that it is not the case and there are lots of instances and possibilities where we can definitely cooperate very closely with the countries in our region. I think that particular truth was very clearly established in the Prime Minister's visit to Bangladesh and it was a very important and useful visit.

The Opposition attempts to portray the 'Sugar Scam' is bigger than the Treasury Bond Scam. Your com-

A: Even in my speech in Parliament, I gave a complete explanation about the Opposition's disinformation campaign. There was nothing that they could do to counter that as they had no facts and figures to deal with their accusation. Those were exactly like the

Lamborghini Cars or the Golden Horses that they spoke about in 2014. So, there was no 'Sugar Scam' whatsoever. We reduced the duty on dhal from Rs.10 to 25 cents, canned fish from Rs.100 to 25 cents, sugar from Rs.50 to 25 cents and big onions from Rs.50 to 50 cents respectively. So, what is wrong with that? We are giving the entire benefits to the people. The previous Government was only interested in increasing the Government revenue.

They kept on saying that they increased the Government's revenue but they taxed the people left, right and centre. They introduced a mansion tax, super gain tax and also imposed 15 per cent VAT through the NBT. We reduced all those taxes because we wanted to give the benefits to the people. That is the strategy of this Government.

In the Covid-19 situation, we wanted the people to have relief in their cost of living as well. Naturally, the Government had to incur a loss of its revenue when you reduce taxes.

The Opposition was trying to say the relief didn't pass down to the people. I challenged them directly to prove that there was no benefit to the people as a result of the reduction of the taxes on some essential commodities. I told the Opposition to please tell us whether they want to re-impose the taxes. Naturally, they were silent. That shows the fallacy of their argument and the logic. I think now they will be thinking twice or thrice before making any such baseless allegations.

Rating agencies, Opposition politicians and other stakeholders had warned that Sri Lanka needs to come up with a sustainable debt repayment strategy given its commitments over the next five years and also focus on the quality of reserves. Would you like to comment on this?

A: We also know that we have to pay our debts. We are improving our nondebt inflows and a method by which money can flow into the country by way of remittances. We are improving the exports. Amidst the Covid-19 outbreak, our exports in February were the highest ever in the past five years. We are slowly opening the country back so that tourism can flourish.

We are making sure that any monies that need to come into Sri Lanka are given the right path without any hindrance as long as it is clean and comes



- ▶ 1954: Born in Colombo, Ajith Nivard Cabraal had his education at St. Peter's College, Colombo and St.Sebastian's College, Moratuwa. Studied Accountancy in Colombo and gained an Eisenhower Fellowship in 2000.
- ▶ 1996–1999: President of St. Peter's College Old Boys' Union

A chartered accountant

by Profession

► 2001: Entered politics and contested from the People's Alliance (PA) from Colombo District

Ajith Nivard Cabraal ▶ 2005: Joined former President Mahinda Rajapaksa's election campaign as chief economic advisor and was a major contributor to the former president's manifesto called 'Mahinda Chintana'

- ▶ **2006:** A member of the Peace delegation to Geneva and Oslo for talks with the LTTE
- ▶ **2006:** Appointed as the 12th Governor of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka
- ▶ **2010:** Re-appointed for a further period of five years as Governor
- ▶ 2020: A National List Member of Parliament from Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna (SLPP)
- ► Aug 2020: State Minister of Finance, Capital Markets and State Enterprises Reform in the **Government of President** Gotabaya Rajapaksa

Source: Internet, Graphic: Mahil Wijesinghe

through the normal banking channels. We are improving the services and exports such as trade, port services, insurance, consultancy and accountancy as well. We are also concentrating on Foreign Direct Inflows (FDIs).

We are bringing a new law to the Port City. It has already been passed by the Cabinet and it will come into Parliament at its next session. We are starting a new pharmaceutical zone to manufacture and export pharmaceuticals. The Hambantota Industrial Zone is now in full swing and they have already got several new investors to come into Sri Lanka particularly in the field of the rubber industry. We are encouraging the assembling of vehicles as well and the new projects consist a vast number of subjects. These are all designed to bring new foreign exchange earnings to the country. We don't want to get more loans and suffer like the former Yahapalana Government. We have a strategy which is completely different to them. They had a strategy where you go to the IMF or some other international monetary organization and obtain loans at any cost. We are not doing that and we are making sure that Sri Lanka can pay off all the debts and we are continuing to do that. If you remember this same Opposition said that we won't be able to pay our debts in 2020 but we paid. Then they started saying if we paid our debts in 2020, we will not be able to pay our debts in 2021 but now we are paying.

We are making sure that no one is defaulted by even a single dollar.

Now the Opposition is saying that or thereafter and this is complete mison the Government by saying that the country can't go on as there is no money. This is absolutely untrue.

The so called 'economic osthars' of the former Yahapalana Government failed miserably in the last term as the then growth rate of 7.4 percent was re-

duced to mere two per cent during their tenure in office without having a Covid-19 pandemic or any other difficulties or global issues. Now they can't tolerate that Sri Lanka is shining once again and that is their problem.

You recently had a meeting with several top investors in the Colombo Stock Exchange. Could you explain?

A: We discussed the future plans and what Sri Lanka is going to do. They were interested to know our plans for the Stock Exchange. We told to them that we want to increase the number of listings. Even at this peak, we show the first share issued almost after five years coming to the market on March 23.

One day it was presubscribed and Rs.4 billion issued which was unheard during the five years of those 'economic osthars'. The stock market which was at 5000 APIs is now at 7000 APIs. Of course, it went up and had come down as well. Now it is at a very reasonable rate and it is moving up and down. However, we see some very clear trends and there is stability in the market. During these few days there has been a little bit of exchange rate pressure but it will stabilise very soon.

Then we will have a stable exchange rate. We have the lowest ever interest rate in our country. The Stock Market is performing reasonably well. For the first time after several years, we had more foreign investor purchases. We have noticed that so many investors are showing signs of coming back into the country. So, the Opposition finds it very difficult to survive because none of these things happened during their time. I don't think even the journalists could report anything and there was nothing to report other than the few lies they uttered.

How do you view the false propaganda campaign carried out by the Opposition against the Government?

A: This Opposition has shown that they can stoop to any level. They can utwe will have problems in the next year ter any lie and fabricate stories. They will even get children to come on to information. This is to put pressure shows and say certain things for their advantage or even teach them to lie.

They will bring pictures from outside Sri Lanka and show it as in Sri Lanka. They will cook up various pictures and put different faces to show something different. So, they will stoop to any level to create this disinformation against the Government. We know some powerful elements are providing financial and consultancy support to this. This is an organised crime where some big people have got involved in it. I think this kind of effort needs to be brought to light. Some countries after the 2015 defeat of then President Mahinda Rajapaksa openly said they helped the regime change.

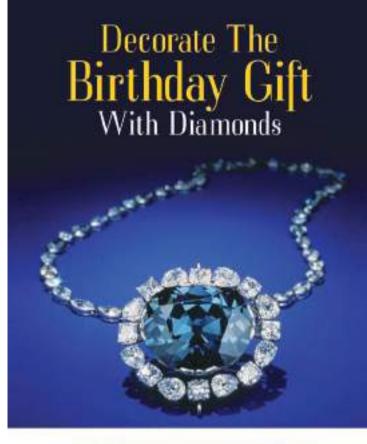
They were part of the whole exercise to change the Government. In their own estimates, they showered some huge sums such as US\$ 300 to 400 million on those campaigns. Where did this money come from? It came from outside. So, they made a big effort to discredit that Government. The same set of people who were against the battle against terrorism, reconciliation, redevelopment of the North and the East are acting once again to discredit the Government and bring down our country. In Parliament on Tuesday (March 23), I made a special appeal to the people not to be misled by this type of misinformation carried out by the Opposition.

Some say while former Finance Minister Ravi Karunanayake and several others were remanded in connection with the Treasury Bond Scam, the masterminds behind it are still roaming freely and the Government has failed to bring them to book. Your comments?

A: I had consistently maintained that the masterminds must also be brought to book. In fact, I wrote a book titled "Great Bond Scam Cover Up" about the masterminds and the entire bond scam. I wrote that book because I wanted the people to know how this Bond Scam was covered up for so long. I think still the investigations have not been completed. If they go through the reports of the CID and various other Commissions, some leads were not pursued strongly enough and I would like those to be pursued.

If we pursue those, I think the masterminds will come to light. I am keen that the masterminds of the Bond Scam be brought to light and hope these investigations would be reopened in certain areas to ensure that the real people who had been involved in this scam are brought to book as well.

Continued on page 12



A HUGE SUPER PRIZE IS GIVEN YOU JUST FOR 20 RUPEES



Mobitel (Pvt) Ltd REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Technical & Commercial proposals will be received by Mobitel (Pvt) Ltd for the below requirements:

- RFP No.: MOB/MKT/28/03/21-005 Driver hiring services for Mobitel (Pvt) Ltd 2021/2023
- RFP No.: MOB/ADM/28/03/21-004 Janitorial Services for Mobitel (Pvt) Ltd 2021/2023

RFP documents can be downloaded from www.mobitel.lk/RFP Floating date of the RFP – 28th March 2021 Closing date of the RFP – 19th April 2021

Sealed Proposals (Technical & Commercial proposals in separate sealed envelopes) shall be submitted by hand on or before the closing date & time stipulated in the RFP document to the undersigned. Late submissions will not be accepted and Mobitel reserves the right to reject any submitted RFPs if requested documents, bid bond, NDA and other details are incomplete.

Suppliers who are not registered with Mobitel and intend to bid should register with Mobitel before the above closing date. Mobitel vendor registration form can be downloaded from www.mobitel.lk/SupplierRegistrationForm

MANAGER – PROCUREMENT PROCUREMENT DIVISION, MOBITEL (PVT) LTD, NO. 109, GALLE ROAD, COLOMBO 03.



Washing Capacity Available

A BOI approved washing plant in Weligama, Down south has capacity for Garment wash, Hot wash, Silicon wash, Heavy garment wash and fabric wash.

Contact: 070 4162671



National School - Batticaloa 1873-2023

ADVERTISEMENTS

150th Jubilee - Special General Meeting

Date - 11.04.2021 (Sunday) Time - 10.00 a.m. Venue - College Auditorium

In order to celebrate the 150 years Jubilee Celebration of our college I would like to invite all the past students of St. Michael's College to a Special General Meeting to form the organizing committee and the sub committees to conduct the jubilee celebrations successfully.

Mich. Pius Anandarajah, Principal.





AVAILABLE AT

Google play

News you can trust now free on your mobile phone.



Combadonte App Store





Windows Store





visit - apps.lakehouse.lk







Apply Now at www.studyinindia.gov.in For any support dial our TOLL FREE +91-120-6565065





Your retirement is full of new journeys

Live life with peace of mind after you retire with a Seylan Harasara Senior Citizens Account.



- Pension Loans up to Rs. 5 million •
- Reimbursement up to Rs. 200,000 on general surgery and annual medical rewards
 - Birthday and wedding anniversary gifts •



Use your Seylan Harasara Debit Card for:

- Discounts up to 20% at hospitals and laboratory services
- Discounts up to 25% at opticians •
- Discounts up to 10% on online pharmacy services Discounts up to 15% at bookstores •





Govt committed to protect those who helped crush terrorism

- Dinesh Gunawardena

oreign Minister Dinesh Gunawardena told Parliament that the Government remains committed to protect those who have made immeasurable sacrifices to neutralise terrorism, protect the territorial integrity of the country and to regain for all people in Sri Lanka the most cherished of all rights, right to life. He said despite the vote of the UNHRC Resolution against Sri Lanka, the country will pursue its domestic mechanisms aimed at bringing about reconciliation and a lasting peace.

The Minister said Sri Lanka will continue to engage constructively with the UN and its agencies in the same spirit of cooperation that have stood for over six decades despite the UNHRC adopting a resolution on Sri Lanka.

Minister Gunawardena said, however, the Resolution against Sri Lanka was pushed forward at the behest of a few countries, representing one part of the world without the consent of Sri Lanka. "Therefore, it is unhelpful and divisive. There is no moral right to interfere into affairs of a sovereign country in this man-

Minister Gunawardena said that no country has a greater interest in bringing about reconciliation among its peoples than Sri Lanka - a point that has been repeatedly emphasised during proceedings of the Human Rights Council. He also said that Sri Lanka considers the draft resolution to be unwarranted, unjustified and in violation of the relevant Articles of the United Nations

Abuse of media freedom

President Gotabaya Rajapaksa said, "Media freedom does not mean freedom of media owners. Certain media owners wish to run the country the way they want and I cannot allow that to happen."

The President who was participating in the 15th "Discussion with the Village" program at the Walapane Divisional Secretariat Division of the Nuwara Eliya district, said he has not exerted any influence on the media as the President, and he will not hesitate to take legal action against such groups, if they attempt to push the country and the people backward, by abusing media freedom for the benefit of various groups and in-

President Rajapaksa said that today a group of media persons who had worked against the country during the battle against terrorism has reappeared and through their media institutions are attacking nationalist ideology and programs. He said, "The majority of voters elected me as the President to rebuild this nation. Only 16 months have passed out of the 60-month long mandate. There is still considerable time ahead. Some are worried about the next President. No one should worry in this regard as it is people's choice."

PCol debate

Divergent views were expressed in Parliament on Friday (March 26) by the Government and Opposition lawmakers during the Adjournment debate on the report of the Presidential Commission of Inquiry (PCoI) that probed the Easter Sunday at-

Speaking during the debate, National People's Power (NPP) Leader MP Anura Kumara Dissanayake said all politicians of the former Yahapalana Government should be held responsible for the Easter Sunday attacks. He said that the former Government in its entirety ignored the extremism that was budding within the community to fulfill their personal and political agendas. He said a number of groups have held press conferences and stated that the Commission's report had short-

"Some parts of the report contained accurate information, whereas others have incorrect conclusions based on correct information — and information that has been distorted. However, it is undeniably evident that crucial information regarding the attacks has been swept under the carpet," he said.

Former President Maithripala Sirisena told Parliament that none of the witnesses interviewed by the PCoI had said that he was informed of the attacks beforehand. Former President Sirisena had said



SOME MEDIA ORGANISATIONS AND PUBLIC FIGURES HAVE BEEN PAID LARGE SUMS BY NGOS TO CREATE A FAKE **ENVIRONMENTAL CRISIS** IN THE COUNTRY FOR **POLITICAL GAIN**

> - MAHINDANANDA ALUTHGAMAGE

that the day after the attacks, a Minister said he knew about the attacks beforehand and added that several others also said the same later on. "This proved their hatred towards me. Even the media played a role in damaging my image by distorting

my statements." Responding to former President Sirisena's claim, SJB Parliamentarian Harin Fernando told Parliament former Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe had no prior knowledge of the Easter Sunday attacks. Fernando said that former President Sirisena did not hand over the functions of the Defence Ministry to an Acting Minister when he went



University of Politics By Prof. Backbencher

abroad. He said that conflict was a means for politicians to further their agendas. He said those responsible for the Easter Sunday attacks need to face justice soon.

State Minister Sanath Nishantha who joined the debate said the Easter Sunday attacks could have been prevented had the then Minister Harin Fer-

nando informed the Security Forces what his father had known. However, without doing so, Fernando simply stayed at home allowing innocent civilians to fall prey to the attacks.

Tourism Minister Prasanna Ranatunga told the Parliament Opposi-tion Leader Sajith Premadasa and the Opposition members act in a manner as if the Easter Sunday attacks took place under this Government and added that all Presidential Commissions, Parliamentary Select Committees and the Oversight Committee were appointed by this Government to investigate the terror attacks.

The Minister participating in the debate on the report on the PCoI said in the aftermath of terrorist activity such as in 1971, 88/89 and the LTTE terrorism, the associated persons were rehabilitated, but the Yahapalana Government did not do so. He said that the then Government members protected their Muslim members.

Minister Ranatunga said that the people had a notion that the then Government members were involved in this heinous crime. He said the PCoI report said that despite prior information by the intelligence, the then Government kept silent allowing the terrorist attack. He queried as to what Opposition Leader Sajith Premadasa, as a Minister and the Deputy Leader of the United National Party (UNP) did regarding

Human Rights (OHCHR).

He said that there is a big problem in providing credible information to the UNHRC, and there is a question as to how the OHCHR obtained the information.

However, the Minister said that



very clear manner to defeat the misinformation campaign. The Minister said the UNHRC has no legally binding power over states and any action such as targeted sanctions, asset freezes and travel bans, which

preparations are being

made to present the

facts to the world in a

were recommended by the OHCHR report on Sri Lanka against perpetrators of alleged human rights violations, will depend on individual countries.

Former Govt responsible

Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna (SLPP) Parliamentarians charged that Samagi Jana Balawegaya (SJB) Parliamen-tarians led by Sajith Premadasa and the Yahapalana Government were answerable for the extremists' Easter Sunday attack, though they pretend not to be responsible.

At a media briefing at the party Headquarters in Nelum Mawatha,

Battaramulla, SLPP Parliamentarian Jagath Kumara said that Opposition Leader Sajith Premadasa is pretending that they have nothing to do with the inci-

He said that when they were in power and did nothing to bring the culprits to book. He said the Government led by President Gotabaya Rajapaksa and Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa arrested 99 people for the Easter Sunday attacks and legal action was being taken against them. MP Kumara said, "We have not made any effort to protect anyone. Opposition Leader Premadasa said that they were not involved in it. The Yahapalana Government including Sajith

not ready to protect the culprits." Minister of Agriculture Mahindananda Aluthgamage told the media that he would resign from politics if the Opposition proves President Gotabaya Rajapaksa is guilty of deforestation in the country. At a media briefing at the Agriculture Ministry recently, the Minister said, "Some media organisations and public figures have been paid large sums by NGOs to create a fake

Premadasa should be held re-

environmental crisis in the country for political gain." He said the Opposition and some organisations are doing this to earn money from international NGOs." Minister Aluthgamage said all these allegations were targeted at President Gotabaya Rajapaksa as those parties wish to see his downfall. He said, "If there was environmental pollution and deforestation in Sinharaja, those who are living around Sin-

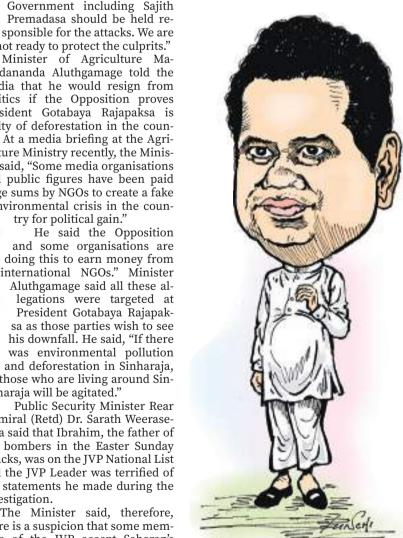
haraja will be agitated." Public Security Minister Rear Admiral (Retd) Dr. Sarath Weerasekera said that Ibrahim, the father of the bombers in the Easter Sunday attacks, was on the JVP National List and the JVP Leader was terrified of the statements he made during the investigation.

The Minister said, therefore, there is a suspicion that some members of the JVP accept Saharan's views. Speaking to the media after religious ceremonies at the Maligakanda Maha Bodhi Temple to coincide with the 147th anniversary of the Police Department, Minister Weerasekera said according to a recent statement by former JVP Parliamentarian Bimal Ratnayake, the worshipers of idols are tribal people. Therefore, he said that since fundamentalists such Saharan are against those who worship idols, there is suspicion whether the JVP also shares such views.

Reorganisation

The reorganisation of the United National Party commenced in Anuradhapura a couple of days ago chaired by party General Secretary Palitha Range Bandara. Former Par**NO COUNTRY HAS A GREATER** INTEREST IN BRINGING **ABOUT RECONCILIATION AMONG ITS PEOPLES THAN** SRI LANKA - A POINT THAT HAS REPEATEDLY BEEN **EMPHASISED DURING** PROCEEDINGS OF THE **HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL**

- DINESH GUNAWARDENA



liamentarians Ashu Marasinghe and Saman Ratnapriya were also present. Former MP Ashu Marasinghe said that the party took the wrong directions after 70 years by fielding Maithripala Sirisena as the Presidential Candidate.

He said disciplinary action will be taken against those who quit the party. Marasinghe said, "Former President Sirisena thought only of himself. If he had thought of us and the party when he was the President, we would have still been in

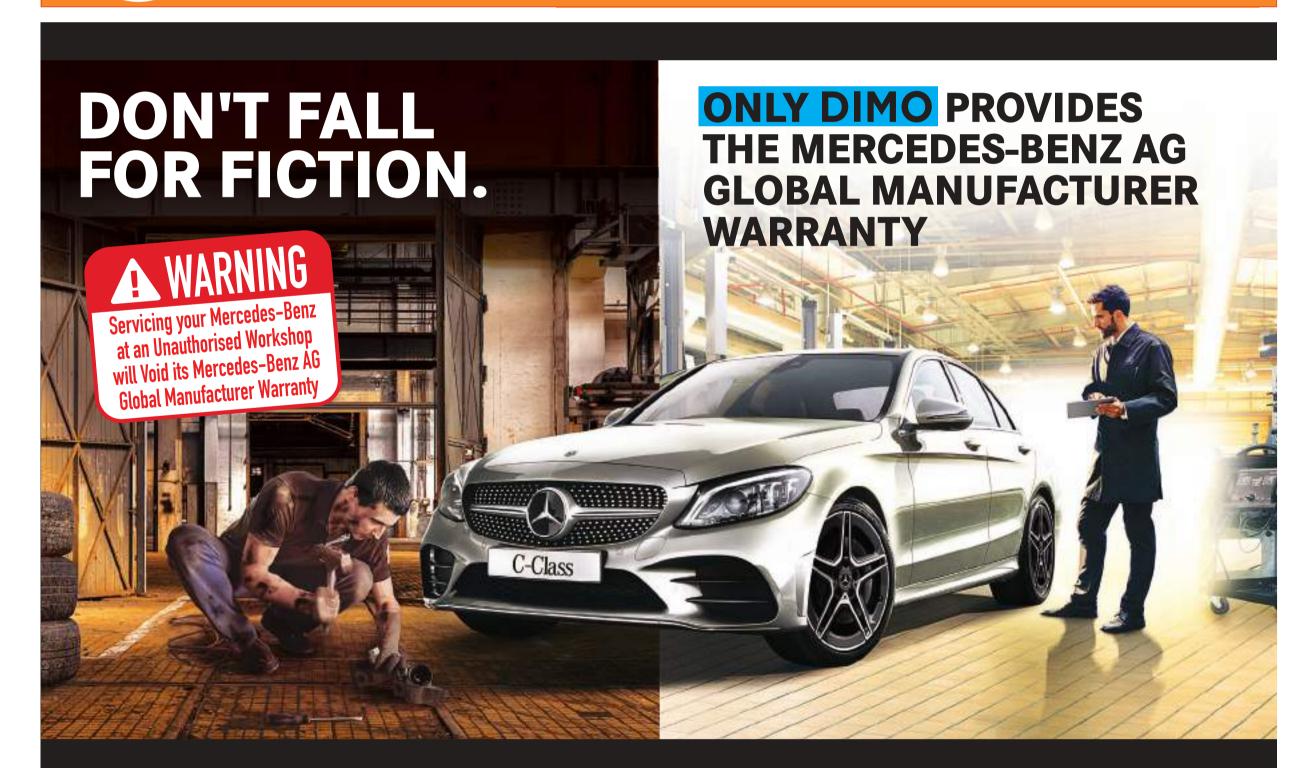
Former MP Saman Rathnapriya said that the UNP is a party that built this country, developed it and did not sell it. Therefore, the UNP has to rise again and there is no



Co-Cabinet Spokesman Mass Media Minister Keheliya Rambukwella said that the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) cannot exert any adverse influence on the country, such as the imposition of economic sanctions. The Minister said that the majority of the members with veto power at the UN Security Council support Sri Lanka. At the weekly Cabinet press briefing, Minister Rambukwella said there is a great deal of discrepancy between the correct information and the truth and the information received by the Office of the High Commissioner for

THE PRESIDENT SAID HE WILL NOT HESITATE TO TAKE LEGAL ACTION AGAINST SUCH GROUPS, IF THEY ATTEMPT TO PUSH THE COUNTRY AND THE PEOPLE BACKWARD, BY ABUSING MEDIA FREEDOM FOR THE BENEFIT OF **VARIOUS GROUPS AND INDIVIDUALS**





"Shop Warranties" you get from elsewhere are not created alike. While unauthorised Vehicle Importers & Workshops can only make false promises of such warranties, every **DIMO** | Mercedes-Benz customer enjoys the Mercedes-Benz AG Global Manufacturer Warranty Facilitation & Expert Services.

Have the real 'Star' Experience with **DIMO**, The HOME for Mercedes-Benz | Service Packages starting from Rs. 37,000/- + VAT

HOTLINE: 011 243 2675 | 077 599 2597



The Only Authorised General Distributor for Mercedes-Benz in Sri Lanka DIMO 800, Sirimavo Bandaranaike Mawatha, Colombo 14. Showroom open Mon to Fri (8 am to 6 pm) and on Sat (8 am to 5 pm) ## www.carsatdimo.lk ## www.mercedes-benz.lk ## www.facebook.com/MercedesBenzSriLanka

Book your Service Today

8 | SUNDAY OBSERVER MARCH 28, 2021 LAKE | Editor: 011 242 9231, News Desk: 011 242 9232, Business Desk: 011 2429226, Fax: 011 242 9227 Advertising: 011 2429361-9, email: editor.sundayobserver@lakehouse.lk, Websites: www.sundayok

Advertising: 011 2429361-9, email: editor.sundayobserver@lakehouse.lk, Websites: www.sundayobserver.lk

SUNDAY OBSERVER

A principled stand

Sri Lanka has weathered vet another storm at the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC), where the Western world once again ganged up against a small country that had the audacity to defeat terrorism. These self-same countries sent emissaries to Colombo at the height of the battle against terrorism in 2009 probably with the aim of saving of Tiger leader Velupillai Prabhakaran, not necessarily the Tamil people who were held hostage by him in the No Fire Zones. Ever since Sri Lanka spurned their intervention and won a massive victory over terrorism, they have been hounding Sri Lanka at the UNHRC and other multinational forums.

Last Tuesday, the UNHRC in Geneva adopted by an e-vote, the draft Resolution titled "Promoting reconciliation, accountability, and human rights in Sri Lanka" (A/HRC/46/L.1/Rev.1) tabled by a 'Core Group' of countries, during its 46th Session. Out of the 47 Members of the Council, 22 countries voted in favour, 11 voted against and 14 abstained. It is implicit from the voting result that the majority of the Council did not support this Resolution.

In fact, in many countries the abstentions have been seen as being supportive of Sri Lanka. In India, politicians including Vaiko, Stalin and Chidambaram have taken the Central Government to task for "supporting" Sri Lanka at the UNHRC. It is clear from the voting patterns that most Asian nations have either supported Sri Lanka or abstained from voting.

One chilling effect of this resolution, as explained by Sri Lanka on several occasions, is that it may impede the legitimate battle against terrorism worldwide. Most countries will be reluctant to press ahead with decisive military and other actions against terrorism, lest they be accused of violations of International Humanitarian Law (IHL) at a later date. Moreover, their military personnel could be targeted for crimes against humanity etc. In this respect, the Resolution against Sri Lanka could set a dangerous precedent. Nevertheless, some of the strongest supporters of Sri Lanka at the UNHRC were countries battling terrorism on their soil, such as Pakistan and

Ironically, most Western countries represented at the UNHRC have brought in laws that prevent the UN and other international mechanisms such as the International Criminal Court (ICC) at The Hague from prosecuting and persecuting their military personnel for war crimes committed at home or abroad. The US even withdrew from the UNHRC on these grounds, though the present administration has indicated a desire to rejoin the grouping. Needless to say, some of these countries are responsible for heinous crimes against humanity in a range of war theatres from Yemen to Afghanistan.

They clearly have not heard the expression "What is sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander". Alas, this is an unequal world that we live in and the Western world usually bends international laws in their favour. Fortunately for Sri Lanka, at least two Vetopower wielding Permanent Members of the UN Security Council (Russia and China) are firmly on its side, which makes any referral of Sri Lankan War Heroes to the ICC via the UN General Assembly/UNSC highly unlikely at any point of time.

But even this action against Sri Lanka at the UNHRC is a blot on the International Community. Sri Lanka not only ended terrorism per se – it also saved hundreds of thousands of civilians who were held at gunpoint by the LTTE (in fact, LTTE cadres shot at civilians who tried to flee) and even rescued and rehabilitated around 12,000 ex-Tiger combatants. A recent international survey concluded that Sri Lanka has the third best program of this nature. Today, they have rejoined the mainstream society as useful, economically empowered citizens.

The other danger manifested from the Resolution against Sri Lanka is that certain nations have cast aspersions on internal processes in Sri Lanka, a sovereign nation. They have clearly commented on internal developments that should be of no concern to other countries. For example, the appointment of serving and ex-military personnel to various high posts, which the report by UN Human Rights Chief Michelle Bachelet has highlighted, is purely an internal matter. Virtually all Sri Lankan Governments have engaged in this practice, not only the present

In the US, new Defence Secretary Lloyd Austin is a decorated war hero who retired just a few years ago. As far as we know, no other country or organisation has commented adversely on this appointment, which the US has every right to make. The same theory should apply to the Third World. After all, many observers have pointed out that interfering in the domestic affairs of sovereign states is tantamount to violating Article 2 (7) of the UN Charter which states: "Nothing contained in the present Charter shall authorise the United Nations to intervene in matters which are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any State..."

At the same time, Sri Lanka has firmly rejected isolationism. Sri Lanka is an active member of the International Community and of the UN. As stated earlier by Foreign Minister Dinesh Gunawardena, Sri Lanka will continue to engage constructively with the UN and its agencies in the same spirit of cooperation that have stood for over six decades for the betterment of its people, including through the achievement of sustainable development goals, in keeping with domestic priorities and policies as well as international obligations and undertakings. Instead of penalising Sri Lanka, the International Community should give it the time and space needed to fulfill its accountability and reconciliation obligations through purely domestic mechanisms. Interference and intrusion can only stymie this process and delay the healing of the wounds of conflict.

'Let my people go'



My friend Noel Nadesan domiciled in Australia writes eloquently of the suffering visited upon the Tamil people - not he says, by the Sri Lankan Army - but by his

We have looked the other way when our entire leadership was liquidated not by the Sri Lankan government but by our own people, he wrote.

Finally, he exhorted: It is time we all said: Let my people go in peace to wherever they want to go.

Well written, Sir. That was then, when Nadesan penned this piece in his own journal, and was speaking from his heart. By that time, towards the end period of the hostilities, he had seen enough.

It's what the Sinhalese people - the ordinary folk of this land - are saying now. To a man, they have this single sentiment etched in their minds. "Let my people go."

That's not least because the Sinhala are a forgiving people. It was this country's J.R. Jayewardene who set the tone for post-war Japanese resurgence, with his eloquent words at the San Francisco Peace Conference, in 1951.

He stated in that address: "We believe in the words of the Great Teacher [Buddha] whose message has ennobled the lives of countless millions in Asia, that 'hatred ceases not by hatred but by love". He then concluded: "This treaty is as magnanimous as it is just to a defeated foe. We extend to Japan the hand of friendship and trust that with the closing of this chapter in the history of man, the last page of which we write today, and with the beginning of the new one, the first page of which we dictate tomorrow, her people and ours may march together to enjoy the full dignity of human life in peace and prosperity."

SUBSTANTIAL

Successive Sri Lankan governments wanted Tamil Tiger fighters to be rehabilitated, not prosecuted. But a forgiving people, are not being let go by sections at least of the international community that seems hell bent on turning on its head, years of international practice adapted after wartime hostilities end.

Just take a long hard look at Japan. The Japanese apologised for their wartime excesses, but didn't do much else. Shrines to Japanese wartime heroes are open to this day in Japan, and the Yasukuni Shinto shrine in Tokyo is just one of them. The Japanese have not even made reparations to the Korean people for the practice of deploying young Korean girls during wartime as "comfort women" for the sexual gratification of Japanese soldiers.

Though the Japanese carried out a demilitarisation campaign and got rid of a standing Army, wartime pride is still retained in contemporary Japanese society in a substantial way.

Writes Ingyu Oh in the Journal of Japanese Peace Studies: "The revisionism debate still continues on the Japanese Archipelago. The core of the debate is about who the Japanese were fifty or so years ago and who they are now. From the left emerged images of the Japanese as imperialistic aggressors. Yet, the left could not produce a unanimous interpretation of



Besieged Northern civilians fleeing to Security Forces controlled areas

SUCCESSIVE SRI LANKAN GOVERNMENTS WANTED TAMIL TIGER FIGHTERS TO BE REHABILITATED, NOT PROSECUTED. BUT A FORGIVING PEOPLE, ARE NOT BEING LET GO BY SECTIONS AT LEAST OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY THAT SEEMS HELL BENT ON TURNING ON ITS HEAD, YEARS OF INTERNATIONAL PRACTICE ADAPTED AFTER WARTIME HOSTILITIES END

who the postwar Japanese are. Are they the same Japanese people? If not, who are they? From the right came an attack on the left, with the argument that the Japanese for the last hundred years have been victims of Western aggression, including the current U.S. hegemonic domination of Asia. For the right, the Japanese remain the same people, still struggling to be free from Western domination.'

In the Western scholastic tradition, obviously any view of the Japanese being the victims of Western aggression is revisionist, and absurd. But yet, that tradition of revisionism or whatever you may call it, is alive and well in Japan today.

PERSISTED

When this writer had the good fortune to visit Japan on a Japanese Press Centre sponsored scholarship, the organisers had a tour of the war damaged city of Hiroshima written into the itinerary. The foreign scholars were shown the skeletal remains of the City Hall, that is a ghost like reminder of the devastation caused by the atom bomb that was dropped on the city, killing a total of 140000 people.

The organisers didn't forget to have us meet with a victim of the devastating nuclear attack. The elderly gent who spoke to us showed us his fingers and demonstrated how some of them "refuse to work." The details are sketchy in my mind now, but he said something to the effect that it's a result of radiation damage from the bomb. This writer may have got the detail

wrong perhaps - but the intent was clear. The atom bomb attack was devastating. "It was not necessary," the elderly gentlemen told us. He said he and other victims did not have to go through these horrors because the US and allies knew that the war was ending anyway, and that the Japanese were making arrangements to surrender, but the US persisted with the needless at-

That's the mood in Japan. We are the victims, many of them say. But yet, though it is called revisionism in the West, that interpretation of history widely prevalent in the country did not stop Japan from transforming into one of the most respectable members of the international community. On the heels of JRJ's San Francisco speech, the US rebuilt Japan. Strangely, despite Japan's own avowed post-war non aggression policy, the US, the World War II victor subsequently wanted Japan to rebuild its national Army, because the US intended this to be a buffer force between them and the new enemy, the Communist Militaries in the then emerging Red states of the Soviet Union, and China

That was the spirit of forgiveness, that animated policy towards a former enemy that had internally cast itself at least in many civilian circles, as the victim. Japan surged to be the world's second largest

The story was similar in war ravaged Germany. The country was rebuilt under the Marshal Plan launched by the victorious US. Germany went onto become an industrialized economic behemoth.

That was in the spirit of the policy of forgiveness that the Sri Lankans espoused, first in the form of JRJ's speech in San Francisco, and then, through many other international overtures that followed. Where is that spirit of collaboration, rebuilding and resurgence when it concerns Sri Lanka, the forgiving nation?

BESIEGED

Some may say that the German and Japanese military leadership was tried and sentenced for war crimes. Yes, some of them were, for crimes as grotesque as the holocaust. In Sri Lanka, our Army was able to eradicate the scourge of terrorism perpetrated by a heinous terrorist group, banned for it's terrorist atrocities in Europe and in most parts of the world.

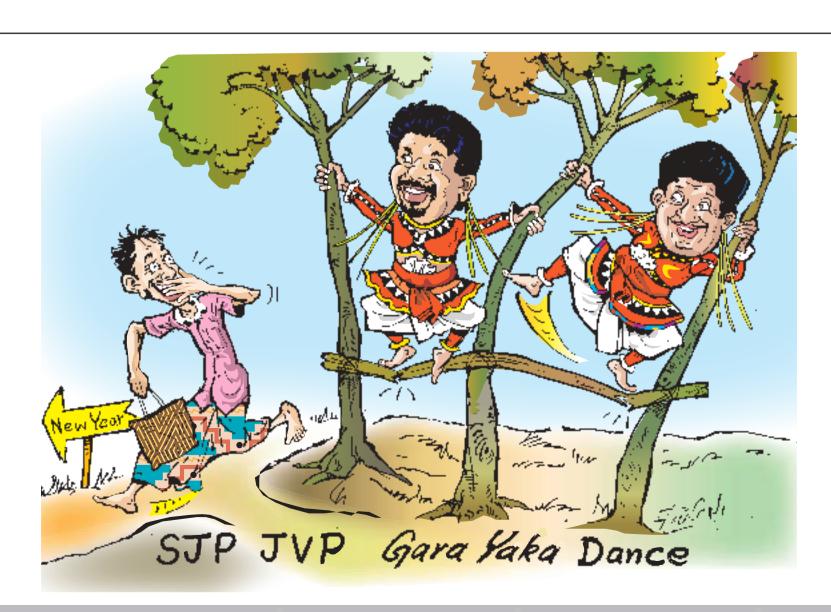
The Tamil people, as Noel Nadesan wished, were free to go, after being held hostage by the heinous LTTE. That was thanks to the Sri Lankan Army.

At the current conjuncture, it's right that we as a human family let the Sri Lankan people go. Let that spirit embodied by Marshal, McArthur, and Jayewardene animate the future for Sri Lanka, the forgiving nation.

If that was the spirit in which the sometimes unrepentant losing party, such as Japan was treated after WW II, how is it that the Sri Lankan people, who fought a much less deadly war of course, in order to liberate the besieged people that Noel Nadesan wrote of - are not being allowed to go in peace?

As Nadesan said about the Tamil people, there is only one legitimate cry on behalf of the Sri Lankan people. Let our people go, to where've they want to go.

By whichever route they may choose to determine their futures, one may add, as well. That's in the spirit of human empathy that Sri Lanka espoused for vanquished nations such as Japan. That will be in the spirit of rebuilding and resurgence that the victorious powers adopted towards their enemies following Sri Lanka's lead. So, do it right - let my people go.

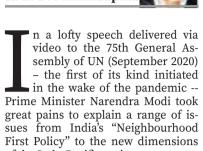


OP-ED

Opinion

Indian hypocrisy is Himalayan

-By-H. L. D. Mahindapala



Among the achievements he highlighted was this unusual factor peculiar to India only: "In the same period (i.e. within 4-5 years)," he said "600 million people have been freed from open defecation. "This was not an easy task. But India has achieved it," he said with pride.

of the Indo-Pacific region.

The entire SAARC neighbourhood joins India in celebrating this achievement. But what baffles the SAARC partners in the region is why India continues to defecate in the neighbourhood so openly and unashamedly?

The biggest shock of being a SAARCian is that no one ever knows when India would decide to defecate either in your front yard or backyard. There isn't a single SAARCian that is not working ceaselessly to keep their patch free from India faeces. India's "do-as-I-say-and-not do-as-I-do policy" has been a fundamental flaw in India's foreign policy.

The failure of SAARC to progress as a regional bloc – the only regional bloc to stagnate so far -- is due solely to India's pursuit of self-interest at the expense of its neighbours. If there is a problem in SAARC you can be sure that India is somewhere in it. And yet the Prime Minister boasted in the same speech, "We have always worked for the interests of humankind and not driven by our own selfinterests."

The Gandhi-Nehruvian idealism that inspired the Non-Alignment Movement went out with India defecating in and around its neighbourhood. Cleaning up India was long overdue and Modi deserves credit for achieving this Herculean task. Which reminds me of the cynical story that circulated after the visit of Nikita Khrushchev, the Soviet Premier, to India in 1960.

An eye-sore to Khrushchev, the story went, was the Indians defecating in public and on one of his long train rides he chided Nehru for letting his people dirty both sides of the railway track. Nehru's pride was wounded and he remembered it well and on his return visit to USSR (as Russia was known then) he was out to get even with his counterpart. He thought he found one at last in one of his long train rides across Siberia when he saw in the open distance, a squatting man defecating.

He quickly summoned Khrushchev and pointed to the ugly scene which, naturally angered Khrushchev. Immediately, he pulled the chain and stopped the train and got his NKVD to bring the culprit before him. It was Nehru who was chagrined again because they discovered that the defecator was none other than India's ambassador to Moscow!

Well, SAARCians are well aware that the South Bloc in Delhi is a factory that produces these incontinent specimens who should not have been let out of Indian toilets. J. N. Dixit, the noted "Mr. Fix-it" who was sent by Mrs. Indira Gandhi, to execute her excremental mission in Sri Lanka, was full of regret later when he realised, rather late, that it was India's biggest

The entire mission was undertaken on the assumption that India could fix the domestic problem of Sri Lanka by using its superior military, political and Big Brother muscles. In the end it was driven away by the very forces that welcomed them as their saviours. And the LTTE boasted that they had beaten the fourth largest Army in the world.

Losing its grip

Each defeat diminishes India's stature as a reliable guide, partner and leader in the global competition for power and influence. India's rivals are asserting and making their presence felt with more credible and viable use of power. In short, India is losing its grip in the neighbourhood – let alone the Indian Ocean Rim - by the day, to its powerful rival China.

India is drifting away from its neighbourhood – its nearest and vital mates needed for its defence - to depend on distant power blocs like the QUAD. Consequently, India is forced to rely on the Pacific "friends" with a



A group of IPKF soldiers in Sri Lanka. Pic: Lake House Media Library

common interest in containing China, which questions the validity of India's "Neighbourhood First Policy". And the more it alienates its neighbours the more it is compelled to rely on LOCs and LACs.

How many frontiers must it maintain just to survive in the neighbourhood, dissipating its military energies on mini-wars and skirmishes from time to time, sometimes going to the brink? Is India going to live on tenterhooks for the rest of its life by hanging on to controversial legacies and self-serving interventions?

India of course rushes into places where angels fear to tread (e.g. Sri Lanka) believing that it is a problemsolver. But the records show that she ends up as a problem-exacerbator, not knowing how to get out of it without exiting in body bags.

Bite more than it can chew

Invariably, India's foreign forays boomerang on her blinkered bureaucrats in the South Bloc. India has this penchant also to bite more than what it can chew. And, in the process, she gets choked. That is what happened to her in Sri Lanka. Had India allowed the Sri Lankan forces to finish off the LTTE in the Vadamarachchi operation in the 70s the needless internal war would not have dragged on till 2009. It could have been nipped in the bud. But Big Brother India had to come in and worsen the situation for all concerned - mostly to India.

Had India allowed Sri Lanka to solve its problems in their way India could have saved face without having to experience the humiliation of its forces being driven out with their tails between their legs.

India's latest diplomatic thrust at the UNHRC against Sri Lanka is typical of India's duplicitous diplomacy. It is the absolute lack of moral finesse that makes India a despicable figure in the eyes of those who know India's role in sabotaging and destabilising her neighbour and friend for thousands of years. It is the nearness that makes India both a friend and an en-

"As a neighbour with thousands of years of relations with Sri Lanka, we cannot remain untouched by developments in that country and will continue to remain engaged in this matter," said Dilip Sinha, India's High Commissioner in Geneva in 2013. In other words, India is saying that it will not let Sri Lanka be independent and handle its domestic affairs or foreign affairs according to its national

India gave a new meaning to "Neighbourhood First Policy" by imposing Article 370 and wiping out the independent status of Kashmir violating international agreements and UN resolutions and absorbing the Muslim state into Indian Hindustan. India would not have hesitated by now to make Sri Lanka its 29th state if it had the power to do so.

The "Neighbourhood First Policy"

EACH DEFEAT DIMINISHES INDIA'S STATURE AS A RELIABLE GUIDE, PARTNER AND LEADER IN THE GLOBAL COMPETITION FOR POWER AND INFLUENCE. INDIA'S RIVALS ARE ASSERTING AND MAKING THEIR PRESENCE FELT WITH MORE CREDIBLE AND VIABLE USE OF POWER. IN SHORT, INDIA IS LOSING ITS GRIP IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD – LET ALONE THE INDIAN OCEAN RIM -- BY THE DAY, TO ITS POWERFUL RIVAL CHINA

is a rather belated approach to mend broken fences. But India can't live up to its own commitments. India's lobbying against Sri Lanka in Geneva, roping in Nepal, is not the best way to pursue policy that gives priority and confidence to the neighbourhood. Pakistan and Bangladesh, the two big neighbours, were not with India.

Isn't this another sign that meddlesome and interventionist India cannot coexist with its neighbours? Of course, the Modi government was under pressure in Tamil Nadu to prove that they are with the Tamils in Sri Lanka. Selling Sri Lanka is another way of winning votes in the Tamil Nadu election due on April 6.

Modi is boasting that he is the first Indian Prime Minister to visit Jaffna. He is also claiming blood relationship with the Tamils by referring to them as his "brothers and sisters". No doubt, this is electoral rhetoric. That is for domestic consumption. But the consequences of this rhetoric go bevond the borders to impact on Indo-Sri Lanka relations.

India is literally pushing Sri Lanka into the arms of China - the last thing that both sides wish to happen. Both sides are sensitive to the possibility of Sri Lanka, swinging away from India. India is openly wooing the Tamils partly to keep the pot boiling for it to intervene and partly to keep them as the Fifth Column to provoke and pressure the GOSL. Indian diplomats on the ground are stirring the pot, playing ball with the Tamil

Playing with fire

Driven by Indian funds, patronage and interventionist policies, the local Tamil parties too are only too happy to go along with Indian manoeuvres. In doing this India is playing with fire again. Playing with divisive politics is a risky gamble. Foreign powers tend to join with the locals to xploit divisions to their advantage. But it doesn't go according to plan in the best of cases. Vietnam for the JSA and Sri Lanka for Indians prove that it can go the other way.

India finds "Tamil aspirations" good excuse to intervene. So it should not be surprised to find the Sri Lankan "aspirations" too compelling the Sri Lankan policymakers to seek their comfort/security zones abroad. So far, India's handling of "Tamil aspirations" has not satisfied the Tamil

Velupillai Prabhakaran went against India because he felt that India was pushing its own neo-colonial program more than that of the Tamils. Right now India has moved into the UNHRC to push its neo-colonial interventions. Apart from power politics, what makes the Indian adventure in Geneva so obnoxious is its blatant lies and immorality.

Of course, India makes a big issue of trying to present its role as neutral middle-man guaranteeing territorial integrity to Sri Lanka and in the same breath guaranteeing "Tamil aspirations" which it says is in the interest of Sri Lanka. In other words, India will follow the policy of rocking the cradle and pinching the baby. But the sudden and arbitrary application of Article 370 to Kashmir - a kind of final solution to the vexed issue since Pandit Nehru created it at Independence - proves that India is not shy of redrawing the political maps according to its whims and fancies. India is provocative. It is aggressive. And threatening regional peace and stability with each big move.

A counterweight is needed to balance India's arrogant approach to its neighbours. If an alternative counterweight is not forthcoming, perhaps, an alliance of non-Indians in the region to lock in India - if achievable -would be the answer to put India in

its place. In other words, somebody must stop India running wild. Take the case of Sri Lanka. India exploited the simmering internal stirrings in its very early stages to recruit derelict Tamil youth to be India's covert arm to destabilise Sri Lanka. It provided training, finance, military equipment, political patronage, diplomatic cover, the use of its territory to export terrorism to its thousand-year-old friend and neighbour. Eventually it forced its way into Sri Lanka on the promise of solving the problem.

When the Tamils realised that the Indians had come in to exploit them they turned against the IPKF. In response the IPKF sprayed bullets indiscriminately targeting civilians. The Indians committed the most heinous war crime by raiding the Jaffna Hospital and slaughtering doctors, surgeons, nurses and patients and all others who stood in the way. And it is this India - this hypocritical India -

that is asking Sri Lanka to give justice, dignity, equality and peace for Jaffna Tamils in Geneva.

Three parties engaged directly in finding a military solution and all the human rights issues arose from the military engagements of the three forces: 1. The quasi-Tamil state of the LTTE which came out of the declaration of war by the Tamil leadership at Vadukoddai urging the Tamil youth to take up the gun in pursuit of establishing a Tamil state. (2) the democratically elected state of Sri Lanka which fought to defeat the Tamil Pol Pot and liberate the Tamils from Tamil tyranny and 3. The state of India which intervened militarily to impose its will assuming its power to find a solution. All parties violated human rights and committed war crimes.

The UN Resolutions repeatedly refer to violations of human rights by the GOSL and the LTTE but never by the state of India. Why? In their reports to UNHRC all the High Commissioners have been quick to pick on the GOSL. But not a single report has ever dared to raise the violations of the Indian forces in Sri Lanka. Why? Are they above the law? Or are the High Commissioner, as usual playing the hidden games of exempting the powerful and flaying only the powerless – and that too on flimsy excuses compared to what India had done to Sri Lanka from the beginning?

Unforgivable

The scale of India's criminality in creating, promoting, financing, legitimising the killing machine of its agents in Jaffna is unforgivable. India has no moral leg to stand on and accuse Sri Lanka of anything after what it has done to its thousandyear neighbour and friend. On the contrary, India should have accepted guilt for paving the path to crimes that killed innocent lives in Sri Lanka and legally forced to pay compensation to the victims.

Apart from kick-starting the Tamkilling machine and exporting it to Sri Lanka, it is India's direct military intervention that prolonged the war leading to thousands of deaths and violations of human rights. After that, after committing those inhuman crimes what right has India to pontificate to Sri Lanka on dignity, peace and justice? After promising to restore peace and reconciliation India departed disgracefully, leaving Sri

Lanka in bloody shambles. Not only India, the entire Core Group led by the UK and the West should hang their heads in shame for hiding the facts that undermine the veracity and the validity of their fake resolution against Sri Lanka. Their secret files contain the truth and they will not reveal them because it blasts their accusations to smithereens.

Lord Naseby's revelations knock the bottom out of the Resolution that was sponsored by the Core Group. His tireless efforts to dig up the truth and expose the concocted resolution. full of inaccuracies, exaggerations,

distortions and denials confirm that UN and its agencies are manipulated by mendacious agents who have the least respect for basic and decent values needed for delivery of justice. Michelle Bachelet has not failed to imitate Colin Powell with deadly accuracy. Both should be awarded honorary degrees for deliberately lying to mislead and deceive the public.

Reading Lord Nasby's account of what happened in Geneva one is forced to conclude that the whole episode was a farce enacted by liars, hypocrites, conspirators and plain criminals presenting themselves as human rights activists. It was the UK that Chaired the Core Group and the evidence was with Lord Ahamad, the Minister for Human Rights, who had "purposely and consciously withheld "robust evidence" of utmost importance being sent to the UNHR.... He should have sent them unredacted to create an informed Report. The action is made even worse by the UK Chairing the Core Group and is absolutely reprehensible. It is unforgivable and is a black day for my UK Government," said Lord Naseby.

He said, "I find it unacceptable that the senior UK Minister responsible for Human rights policy should state that the UNHRC did not ask for these Dispatches. The Minister knew how crucial the contents of these Dispatches are to the truth." One of the objectives of the UNHRC resolution is to find evidence of the human rights violations in Sri Lanka. Shouldn't the UN begin with the office of the UK Minister for Human Rights and then with Ms. Bachelet's office? In failing to obtain the necessary information before presenting her report to UNHRC isn't she guilty of criminal neglect of duty?

The emerging evidence is exposing the calculated manipulation that had operated, with the hidden plotters in the NGOs and officials in key places hiding evidence, concocting evidence and distorting realities on the ground. For instance, the UN produces accusations against Sri Lanka with evidence from nameless, faceless accusers who will remain anonymous for the next thirty years. And Sri Lanka is forced to face the consequences of mysterious evidence kept hidden in the UN archives.

India which was a prime conspirator in financing and honing the Tamil killing machine turns up at UNHRC as a pious preacher of humane values and lobbies against its victim demanding justice. The UK which presides over the Core Group hides the evidence that goes against its own resolution.

Ms. Bachelet who is the Chief Officer responsible for coordinating and presenting the evidence for the Resolution goes along with the lies, deception and the conspiracy to indict Sri Lanka. Put together all this adds to one big calculated move to indict Sri Lanka no matter what the truth is. What chance had Sri Lanka against such massive plotters?

Features

How common is "Common Sense"?



"Common sense is the most fairly distributed thing in the world, for each one thinks he is so well-endowed with it that even those who are hardest to satisfy in all other matters are not in the habit of desiring more of it than they already have." – Rene Descartes

he Cambridge Dictionary describes "common sense" as "the basic level of practical knowledge and judgement that we all need to help us live in a reasonable and safe way".

We hear expressions such as: "Can't you use your common sense?" or "I sure hope that common sense will prevail in the end". Though we all use the phrase whenever we feel the need, especially dealing with children and, or subordinates, most of us do not try to think about what we really mean by it.

What is considered as common sense by parents or other adults may neither be sensed by nor common among children. What is considered as common sense by one may not be sensed by another at all. Sometimes we use the phrase just to get out of situations we find hard to explain or define. Even the people who can explain the meanings of the words "common" and "sense" separately may not be able to explain what they really mean by "common sense".

St. Augustine has once said that he knew what time was, so long as he was not asked to define it. People are said to have common sense when they deal effectively with the com-

mon circumstances of life. All beings come into this world equipped to receive signals and indications from the environment and their own experiences how to deal with life's situations as they arise.

The habits of thoughts and action thus acquired by humans will respond to the demands of their surroundings.

Ambiguity

Such innate capacities of a group of people sharing a particular surrounding or similar surroundings may be considered as common sense. Though such capacities may be seen as common within the group, different persons in the group may be aware of them and capable of using them in different degrees. This difference in the presence of common sense and, or the ability to use it creates the ambiguity in the phrase "common sense".

English philosopher Thomas Hobbes said that every man brought "Natural Reason" into the world with him, for all men can reason to some degree concerning some things but when the situation requires a long series of reasoning, they tend to wander out of the way and fall into error showing the need of a method to keep their reasoning inline.

Natural Reason seems to carry us all to a certain extent, but beyond that it woud be proportionate to the improved reasoning abilities of different persons. When one needs to carry the reasoning successfully over a wider range than the average affairs of practical life, the commonality part of the "common sense" begins to diminish gradually.

Therefore, training people on extending their capacities of Natural Reason to expand its range may help

DIVERGENT THINKING HELPS **CREATE NEW POSSIBILITIES USING IMAGINATION THAT CAN EXPAND ONE'S COMMON** SENSE. DIVERGENT THINKING IS ALSO SUPPORTED BY HAPPY AND PLEASANT STATES OF MIND WHERE **AS UNHAPPY AND OR DEPRESSED STATES LEAD** TO MORE RESTRICTIVE AND LIMITED THOUGHT PATTERNS



improve their common sense. Then we will be faced with the question whether we have educational methods that can deliver such training.

Etymology of the word "Education" shows that the Latin origin of it "educare" means "to bring out". Therefore, the truest sense of the word education indicates that there is no reason for anyone to think that common sense cannot be imprvoved. As Rene Descartes has said, what prevents most of us from improving our common sense is our ego of being satisfied with the feeling that we have all the common sense we need and the reluctance of accepting the need of improving it.

Scientists and psychologists say that science is not a substitute for common sense but an extension of it. At the same time, common sense in an uncommon degree is what the world calls wisdom. Studies have shown that creative and logical thinking provide the supporting structure for common sense.

Research has shown, over and over again, that we are all born with the highest creative potentials that diminish gradually through living. A research in the USA in 1960s following 1600 children from the ages of 5 - 25 has shown that 98 percent of the five-year olds scored in the "creative genius" range.

Creative genius

When the same children were tested through the years, only two percent of them got to the category of "creative genius" at the age of 25. To maintain creativity at the genius level, one has to keep the five-year old alive within oneself. Researchers suggested that to achieve that kind of sustainability of creativity, one has to maintain divergent thinking irrespective of one's age.

Divergent thinking helps create new possibilities using imagination that can expand one's common sense. Divergent thinking is also supported by happy and pleasant states of mind where as unhappy and, or depressed states lead to more restrictive and limited thought patterns. We will not achieve any type of an expansion of common sense through formal education if our schools and or the universities are places that rob us out of our creativity and force us to cultivate noncreative thinking where experts in reproducing what has been memorised are generously rewarded.

Students as well as teachers should feel happy to be in that teaching-learning environment where, at the end of each day, everyone experiences a sense of fulfillment about the achievements of the day.

Curricula and the evaluation methods should be designed to enhance divergent thinking. Teachers should not only understand the subjects they teach well but also understand the importance of facilitating divergent thinking through which the students will see the bigger and more general a picture.

There are certain aspects of creative thinking that can be developed through knowledge and practice if one is free to follow one's imagination and ask the questions "why" and

Psychologists have shown that humans learn things faster and much easier when the things they try to learn agree with their common sense. Improved common sense will certainy make life easier to live for evervone.

Eighteenth century English poet Nicholas Amhurst, in his 1726 essays about the University of Oxford, wrote: "There is not a more uncommon thing in the world than common sense; and I will add to the paradox by adding, that this uncommon thing, called common sense, is nowhere more uncommon, than (where it ought to be most common) in our nurseries of literature and re-

(The writer has served in the higher education sector as an academic over 20 years in the USA and 14 years in Sri Lanka. He can be contacted at thilanh@gmail.com)

Protecting biodiversity: Safeguarding the future





earth is known to be the foundation of human existence. One way of explaining the subject is through the phrase by the famous naturalist John Muir 'when we tug at a single thing in nature, we find it attached to the rest of the world.'

This means all living creatures need other creatures and plants in one way another. Biodiversity and ecosystems protect human life from natural calamities. Biodiversity helps regulates the climate, helps the food chain, nourishes the soil, helps make numerous types of medicine and many more. This unique feature of the Earth is the most complex, dynamic and varied that experienced dramatic changes at the hands f humans.

However, according to the current observations, biodiversity around the globe, including Sri Lanka, is fast declining due to the increasing population where many countries are burdened by poverty, food insecurity, and constant climate changes. These primary biodiversity losses predominantly occur as a result of human activities. Around the world, the trend is to adopt and spur demand for more responsible and diverse practices to protect the environment, water resources, forests and wildlife.

Flora and fauna

Sri Lanka is identified by the international community as the richest country in the Asian region in terms of species concentration, ecological balance, climatic conditions and landscape variability. In a relatively tiny space of just 65,000 sq.ft., the country provides amazing diversity and favourable conditions for many types of flora and fauna in almost all geographical regions throughout the country.

Amazingly, the country has an array of ecosystems such as rain forests and marine environments of over 1600 kilometres of coastline. The climatic zones in the country are characterised by various forest types, such as rainforests, mountain cloud forests, dry zone monsoon forests, lush mangroves, coral reefs and thorn rub forests.

President Gotabaya Rajapaksa, in his election manifesto, 'Vistas of Prosperity' pledged that he will take many positive steps to protect the rich biodiversity of the country. In Chapter eight of the document, the President has amply elaborated his vision and the plans to preserve biodiversity and the environment in general. The manifesto describes the definitive measures taken on water management, reforestation, countrywide planting programs and conservation of natural

Regardless of the prevailing laws

and heavy media involvement, damaging human activity encroaches on natural environments destroying the habitats of numerous species. The damage occurs on two different fronts. The first is the illegal activities of felling of trees for commercial gains and the second is the rising haphazard and uncoordinated development activities sanctioned by the Government.

sification in the country with the priority given to food security is another unavoidable situation that damages the environment. People need food to live. Therefore, strengthening food production is a vitally important goal of a country. However, the damage predominantly takes place due to the space requirements, use of chemicals and pesticides, artificial fertiliser and many other such activities. Indiscriminate use of most of the chemicals in agriculture destroys insects useful for ecological balance.

The growing pressure on the food supply creates an increasing proportion of agricultural lands around the country. With the incentives and assistance promised by the Government for agriculture development projects, more people, including private sector institutions are demanding lands to cultivate. While the demand created is highly beneficial to the country in an economic context, it can, on the contrary, damage the biodiversity irreparably, if not managed with extreme care.

Over-exploitation

The relentless consumption of resources, such as timber, minerals and other human needs continues to destroy natural habitats in the country. Over-exploitation of these resources for genuine consumption and trade has to be controlled to sustain the situation. The controls imposed by Governments through the introduction of many methods have not succeeded as vet.

Public opinion is that the situation slips from control mainly due to the involvement of politicians, particularly regional politicians who misuse many public resources in their areas. It is a known secret that an enormous amount of money is required to win even a Pradeshiya Sabha election under the present electoral system. Hence, the candidates are often compelled to recover the money spent through the easiest way.

Pollution created by humans knowingly and unknowingly is one of the biggest threats for Sri Lanka. For example, the situation is so awful that despite numerous awareness campaigns by the collective print and electronic media, tons of plastic waste is collected each year at the most sacred 'Sri Pada' temple. The vast majority of pilgrims disregard the warnings, instructions and requests and dump plastic and other waste indiscriminately.

As everyone knows, the country's unique and rich biological diversity is

gradually deteriorating with declining the existence of animal and plant species. The canopy of dense natural forests keeps reducing year after year despite the hue and cry of the environmentalists and the public outcry.

Environment protection is a sensitive subject to every Sri Lankan. The public always tends to blame the Government if any environmentally harm-The prevailing agricultural intenful incident takes place at any corner of the country. Due to technology, the information spreads faster than ever on any distressing issues. Political groups with vested interests watch like hawks to strike whenever they can. Seemingly, the Government itself is providing ngredients to these anti-Government elements to relentlessly attack by delaying explanations as well as appropriate and timely action on environmentrelated issues.

Development projects

However, when closely scrutinise, most of these are related to infrastructure development projects and unavoidable under the circumstances. Regrettably, the Government media machinery is always falling behind and fails to make explanations in time.

As always, the Opposition parties make a heyday out of even a small and isolated incident and create suspicion among even the pro-Government public. This is a grave situation that has to be arrested without further delay to minimise the damage to the image of the Government.

However, it is the solemn obligation and duty of the Government to investigate every single incident and provide adequate information to the public. Every resource of the country belongs to the public first and foremost.

Therefore, their involvement is inevitable in any national issue. It is not a secret that almost the entire citizenry looks at the politicians with suspicion.

They are aware, through experience that politics is behind any 'shady' deal. Factually, regional politicians are involved in many incidents related to environmental hazards and most often leaders of Governments turned the blind eye to their misdeeds.

Biodiversity is not only a collection of animals and plants, but it is much more than what meets the eye. It includes numerous types of life forms associated with natural assets that sustain human lives.

Although the Government has given the highest priority to environmental conservation as a policy, the ground reality is that majority of the public is not aware of the significance of the matter. Therefore, more drastic action on destroyers of the environment is expected from the authorities through more intense awareness and penal sys-

By protecting biodiversity, the country can maintain a resilient environment that allows the Sri Lankans to be happy, protected and prosperous.

UK Government has brought UNHRC into disrepute

It has become apparent that the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) in Geneva did not take into consideration documents and reports which were written by Lieutenant Colonel Anton Gash who was the then military attaché on the ground in Sri Lanka and had unfettered access to the conflict zones, however, his despatches have been withheld by the UK Government.

This critical information was not transmitted to the UNHRC for consideration and neither did the UNHRC ask for the evidence and this is highly irregular because the whole purpose of the Human Rights Council is to investigate thoroughly leaving no stone unturned and most importantly without fear or favour.

Not realising this sequence of events, the 47 countries which voted on March 23 were oblivious to the fact that the UNHRC had not requested the information; neither did the UK Government provide the information, as they are the penholder of the Core Group consisting of Germany, Canada, Malawi, Montenegro and North Macedonia.

The UK government has brought the UNHRC into disrepute by withholding information and not providing it to the member nations for scru-

The 22 countries which voted in favour of the UK motion need to ask further questions as to why this information has been withheld and why the documents have not been released without being censored so that it will help the UN Human Rights Council to make an informed deci-

The 14 countries which abstained also need to understand why they have been misled.

Heinous allegations

Ranjiv Goonawardena, an aficionado on Sri Lanka, said this is a great travesty of injustice to Sri Lanka and the UK Government has brought the whole proceedings in the UNHRC into disrepute by withholding critical information which would have exonerated Sri Lanka of these heinous allegations and conjecture.

Due to the above circumstances, the whole proceedings in the Human Rights Council for Sri Lanka should be deemed null and void. It is extremely surprising that the

UK Government has classified Colonel Gash's report as Sri Lanka does not seem to be an existential threat to the United Kingdom.

So why would they censor it and deem it classified as confidential dispatches?

After nearly three years of perseverance, Lord Naseby through the use of a Freedom of Information Act was able to acquire the redacted version of some of the documents pertaining to the diplomatic despatches of Lieutenant Colonel Gash which were classified by the UK govern-







The Rt Hon Lord Naseby



Lieutenant Colonel Anton Gash

Lord Naseby said that he had written to the High Commission of The Human Rights Council Michelle Bachelet and her office did not reply to his letter.

This is extremely strange as Lord Naseby has irrefutable evidence from the man on the ground in Colombo, Lieutenant Colonel Anton Gash in Her Majesty's Government, the Military Attaché assigned to Sri Lanka in 2009 evidence which would help the UNHRC office.

Before the Resolution vote in keeping with the e-voting procedure established by the UNHCR session which was held virtually and certain countries made several statements in favour of Sri Lanka.

Héctor Constant Rosales, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela representative eloquently summed up the situation.

Venezuela reiterates its opposition to the Draft Resolution where some countries or members of this Council who for purely political grounds table initiatives such as this draft resolution L.1/Rev.1, against the Socialist Democratic Republic of Sri Lanka. Such initiatives do not enjoy the ascent of the country concerned.

They violate the principles of respect for sovereignty and non-interference in the domestic affairs of states. We are deeply troubled that the text of the Draft Resolution seeks to establish the competency of the office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights to collate criminal evidence for future judicial processes turning it into an organ of a body of criminal inquiry.

A flagrant violation of the mandate contained in resolution 48 141 of the general assembly which established the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in the first place.

We are also deeply alarmed by the distortion of the preventive approach as a concept preventive in terms of human rights.

That is a distorted and perverted interpretation of that goal which is further embedded in this antagonistic initiative against Sri Lanka which seeks in advance of any concrete findings to disproportionately punish alleged violations of human rights violations which never took place.

It is regrettable that the sponsors of draft resolution L.1/Rev.1 seem to

have ignored the major efforts undertaken by the Government of Sri Lanka to comply with its commitments in terms of human rights.

Venezuela rejects it as baseless the interventionist attempts that are under way into the internal process being experienced by this country towards true national reconciliation.

We'd like to flank the major risk inherent in the bias draft resolutions which follow an interventionist model such as this one and is a throwback to the anachronistic practices and selective proceedings with some major powers.

Global powers

Their allies seek to impose an assault on independence and sover-

eignty of the countries of the Global South particularly those countries that will not allow the need to the whims of these global powers.

We condemn the selected nature, the politicisation and the blatant double standards in these initiatives which establish hostile mandates at the behest of those who seek to uphold murky interests of their own governments which have promoted these draft resolutions where they themselves have committed on are still committing serious human rights violations.

Yet they themselves have never been subject to similar initiatives while Sri Lanka is cooperating actively with this council and its mechanisms and with the OHCHR demonstrating a major headway made in the promotion and protection of the human rights of its people. This draft Resolution is entire-

ly unwarranted for which reason it should be rejected by the members of the Security Council and we call upon them all to vote against it for all of the aforementioned reasons Venezuela energetically and categorically opposes the draft Resolution L.1/ Rev.1 and we will vote against.

Permanent Secretary of the Brazilian Mission Maria Luisa Escorel De Moraes said that Sri Lanka continues to cooperate in good faith and we stress that the Government's legitimate concerns regarding key issues.

That some of the recommendations in the office's report presented to the Council might have overstepped the mandate of a body that does not deal with peace and security issues within the UN system.

Invested over Rs.35 Bn

THE SRI LANKAN TILE INDUSTRY; A CONTINUOUS SOURCE OF EMPOWERMENT TO THE LOCAL ECONOMY











We have always been a perpetual source of empowerment to the local industry, a duty we embrace with pride; a calling we hope to fulfil for the foreseeable future.





Price increases in 3 years





Pays over Rs.6Bn in annual taxes

The Sri Lankan tile industry consists of 3 main companies: Rocell, LankaTiles and Macktiles. These three companies have a collective annual capacity to manufacture over 220 Million square feet in tiles, making a significant contribution to the national economy for over 4 decades.

- Employment opportunities to over 27,500 Sri Lankans
- No price increases have been made over the last 3 years, despite escalating costs and tough economic conditions
 (Starting at Rs.131/sq.ft.)
- Invested over Rs. 35 Billion, paying over Rs. 6 Billion in government taxes annually
- Exports high quality tiles to over 20 different countries earning valuable foreign exchange for Sri Lanka
- Partnered in varied public and private mega projects across the nation
- 1,800 innovative designs in a variety of size formats and surface finishes, manufactured to the highest international standards of quality
- Operating across 150 retail outlets and 500 dealer locations





News/Obituaries

INSS holds discussion on Port City Colombo issues

rity Studies (INSS) held a public lecture on Friday at the institute premises. Experts from the Tri-Forces, academia, diplomatic fields and from Urban Development Authority were present.

The event was the first discussion convened on the Colombo Port City Project following the Cabinet approval granted on March 24, on Port City legislation.

The discussion aimed to address present and future issues related to the setting up of the Port City on how the authorities should ensure national security.

The lecture was moderated by Director General of the INSS and Affairs, Admiral (Prof.) Jayanath Colombage and the guest speaker was Director General (Development) of State Ministry of Urban Development, Coast Conservation, Waste Disposal and Community Cleanliness, S. K. A. P. Devaraja.

The guest speaker outlined the development plan touching upon the connectivity between infrastructure of Port City and Colombo, the land ownership of the project; as gazetted under the State Lands Ordinance and the master plan; where 74 marketable plots are categorised with five districts (Financial, the Marina, the International Island, Island Living, Central Park Living).

well-defined road system, green network, network of public open places. With the extensivity of the project, the partnership between Government and Project Company in terms of security issues were discussed especially pertaining to environmental, economic and military

Pertaining to ensuring environmental security, it was noted that the first Environmental Impact Assessment on Port City was done in 2011 and consequently a Supplementary Environmental Impact Assessment was completed in 2015. The report linked environmental aspects for the first time to socio economic implica-



The discussion in progress

tions. In terms of economic growth there would be a Light Railway Tranand implications, it was stated that sit (LRT) within Port City as well.

sius

that a discussion on the security plan for the Colombo Port City Project is yet to be finalised. The gathering said that there should be an integrated approach for national security within the Port City incorporating the three forces, the police and firefighters. The need to allocate a responsible authority to maintain the breakwater to fill the current vacuum of authority was discussed.

The discussion concluded with the project to be treated not as a plot of land but more as a facility and appropriate policies and practices must be implemented to reap the maximum advantage from the project.

Seminar on **Graphic Design** and Multimedia

The Sri Lanka Institute of Printing has organised a workshop style seminar in Graphic Design and Multimedia Technology.

The seminar will be held on Tuesday, March 30 from 8.30 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. at the Institute's premises. It is open to the public free.

The seminar will give exposure and understanding of the use of essential graphic software packages used in the industry. It will also guide school-leavers and other professionals who wish to gain knowledge in graphic designing skills to use them in day-to-day work and presentations.

The session will discuss the use of essential software packages used in Web Design, Non-Linear Editing and Digital Animation. The seminar will educate school leavers and other professionals who wish to gain knowledge in Web Design, 3D Animation, Non-Linear Editing skills and how to use them in relevant projects.

This will be a great opportunity for those who wish to take up Web Design, 3D Animation, Non-Linear Editing and Graphic Designing as careers which, in today's job market have high demand and greater potential in

The intake will be limited to capacity and those who are interested in participating at the seminar should reserve a seat by contacting Sri Lanka Institute of Printing on 011 2686162, 011 2679791, 0777 706995 or by visiting Sri Lanka Institute of Printing, Department of Government Printing, No. 118, Dr. Danister De Silva Mawatha, Colombo 8.

No environmental damage in Sinharaja

- SLNCU

The Sri Lanka National Commission for UNESCO (SLNCU) said there has been no environmental damage in the Sinharaja forest for UNESCO to focus on.

Secretary General of the Commission Dr. Punchinilame Meegaswatte said there has been no environmental damage within the Sinharaja forest as reported by a certain section of the media.

He said, however, a letter was sent to the UNESCO headquarters regarding a proposal to construct a tank at Madu Getaya close to the Sinharaja forest.

Dr. Meegaswatte said that he is aware that UNESCO will not grant permission whatsoever to construct a tank in that area but nevertheless he sent the proposals to UNESCO.

Gratiaen prize 2020

Restless

The shortlist for the Gra-randa tiaen Prize 2020 will be announced at an online event on Monday, April 5 at 7.00 p.m, live-streamed on the Facebook page of the Gratiaen Trust. For a second consecutive year, the prize event has gone online and for the third consecutive year a long list for the prize was announced. At this event, these long-listed writers and their work will be featured before the announcement of the short list.

The Long-list that was announced earlier this month includes eight writers: A Sunbird's Guile - Cha-

manthi Denisha Jayaweera Chasing Tall Tales and Mystics: Ibn Battuta in Sri Lanka - Ameena Hussein Cross match - Carmel Mi-

Medawattegedara

Softly We Fall - Megan Dhakshini

The Red Brick Wall- Ciara Mandulee Mendis.

Mind Games - Jehan Aloy-

Ovaryacting!- Piumi Wije-

Rust-

This year the panel is chaired by Mahendran Thiruvarangan, a Senior Lecturer in English Literature at the University of Jaffna and an active arts and political commentator.

Other members in the panel are a well-known creative writer and public personality Ashok Ferrey, and Victoria Walker a former diplomat and passionate supporter of

arts and culture, currently working as a volunteer for Sri Lanka's Design for Sustainable Development Foundation. Detailed bios of the jury members can be found on the Gratiaen Trust website.

The Gratiaen Prize was founded in 1992 by Sri Lankan-born novelist, poet and essayist Michael Ondaatje with his Booker Prize money for The English Patient. This year the Gratiaen Trust continues its partnership with John Keells Foundation – the CSR entity of the John Keells

The Trust also held a Literary Weekend in Bentota in September 2020 in association with John Keells Foundation, with media sponsorship by Daily Mirror and the Sunday Times.

In March 2021 the Trust also conducted an online literary translation workshop entitled 'Doubling Ourselves' to recognise and develop literature in translation, a goal of its H.A.I. Goonetileke Prize which will also be awarded this year.

The Gratiaen Prize is awarded each year to the best submitted creative work in English, written by a Sri Lankan writer resident in Sri Lanka. Both published works and unpublished manuscripts are accepted, and this year over 60 entries were received. Every year the Trust appoints a creative writer, an academic, and an informed general reader to its threemember jury.

Mobile service for land surveying

A new mobile service using modern technology will be launched throughout Sri Lanka to expedite and streamline land surveying, said Minister of Lands, S.M. Chan-

mittee on Lands. The members said an effective program was needed as land surveying was not being carried out properly. They said that mobile services should

be set up throughout Sri Lanka soon for this purpose. Land Ministry officials who particpated in the meeting said that this mobile service will be launched as a pilot project in Thirappane using the latest technology

The members said Bim Saviya lands should be surveyed accurately and deeds should be issued soon. They said that the people living on these lands have problems even in getting a bank loan.

The members also suggested that deeds be issued for religious places such as temples which don't have deeds. There are about 325 temples in the country without deeds and deeds should be issued expeditiously for those temples.

He was responding to a suggestion made by the members of the Consultative Com-

20 Death Anniversary 2021-03-27



Percy C Ranasinghe Remembered with love Children and Grandsons Sinhagiri 0777060430

25th DEATH ANNIVERSARY IN LOVING MEMORY OF



WILMOT FERNANDO

Passed away on 15th MARCH 1996

A tribute of love from Scholastica Subadra (WIFE) & Dinraj Fernando (SON)

"ETERNAL REST GRANT UNTO HIM, O LORD, MAY THE PERPETUAL RIGHT SHINE UPON HIM. MAY HE REST IN PEACE AMEN"

GONE BUT NEVER FORGOTTEN

OBITUARY



Dr. Kandiah Rajalingam Consultant Paediatrician

Dearly beloved husband of late Kanaheshwari passed away peacefully on 20th March 2021. Hindu religious rites and cremation was performed on 21st March 2021 in the presence of immediate family members and friends. We gratefully thank all those who condoled with us and helped in numerous ways.

Rengarajan, Wathsala, Dr. Sutharson, Dr. Sakunthala, Dr. Arulkumaran, Dr. Anushia, Dr. Kadotgajan, Dr. Jinanjali, 0773987940, 0777880426, 0769234903

Sri Lanka Magic Circle elects office-bearers

The Sri Lanka Magic Circle held its Annual General Meeting at its headquarters at Templars Road, Mt. Lavinia recently.

The motion to set up a Seva Vanitha Unit of the Sri Lanka Magic Circle headed by the President's wife, Indrani Jayasekera, was unanimously passed. This will enable the women members and spouses of members to support the Magic Circle to propagate magic as a performing art. The following were unanimously elect-

ed to the Council for 2021: President: Rohan Jayasekera

Tree planting cycle safari

A climate change combatting initiative of

Lankan parliamentarian and environmen-

tal activist, Ven. Athuruliye Rathana Thera

themed Matha, launched by the Matha

Foundation on February 22, will take a

new turn on March 30. when environmen-

tal enthusiasts will take part in an 11-day

tree-planting cycle safari from Vihara Ma-

hadevi Park to the North. It will conclude

Among the brand ambassadors of the

Matha program are Archbishop Malcolm

Cardinal Ranjith, Diyawadana Nilame

Pradeep Nilanga Dela, Admiral Wasantha

Karannagoda, Harry Jayawardena, Otara

significant places. The cycling team will

stop en-route to the North, such as Kela-

niya, Gampaha, Kurunegala and Kandy,

Anuradhapura, Vavuniya and Jaffna. Key

ceremonies are planned in Kandy with

the participation of the Maha Sangha and

other religious dignitaries. In the North,

support has been provided by officials of

"This is the first step that envisages the

growth of 20 million trees around Sri Lanka within two-three years," said Ven.

Athuralive Rathana Thera, the pioneer and

founder of the project and the chief advi-

sor of the Matha Foundation.

Gunawardena and Kumar Sangakkara. Trees will be planted in religious and other

on April 9.

Hindu temples.

commences on Tuesday

Advisors: President Emeritus Lt. Col. (rtd) Ronald de Alwis and Shelton Jayas-

Presidents: H.D.N. Gunasekara, Sumittha Kuruppu, Sambuddika Ratnayake, Sumangala Silva and Niroshan Jayasekera.

Hony Secretary: Premalal Fernando. Asst **Secretary:** Sam Buddhika Ratnayake. Hony Treasurer: Rohith J. Silva, Asst Trea-

surer: Bowalgaha Wickremasekera. itor: H.D.N. Gunasekara.

Past President: Devsiri Fernando. Vice

Librarian: Elrae Pereira. Historian/Ed-

Committee: Dimithri Fernando, Dinesh Thangavel, Vihan Perera and Asanka Pathirana.

Patron: Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa. Vice Patrons: State Minister of Performing Arts, Vidura Wickramanayake and Prof. Kamal Waleboda.

External Accountant: Sunil Jayalath Fernando.

The Sri Lanka Magic Circle which was launched in 1922 will celebrate its centenary on February 18, next year.

COPA discusses cost of electric fences

At the meeting of the Committee on Public Accounts (COPA) in Parliament it came to light that though Rs. 490 million had been spent on electric fences in 2019 and 2020 to prevent human-elephant conflict, the conflict

has not yet been resolved. The meeting was chaired by MP Prof. Tissa Vitharana. He said that the cost of constructing electric fences in 2019 to prevent human-elephant conflict was Rs. 275,447,639 and the amount spent last year was Rs. 221,505,818. The total length of the electric fence constructed at this cost was 4,756 km.

However, as of March 23, 2021, 28 human deaths and 83 elephant deaths have been reported.

State Ministers Dayasiri Jayasekara, Lasantha Alagiyawanna, Prasanna Ranaweera, Members of Parliament Tissa Attanayake, Niroshan Perera, Mohamed Muzammil, S. Sridharan, Dr. Upul Galappaththi, B.Y.G. Ratnasekera. Weerasumana Weerasinghe. Dr. Harini Amarasuriya and a group of government officials were present.

TB - number one killer in infectious diseases

Tuberculosis (TB) remains to be the second most prevalent and the number one killer among infectious diseases in Sri Lanka, Dr. Amali Senanayake, Medical Officer, National Program For Tuberculosis Control and Chest Diseases

The National Program for Tuberculosis Control & Chest Diseases (NPTCCD), together with the district level chest clinic staff works towards controlling the burden of TB in the country and in ending TB in Sri Lanka

Each year about 8,000-9,000 new cases of TB are diagnosed and reported to the NPTCCD. However, compared to World Health Organisation (WHO) estimates, which is around 13000, a gap of approximately 4000-5000 in detection of incident cases usually exists over the

When considering the country situation all TB patients detected in 2019 was 8434. In 2018, 567 (6.4 percent) patients died due to TB.

Opposition can stoop to any level **Continued from page 4**

At present deforestation and environmental issues are taken up by the Opposition as their main propaganda campaign against the Government. How does the Government respond to this disinformation campaign launched by the Opposition to discredit the

A: I think they know that the environment is something that is near and dear to everyone in our country as we love our nature, animals and greenery. We are all of the same mould. However, one must look at those who protected the environment and who made sure that

all the canals in the country were cleaned up. Was it the UNP Government? Who made sure that the rivers were cleaned up? Actually, we did that. We ensured that the plastic items are reduced to a minimum. In fact, we are continuing to do that.

These are the examples of the way that we have protected nature. In order to look after the country's wildlife, we are putting up thousands of kilometres of electric fences to ensure that the elephants are safe. We are doing that because we want to see both the people as well as the elephants are safe. So, we have that kind of an attitude and we are continuing to do that. At the same time, what these Opposition politicians do is they take one incident out of proportion and make a story regarding that. Some television channels are experts for this and active in their own way to promote this kind of misinformation and they continue to

I think it is a very shameful act as so many people are involved in this treacherous propaganda. I hope they will realise their folly of those actions and hopefully not continue with this kind of tirade in the future as well.

Kidney donor wanted

A kidney is needed for a seriously ill patient. Blood group: B+.

The family members of the patient are urgently appealing to anyone who is willing to donate his or her kidney.

Any person who is willing to donate and needs further information, please call: 070 3670672 or e-mail: kidneyhelp0@gmail. com.

Death Acknowledgements

AMARASINGHE - RANIL MANURAJ With profound sorrow we announce the death of RANIL MANURAJ AMARASINGHE. Beloved son of late Marshal & Gladys Amarasinghe, precious brother of Ranjanie, Dr. Lalantha, Sawithri (UK), Mohan (Canada), late Dr. Maithriya (Mike), (UK), MALA, Manel (UK) & Virendra, brother-in-law of Annesley, Dr. Priyanganie, late Amithra (UK), Indra (Canada), Niranjalie (UK), Saliya and Salome (UK). He passed away peacefully on Sunday the 21st March after a brief illness. The funeral was held according to his wishes. The family wish to express their sincere thanks to all those who took care of him during this time, our relations and friends for their presence, expressions of love, sympathy & support and to Pastor Lalith Perera along with the members of C.R.L. Church for their presence, worship & prayer at the parlour, which was greatly appreciated in our time of grief. "He may be unseen and unheard but will always be loved & missed deeply by all. May he rest in peace in the Arms of Jesus. We regret we are unable to thank everyone individually.

In Memoriam

UVAIM, M.C.M. Fourth Remembrance, formerly of Grindlays Bank & Saudi British Bank Riyadh, passed away on 30th March 2017 fondly remembered and sadly missed by everloving sister Nuwaiza.

Obituaries

JAYASURIYA - (MRS INDRA) (MRS. KATULANDA) - Retired Vice Principal Eriyawetiya Maha Vidyalaya - Beloved wife of Mr. Somaratne Katulanda (Senior Manager Retd People's Bank) mother of Mahesh Katulanda (Attorney-at-Law), Dr. Prasad Katulanda (Consultant Endocrinologist/Senior Lecturer) and Vindya Katulanda (HSBC Dubai) motherin-law of Dr. Gaya (NHSL), Mrs. Preethi (Attorney-at-Law) and Mr. Manoj Lodivickz (Abudabi Commercial Bank Dubai), grandmother of Manthi, Ovin, Iaindu and Movinya, passed away. Remains lie at **AF Raymond's at Borella** from 9.00 a.m. to 9.00 p.m. on Friday the 26th & at family home Uswatta Road, Natuduwa Kiribathgoda from 27 morning. Cremation at Enderamulla Kanatte on Simday 28th at 3.00 p.m.

The Future. Last Year.

Proudly commemorating the One Year Anniversary of our first public trial of **5G in South Asia.**



Kalutara produces another cricket hero

BY DHAMMIKA RATNAWEERA

Sri Lanka's new find on the Caribbean tour Pathum Nissanka Silva became the fourth Sri Lankan to score a century on debut joining Brendon Kuruppu, Romesh Kaluwitharana and Thilan Samaraweera who last achieved the feat

Nissanka was the first Sri Lankan to achieve the feat overseas when he scored 103 in the drawn first Test against the West Indies this week and has an extraordinary First-Class record scoring 3,445 runs in 33 matches with a stunning average of 67.54.

He is a proud product of Kalutara Vidyalaya which has produced several Sri Lanka players that includes former captain Tillekaratne Dilshan and fast bowler Dulip Liyanage who was the school's first Test player. Nissanka was lured to cross over to Isipathana College where he ended his school cricket

Sri Lankan coach Mickey Arthur in a post tour interview was full of praise for the 22-year old

"I've been very impressed with Pathum Nissanka. I haven't seen him before because he had been injured from the time I got here



Pathum Nissanka Silva acknowledges his century in his first Test

(Sri Lanka) and then we had the covid. For eight and a half months I didn't see any players. It's the first time I'm seeing Pathum Nissanka and I'm very impressed with him. He certainly could be an all-three format player for Sri Lanka. Very exciting young talent," said Arthur before the tour began.

Nissanka featured in a 179-run stand with Niroshan Dickwella for the sixth wicket which came at crucial time when Sri Lanka had to build up a second innings lead and take the team to safety after they were all out for 169 in the first in-

Dickwella was playing in his 42nd Test and made 96.

"I was not aware of the record but the team wanted me to perform and I am happy to have contributed. The discussion was mainly with Dickwella who was telling me to drag it on as long as possible so that the bowlers have something to bowl at", said Nissanka in a post match interview.

On previous Test debuts, Brendon Kuruppu made 201 not out against New Zealand in 1987 at the CCC ground, Romesh Kaluwitharna hit 132 not out at the SSC ground against Australia in 1992 and Thilan Samaraweera made 103 not out against India at the SSC in 2001.

SLC denies vote-buying

The incumbent administration of Sri Lanka Cricket which is seeking a second term at the May 20 election of office bearers has denied it had doled out millions to buy votes saying money given to voting clubs was an annual feature that has been done over the years.

It was reported in the media last week that as much as Rs.338 million was doled out to clubs with voting

"We give clubs a (tournament) participation fee and it is not something that we started in recent times. It has been going on for years.

"In addition when a club makes a request it is evaluated and we provide for the development of infrastructure. In order to sustain clubs these are imperatives and our re-



Mohan de Silva

sponsibility as the parent body to support clubs which have a right to be taken care of. We don't believe in vote buying", said Sri Lanka Cricket secretary Mohan de Silva who is also seeking a second straight term.

Tendulkar has tested positive for Covid-19

Former Indian cricketer Sachin Tendulkar has tested positive for coronavirus on his return from Raipur, where he had gone to play in the legends Road Safety Cricket Series. It emerged on Saturday (March

27) that he has tested positive. "I have been testing myself and taking all the recommended precautions to ensure Covid is kept at bay.

"However, I've tested positive today (27) following mild symptons. All others at home have tested negative.



"I've quarantined myself at home and am following all the necessary protocols as advised by my doctors, tweeted Tendulkar. (ESPN)

Wijebandara cruises to fourth round

Vibuda Wijebandara produced a fine performance to reach the fourth round of the Men's Open singles event at the Hutch-HNB Clay Court Tennis Nationals, which continued at the SLTA Courts in Sir Marcus Fernando Mawatha yesterday.

Wijebandara was in tremendous form as he demolished Hesara Kuruppu in straight sets 6-0, 6-1 in his third round encounter.

The other favourites to join the line-up were Dumindu Dilum, Sanka Athukorala, Dilvan Herath and Zahid Zihar recording straight set victories.

RESULTS:

Men's Open (singles 3rd round):

Dumindu Dilum

Manesh Kajan 6-2, 6-2. Sanka Athukorala beat We-

nuka Kithnula 6-1, 6-0. Vibuda Wijebandara beat

Hesara Kuruppu 6-0, 6-1. Dilvan Hearth beat Thilina Dissanayake 6-3, 6-3.

Zahid Zihar beat Sean Sanderson 6-4, 6-4.

Girls' U-16: Dhamna Methsadani beat Brinda Fernando 6-3, 6-4. **(CGD)**





Royal College batsman Isiwara Dissanayake plays a shot during his century against St. Joseph's College at Darley Road yesterday as wicket keeper Sheran Fonseka looks on (Pic by Chinthaka Kumarasinghe)

Navy, Hirdaramani in volleyball final

BY BERNARD PERERA

Navy women and Hirdaramani Sports Club women qualified to play in the final of the Galaxy Cup under-25 volleyball championship 2021 after winning their semi finals yesterday at the Volleyball House Indoor Stadium in Dadella, Galle.

Navy women recorded a comfortable three sets to nil (25-0, 25-20, 25-14) victory over the Air Force women while Hirdaramani beat Mahauswewa Sports

Mahauswewa SC got ahead (2-0) in the first two sets winning them at 29-27 and 25-16.But the never say die Hirdaramani team fought gallantly in the third set to win 25 17. After the third set win Hirda-

ramani once again came up with a brilliant performance to win the fourth set and to be on equal terms at 2-2.

In the decider Hirdaramni lasses played a fine game to completely outplay Mahauswewa 15-7.

The play-off match is set for April 1 at the same venue while the women's final is scheduled to be played at the National Youth Services Council Indoor Courts in Maharagma on April 8.

War veterans clash in wheelchair tennis final

Two Sri Lankan war veterans RALS Ranaweera and DSR Dharmasena powered their way into the final of the 14th Sri Lanka Open Wheelchair Tennis Tournament which continued at the SLTA Courts at Sri Marcus Fernando Mawatha yesterday.

Ranaweera defeated Gamini Dissanayake 6-2, 6-2 in the first semi-final while Dharmasena had the better of HML Senaratne 6-2, 6-2 in the second semi-final.

Earlier, in the quarter-finals. Ranaweera beat Pradeep Kumara 6-3, 6-4, Dharmasena beat WASP Weerasinghe 6-0, 6-0, Senarathne beat KDM Dharmaratne 6-3, 6-3 and Dissanayake beat WPJ Wijesiri 6-3, 7-6 (5), 6/2. The final encounter between Ranaweera

and Dharmasena will be worked off today at the same venue. (CGD)





Young Yannik outshines all, Indrajith grabs Masters

tion Yannik Kumara humbled all veteran golfers when he grabbed the Overall Winners award at the 114th Captains' Cup which took place last weekend at the Royal Colombo Golf

Club (RCGC) Course – Borella. Yannik won the same event in 2018, when he had just turned 12. The Senior Division was won by Roy Anthony with Rienzie Fernando

coming in second. In the ladies event, veteran golfer Anouk Chitty edged out youngster Pathirage, dedicated to the services

Nirekh Tejwani, was runner-up at the main event. Three airline tickets were award-

ed to the tournament performers by SriLankan Airlines Chairman Asoka Kayla Perera to come away with the rendered by Captain Navin de Silva for over 35 years to the airline. The awards

were won by Mahendra Jayasekera, Chris Bowers and Anouk Chitty for coming nearest to the pin in the fourth, ninth and 15th holes respectively.

The Captains Cup has been played since 1898 sans interruption, other than during the height of the Second World War (1942-1947).



Yannik Kumara humbled all veteran golfers when he accounted for the Overall Winners' award at the Club Captains' Tournament held at the Royal Colombo Golf Course last week



The Senior Division was won by Roy Anthony



Indrajith Fernando accounted for the Masters title with a nett score of 67

Top Olympian surfer killed by lightning

Katherine Diaz, one of El Salvador's top surfers, was killed while she was training for a qualifying tournament for the upcoming Tokyo Olympics, officials said.

The International Surfing Association - the world's governing authority for surfing - issued a statement Saturday after the 22-year-old's death, saying she "embodied the joy and energy that make surfing so special and dear to us all."



"She excelled at the international competition level, representing her country with pride," organization said. (CBS news)

Mahamaya girls hit 283 in 25 overs

BY UPANANDA JAYASUNDERA, SCORES: **KANDY SPL CORR**

Mahamaya Girls School, Kandy scored a mammoth 283 for 4 and bundled out Jayasiripura Junior School for 82 to win by 201 runs in their 25-over inter-school match at the Mahaweli ground in Bakumuna on

Tuesday.

Mahamaya Girls School 283 for 4 in 25 overs (Isiri Meegammana 54, Situmini Abeyratne 28, Sayuni Premaratne 25 n.o., Thamara Bandara 21, Nipuni Chandrasekera 15)

Jayasiripura Junior School 82 in 23 overs (Thamara Bandara 2 for 9, Situmini Abeyratne 2 for 18, Salila Lakshani 2 for 11)









National Agriculture Policy - for Observations & Commen

The necessity of a strong and consistent agriculture policy in directing the Agriculture sector to support the national economy has been highlighted in the National Policy Framework "Vistas of Prosperity and Splender". To make this a reality Hon. Minister of Agriculture has appointed an expert committee representing Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Agriculture, Department of Agrarian Development, Universities, Private Sector and Farming Community, Accordingly, a National Agriculture Policy has been drafted and presented herewith for observation and comments from the general public:

Two (2) Main Segments Addressed

- Food and feed crops
- Sustainable food security and qualify

Seven (7) Key Issues Addressed

- Crop production and productivity/improvement
- True self-sufficiency in basic food needs (food independence)
- Resource planning
- Market competitiveness
- Climate resilience Minimize all risks and
- Gender mainstreaming

Vision:

A sustainable food security to achieve national prosperity

Mission Statement:

The vision to be achieved by "Developing a Socially-Acceptable and Sustainable Food System in Sri Lanka through a Globally Competitive Agricultural Production, Processing and Marketing Mechanism"

Ten (10) Main Goals

By 2030:

- Double the Resource-productivity (compared to 2020 estimates) by adhering to sustainable Agriculture practices
- 2. Double the farmer/producer economic profitability (compared to estimate of
- Increase the contribution Agri-food system to 1/3rd of the national economy
- 4. Increase the adoption of technology developed locally along the Agri-food value chain, by a minimum of 50% from that of 2020
- 5. Supply safe and quality food in compliance with food control regulations of the country
- Establishment of government-regulated food control system supporting certification, standardization, and other logistics
- Develop Agri-entrepreneurship and efficient market systems
- 8. A constituted role and mandatory participation of farmers/Agri-producers in the process of decision-making in the development of Agri-food systems
- 9. Agri-food system in Sri Lanka is free from impacts of climate shocks and other
- A system of transparent, responsible, accountable, and participatory governance is established for decision making in Agri-food systems

Policy Statements (15) under Each Thematic Area (10)

- Thematic Area: Crop Production & Productivity
 - 1. Improve production and productivity of food and feed crops through a well-organized Agricultural Production System while harnessing the Agro-ecological potential and strengthening the food system
- Thematic Area: Input Management
 - 2. Strengthen delivery and management operations of physical Inputs for their judicious use
 - 3. Improve productivity and sustainability of arable lands through optimum use of inputs, and far-sighted Management while safeguarding farming community and the environment
 - 4. Enhance rational use of irrigation water through participatory Management to improve the irrigation water use efficiency
- Thematic Area: Advanced Technologies
 - 5. Encourage development and adoption of appropriate innovations and technologies during Pre-and Post-harvest Management for sustainable Agricultural production
- Thematic Area: Food Safety & Quality Management
 - 6. Improve access to safe and high quality food based on national and international standards to safeguard human and animal health
- Thematic Area: Eco-friendly Operations
 - Support sustainability in Agriculture development through conservation and utilization of natural resources for while safeguarding ecosystem services
- Thematic Area: Agri-Entrepreneurship and Markets
 - 8. Foster strategic collaboration among the value chain actors especially focusing on value added products targeting domestic and international markets
 - 9. Streamline and explore the domestic and international market systems with appropriate logistic services in compliance with national and international standards
- Thematic Area: Producer Empowerment
 - 10. Strengthen partnerships and mentorship programmes for farming and rural community to acquire agricultural expertise and make appropriate decisions to become economically independent
 - Empower youth and women in Agriculture with support for mechanization, access to modern technologies, and productivity-based incentive system
- Thematic Area: Climate resilience & other risk management
 - 12. Promote adoption of appropriate adaptation and mitigation measures to increase climate-resilience of the Agriculture systems
 - Strengthen and support food systems connecting urban and rural communities to tackle climate shocks and other disasters
- Thematic Area: Knowledge Management and Agricultural Extension
 - Constitute a centrally-controlled information development and dissemination system to manage research, development and extension systems, and recruitment related to the Agriculture sector
- Thematic Area: Governance and Operations Management
 - Strengthen institutional coordination mechanism for project implementation, monitoring and evaluation at national and local government levels with wider stakeholder participation for sustainable Agricultural development

Please submit your comments on or before 25th April 2021

email: agriminpolicyplanning@gmail.com or Postal Address: Additional Secretary (Monitoring & Evaluation), 80/5,

Govijana Mandiraya, Rajamalwatta Lane, Battaramulla

More details can be obtain from Ministry of Agriculture Website: http://www.agrimin.gov.lk

Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture



MARCH 28, 2021

Aravinda defends Moody show, avoids Ranatunga confrontation

BY CALLLISTUS DAVY

An appeal made by former World Cup winning captain Arjuna Ranatunga to stop the influx of foreign experts into the country has fallen on deaf ears with the biggest non-listener being his one time cricketing buddy Aravinda de Silva who side-stepped the issue while introducing the newest pundit, Australian Tom Moody who was installed last month as the top man at Sri Lanka Cricket's game-

changing Authority. Aravinda, now a behindthe-scene political appointee who heads the Technical Advisory Committee dodged the question in diplomatic style when the Sunday Observer asked him why foreign experts are preferred in place of locals that also includes the firebrand Ranatunga.

The former south paw Ranatunga is still the coun-

head-turning critic despite his political set backs who referred to foreigners as "overseas trash".

He made his remarks last week to commemorate the Silver jubilee of the 1996 World Cup triumph in the presence of Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa whom he nudged to order a probe into malpractices and abuses in the administration of cricket in the country.

Asked whether he could accept or reject Ranatunga in a current set-up, De Silva instead chose to debate the standard of school coaches in the country that Moody will play a part in correcting. "My

captain (Arjuna Ranatunga) also feels the same. But for me there is one thing. Even if you play a hundred Test matches, score 15,000 runs, it is a different ball game altogether.

"You got to start from scratch again. Take a look try's top attention-drawing at our school coaches. Tom's



Tom Moody (left), Muttiah Muralidaran and Aravinda de Silva (seated) at what was a tell-all media conference

the standard and educate our (school) coaches so we don't have to look overseas

for coaches," said De Silva. Moody joins a heavy list of overseas nationals as the Director of Cricket that available at Sri Lanka Cricket.

(Moody) job will be to uplift makes him available for consultation for 300 days over a three-year period for a payment of Rs.120 million, the highest amount ever paid to a foreign expert that indicates a tell-all story of the riches

Moody as the best in the business given his global experience in several countries with many a team, to go with what he called his strong personality".

There was also nothing to hide an apparent difference between the two men as Moody strongly hinted of what he called "restructuring the domestic First Class club cricket set up in an expected roll out this year" while Aravinda made no secret of the fact that a club system cannot be changed without taking into account the pitfalls.

'You cannot take away the club structure overnight. If we take away all the clubs we only take away the opportunities provided for thousands of school cricketers.

"This is something we will have to evaluate and work on and create a pathway from school level to international level", said De

Shashikala stars in Navy SC's emphatic win

Shashikala Siriwardene 3/10).

ians CC won by 49 runs)

Ayesha Sandamali 3/32)

SC 'A' won by six wickets)

overs (Lihini Apsara 31).

(Nilakshi de Silva 69, Ma-

dushika Meththananda

34 n.o, Chathurani Gu-

oshi Fernando 3/14)

won by 78 runs)

At Katunayake (Chilaw Mar-

Chilaw Marians CC: 166 in

Army CC 'B': 117 in 42.3

At Colts Grounds (Air Force

Colts CC: 85 in 38.5 overs

Air Force SC 'A': 86/4 in 26.3

At Katunayake (Army CC 'A'

Army CC 'A': 148/7 in 50 overs

(Chamari Polgampola 3/17, In-

48.4 overs (Chamari Atapattu 96,

overs (Ayesha Sandamali 37, Ire-

sha Damayanthi 32, Janadi Anali

BY CHRIS DHAMBARAGE

Shashikala Siriwardene starred with bat and ball as Navy SC trounced Seenigama CC by 104 runs in their SLC Women's Division I cricket tournament match played at Hikkaduwa yesterday.

The former Sri Lanka women's captain struck an unbeaten 30 to help Navy SC reach a modest 152 for eight wickets from their 50

The right-arm off-spinner was even more effective with the ball as she snapped up three wickets while conceding only 10 runs to bundle out the opposition for 48 in 17.3 overs. Scores:

At Hikkaduwa (Navy SC won by 104 runs)

Navy SC: 152/8 in 50 overs (Shashikala Siriwardene 30 n.o) Seenigama CC: 48 in 17.3

overs (Inoka Ranaweera

Air Force SC

'B': 70 in 47.1 overs (Ganesha Chamari 3/13).

nawardana 3/31)



Wellalage proves he's worth his weight in an all-round dazzle

St. Joseph's skipper and spinner Dunith Wellalage, made the most of their drawn traditional cricket encounter against Royal College with five wickets and a face-saving 71 at Darley Road yesterday.

The Joes in their second essay, ended the encounter on 107 for three with a lead of 108 as Sheran Fonseka, their wicket-keeper batsman top-scored

with 52 not out.

Royal in their first innings were given a flying start, courtesy of their openers who put on 64 before the host team captain Dunith Wellalage, made the first inroad sending back Ashen Gamage for 45.

But Isiwara Dissanayake held the innings together to make an unbeaten 102 off 299 balls.

For the Reid Avenue bowlers, 45, Dunith Wellalage 5 for 71) (PS)

it was the seam-spin combination of Sonal Amarasekara and Gishan Balasooriya, the pick of the bowlers, sharing six wickets between

St. Joseph's 210 (D Wellalage 71) and 107 for 3 (Sheran Fonseka

Royal 209 for 8 (Isiwara Dissanayake 102 n.o., Ashen Gamage

Ananda, St. Peter's settle for a draw

Ananda College and St. Peter's College settled for a draw in their Inter-Schools under-19 traditional cricket encounter that concluded at Ananda Mawatha yes-

Ananda: 268 (Hansaja Jayasingha 41, Saviru Bandara 81, Shakthi Udara 39, Jesuran Benjamin 3/35)

St. Peter's: 234/8 (Shenal Boteju 45, Nipunaka Fonseka 56 n.o, Wanuja Sahan 40, Saviru Bandara 4/69) (YK)

Bundles of joy for the ones you love Save Rs. 600/-

Electric Kettle + Flask + Iron Rs. 8.599/- Rs. 6.799/-

> Gift Packs

Toaster + Iron Rs. 5,799/- Rs. 4,999/-

Flask + Iron Rs. 4.199/- Rs. 3.599/-



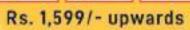
Iron + Hair Straightener Rs. 3,299/- Rs. 2.699/-

Discounts 10%

Irons







Kettles







Rs. 1,899/- upwards

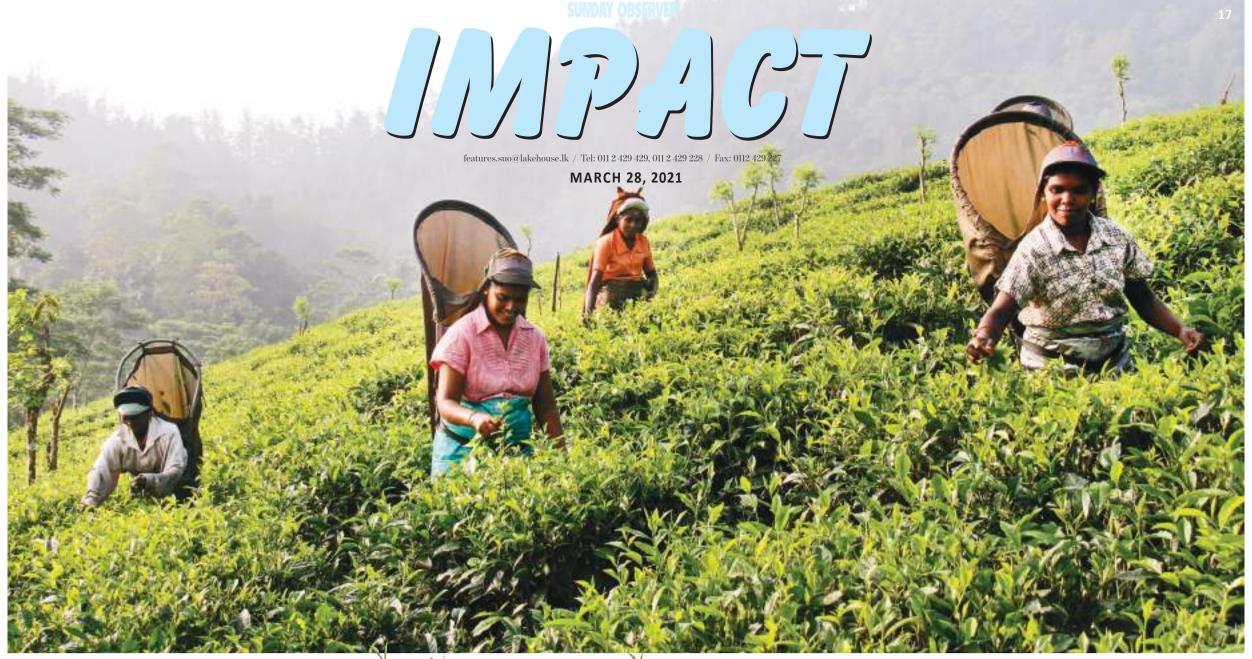
Discounts 15%

Flasks

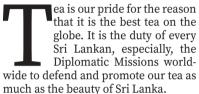




Rs. 1,599/- upwards







Sri Lanka tea is unique due to its flavour, colour and character which cannot be found elsewhere. The humidity, cool temperature, sunshine and rainfall (two monsoons) in the country's central and southern highlands are conducive to the manufacture of quality teas.

Tea plantations are scenic and pristine. Tea is grown in handpicked areas and processed in an artisanal process, unchanged over a century. Where else in the world one could find this combination in one Island?

It is unfortunate that the quality and standard of tea is deteriorating due to mismanagement and not modernising the factories and improving techniques on par with international standards when our competitors bypass us. Sri Lanka which has been the main tea exporter to the world, is bypassed by Kenya when India and Russia with higher yields are unable to export more due to local consumption. In 2019, Sri Lanka was the fourth highest tea producer in the world.

It is the duty of the Embassies worldwide to promote our tea, tourism and the image of the country as the representatives of the nation. How many are active as representatives of Sri Lanka in other countries is a million dollar question.

Tea is exported to Russia, Syria, Turkey, Iran, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, UK, Egypt, Libya, Japan and Germany in large quantities amounting to 288 million kilograms. Brand tea is produced in Sri Lanka not only a geographical indication but also has been a pride and symbol of Sri Lanka, culture, heritage, and identity spreading world over via our Embassies and Tea Board outlets.

The Sri Lanka Tea Board Logo and Ceylon tea has a niche market occupying 10 percent of the global market in which 50 percent is sent as bulk. It is sad that the situation is deteriorating due to mismanagement of tea estates and not keeping pace with the international developments and demands with other competitors such as coffee and colas in terms of health, quality and flour.

Ceylon tea is easy to promote as it is genuinely of quality, high standard and meet needs and world standards. We wish to regain the lost status on tea as the leader in the world.

Once tea, rubber and coconut have been the main sources of income on exports which is replaced by many other resources today such as foreign employment, apparels and other exports and many nontraditional resources. Tea has a sad story of almost forcibly



acquiring the land belong to upcountry peasants in the guise of developments by the British colonial rulers for few shillings of an acre.

Most consumed drink

Tea is the most consumed drink of mankind next to water. It is a healthy and natural drink which is consumed as a social drink which bonds families, countries including Sri Lanka (Once Ceylon) which has now lost the position as the main tea exporter to the world. The tea grown area is limited due to the shortage of land. The cost of production has become unbearable mainly due to the shortage and high wages of labour and maintenance.

Estate owners do not invest on replanting and new plantations due to excessive expenditure and the length of time for a return, though once the tea is properly grown the benefit will extend to few decades. But in an era citizens are looking for quick and large margins on profits, traditional investors on cultivation are rare.

It is time local investors and tea estate owners are encouraged for replantation and/or use tea estates for tea tourism for which the environment is ideal due to landscape and beauty in addition to the availability. Tourists, especially those from the Middle East and the West are full of praise and love for tea estates for beauty, calm environment and greenery coupled with sceneries. It is time the tourist board and the tea board with Sri Lankan Embassies worldwide engage in an exploratory expedition on this area to benefit the tourist industry as well as the tea industry.

Sorry state

It is a sorry affair that people have got used to unhealthy fast food and beverages with strong chemicals and poisonous materials. However, the concerns are raised and advice given to discourage unhealthy breweries and encourage healthy and natural drinks. Billions spend on advertisements and attractions have overtaken the campaigners for natural drinks which are healthy, cheap and readily SRI LANKATEA IS UNIQUE DUE TO ITS FLAVOUR, COLOUR AND **CHARACTER WHICH CANNOT** BE FOUND ELSEWHERE. THE HUMIDITY, COOL TEMPERATURE, SUNSHINE AND **RAINFALL (TWO MONSOONS)** IN THE COUNTRY'S CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS ARE CONDUCIVE TO THE **MANUFACTURE OF QUALITY TEAS**

available. In Sri Lanka, coffee with lot of sugar is available in parties and offices increasing diabetic population when tea is available in every corner.

A young coconut is only Rs. 30 whereas artificial beverage with a lot of sugar and chemicals will cost over 50 rupees or much more now, which passes billion of rupees to multinational companies. A youngster and even an adult will go for the unhealthy artificial beverage in place of a natural young coconut or a healthy cup of tea. India has banned artificial beverages and multi-national companies from the Indian soil. Why does not the Sri Lankan tea board popularise our tea in social gatherings instead of imported and unhealthy drinks, powders and colas which are unhealthy and expensive?

Tea market

Tea is marketed and popular in Russia. The most important foreign markets for Sri Lankan tea are the former Soviet bloc countries of the CIS, The United Arab Emirates, Russia, Syria, Turkey, Iran, the United

Kingdom, Egypt, Libya and Japan. The political situation in some countries has a direct effect on Ceylon Tea. It is time for us to look for alternatives until the situation in the Middle East settles. The Arab world and the West consider tea as a healthy, smooth, traditional social drink.

Consumption patterns have changed due to fast life by adopting quicker methods such as tea bags instead of traditional pot of tea, or naturally made tea traditionally for quiet and smooth enjoyment. Still tea is synonymous with Ceylon with the brand and the trade mark for pure, original and quality tea. Awareness and demand for Ceylon Tea among consumers in the Gulf Market are high. Loose tea consumption has dominated over consumption of tea bags.

Consumers are gradually weaned away from loose quality tea due to aggressive media campaigns and fast life of consumers. Multi-national brands increase their market share through heavy media/promotional campaigns and sophisticated packaging, despite using inferior "multi origin teas". The brand becomes more significant than the origin. This trend is seen in former Ceylon strongholds such as Russia and former Soviet Republics.

It is time we look for new avenues to sell tea with least effort as it is not difficult to find markets for quality consumer items with a worldwide love and reputation. Positioned in the heart of the old world, the UAE, UK and Russia are the ideal access points to the three vital transit points especially between the East and the West. Dubai is the business hub in the Middle East. The UAE is the shining jewel on trade and tourism with 7.9 million visitors in 2010 and the world's largest shopping mall- the Dubai Mall and the UK is the centre of the business world.

With the world's tallest building, one of the top destination cities in the world, world's largest man made harbour and world's largest manmade Island, the UAE is the best and most friendly and accessible destination to promote our tea. It is a platform to all other destinations including the West. Dubai is a business HUB for tea



trade as well. Our pride is devaluated and the trade mark is exploited by our competitors in tea trade.

An aggressive and consorted effort is urgently needed to counter the situation. The UK is the other main centre of our tea.

Way forward

Tea is our pride. Tea can be promoted with the beauty of Sri Lanka and the quality of tea as a unique brand by itself with many challenges ahead with the traditional and nont raditional competitors. The Tea Board in Sri Lanka and the Sri Lankan Embassies worldwide have a pivotal role to play with their resources and the directions form the head offices. This will be a platform and a vehicle to promote all our other traditional and nontraditional items using the modern techniques and new international platforms. Sri Lanka was brave and successful in combatting the Covid-19 threat successfully and promoting our silver may not be

Sarath7@hotmail.co.uk

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

Sustainable corporate leadership award 2021 for Kishu

elebrity corporate leader Dr. Kishu Gomes was conferred with another national leadership award at a recently held award ceremony at the Taj Samudra Hotel, Colombo for his continuous contribution to the country's economic and social development via multiple areas especially focusing on the young workforce of Sri Lanka.

The award was presented to him

by Education Reforms State Minister Susil Premjayanth.

Kishu, the youngest Sri Lankan to head a truly multi-national company and the longest serving multinational CEO, is now heading the Dreamron Group of Companies as its Group Managing Director/ CEO, adding tremendous value to the country thru exports and local economic value creation. He held a public sector role as Chairman of Sri Lanka Tourism and successfully handled the recovery of the tourism industry following

the Easter attack. Kishu has previously won many prestigious awards such as, Best Young Director by the institute of Directors, Best Business leader by CIMA Sri Lanka, TOYP award for leadership and Sri Lankan of the year by the Lions Club.



Kishu Gomes receives the award from Education Reforms State Minister Susil Premjayanth

FEATURE

My chains are gone, I've been set free. Safe in the arms of Jesus.



Celine De Andrado

20/02/1942 -09/03/2021

Dearly Beloved Wife of the Late Ellsworth De Andrado Precious Mother of Estrella, Eshantha & Shalini Darling Mother in Law of Nilani & Allen Adored & Cherished Grandmother of Mahesh, Michael & Eshani.

Funeral & Cremation held privately at Nisala Arana -Kohuwela on 10/03/2021 in accordance with her final wishes. Memorial Service to be held at 7am on Saturday, 10th April 2021 at St. Joseph's Church, Nugegoda, following which her ashes will be interred at Nedimala Cemetery We warmly welcome you to join us with your

Condolences & Inquiries 0777761362/ 0777750832/ 0774077635

"Loved Always Never Forgotten"

Passed away 18-Mar-2021

Manickam Yogaratnam

(Yogan)

Former Proprietor of Swinitha,

Gnanamani (Pettah - current) &

Pushpa Stores (Bambalapitiya)

The family of the late Mr Manickam

Yogaratnam (Yogan) beloved husband, father

and grandfather, wish to extend our sincere

thanks for your kind expression of sympathy

We also send our heartfelt gratitude and

appreciation for those who participated in the

funeral service despite these unprecedented

times. We are grateful for the outpouring of

+ +44 7476 130998

+ + 44 208 575 1036

gaya_yogan@yahoo.co.uk

kindness, support and condolences received.

presence & prayers at this memorial.

OBITUARY NOTICE

13

04

1951

BORN DIED 17 03 2021

ANTON CLUSTER JOHN (JEYA)

(Retired People's Bank Manager)

Dearly beloved husband of Vathana, loving son of late Mr. & Mrs. Clifford John and loving son-in-law of the late Mr. Casimir Arulanandam and Mrs. Theresa Arulanandam, devoted father of Shaloma, Sylvia and Sybilla, loving father-in-law of Daniel Edirimanasinghe, Tharindu Hapuarachchi and Naresh Fernando, loving brother of Hector John, loving brother-in-law of Ruba Emmanuel, Linus Arulanandam, Ruban Arulanandam and Emelda John, much loved grandfather of Aarosh, Amelia and Hannah, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, 17th March 2021 in Colombo, Sri Lanka. Viewing on the 30th March 2021 at his residence 67, St. John's Way, Modara, Colombo-15 from 9.30 a.m. onwards. Funeral service will be at St John the Baptist Church, Mutwal on Wednesday, 31st March at 3.30 p.m. followed by burial at Madampitiya Cemetery (RC Section) at 4.00 p.m.

Contact: Vathana +94776747532 Home +94112526879

Of all the modern medical interventions we have at According to the World Health Organization (WHO),

Covid-19 vaccine myths

our disposal, few have been victim to as much falsehood as vaccines. As the world battles a pandemic, stripping the truth from the lies is more urgent than ever.

between 2010 and 2015, vaccines prevented an estimated 10 million deaths.

Scientists have worked tirelessly to create safe and effective vaccines to protect us against SARS-CoV-2. Now, as many governments roll out Covid-19 vaccines, scientists and medical experts are facing a new challenge: misinformation and associated vaccine hesitancy.

Some anti-vaxxers — those who believe vaccines cause a range of medical ills - dedicate their entire lives to railing against vaccines. In reality, vaccines have saved lives of millions of people.

Fastness

cines faster than any other vaccine to date - under one

year. The previous record breaker was the mumps vac-

were developed more quickly, none of which reduces its

Although SARS-CoV-2 was new to science, researchers

on earth, the process of vaccine development involved

an unprecedented worldwide collaboration. And, while

many scientific endeavoursface funding difficulties, Co-

vid-19 researchers received funding from a wide range of

cruiting volunteers. In the case of Covid-19, there was no

sequentially. But in this instance, scientists could run

some trials simultaneously, which saved a great deal of

be developed swiftly without compromising safety.

ed interest; and there were few financial restraints.

Another factor that slows vaccine development is re-

Under normal circumstances, clinical trials are run

These factors and more meant that the vaccine could

Identifying the virus was quicker; we already had ex-

perience with similar pathogens; technology has moved

on since the 1980s; every government on earth had a vest-

DNA

Tech and Moderna vaccines, are based on messenger RNA (mRNA) technology. These vaccines work differently

or part of a pathogen to the body to "teach" it how to pro-

tions for making a pathogen's protein to our cells. Once

the protein is created, the immune system responds to it,

priming it to respond to future attacks by the same patho-

body, and it is not integrated into our DNA. Once it has

Vaccines response

Regardless of the type of vaccine, none contains the live

virus. Any side effects, such as headache or chills are due

Microchip

1,640 people a range of questions about Covid-19. Some

28 percent of respondents believe that Bill Gates plans to

A YouGov poll conducted in the U.S. last year asked

the population.

a microchip.

pregnancies.

use the Covid-19 vaccinations as a

vehicle to implant microchips into

chip will allow shadowy elites to

track their every move. In reality, our mobile phones already com-

plete that task effortlessly.

According to some, this micro-

There is no evidence that any of the Covid-19 vaccines contains

Although the specifics vary

from conspiracy theory to con-

spiracy theory, some believe that

the vaccine contains radio-fre-

quency identification tags. These consist of a radio transponder, ra-

dio receiver and transmitter. It is

not possible to shrink these components to a size small enough to

Infertility

ity. Similarly, there is no evidence

that they will endanger future

a link between the spike protein that is coded by the mRNA-based

vaccines and a protein called syn-

cytin-1. Syncytin-1 is vital for the

placenta to remain attached to the

protein does share a few amino

acids in common with syncytin-1,

they are not even nearly similar

enough to confuse the immune

The rumour appears to have begun courtesy of Dr. Wolfgang

Wodarg. In December of last year,

he petitioned the European Medi-

cines Agency to halt Covid-19 vac-

cine trials in the European Union.

Among his concerns was the syn-

skepticism toward vaccines and

has downplayed the severity of the

Covid-19 pandemic. Dr. Wodarg

and the former vice president and

chief scientist of Pfizer Inc. phar-

maceuticals joined voices to make

claims about the vaccine produc-

Dr. Wodarg has a history of

cytin-1 "issue".

However, although the spike

uterus during pregnancy.

There is no evidence that the Covid-19 vaccines impact fertil-

This rumour began because of

fit through the end of a needle.

The Covid-19 vaccines cannot give a person Covid-19.

provided the instructions, the cell breaks it down.

to the immune response and not an infection.

us, which is where our DNA is housed.

Some Covid-19 vaccines, including the Pfizer-BioN-

Classical vaccines introduce an inactivated pathogen

By contrast, an mRNA vaccine delivers the instruc-

However, the mRNA does not hang around in the

In fact, the mRNA will not even reach the cell's nucle-

have been studying coronaviruses for decades.

cine, which was developed in four years.

shortage of people who wanted to help.

to traditional types of vaccine.

duce an immune response.

It is true that scientists developed the Civid-19 vac-

There are a number of reasons the Covid-19 vaccines

For instance, scientists were not starting from scratch.

Also, because Covid-19 has touched every continent

cine affects fertility.

ing infertility, thus stoking widespread fears.

Fetal tissue Over the years, anti-vaxxers have spread rumours that

However, there is no evidence that any Covid-19 vac-

As Dr. Michael Head, a senior research fellow at the University of Southampton in the United Kingdom, told the BBC, "There are no fetal cells used in any vaccine pro-

vaccines contain fetal tissue. Neither the Covid-19 vaccines nor any other vaccine contains any tissue from fe-

duction process."

Even people who have tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 in the past should be vaccinated. The Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) stated, "Due to the severe health risks associated with Covid-19 and the fact that reinfection with Covid-19 is possible, [a] vaccine should be offered to you regardless of whether you already had [a

There is also a chance that the initial test produced a false positive — in other words, the test was positive, but there was no viral infection. For this reason, it is better to

Virus transmission

Covid-19 vaccines are designed to prevent people from becoming ill following a SARS-CoV-2 infection. However, a person who has been vaccinated may still be able

Because scientists do not yet know whether the vac-

Because scientists have only been studying the virus

It may be that we will need to have an annual Covid-19 shot, in the same way that we do with the flu shot.

Covid-19 affected

SARS-CoV-2] infection."

err on the side of caution.

to carry the virus, which means that they might also be able to transmit it.

cines will prevent infection, once a person has been vaccinated, they should continue to wear a mask in public, wash their hands and practise physical distancing as recommended by regional authorities.

Efficacy

for around a year, we do not know how long immunity will last. According to the WHO, "It's too early to know if Covid-19 vaccines will provide long-term protection. However, it's encouraging that data suggest that most people who recover from Covid-19 develop an immune response that provides at least some period of protection against reinfection - although we're still learning how strong this protection is and how long it lasts."

Pre-existing conditions People with most pre-existing conditions - including heart disease, diabetes, and lung disease — can take

always advisable to consult a doctor. In fact, because pre-existing conditions, such as obesity and heart disease, can increase the risk of developing more severe Covid-19 symptoms, being vaccinated is even

a Covid-19 vaccine. However, if anyone is concerned, it is

more important for people with preexisting health issues. There is an exception: those who are allergic to any of the components of the vaccine should not have the shot. Anyone who has had an allergic reaction to any vaccine in

the past should speak with their doctor. However, the CDC stated, "People with a history of severe allergic reactions not related to vaccines or injectable medications - such as food, pet, venom, environmental, or latex allergies — get vaccinated. People with a history of allergies to oral medications or a family history

Compromised immune systems

Because the vaccine does not contain a live pathogen,

of severe allergic reactions may also get vaccinated."

it will not cause an infection. Therefore, those who have a compromised immune system can still take the vaccine. However, they may not build up immune protection to the same degree as someone with a fully functioning immune system. The CDC also explain that few people who have a compromised immune system were involved in the vac-

"Immunocompromised persons may receive [a] Covid-19 vaccination if they have no contraindications to vaccination. However, they should be counseled about the unknown vaccine safety profile and effectiveness in immunocompromised populations."

Older adults

Currently, in most countries where officials are rolling out the vaccine, older adults are being prioritised, as they are most at risk of severe illness.

Some of the clinical trials had specific subgroups that included older adults to check the vaccine's safety in this

In Norway, 23 frail older adults died shortly after they received the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine.

The Norwegian Medicines Agency (NOMA) are currently investigating the situation. Steinar Madsen, a medical director at NOMA, believes that common adverse reactions, such as fever, nausea and diarrhoea, "may ag-

gravate underlying disease in the elderly." Madsen said that "these are very rare occurrences and they occurred in frail patients with serious disease." He added," We are now asking for doctors to continue with the vaccination but to carry out extra evaluation of very sick people whose underlying condition might be aggra-

It is hard to believe that not much more than a year ago, Covid-19 and SARS-CoV-2 were entirely unknown. Now, we have a number of viable, effective and safe vaccines. In this internet-fuelled era, rumours grow and spread like wildfire. The addition of a significant dose of fear and anxiety provides the perfect petri dish in which to grow stubborn, dangerous myths.

The situation and the science are moving quickly and the best advice is to ensure that you always get information from reliable sources and do not pay attention to powerful but misleading social media posts.

Medical News Today

Death Anniversary



Mrs Stella Ferdinand

We think about you always We talk about you still You have never been forgotten And you never will. We hold you close within our hearts And there you will remain To walk and guide us through our lives Until we meet again

Sadly missed and always remembered by your Children, family and friends.

OBITUARY NOTICE



ALOYSIUS DOMINGUPILLAI CHRISTIE (CANADA)

Retired Asst. Supt. of Postal Dept, Sri Lanka

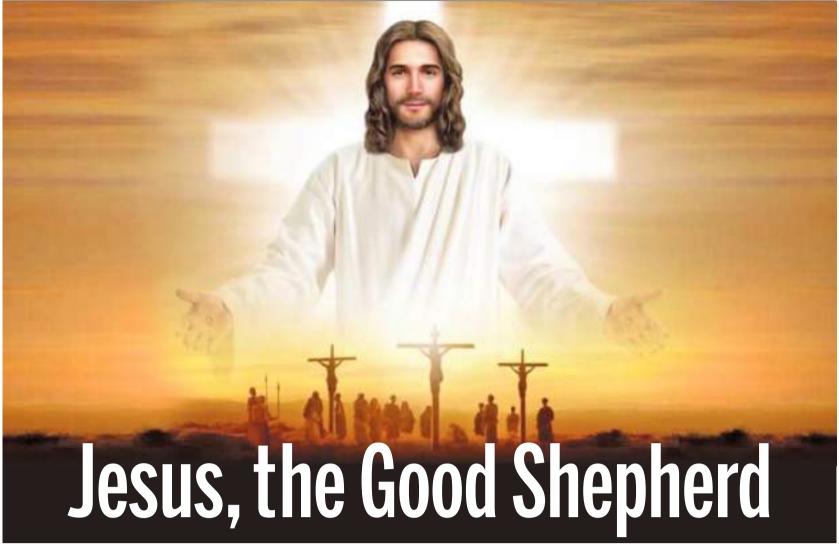
Beloved husband of Annette (Rajes), former teacher - St. Lawrence Convent, Wellawatte, passed away peacefully on 23rd March 2021. Loving father of Pradeep (Jude), Renuka (Rosemarie) and Dileep (Bede), father-in-law of Chitra and Kanmani, cherished grandpa of Haren (Jeremy), Suwetha (Jasmine), Rishi (Lionel) and Oviya (Julie) - all residing in Canada. Son of late Saverimuttu and Margaret Domingupillai and son-in-law of late P. Joseph and Cecelia Joseph Manuelpillai, loving brother of late Jeyam, Mani, Anton, Devi (SL)and Roche (USA), loving brother-in-law of late D.P. Francis Xavier, late Victor Nicholas, Puvila Domingupillai, Nicholas Jayanathan (Colombo), Anton Phillippupillai (USA), late Victor Swampillai and Jeyasothy Swampillai (Canada), Dr. Arulraj and Dr. Theresa Joseph (UK), late Jeyaraj and late Anna Joseph.

Private catholic service to be held at 'Our Lady of Good Health' Parish - Canada. Information: Family

Management and Staff of Ebert Silva Holidays

9[™] YEAR REMEMBRANCE In Treasured Memory of EBERT SILVA Remembered with deep love, honour & gratitude on his 9th Death Anniversary 28th March 2021 MAY HE ATTAIN THE SUPREME BLISS OF NIBBANA! Sadly missed and fondly remembered by the family,

Impact





et us first see what the Old Testament has to say about the lamb in the first Passover;

'Moses called for all the leaders of Israel and said to them: 'Each of you is to choose a lamb or a young goat and kill it so that your families can celebrate Passover. Take a sprig of hyssop, dip it in the bowl containing the animals' blood and wipe the blood on the doorposts and the beam above the door of your house.

No one of you is to leave the house until morning. When the Lord goes through Egypt to kill the Egyptians, he will see the blood on the beams and doorposts and not let the Angel of Death enter your houses and kill you. You and your children must obey these rules for ever. When you enter the Land of the Lord who has promised to give you, you must perform the ritual. When your children ask you "What does this ritual mean? you will answer, 'It is the sacrifice of the Passover to honour the Lord because he passed over the houses of the Israelites in Egypt. He killed the Egyptians but spared us' ... Exodus 12, 21-

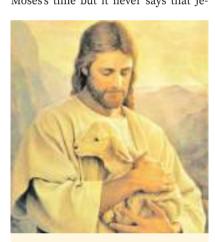
And what the New Testament say over the Passover meal, 'On the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, the day the lambs were killed, Jesus's disciples asked him 'Where do you want us to go and get the Passover meal ready for

Then Jesus sent two of them with the instructions 'Go into the city and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him to the house he enters and say to the owner of the house 'The Teacher asks. where is the room where my disciples and I will eat the Passover meal, then he will show you a large upstairs room, prepared and furnished where you will get everything ready for us' Mark 14, 12-16.

They went off and found everything just as Jesus had told them and they

prepared the Passover meal. When the hour came Jesus took his place at the table with the apostles and told them 'I have wanted so much to eat this Passover meal with you before I suffer'. Then Jesus took a cup and gave thanks to God and said "Take this and share it among yourselves. This cup is God's new covenant sealed with my blood which is poured out for you'. He also took a piece of bread, gave thanks, saying, 'This is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me'.

The Bible clearly says in both Testaments about meals being served with lamb which had been the custom from Moses's time but it never says that Je-



BUT AT THE LAST TRUMPET CALL WHEN THE DEAD ARISE FROM SMITTEN GRAVES AND SIGH; **UPON THE FALLEN CREATURES THAT** WE MAKETH THE LOT. COME LORD AND SAVIOUR, THE GREAT REDEEMER; WHEN IN SOLEMN GRACE WE **BOW BEFORE HIM** AND RISETH TO HIS COMMAND O'ER FRAILTIES OF DEATH UNTO ETERNAL REST (SONNET XLIV)

sus ate lamb meat at the Passover meal. He only had bread and wine, which he served the disciples with.

'The lamb of God that take away the sins of the world' How many times each Sunday throughout our lives would we have chanted this phrase? Naturally, without pausing to think of its deep meaning, but go on eating the flesh of the lamb, relishing, serving it with pride at weddings, events and other functions, some which are associated with the church.

Have you ever felt guilty? Evaluate the significance the lamb has over our faith. I do not feel bad about it because I do not eat any kind of flesh but I feel guilty why I had to wait this long to question my fellow Christians. Why we should not spare the lamb? We all owe it to our Lord, Jesus Christ on whose lap and arms he carried the symbol of love, innocence and purity, how dare we usurp its significance. Some may argue that the Lord never said so and or such not found in the Holy Bible and will find an excuse to continue to consume lamb. May be one need not find it in the scrip-

God has given us the wisdom to use our heads wisely and with compassion. The good shepherd that he is, we always see Jesus cuddling a lamb gently in his arms with so much love in his eyes (No, I do not get carried away by paintings). If it is symbolic or otherwise, we must know that the lamb plays a significant role of influence and we must look differently and confine the purity of the lamb to Jesus and revere the tenderness he showers on it by refraining the slaughter of this innocent young adult. Look at the role of Jesus as the Shepherd.

The parable of the Shepherd

Jesus said, 'I am telling you the truth, the man who does not enter the Shepherd by the gate but climb in other way is a thief and a robber. The man who goes in through the gate is the Shepherd of the sheep.

The gatekeeper opens the gate for him and the sheep hear his voice as he calls his own sheep by the name and he leads them out, he goes ahead of them

and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow someone else, instead they will run away from such a person because they do not know his voice' Jesus told them this parable but they did not understand what he meant. John 10, 1-7

But we are blessed more than them because we understand what Jesus meant in the parable because we have traveled through long passages of time where our mind's reasoning has improved better enough to what the Lord

Revelation 7 also refers to the lamb. This time the reference is to God which clearly says that those who stood before God and who went through for safety and had washed their robes and made them white with the blood of lamb. Here, the blood is very symbolic in its power for the reason it is not the blood we imagine as one cannot wash with blood for it to look white. It is the power of the lamb which God and Jesus takes on the role of the Shepherd, the protector of the lamb. Do you still want to eat lamb?

Every preacher will express his own version in the church which we must not grab for eloquence or emotion. In John 9, Jesus says, 'I am the Good Shepherd who is willing to die for the sheep' True enough the 'sheep' here means his people but he uses the word sheep to illustrate his feelings and because in his eyes he sees the humility of the animal. If so, do you ever think that our Lord would ever consumed its flesh?

We believe that Jesus is the promised Saviour, the Son of God and through our faith in him, we shall have eternal

We know Jesus as the great Teacher who has the authority to interpret the Law of God and who teaches about the Kingdom of God. His teaching about the end of it perhaps the world being destroyed by fire.

But for the moment, we Christians must obey his word, recall Jesus's journev from Galilee to Jerusalem and the events of his last week that culminates in his crucifixion and resurrection. We must be ready for his call as he has said, 'I shall come like a thief when you are

Doctor in the House BY DR. NAMAL SENASINGHE CONSULTANT IN PAIN MEDI

Osteoarthritis



Healthy knee joint

Osteoarthritis is the most common form of arthritis worldwide. I have been referred patients with osteoarthritis to manage their chronic pain on many occasions. This is a distressing disease for the patients, which hinders day to day life.

The patients with knee pain find it difficult to walk and do things, such as cleaning and washing. Especially, in the West the elderly are independent. There are no domestic helpers for them. Dayto-day work, such as shopping becomes extremely difficult for them. Some patients may be lucky where the Government can support their dayto-day life by employing support workers to visit and assist them for a few hours each day.

Osteoarthritis is more common among women than men. It is also known as a wear and tear disease. Besides, the damage to the cartilages, it can affect the whole joint, including the connective tissues of the joint that joins the muscle to the bone.

Osteoarthritis occurs when the cartilage which cushions down the ends of the long bones wears down.

Osteoarthritis can affect any joint but more commonly the knees, hip, spine and the

The damage to the joints cannot be reversed. Our readers should recognise the fact that there is no nittawata Suvaveema or permanent cure for the disease other than a joint replacement.

Symptoms and signs

The symptoms of osteoarthritis develop slowly and worsen over time.

Pain - affected joint can be painful especially, after movement. For example, knee pain during walking and afterwards Stiffness - Joints can be

stiff, especially in the mornings after waking up which will loosen up with movement. **Swelling** - Skin can be swollen around the joint.

Warmth - Joints can be worn due to inflammation. Loss of flexibility - The

joints can be less mobile and full range of movement can be

Grating - Might hear cracking and grinding when the joint is moved.

Bone spurs - Extra bony growth can be felt as lumps and bumps which are hard.

Risk factors

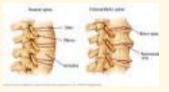
- Older age Sex - Women more prone than men
- Weight Increase in weight exerts pressure on the weight bearing joints and increases the severity, especially in the knee and hip.
- Injuries, such as sports injuries and injuries due to road traffic accidents can increase chances of developing osteoarthri-
- Genetics some persons have a genetic tendency to develop the disease. The Caucasians have increase risk of developing osteoarthritis of the hip than the Asians. We have a tendency to develop more knee osteoarthritis.
- Diabetics



Osteoarthritis of the hip joint

Complications

The disease can lead to chronic pain over time which affects the lifestyle. It can lead to sleep disturbances and depression.



Osteoarthritis of the spine

Treatment

- Lifestyle changes Progress of the disease
- can be slowed down by weight reduction. • Walking helps the knee. It
- increases the blood supply to the knee. Exercise

Complementary therapy

Complementary therapies, such as physiotherapy, Acupuncture, hydrotherapy can ease the pain.

Medication

Vitamins and minerals, such as calcium.

Glucosamine 1500 mg

Pain killers, such as the anti-inflammatory drugs. Needs to be careful with the side effects of long term antiinflammatory drugs. Opiate drugs - Codeine,

Morphine, Fentanyl patches.

International therapy

- Steroid injections to the joint
- Hyaluronic acid injections to the joint
- PRP Platelet rich plasma injection to the joint
- Nerve blocks such as a Genicular nerve block. By freezing the nerves with special techniques (radio frequency denervation)
- Total knee replacements

can help.

Surgery

As a last resort, surgery may be the way forward. Bear in mind that every surgery does not go well. Unicompartmental knee

replacements, such as the Oxford knee replacement. Total hip replacements.

Dr Namal Senasinghe MBBS (SL) FFARCS, Dip in Pain Medicine, FFPMCA, CCST (U.K.) is a consultant in pain medicine with specialist registrations in the general medical council, United Kingdom and the Sri Lanka Medical Council.

Down Syndrome

Set up centres and treat us with dignity

- Children with special needs

As all others we want to be loved, cared and treated with dignity so that we could contribute our talents for the welfare of the society, said Nishani de Silva, a child with special needs and now a crafts teacher at school in Colombo and an advocate for the rights of children with dis-

"What will happen to us when our parents are no more. We need places that will look after children with special needs after the demise of their parents," de Silva said urging the authorities to pay more attention to secure the rights of such children so that they could live in dignity.

Sharing the sentiments of children with special needs at the launch of the Eka Se Salakamu (Treat All Alike) program by Hemas Outreach Foundation to coincide with World Down Syndrome Day. The program was launched with Ayati - the country's first national centre for children with disabilities.

"We are not fake. We only walk and talk differently. Our needs are like yours. We like when others talk to us where we feel cared and respected. We need love and friends and centres like these where we are loved and cared for while medical attention and all other facilities are at one place," de Silva said while expressing the immense satisfaction she derives in her occupation.

"I enjoy teaching and my students love me," she said while urging the authorities not to turn down employment opportunities for children with disabilities and condemn them as misfits, de Silva said while also appealing not to pass derogatory remarks on them and use their condition to condemn another.

Eka Se Salakamu is a social movement aimed towards empowering children and families with Down Syndrome, creating a platform to recognise their rights and promote inclusivity in today's society.

Misconceptions and myths

There are many misconceptions and myths surrounding Down Syndrome in Sri Lanka which leads to marginalisation and stigmatisation of this community. The movement is rooted in the concept of building an inclusive world through 'healthful living' which promotes a society that leaves no child behind. This core purpose will champion the cause and assist in eradicating the stigma being faced by them on a regular basis.

Through this movement, families and children with Down Syndrome will have a platform and the opportunity to express their views and share their own experiences with the public.

The platform will also help to highlight the skills of the children and showcase their talent. The public and influencers are invited to join the platform and assist the community to live a dignified life and eradicate stigma and myth related to Down Syndrome. The Ayati



Nishani de Silva





Emeritus Professor of Paediatrics Harendra de Silva points to a drawing by children with special needs

Speech and Language Therapeutic wing aspires to become comparable with the global best in class for children with Down Syndrome by enabling them to develop their latent talents and helping them to become productive members of

Executive Director, Hemas Outreach Foundation and Ayati Trust Sri Lanka, Shiromi Masakorala said, "The Ayati Centre was built in partnership with the Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya, Hemas Holdings, MAS Holdings, Roshan Wijerama Foundation, the Sri Lanka Army, Rotary and other donors to address a need in the country.

"When we initiated Ayati we had three objectives - to build the first national centre of excellence, to eradicate stigma related to disabilities and to establish centers in rural Sri Lanka.

"The Eka Se Salakamu movement is our effort to tackle stigma associated with Down Syndrome. Children with Down Syndrome are one of the most stigmatised groups in society.

"In 2006, a special school for children with disabilities was established in Hambantota. This was the initial steppingstone for Hemas to support establishment of the Ayati national centre. Intellectually impaired "We also promote the employment

"The Hemas Group has always

worked towards the betterment of the

lives of children with disabilities for over

a decade through the Piyawara initiative.

of people who are intellectually impaired as we work towards providing them with a sense of renewed purpose through the prospect of employment," she said.

Consistent awareness is necessary to make a difference and change the mindset within a community. The movement will, therefore, also pave the way for the building of partnerships with key stake-

The project invites international experts to Sri Lanka through Ayati to collaborate and work with professional bodies in Sri Lanka

Feature

Opinion

Truths, untruths and Sri Lankan commitment

-By-**Frances** Bulathsinghala



he international community, through its peculiar insistence on harping on alleged war crimes in Sri Lanka has done the exact opposite of promoting national rec-

While wars, atrocities and human rights violations in many guises continue in the rest of the world where the perpetrators are often powerful nations, millions of dollars have been raised the world over for lobbying and justifying the UN Resolution on Sri Lanka.

Now, the UNHRC is seeking \$ 2.8 million to set up an office to put together information about the socalled war crimes committed here. All this is money that could have benefited the Tamil people in Sri Lanka towards re-shaping their lives.

For the country to move ahead, there is a need for the Tamil diaspora, now foreign citizens who hardly visit this country but who were the lobbyists for the Resolution, to understand the ground realities. Unbiased assistance by the international community would have gone a long way for Sri Lanka to develop genuine reconcilia-

tion and peace-building.
All that the UN Resolution on Sri Lanka may do is further divide the people of the country, increase feelings of suspicion and hate while taking the country away from economic, political and social stability providing an ample opportunity for diverse local and international segments to exploit the country's quest for national unity, towards diaspora members' diabolical interest.

UN and its effectiveness

With regard to the UN and its effectiveness, there seems to be scant introspection as it enters its 76th year of existence. Some describe the UN as a failed entity, conceptualised and created for the purpose of strategically and subtlety controlling the non Western world for resources and knowledge while others still insist it is a world body committed to equal-

The formation of the UN was first declared in 1942 and further discussed in 1943 where 'a general international organisation based on the sovereign equality of all nations' was agreed upon. In 1944, the post war Charter for 'collective security' mooted. By June 1945, the deliberations for a Charter of the United Nations were completed and on July 28, the US which played a major role in the creation of this organisation, approved the UN Charter.

Days later, on August 6 and 9, the United States dropped the Atomic bombs over Hiroshima and Nagasaki killing over 200,000 persons and maiming thousands of others (and future generations) for life. Conveniently for those who devastated lives beyond repair in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the UN and its aims for a world that valued human rights came into formal ratified existence two monthslater, on October 24, 1945.

The international community, however, seems to think, selectively, that certain wars are tea parties; sans the death, the misery and the carnage.

UN stance

Will this Resolution be a magic wand that will enable a kind of justice that the Tamil people could have expected from the LTTE which tortured and killed off anyone who opposed them, insisted on taxes by the Tamil people, recruited children, coerced youth to become human bombs and butchered Sinhala civilians and shot at Tamil civilians who were fleeing for their lives in the last stage of the fighting?



The UN Human Rights Council

Will this Resolution promote any progressive step, for example-commemorating the month of May dedicated to unity, understanding and peace - the kind of decision Lanka so desperately needs to bring about an honest locally driven discourse between different stakeholders, such as Tamil civilians, Sinhala and Muslim civilians and different political and civilian players.

How will the average life of the Tamil people in the North and the East of Lanka; those without wealthy diaspora relatives and those who are marginalised such as former rehabilitated LTTE cadres improve as a result of the UN Resolution?

Do these foreign based persons who created the stage for the Resolution to be passed, care about the ensuing danger of the Sri Lankan economy through possible sanctions which would finally be borne by the most vulnerable of its populations, such as Tamil civilians of the North-

Much effort has been taken by the Board of Investment (BOI) through the Jaffna office and Tamil officials there to usher in industry projects during the past 12 years in Jaffna, Killinochchi and Mullaitivu providing jobs for Lankan Tamils of the North

The international community had 12 years in which they could have encouraged the Tamil Diaspora to invest in these projects that will benefit the Lankan Tamil people, instead of veering off in the opposite direction. During one of the floods that struck the North a few years ago, a Sinhala philanthropist who runs a charity organisation was distributing dry rations as well as other goods to the area and quipped that he could not get the Tamil Diaspora to contribute 'even a single mosquito net.'

Local mechanisms

Sri Lanka needs trust building between communities. Every ounce of strength, will-power and above all, an honest effort has to be mustered by Sinhala, Tamil and Muslim intellectuals, politicians and all others in society at large, including the police and the Security Forces, to represent the wellbeing of the people and country, giving national harmony utmost priority. Each human being should be an ambassador of peace.

The country should seek peace, fairness and unity because these are assets for stability of a nation and not seek them because the UN or the West wants us to. Sri Lanka should implement local mechanisms locally proposed for justice and upholding of the law for supporting national unity.

Sri Lanka has done the groundwork and produced objective reports, such as the Maxwell Paranagama Commission report on Inquiry Into Complaints of Abductions and Disappearances and the Lessons Learnt and Reconciliation Commission in Sri

IF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY HAD BEEN SERIOUS ABOUT UNIFYING THE PEOPLE OF SRI LANKA DURING THE PAST 12 YEARS, ONE OF THE FIRST THINGS IT COULD HAVE DONE IS TO **ENCOURAGE THE TAMIL DIASPORA TO SEE THE IMPORTANCE** OF THIS UNITY AND EXTOLLED THE MOVING FORWARD THROUGH PEACE, INTER-ETHNIC DISCUSSIONS, EMPATHY AND DEVELOPMENT

Lanka which held regular hearings in Colombo and the North and the East. These Commissions of Inquiries were the result of an independent initiative of the then Lankan government. It is imperative that all of its recommendations are carried through for the good of the citizens of the country.

These recommendations covered vast realm from media freedom, societal freedom and the practical implementation of justice within the context of battling terrorism, including steps to be taken on matters relating to missing persons (Tamils mostly LTTE cadres and the Sinhalese military personnel).

International community

Most of these recommendations by the LLRC and Paranagama commissions have been hailed by many Lankan intellectuals irrespective of political affiliations, as just and pro-

If there have been aberrations of the law taken into the hands by any person, justice should prevail as recommended. We should never give any Sri Lankan citizen, ever, whether it be Sinhalese, Tamil or Muslim any need whatsoever, to complain to foreign nations about issues faced by them. Any citizen should feel safe complaining to their government, whether that citizen voted for it or not.

With regard to foreign countries telling Sri Lanka what should be done within the country, maybe Sri Lanka too can encourage nations such as for example, America, to look into the human rights of its people, beginning with the original people of that land - the Native Americans as well as the Black Americans, so that people do not get killed in broad daylight, such as George Floyd. This will need some serious researching so that any advice to another country on human rights should be aimed at unifying diverse people of that country and not the reverse which will only encourage destabilisation of a nation.

If the international community had been serious about unifying the people of Sri Lanka during the past 12 years, one of the first things it could have done is to encourage the Tamil Diaspora to see the importance of this unity and extolled the moving forward through peace, inter-ethnic discussions, empathy and development. This may have changed the status quo how the Government took their decisions.

For example, can calls by Lankan Tamil politicians for the release of former LTTE cadres as a policy pertaining to peace time reconciliation be realistically considered if the Tamil Diaspora is seen as a constant potential threat of influencing these people back to terror? The use of LTTE flags by the Tamil Diaspora abroad during their protests against the Lankan Government show that they are not neutral but supporting a terrorist group that many of the Western countries had proscribed.

Many Tamils may have forgotten the life as lived under the LTTE. The documentary film Demons in Paradise by Lankan Tamil Jude Rutnam speaks of certain aspects of these realities, beginning with the darkest scar on Lanka, the 1983 riots which should never have occurred and allowed the rise of a master of terror, such as Velupillai Prabhakaran.

Any Tamil citizen who lived under the LTTE or any unbiased human rights activist would be able to come up with countless stories of how lands of Tamil citizens were confiscated by the LTTE, often for not paying up what was euphemistically called 'taxes' but was in reality any amount of money that was demanded.

Everyday issues

No Tamil businessman, either in the North or the East or in Colombo or abroad were free of the long arm of the LTTE money collectors. The response to not contributing as demanded could be lethal. The killings of hundreds of other Tamils - Tamil intellectuals, such as Rajani Thiranagama and Neelan Thiruchelvam – the killing of Tamil politicians, such as Joseph Pararajasingham, scores of members of rival militant groups, the forced recruitment of children for terrorism, the butchering of Sinhala villagers in the night are some acts of the LTTE.

It is possible for a Diaspora member to dismiss these writings as those of a biased Sinhalese. However, what I am writing is not theoretics. I could write tomes on what the Tamil people went through under the LTTE because I have visited these areas independently countless of times from the time of the peace process to date where my work in the media, research and capacity building. My interest in comparative spirituality and national heritage have involved countless visits to the

North and the East and have ranged from the remotest of agrarian and fishing villages to Hindu and Sufi ashrams.

Because I am familiar with the everyday issues of the North, I am aware of the kind of exploitation that goes on those such as Lankan Tamil war widows where sections of the Tamil Diaspora - wealthy Tamil men of Lankan origin who are now holding foreign passports visit the country for short time spans and lure these women with false promises of marriage. Do human rights activists and the Tamil Diaspora know the number of children born to young North East mothers through these liaisons – mothers who are now helpless, abandoned and culturally ostracised?

It is a senior Tamil government official who gave me the information in numeric details. This person; a Tamil who has held high ranking government positions based in the North during the last phase of the battle against terrorism, had been frank in descriptions soon after the hostilities had ceased. These comments were thought of as being 'traitorous' to the LTTE to the extent that the social media used by the Tamil Diaspora had denounced this Lankan Tamil using the worst possible foul language, resulting in the traumatising of children and other family members who were studying abroad and some of them threatening to commit suicide.

On the question of the numbers of missing Tamil persons (those also referred to as disappeared), this Tamil official explained how many parents did not know at the last phase of the fighting in 2009, whether their children who had joined the LTTE were living or dead- they did not know the whereabouts of LTTE camps which kept shifting in location and that in the last stage of the battle, every parent thought their child escaped alive.

Also described was how large graves were dug daily for hundreds of bodies to be buried during the last laps of fighting. 'Naturally, the parents were unaware of these developments as they were not eye witnesses and to date, think that their children were alive by May 18 when the hostilities ceased.

With regard to the last phase of the battle, what is to be understood is that the kind of setting we are talking about one which was a nightmare of confusion - of bloodshed and gore, people running for their lives - no one knowing who was who, or who was running in which direction.

'Disappeared'

A young girl, an LTTE child recruit who was about 22 years I interviewed her about five years ago who was at the frontlines at 17 during the very last stage of the fighting shuddered when she explained that she too could have been classified as one of the 'disappeared' if the LTTE cadre who was carrying her to safety listened to her and left her to die in the jungles and only looked after his own safety. She could

have died and animals would have eaten her and there would not be definite proof she was dead and thus would be categorised as'missing' by her rela-

Justice and compassion when it is selective can be sour. Last week, this writer highlighted how Thamilini, the head of the LTTE's women political wing division who surrendered to the military along with many others faced difficulty in getting international agencies to give her the same amount of importance as they did to other LTTE members caught in the last phase of

A Sri Lankan Tamil lawyer at the highest level of local and international purported representation of Tamil rights had retorted to Thamilini's appeal for legal assistance by saying he would be only able to represent her case if she pays him the usual feels charged! Thamilini was finally assisted free of charge by a Sinhala Marxist oriented lawyer, with another Tamil lawver later supporting them.

There are hundreds of rehabilitated LTTE cadres who cannot get jobs in the North, obstructed by issues such as caste. The LTTE saga can be analysed in the context of caste, money and class. The Lankan Tamils who had the benefit of so-called high caste, money, class and international connections went abroad and supported the battle in the North. The Sri Lankan Tamils who had none of it stayed here and fought. One Tamil commentator once described the Tamil Diaspora role as being one akin to a spectator 'paying the ticket' to watch a war movie. Interestingly, the most vociferous defenders of the LTTE I have heard were those who never lived under them.

What the UN Resolution supporters and the Tamil Diaspora claim they want is justice and accountability in ending one of the bloodiest chapter's in South Asia's history associated with a terrorist group led by Prabhakaran a man who lived a luxurious life even at the height of his terrorism and sending young children (with the exception of his own) to their deaths.

Epitome of evil

If the aim of the UN Resolution is justice, this cannot be sought by abnormally sainting one side who spearhead the violence and arbitrarily, making the other which countered it as the epitome of evil.

One cannot talk of alleged civilian deaths by the Security Forces when combatting the Tamil Tigers and be silent on the constant strategy adopted by the LTTE in positioning themselves within large groups of civilians, especially children - a strategy that was increased towards the last days where they dragged children and orphans wherever they set up fighting positions so that they could claim that the air-force was bombing schools and or-It is time we began creating an ac-

tive and honest mechanism of dealing with internal issues pertaining to the concerns of our people - we can no longer leave the rights of our people to the impaired judgment of the international community - it is time we realised that every single citizen and their grievance - whatever it is should be looked into - with honest determination - within this nation which is a sovereign nation that needs no foreign entity telling us what to do.

vill be the defining factor for us. Every human life lost in the past 30 years and before as part of violence was a valuable human resource that could have been used for the betterment of the country if the circumstances were dif-

Honest determination in doing this

We can take a cue from the man who transformed the fishing village in Singapore and made it one of the richest places in the world. Lee Kuan Yew's miracle was achieved by carefully strategising a national framework where no civilian gets trapped in the purported need for glorified violence and thus has maintained its national sovereignty, economic independence and the wellbeing and dignity of all of its people.



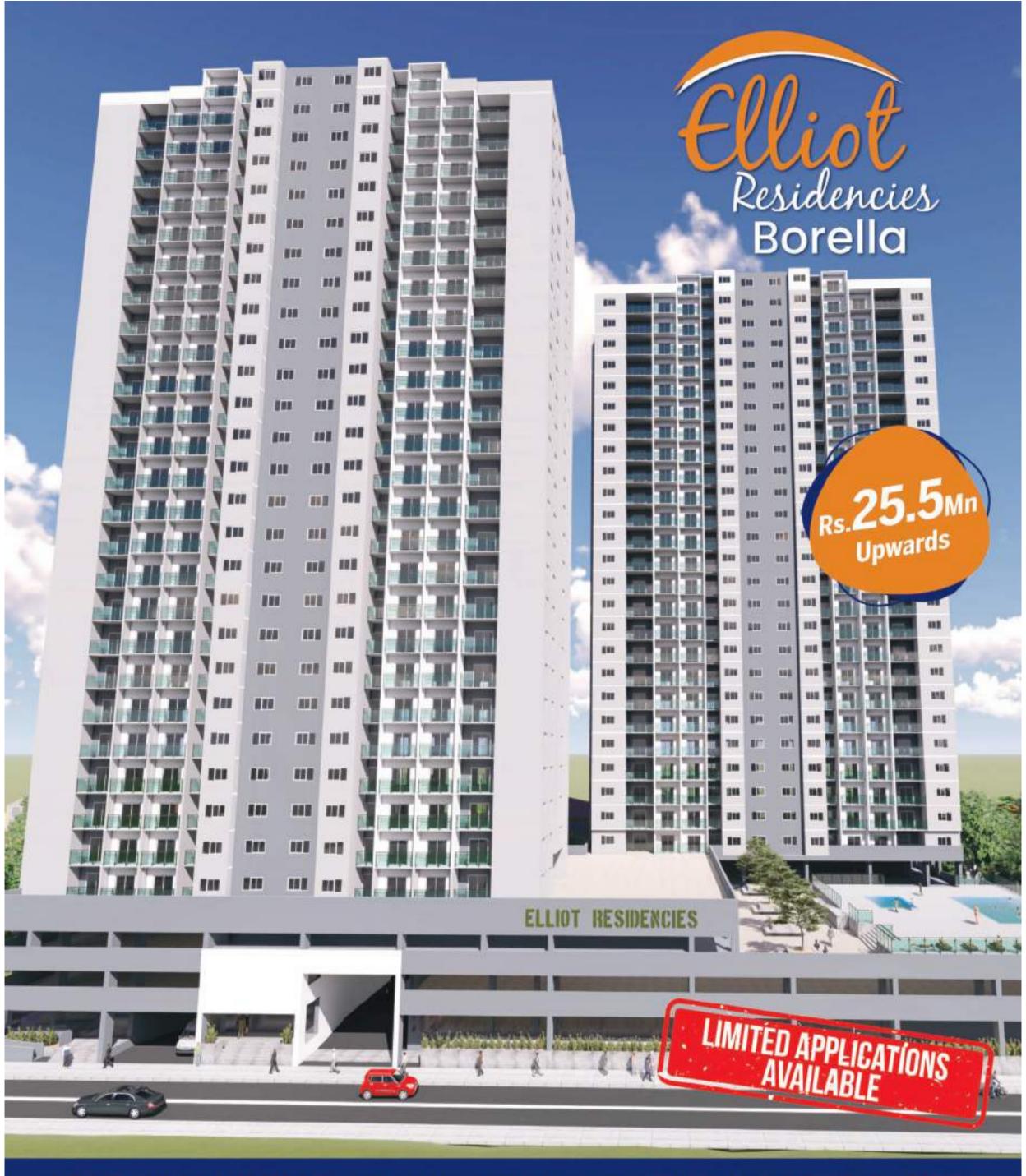
Helping the old and feeble



Seeking safety with the Security Forces



Caring the needy



MODERN LIVING AT THE HEART OF THE BORELLA CITY

Categories.... • 2BR (850sqff) • 3BR (1050sqff) • 3BR (1250sqff)

















Application fee Rs 2000/=



















State Ministry of Urban Development, Coast Conservation, Waste Disposal and Community Cleanliness Urban Development Authority



Housing Division,
Urban Development Authority,
6th floor, Sethsiripaya, Battaramulla.



www.uda.gov.lk



Urban Development Authority

SPORTS

London hosted Olympics of 1908 exceptionally well at short notice





Pierre de Coubertin. The 1908 Games were originally awarded to Rome ahead of London, Berlin and Milan in the belief that its fame and accessibility would encourage competitors to attend from all over the world, particularly as turnout at St. Louis 1904 had been depressing. However, when Mount Vesuvius erupted in April 1906 and claimed the lives of more than a hundred, Italy announced that they would have to divert resources into disaster relief and rebuilding of Na-

The IOC invited Britain to step in as the host. The challenge was accepted by Lord Desborough, chairman of the British Olympic Association. He was backed by King Edward VIII. Within just 10 months, they organized the London Games exceptionally well. For the first time, a stadium was specially prepared for the Games, and swimming events did not take place in the open water.

Lasting a total of 187 days, these Games were the longest in modern Olympics history. The White City Stadium, held 65,000 spectators. The stadium track was three laps to the mile (536m), not the current standard of 400m, with a pool for swimming and diving and platforms for wrestling and gymnastics in the middle.

Standard Rules for Sports

A dozen of sports venues across London were used for the 1908 Summer Olympics. White City Stadium served as a precursor to modern stadiums. These Games were the first to include winter events, as had originally been proposed for the Games.

The 1908 Olympics prompted establishment of standard rules for sports, and selection of judges from different countries rather than just the host. One reason was 400m and other was the different definition of interference under British and international rules.

The distance from the start of the Marathon to the finish at the stadium was established at these Games. The original distance of 25 miles was changed to 26 miles so the marathon could start at Windsor Castle. Then changed again at the request of Princess Mary so the start would be beneath the windows of the Royal Nursery.

To ensure that the marathon would finish in front of the King, the finish line was moved by the British officials and as a result, the marathon covered a distance of 26 miles 385 yards (42.195 km), which became the standard length for marathon, starting with the 1924 Summer Olympics.

The Games also set the bar for future Olympics with Team Great Britain topping the medal table for the only time with a total of 146 medals that included 56 gold, 51 silver and 39 bronze medals. The United States came second with a total of 47 medals - 23 gold, 12 silver and 12 bronze. In third place was Sweden with 25 medals - 8 gold, 6 silver and 11 bronze whilst France won 19 medals - 5 gold, 5 silver and 9 bronze to finish fourth.

Sports, Venues and Sportsmanship

A total of 2,008 athletes - 37 women and 1,971 men contested under 110 events in 22 sports that encompassed 24 sporting disciplines. Swimming, diving and water polo were considered three disciplines of under the sport, aquatics. At the time, tug-of-war was part of athletics and the two different football codes (association and rugby

(union)) were listed together. The IOC now considers tugof-war a separate sport, as well as referring to association football as simply "football" and to rugby union as "rugby." The sailing program was open for a total of five sailing classes, but actually only

four sailing events were contested. The first winter sports included

four figure skating events. These events were not part of the Stockholm1912, but returned for Antwerp 1920 Games, heralding the first Winter Olympics that took place in Chamonix in 1924.

The 1908 venues, Bisley and Henley served London 1948 edition when the Olympics returned to London 40 years later. The All England Lawn Tennis Club continues to host the Wimbledon Championships and is the only venue of the 1908 Games that was used for London 2012. The fact that the United Kingdom competed as a single team was upsetting to some Irish competitors, who felt that Ireland should compete on its own, despite being part of the UK at the time.

Fearing an Irish boycott, the authorities changed the name of the team to Great Britain/Ireland, and in two sports, field hockey and polo, Ireland participated as a separate country, winning silver medals in both. Irish athletes in the United States were not affected by this controversy, and many Irish immigrants to the United States competed for the US Olympic team.

At London 1908, sportsmanship existed at a level unimaginable. One wonderful example took place when the middleweight Greco-Roman wrestling final between Frithiof Martensson and Mauritz Andersson was postponed by one day to allow Martensson to recover from a minor injury. Martensson duly recovered and won the gold

Halswelle's Strange Walkover Gold

Wyndham Halswelle was a British athlete, born in London to London-born parents. His was one of the shorter stints in athletics and one of the stranger Olympic victories, but his story is featured distinctly perhaps for his bravery and 'Supreme Sacrifice' as a military of-

He had a notable athletic career at the Royal Military College, Sandhurst, before being commissioned into the Highland Light Infantry in 1901. While in South Africa in 1902 for the Second Boer War, his prowess was recognized. In a single afternoon in 1906 at the Scottish championships, he won 100, 220, 440 and 880 yards, a feat that has not been matched since.

At London 1908, he came into the final of 400m, in front of his home crowd in good form. He had qualified faster than anyone else, setting an Olympic record of 48.4 sec. The event was not run in lanes. so one rule, printed in the program for the day's events read: "Any competitor willfully jostling or running across or obstructing another competitor so as to impede his progress shall forfeit his right to be in the competition and shall not be awarded any position or prize that he would otherwise have been entitled to."

This would loom large over Halswelle's Olympic legacy. The final appeared to have been won by John Carpenter, in 47.8 sec, with Halswelle in second but one of umpires, Roscoe Badger, signaled that Carpenter had obstructed Halswelle as he attempted to pass him.

Badger's testimony read: "The position of Robbins was that he was leading and about a yard in front of Carpenter. Robbins and Carpenter were in such a position as to compel Halswelle to run very wide all round the bend, and as they swung into the straight Halswelle made a big effort and was gaining hard; but running up the straight the further they went the wider Carpenter went out from the verge, keeping his right shoulder sufficiently in front of Halswelle to prevent his passing.'





Carpenter was disqualified, and the race was ordered to be rerun in lanes. However, both Taylor and Robbins refused to race, so a reluctant Halswelle ran the race by himself to win the gold in a time of 50.2 recording the only walkover in the Olympic Games' history. As a result of the controversy, from the Stockholm 1912 Olympic Games onwards

all 400m races were run in lanes. On March 12, 1915, at the Battle of Neuve Chapelle in France, during the World War I, he was hit by shell fragments, while leading his men across Layes Brook but despite his wounds he refused to be evacuated and continued at the front, although heavily bandaged.

On March 31, aged 32, Halswelle, by then a Captain was killed by a sniper while attempting to rescue an injured fellow officer. His grave was marked with a wooden cross. Later his remains were reinterred in the Royal Irish Rifles Graveyard at Laventie, near Armentieres.

In 2003, he was posthumously inducted into the Scottish Sports Hall of Fame and his Olympic medals and other trophies are displayed there. His regiment, continues to award the Wyndham Halswelle Memorial Trophy to the winner of 400m at the Scottish under 20 championships.

Swahn's Double Gold in Shoot-

Oscar Gomer Swahn (20 Oct 1847 - 1 May 1927) was a Swedish shooter who competed at three Olympic Games and won six medals, including three gold medals. At London 1908, at 60, he won two gold medals in running deer, single shot (both individual and team), and a

AT LONDON 1908, HE CAME INTO THE FINAL OF 400M. IN FRONT OF HIS HOME CROWD IN **GOOD FORM. HE HAD QUALIFIED** FASTER THAN ANYONE ELSE, **SETTING AN OLYMPIC RECORD** OF 48.4 SEC. THE EVENT WAS NOT RUN IN LANES, SO ONE RULE. PRINTED IN THE PROGRAM FOR THE DAY'S EVENTS READ: "ANY COMPETITOR WILLFULLY JOSTLING OR RUNNING ACROSS OR OBSTRUCTING ANOTHER **COMPETITOR SO AS TO IMPEDE** HIS PROGRESS SHALL FORFEIT HIS RIGHT TO BE IN THE

bronze in running deer double shot individual.

COMPETITION

It was just the start of an Olympic story that barely seems credible today. The 'running deer', which debuted at London 1908, involved one shot per run being made at a deershaped target that made 10 runs of around 75 feet apiece. The marksman stood 110 yards away.

When the 1912 Olympics came to his native country, Sweden, he won the gold in single shot running deer team. He also won a bronze in individual double shot running deer event. At 64 years and 258 days of age, he became the oldest gold medalist ever, a record he still

At the 1920 Olympics, he became the oldest athlete ever to compete in the Olympics at the age of 72. His best results were in the team competitions and won a silver in double shot running deer. Thus, he is also the oldest medalist of all

It is a source of fascination that the first 60 years of his life seem shrouded in mystery; he left it late to become one of the most significant and lasting Olympians of all time. Swahn continues to hold records after 100 years as the oldest Olympian at the time of competition, the oldest person to win a gold medal, and the oldest person to win an Olympic medal.

Taylor's Poignant Medley Gold

John Taylor's feat of becoming the first African-American to win an Olympic gold medal has echoed across generations and will reach more. Prior to London 1908, his main athletic achievements had come alongside a successful career in academia. He had graduated from the University of Pennsylva-

In 1907, he joined the Irish-American Athletic Club, which operated a formidable production line of athletes for the 1908 Games. "In every race in which Taylor starts he is on scratch, or very close to the post of honour, because of his ability," read the Washington Post on September 15, 1907. "And every man of the Irish contingent roots himself hoarse to see Taylor win."

The medley relay was being held for the first time at an Olympic Games, and would be the forerunner for the 4x400m relay. It took place over 1,600m but the athletes ran different lengths, with the first two competing over 200m apiece, the third over 400m and the fourth over 800m. Taylor ran 400m. His team-mates were William Hamilton, Nate Cartmell and Melvin

Sheppard. By the time Taylor joined in for his 400m, he already had an eightyard start on his pursuers. According to the Official Report: "His remarkable stride widened the gap very considerably, especially in the last hundred yards." Taylor had made an indelible mark in history but he was unable to leave any more. On December 2, within months of his victorious return, he passed away aged 26 after a bout of

Harry Porter, acting President of the 1908 U.S. Olympic Team, summed up Taylor's special legacy in a fitting letter to his parents: "It is far more as the man [than the athlete] that John Taylor made his mark. Quite unostentatious, genial, kindly, the fleet-footed, far-famed athlete was beloved wherever known...As a beacon of his race, his example of achievement in athletics, scholarship and manhood will

Larner's Long Walk into Record Books

Two events that only featured at London 1908 were the 3,500m walk and the 10 miles walk. Great Britain's George Larner won both and remains the holder of each title to this day. Larner was a latecomer to athletics. He was 28 when, he began walking competitively in 1903 but brought instant dividends. In 1906, he began a two-year commitment to ensure that, by the time the 1908 Games came around, he would be in peak condition.

He had already drawn admiring glances among journalists though his close on 50-inch stride and upright demeanor, notable for sparing use of his arms. His was a style that seemed to economize upon effort but in fact he was a formidable competitor and dedicated trainer. The 3,500m walk was first up on July 14, and Larner won the gold. It was a thrilling introduction to the Games for Larner, by then 23.

However, 10-mile event would capture even more imaginations. This took place on July 17; George Larner and Webb sped away in the first mile, essentially making for a two-horse race from the off. Larner broke the hour mark within the first eight miles and, by the nine-mile stage, both were comfortably within the existing record set for this distance. Larner eventually won by a full 300 yards in 75 minutes 57.4 sec – the best time ever recorded.

"There is no doubt that the Ten Miles Walk was one of the best things in the Games," the Official Report said approvingly. "Both Webb and Larner walked without the semblance of doubtful action, in the fairest possible manner." Yet it would not be seen on this stage again, and nor would Larner.

He retired after the Games, making a short-lived comeback in 1911 to win the British seven-mile title. By then he had become an author, writing 'Larner's Text Book on Walking', and he was certainly an authority on the topic: he was, at this stage, only the second British athlete to have won two gold medals at the same Olympics.

Marathoner Pietri won Hearts but No Gold

When Dorando Pietri of Italy entered the 65,000 packed stadium at the end of the 1908 marathon, he was completely unknown. When the news of what happened after the marathon spread around the world, he became a celebrity overnight.In 1908, 55 runners from 16 nations faced the starter.

Pietri began his race at a rather slow pace, but in the second half a powerful surge moved him into second position. When he knew that leading athlete Hefferon was in crisis, Pietri further increased his pace, overtaking him at the 39 km

The effort took its toll and with only two kilometers to go, Pietri began to feel the effects of extreme fatigue and dehydration. When he entered the stadium, he took the wrong path and when umpires redirected him, he fell down for the first time. He got up with their help.

He fell four more times, and each time the umpires helped him up. In the end, he managed to finish the race in first place. Of his total time of 2:54:46.0, ten minutes were needed for that last 340m. The American team immediately lodged a complaint against the help Pietri received from the umpires.

The complaint was accepted and the winner Pietri was disqualified and removed from the final standings. The gold was thus awarded to Johnny Hayes of the United States. Since Pietri had not been responsible for his disqualification, Queen Alexandra thought it fit to award him a gilded silver cup as a special

(The author highlights spectrum of sports extravaganza. He is the winner of Presidential Academic Award for Sports in 2017 and 2018 and recipient of National Accolades for Academic pursuits. He possesses a PhD, MPhil and double MSc)





Fernando's 91 in vain at MCA cricket

An unbeaten 91 by Jaan Fernando of Zillion Systems was in vain as Singer Sri Lanka 'B' beat them by five wickets in the ongoing MCA 'G' division league cricket tournament held last weekend.

It took Fernando only 75 deliveries and his knock included six sixes and five fours as Zillion scored 167 for five wickets.

Singer 'B' scored 168 for five with Srimal Peiris top scoring on 61. Roshan Derling chipped in with a useful 51 runs and the pair added 80 runs in 50 balls for the third wicket.

Other notable batting performances came from Keshan Soysa from Hilton Colombo Residencies (78 vs. MD Gunasena), Dinesh Rangana from Abans Group (62 vs Orient Finance), Chathuranga Silva from Zillione Systems (76 vs. NDB 'B'), Suranga Perera from NDB 'B' (60 no vs. Zillione Systems), Thilan Nugawela from Aitken Spence (70 vs. Singer 'B'), Dinuja Peiris from Aitken Spence (67 vs. Singer 'B'), and Tharaka Jeewantha from Pyramid Wilmar (52 vs. Ship Xpress)

At DSS: Hilton Colombo Residencies win by 117 runs Hilton CR: 211/7 (25), MDG: 94/6 (25) **Kish Group win by four wickets:**

Reginis: 130/7 (25), **Kish Group:** 131/6 (23.3) At Mattegoda: Abans Group win by 25 runs

Abans: 164/6 (25), **Orient Finance:** 139/9 (25) A Baur & Co. vs. ACL Cables was postponed

At MCA: Singer 'B' win by 5 wickets

Zillione: 167/5 (25), Singer 'B': 168/5 (20.4)

Hayleys Group 'B' win by 9 wickets, **NDB:** 'B' 61 (19.3), **Hayleys 'B'** 62/1 (6.5)

Pyramid Wilmar win by 116 runs **Pyramid Wilmar:** 173/9 (25), **Ship Xpress:** 57 (15.3)

At DSS: Aitken Spence win by 38 runs

Aitken Spence: 188/5 (25), Singer 'B': 150/9 (25)

Zillione Systems win by 47 runs on the DLS.

Zillione: 217/7 (25), NDB 'B': 147/8 in 22.3 when bad light halted play

Sirimavo girls crowned **OVEP champions**

alaya Colombo crowned themselves as the champions of the Olympic Values Educational Program, also known as OVEP.

The awards presentation of this program was held at the NOC auditorium on Tuesday.

The first runner-up of the program was Hillwood College, Kandy while the third place was taken by Chundikuli Girls School

Speaking on the occasion, Secretary-General National National Olympic Committee Maxwell de Silva stressed that all contestants were brilliant and delved into a lot of subjects that were

Sirimavo Bandaranaike Vidy- fulfilling to the mundane lives of people and emphasized that what was most important is "living by what you preach and that goes on to make a person larger

> The first place in this competition went to a young lass from Kuliyapitiya, Kalshini Dulmitha of Holy Angles Girls College, the second place to a medical student from Jayawardenapura University, Ayeshan Sachintha Abeywardena while the third place was taken by Ramya Sivamumar and the joint fourth place by the brothers SMY Mohamed Hazari and Omar Hazari of Royal College.

Mallika: the grand old lady of athletics

Now in her eighties she is still running miles and putting to shame thousands of women half her age

BY TB RAHAMAN

Even at the age of 84 years old this woman keeps running and walking in athletic meets for veterans held around the world. She is the ever green Mallika Sachithananda who has already won many medals which keeps her desire to run and bring glory and honour to Sri Lanka.

To date she has won the highest number of medals with over 60 gold, 20 silver and 22 bronze medals at international Masters Athletic meets.

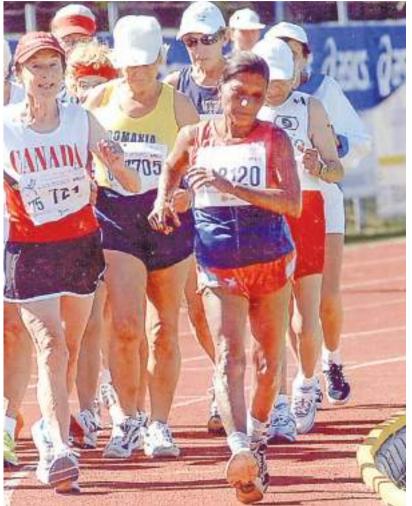
The most treasured memory she wants to keep on record is the Asian record she holds in the 400 metres for those between the age of 55 and 59 for

She established this record at the Asian Masters Athletic Championship held in 1994 in Jakarta, Indonesia. Her time at the distance was one minute, 07.57 seconds which stands unbroken for over 25 years now.

Another proud record that is still to be broken is in the 5 kms walk race she established at the 15th Asian meet held in India in 2008.

Mallika is so versatile that she can run in short and long distance events. She has participated in the 100m, 200m, 400m, 800m, 5000m and even in the half marathon and full marathon. She takes part and won medals in race walk events held for women of her age. She won the first race walking championship held in Sri Lanka organized by the Ministry of Sports in 1976. This event varies from 5 to 20 km

During her school days at Veyangoda Central, Mallika took a great interest in athletics from 1951 and contested the short distance races. She emerged as the champion athlete in the under-16 category in 1952 and con-



Mallika Sachithananda (right) in one of her race walks

tinued to win in circuit meets

After leaving school she joined the Telecommunications Department and continued winning at the State Services Athletic Championships and Road Races without a break. She married another athlete of fame during that

time, K. Sachithananda, who took to administration in the sport after competitive running.

Mallika rose to national level in the middle distance events, winning the women's 1500m National title with a new Sri Lanka record in 1975. She



Mallika Sachithananda in days gone by

also represented Sri Lanka at the Indo-Ceylon athletic meet the same year.

Mallika engraved her name as the brightest star at the 14th Asian Masters Athletic Championship held in Bangalore, India in November 2006 and won four gold medals in the 400, 800, 1500 and the 5 km race walk events.

She also brought glory to Sri Lanka winning three gold, three silver and a bronze medal at the World Masters' Games held in Denmark in 1989. The gold medals were won in the 400m, 800, and 1500m races, the three silver medals in the 5000 and 5000 race walk and the 8 kms cross country race and the bronze in the 10,000 race.

At her latest participation at the Asian Masters in Kuching, Malaysia she won a gold medal in the 10 km road race for women over 80 years. She won a silver in the 400m, a bronze in the 200 and also participated in the 5000 race walk, 100 and 80 metres and finished fourth.

For a veteran athlete who has achieved so much and brought glory and honour to Sri Lanka she deserves a great deal of awards and respect from the government and people of

Madurangi, Warusavithana all-island TT champions

Ishara Madurangi of Ports Authority and Supuna Warusavithana of the Moratuwa University emerged Open women's and men's champions respectively at the All Island Open Ranking Table Tennis Championship conducted by the Sabaragamuwa Province Table Tennis Association at the Municipal Council Indoor Stadium Kegalle last weekend.

This was Madurangi's back to back success at Open championships where she was able to maintain good form once again to defeat Erandi Warusavithana in a hard fought 3-2 in the semi-finals. In the final too she maintained good form to beat Muthumali Priyadharshani of Navy in a five setter 3-2 to take the Open title.

Meanwhile, 15-year-old Senura Silva once again entered the men's Open final after defeating Nirmala Jayasinghe 3-1 in the semi-final while Supuna Warusavithana made a hard fought 3-2 win over Krishan Wickramaratne in a tough semi-final encounter.

At the men's final Senura Silva, who won the under-15 and under-18 titles, offered a stiff challenge to Warusavithana who won



Women's champion Ishara Madurangi receiving the trophy from State Minister Kanaka Hearth the TTASL President

the major title with a 3-1 victory. Ananda College's 15-year-old Senura Silva who is the present number one ranked men's paddler, showed his prowess to enter three

RESULTS:

Men's single (Semi-final): Senura Silva (Ananda) beat Nirmala Jayasinghe (MAS) 8/11, 11/9,

Supuna Warusavithana (Moratuwa Campus) beat Krishan Wickramaratne (Vidyartha OBA) 11/2, 11/7, 9/11, 3/11, 11/9.

Final- Supuna Warusavithana (Moratuwa Campus) beat Senura Silva (Ananda) 11/13, 11/7, 11/9,



Men's champion Supuna Warusavithana receiving the trophy

Women's singles (semi-final): Ishara Madurangi (SLPA) beat Erandi Warusavithana (Raigam) 11/7, 13/11, 10/12, 9/11, 11/8.

Muthumali Piyadarshani (Navy) beat Hansani Piyumila (Navy) 11/8, 11/5, 4/11, 7/11, 11/9.

Final: Ishara Madurangi (SLPA) beat Muthumali Piyadarshani (Navy) 6/11, 11/8, 11/5, 11/8.

Cricket scorers to receive Ministry patronage

BY DHAMMIKA RATNAWEERA

In appreciation of the service provided by cricket scorers, Sports Minister Namal Rajapaksa is to provide them will assistance to further develop their activities.

"We can't forget cricket scorers, they are doing a superb job with limited facilities and we must really appreciate them", said Minister Rajapaksa after a discussion he had with senior cricket scorers at the Sport Ministry recently.

He also praised the slcscorers.

com web site which is maintained by the Sri Lanka Cricket Scorers Association (SLCSA).

The SLCSA appointed the Minister as their Patron and he in turn appointed State Minister of Rural and School Sports Infrastructure Development Thenuka Vidanagamage as a representative to coordinate with the cricket scores.

The president of the SLCSA Sanjaya Jayasinghe, chief organizer S. Ravindran and senior official Keerthi Ranasooriya participated in the discussions with the Minister.



Sports Minister Namal Rajapaksa with Sri Lanka Cricket Scorers Association officials at the Sport Ministry. From left: Sanjaya Jayasinghe (president SLCSA), main organizer S. Ravindran and senior official Keerthi Ranasooriya

Forgotten Vidyartha-Sylvestrian big match to be revived on May 7 and 8





The 62nd Battle of the Babes big match cricket encounter between St. Sylvester's College and Vidyartha College will be revived this year on May 7 and 8 at the Pallekelle International stadium according to school officials.

The winning tally of this series is in favor of the Sylvestrians with 14 wins to Vidyartha's three. The question is whether Vidyartha can break the 53-year-old hoodoo after they last won in 1967 under R.M. Lafir, the famous cricketer who played for Police and Gov-

ernment Services. The Sylvestrians last won in 2009 under Chanaka Colombage and this year's contest is expected to be a close game with both teams at equal strength. This ory of Rev. Fr. Don George, who gave a big hand to start cricket at St. Sylvester's. The trophy was introduced in 1982. The Sylvestrians are coached by Ro-

shan Jayatissa and Vidyartha by Senaka

St. Sylvester's opened their season this year with a win against Lumbini College on a faster run rate and lost to

Devapathiraja College. Their remaining matches are against Dharmasoka College, St. Servetius' College and Anthony's College Wat-

Vidyartha played their first game against Lyceum College Wattala which they lost. They were down to take on Sri Rahula College Matara yesterday and their remaining games will be against St. John's College Jaffna and Sri Dharmaloka College Kelaniya.

St. Sylvester's College over the years have produced some fine cricketers who

big match is played for a trophy in mem- have gone on to represent top clubs, the district and the country with distinction. This year they are blessed with a good set of players and if things are done in the correct way they should per-

> This is a school which took to the game the hard way after it was founded in 1940. It was ME Marikar who became the first Sylvestrian to play representative cricket, at a time when St. Sylvester's College had not taken to cricket in a big way. He played for Moors SC, Sinha Regiment, Kandy Lake Club, Kandy Sports Club and Central Province. The next was Abdul Razak played for Prisons and Government Services both without playing for the school. Nihal Samarasekara became the first to play for the country in the pre-Test era while Ishak Sahabdeen was the first international player.

> Then there was Nimal Lewke a fine spin bowler in 1967 and placed second in the schools' best bowling list. The



others were Malcolm Perera, one time Sri Lanka Cricket coaching manager, his brothers Anton and Roland, the David brothers Gerard, Kingsley, Sydney and Rodney, N. Herathge, the Jayatilake brothers - Ranjith and Bandu, Gerry Alexander Hidalarachchi and Mervyn Rodrigo, the first Sylvestrian to win the 'best outstation schoolboy' award.

This season they are with a good set of players like Maleesha Silva, Sashika Basnayake, Charith Rajaguru, Kasun Edirithilake, Malith Lakshan, Sadeepa Halangoda right hand opening bat and a right arm off spinner, Sathsara Navod and allrounder, Nimsha Wijesinghe, Kavishka Dilhara, Isuru Gunasekara, Razeel Rukshan, Sihina Bandara, Akila Wickramasinghe, Shenon Randeniya, Ashen Bandara, Dahami Welagedara, Mitchell Eric and Mevan Soyza.

Vidyartha which started cricket in 1952 has reached great heights in the sport. They have produced several top cricketers and some of their products have done their alma mater proud by excelling in school, club and district level. It has produced some top class cricketers of the caliber of TB Uduwerella, ZM Zubair, ZM Anwer, ZM Zarook all brothers, TB Wijesinghe, George Jayasena, GBS Diyawa, Sunil Serasinghe, GD Ariyaratne, G. Peries, E. Peries, LB Aluwihare, Russell Aluwihare, L. Dias, Sunil Munasinghe, H. Gamage Ariyaratne, N. Eramudugolla, RM Lafir, CK Gajanayake, SM Ramanayake, Nimal Malagamuwa, Athula Manchanayake,

Anil Jayasinhge, Sanjan Boruppe, Nalin Nanayakkara, the Kodikara brothers Thushara, Chaminda and Chamara, Tyronne Fernando, Chaminda Ariyadasa, Manoj Chamindalal, Kingsley Jagoda, Nalin Kumara, Dhammika Tillekaratne, Chaminda Jayamanne, Sumedha Perera, Kumara Dodangoda and Niroshan Balasooriya that come to mind.

This year's Vidyartha squad has players like Medunaka Wijethilake Captain), Kavinshka Dilhara, Shamal Priyabhashana, Theja Abeysinghe, Heshan Bandara, Adithya Kalpitiya, Sahan Dilhara, Ravindu Watagoda, Dilmika Dodantenna, Kavishka Hapugoda, Anishka Gunaratne, Bashitha Nandanatissa, Ranjith Perera, Bawen Kodikara, Anjula Ratnayake, Dinith Bulankulama, Ravindu Ariyaratne, Chamalka Bandara, Danupa Kodikara, Janidu Ranaweera, Gayan Tennakoon, Randika Wimalaratne, Yoshitha Chandrasena, Nilupul Samarakoon and Vihanga Dharmasena.

MARCH 28, 2021



Disaster in the Caribbean

DISASTROUS - It seems that the obituary for Sri Lanka cricket has been written, the grieving mourning is at its peak; and and the results of several postmortems are being awaited. The tragedy came to the fore with a disastrous showing in the Caribbean after the T20 and 50over series recently against the West Indies: the land of Cricket Loverely Cricket where the Lankans reduced the

calypso to a completely flat sad song. Sri Lanka is at the bottom of the T20 rankings that never happened before. Lankan administrators and cricket crazy fans are behind the sight screen hiding their faces in shame. What is bitter is that Afghanistan

Many questions are being asked. Are we getting value from the coaches paying them fabulous salaries to steer cricket to such a low ebb? Cricketers and cricket fans are quite rightly seeking explanations.

Sri Lanka cricket never suffered such ignominy. The answer to that blame game question is that the coaching staff are not to blame, but the cricketers who take the field are squarely accountable.

The Lankan cricketers when they took wing to the Calypso Country did so with great expectations. Although the Covid 19 was always a threat, they were well prepared and it was a strong squad that left the shores with promise and high expectations of winging back with their heads held high.

But those expectations were only of what dreams are made of. A nightmare was presented instead! True the West Indies had enjoyed a good tour of Bangladesh. But that was not a pointer that they were going to trample the Lankan cricketers with their cricketing boots as they

When the 20 and 50-over series began one expected the Lankans to be the better team to play the better cricket and win both series.

The players did not seem to take the games seriously. They were out of depth not knowing how to play to win nor how to get out of adversity that cricket always presents as a challenge. Most of them were like little boys lost and wandering in aimlessly to the turf and just going through the motions.

A few exceptions though! Those who played with purpose and whose names should be mentioned are Dhanuska Gunathilaka, Ashen Bandara and Wanindu Hasaranga de Silva. Hasaranga proved a more than useful all rounder.

He is a clean hitter of the ball with superb timing and tremendous power in his strokes. Every time he batted he looked like a West Indian blaster and never seemed to be overawed by the occasion. Had the other important members in the team followed his fearless approach, the results could have been different. He was the only one who could match up to the sixes hitting Windies.

As a bowler he seems to have mastered the most difficult art of spin bowling - the leg spin and googly bowling and most of the Windies batsmen were uncomfortable facing him not knowing which way the ball would

Opener Dhanushka Gunathilaka is a sound opening batsman and ideal for the shorter format of the game. He is a strong leg side player and if he could curb his urge to hit every ball should turn out to be another Sanath Jaysuriya. Good if he could have a chat with Jayasuriya.

Ashen Bandara is a promising batsman. But he seems to love playing the sweep shot consistently. He must be told that when playing the sweep the full face of the bat is not presented to the ball and the chances of him skying it is greater and could sacrifice his wicket.

The greatest disappointment was Thisara Perera. He started his career like a house on fire playing many match winning and memorable innings with some beefy hitting. But now he seems to have lost that prowess and what was unforgivable was his being run-out twice in the last two 50 over games.

Perera was expected to add muscle to the middle order using the long handle as the former saying goes. But he cut a sorry figure with his poor running. With so many coaches in the team it would be good to toss in a running-between-the-wicket coach too.

Obviously being run-out shows slowness and ageing and the selectors would not be faulted if they reconsider his place in the team. As for the writer, in being run-out in the final game, he ran his last run. His form in recent times rules him out of further consideration.

In lighter vein the selectors will do well to recall former dashing opener Tillekeratne Dilshan into the squad. He was going great guns as an all-rounder in the Road Safety Word Cricket Series T20 tournament in Raipur, India. So was former master blaster Sanath Jayasuriya, medium pacer Nuwan Kulasekera and left arm spinner Rangana Herath.

The Sri Lankan Legends gave a fielding lesson to some of our players now having a disastrous tour of the Caribbean. The Legends moved like beavers on the field saving boundaries and taking some brilliant catches which can be attributed to their superb physical fitness. Pity that the Legends lost the final to India.

The often asked question in cricket circles is why did not Sri Lanka Cricket invite Dilshan to be the fielding coach? He was a brilliant fielder during his time, saving many runs and taking some breath-taking catches with his agility.

The postmortem goes on as it should and the judges who hear the case may have to impose RI--Rigorous Imprisonment on some of the habitual un-reliables and Hard Labour on those who are not fit to take up the task. It may be too early to say RIP --until corrective action

erodrigopulle@gmail.com

When Murali set the course

·By-Dinesh Weerawansa



big focus on school cricket would naturally come as all schools in Sri Lanka will reopen from tomorrow. Although the schools in all other provinces had already started, schools in the Western Province were closed due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

But with the schools in Colombo, Gampaha and Kalutara districts finally starting from tomorrow, sports activities too will get a big boost.

This will pave way for a larger interest on school cricket. Especially with the new inter-school season on after a lapse of one year due to the Covid-19 pandemic, there will be tremendous interest for the game.

Moreover, the Sri Lanka Schools Cricket Association (SLSCA) conducted inter-school under-19 limited overs cricket tournament is in full swing and the preliminary round matches, which began early this month, are expected to conclude on April 9.

After a nine-day break for the Sinhala and Tamil New Year, the final round matches will begin from the quarter final stage on April 18.

All first round league matches of the division 1, 2 and 3 tournaments are due to conclude on April 9.

The final round matches will begin on April 18 after the Sinhala and Tamil New Year break. The final of the Division Two tournament will be played on May 1 and the Division One final on May 2.

A total of 36 teams are taking part in the Division One tournament while another 35 teams and 54 teams will vie for honours in the Division Two and Three tournaments.

The 42nd Observer-SLT Mobitel School Cricketers of the Year mega awards ceremony will now be held on April 20. The local health authorities have given their approval to go ahead with the preparations.

All schoolboys consider the Observer-Mobitel School Cricketers of the Year as an unofficial guarantee for schoolboys and girls to sport the Sri Lanka cap.

The four-decade plus history of the Observer-Mobitel School Cricketers of the Year contest has given that muchneeded inspiration and motivation to the country's budding schoolboy cricketers to extend their playing careers beyond school level.

There have been many outstanding players who aggregate over 1,000 runs or capture over 100 wickets during a season but only a few have taken such performances to the next level.

Playing for a reputed club after ending their school careers and winning the Sri Lanka cap thereafter has been the dream of every school cricketer but only a handful of them would eventually fulfill that dream.

Going down memory lane, this year marks the 30th anniversary of the Observer Schoolboy Cricketer of the Year series signaling the birth of a world record breaker in Tests. He is none other than the world's highest wicket taker (800) in Tests, Muttiah Muralidaran who became the Observer Schoolboy Cricketer of the Year some 30 years ago in 1991.



Flashback 30 years ago: Muttiah Muralidaran of St. Anthony's College, Katugastota receiving the Observer Schoolboy Cricketer of the Year 1991 title from then Housing and Construction Minister, the late B. Sirisena Cooray watched by then Editor-in-Chief of Sunday Observer H.L.D. Mahindapala



Murali the deadliest bowler in world cricket accounting for the highest number of Test wickets - 800

Having captured over 100 wickets each is successive years, Murali was adjudged Observer Schoolboy Cricketer in 1991 when he was playing for St. Anthony's College, Katugastota.

As an outstanding player, he not only achieved that goal in style but had also erased many world records in Test cricket. He had emerged champion bowler in the premier school cricket awards show some 30 years ago.

Three decades ago, there was the spectacular news in school cricket about a magical off spinner who had shattered the dreams of all batsmen in inter-school cricket during that period.

The publicity-shy and soft-spoken young cricketer from St. Anthony's ultimately posed the biggest headache to all top batsmen in world cricket.

The Observer Schoolboy Cricketer of the Year title he had won in 1991 was the stepping stone for the young lad. After making his Sri Lanka debut soon

afterwards, he cemented his place in the Sri Lanka team in next to no time.

He was eventually garlanded as the highest ever wicket-taker in Test cricket, establishing several other milestones in international cricket. Spin wizard Muralidaran returned to the Observer Schoolboy Cricketer of the Year stage in 2011 as the chief guest, some 20 years after his crowning glory.

He looked emotional when he went down memory lane on that occasion. "You are the future Sri Lanka players. You must keep the Sri Lanka flag flying wherever you go," he said as the chief

"Play hard and dedicate yourself, then success is bound to come. As young cricketers, you must keep in mind that only 11 could play in a team. When you get that rare chance of playing, you must put your heart and soul and give hundred percent to the team, so that success will come your way," Muralidaran added.

He paid a tribute to the Sunday Observer for its role in rewarding the outstanding schoolboy cricketers since

"Don't be disappointed if you fail once or twice in the early stages of your career. Keep on trying and success is bound to come your way," he was quot-

"Keep absolutely cool even when the going is not the way you want. I learnt this from my captain Arjuna Ranatunga (another proud recipient of the Observer Schoolboy Cricketer of the Year award in 1980 and 1982) who sported a cool head even when the going was not good. Arjuna used to take the pressure off the players when the going is not to his liking. He doesn't show any anger - that's why he is called captain cool," Muralidaran said.

Muralidaran, born on April 17, 1972, has achieved loads of records which would be hard to emulate. He is the only player to capture 800 wickets in Test cricket while performing in 133 Tests with an attractive average of 22.72.

He has enjoyed match bags of ten wickets or more on 22 occasions with his deadly off brakes - a world record. No other bowler has captured five wickets or more on 67 occasions in Test cricket. He has an equally impressive ODI record of 534 wickets with an average of 23.08 apiece in 350 matches.

The Connection

It is heartening to see the Mega Show completing its 43rd anniversary this year. Most importantly, the country's national mobile service provider has been associated with Lanka's firstever school cricket awards show for 14

Sri Lanka Telecom Mobitel is extending the fullest support to make the Mother of all Shows a resounding success once again as it continues to remain the dream of every schoolboy

The contest for the 43rd Observer-Mobitel Most Popular School Cricketer will commence shortly. Hence, it's high time to support your alma mater by voting for your favourite schoolboy cricketer and motivate the next generation cricketers when this year's most popular contest starts shortly.

It is good to discover that several others have followed the Sunday Observer's initiative to hold similar awards shows to commend the achievements of schoolboy cricketers after every season. But the Observer Schoolboy Cricketer of the Year remains the 'Mother of all Shows'.

Needless to say how important it is for schoolboy cricketers to win an award as recognition of their commendable achievements after a strenuous season. It is not just appreciating their achievements but also a big inspiration for them to step into the big

All past winners of this prestigious title have repeatedly said what a big inspiration the award had been to their cricket careers. Since its humble beginnings at the Nawaragahala in 1979, the Observer Schoolboy Cricketer of the Year contest has gone from strength to

Chairman of Sri Lanka Telecom and SLT Mobitel, Rohan Fernando has always promoted sports activities in Sri Lanka in a big way and also given every possible assistance to the Mega Show which will march forward with more power and strength.

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

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

High-performance athletes pocket financial boost

BY DHAMMIKA RATNAWEERA

Motivation is the best form of inspiration that can be given to athletes who are endeavouring to win medals at international level.

With this objective in mind the Minister of Sports Namal Rajapaksa decided to present 60 national athletes who are listed on the high performance program with Rs 100,000 each plus Rs. 25,000 for nutrition.

These athletes chosen by the High Performance committee, will be committed to win medals at the 2022 Asian and Commonwealth Games.

They were selected after going through trials under the supervision of the high performance committee of the National Sports Council. They are track and field athletes, weight lifters, boxers, judokas, badminton players, swimmers and Para athletes.

The Sports Ministry, Sports Development Department and National Sports Council will work together to develop sports in the country. Their short term plan is focused on achieving medals



Sports Minister Namal Rajapaksa

during 2022 to 2024, their mid-term plan is up to 2028 and their long term is 2034 and above. Sports Minister Rajapaksa said that he hopes to contract some 200 athletes to form a junior national pool.

They will be given knowledge in sports at professional level.

The Minister has also instructed sports bodies to conduct a minimum four evaluation competitions per year to gauge the progress made by these athletes.

Lake House body builder wins second place

BY PRIYADHARSHANI KAHAWALA, **INGIRIYA CENTRAL GROUP CORR**

Lake House employee LPI Udaya who represented Lake House Sport Club won the second place in the 90kg weight category at the Western Province Bodybuilding Championship held as an event at the 46th National Sports Festival at the Town Hall, Negombo recently.

The championship was conducted under the auspices of the Sports Ministry with the supervision of the Sri Lanka Bodybuilding and Fitness Federation (SLBBF).



Basketball community mourns death of Ranil

Sri Lanka's basketball community is in shock following the sudden death of international basketball referee Ranil Suranga Fernando. He was only 37.

A product of St. Anne's College, Kurunegala, Ranil took to refereeing at a young age and made tremendous Ranil Suranga progress becoming one of Fernando



pressure games smoothly and was loved by the basketball community. He was set to officiate in the Master's tournament at the Sugathadasa Stadium this

the leading referees in the

country. He handled high

weekend but passed away on Wednesday night and the funeral took place on Saturday.

BUSINESS

business.suo@lakehouse.lk MARCH 28, 2021







29 FOR RETAILERS



29 INVESTOR

BIZ SNIPPETS

PAGE POST PANDEMIC

BRAND STRATEGY

ESR Cayman mulls investment opportunities in SL

Stuart Gibson, Co-Founder and Co-CEO of Hong Kong listed ESR Cayman Ltd, one of APAC's largest logistics property platforms, visited Sri Lanka recently.

Gibson and his senior management team held talks with the top level of the Government including President GotabayaRajapaksa, Prime Minister MahindaRajapaksa, State Ministers NivardCabraal, TharakaBalasuriya, D.V. Chanaka, BOI Chairman SanjayaMohottala, Airport and Aviation Chairman Maj. Gen. (Rtd.) G. A. Chandrasiri, and other key heads of State bodies.

ESR is said to be exploring investment and development opportunities to build modern, large-scale industrial and logistics parks in the country. Logistic parks are basically Industrial areas or defined areas for activities relating to transport, logistics and the distribution of goods which can be regional, national and/or international transit, and carried out by various operators.



TAMAP targets e-agriculture in Sri Lanka

Digital technologies can relieve disruption caused by the Covid-19 crisis in food supply chains and can, in particular, improve the lives of small farmers and agricultural workers. By providing access to agricultural information in real time, farmers can take more informed decisions on their production and logistics. That is why, the EUfunded 'Technical Assistance to the Modernisation of Agriculture Programme' (TAMAP) in Sri Lanka targets e-agriculture as one of its key initiatives.

The TAMAP project, whose overall mandate is to support the creation of an enabling environment for sustainable and efficient agricultural production, launched a provincial training cycle for government officers in the agricultural field to raise awareness about digital agricultural applications.



Oil prices drop

(Bloomberg) -- Oil prices dropped as a strengthening dollar and mounting lockdowns in Europe blunted the potential impact of crude cargoes backing up outside the blocked Suez

Futures fell 4.3% in New York on Thursday in the wake of a stronger U.S. dollar, which reduces the appeal of commodities priced in the currency. Work to re-float the massive ship that's stuck in the canal continued without success.

While the Suez blockage is complicating trade, a long-term realignment of global crude flows has seen westbound shipments from Persian Gulf producers fall, limiting the impact on oil prices. The Suez Canal has "diluted importance as a transit hub for energy," said Bob Yawger, head of the futures division at Mizuho Securities.



NORTH AND THE EAST AWAIT WELFARE, DEVELOPMENT DRIVE - JAFFNA CHAMBER HEAD

BY P. KRISHNASWAMY

Ravaged by the three-decadelong battle against terrorism, impoverished further by
political indifference on their
economic welfare after the
end of terrorism and having
remained inhibited under
the pandemic threat, the
people of the North and the
East now look up to the Government for programs on
their social and economic welfare.

They need

development
programs
even Leonard
encompass-

ing the various sectors that would contribute to their economic upliftment and relieve them from their decades-long state of poverty, said Chairman, Chamber of Commerce and Industries of Yalpanam (CCIY), Stephen Leonard. They are working closely with government authorities on reviving the various sectors that would contribute to the socio-economic improvement of the North and the East, now that the pandemic is seemingly waning.

They held talks last week with Northern Province Governor Ms P.S.M. Charles on making the KKS cement factory re-functional but the proposal was dropped due to objections on excavating large quantities of limestone which, in turn, would have adverse geo-environmental impact, Leonard said.

More programs have to be implemented to take advantage of the huge marine resources. Fishermen have to be imparted training in using the multi-day boats and going deep sea fishing which, in turn, would increase the amount of the harvest and income several fold, Leonard said. The average price of a multi-day boat is in the tune of Rs. 30 million and there are programs already in place to provide a 50 percent subsidy. Fisheries associations should form companies to purchase multi-day boats, he said. Poaching and prohibited methods of fishing including dynamiting, bottom-trawling and using certain types of fishing nets which destroy breeding grounds and huge quantities of tiny fishes, he said.

The Government should also implement programs to boost the tourist industry, vast production of export-oriented vegetables and crops and industries using the locally available, Leonard said.

The elected representatives of the people of the North and the East have their obligations by the people who elected them and, therefore, they should get involved in the socio-economic uplift of the people, he said.

An economic model that ensures fair distribution of benefits vital *- Economist*

A pragmatic alternative economic model which promotes sustainable growth and ensures fair distribution of economic benefits to people should be implemented to get over the recurring debt crisis triggered by a shortfall of foreign reserves, said Senior Lecturer, Department of Accounting, University of Sri Jayawardenepura, Prof. Anil Fernando.

He said although some try to claim that our economy is on the right direction, it is facing a major external debt crisis at present.

The perennial practice of successive governments of borrowing to repay loans, wasteful and unproductive investments in the name of development projects, corruption, sluggish economic...

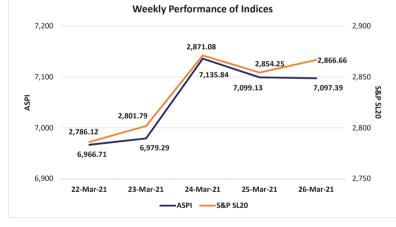
Local corrugated carton industry hit by rising paper prices

The corrugated carton industry in Sri Lanka faces pressure and unprecedented challenges as the global prices of all types of papers continue to skyrocket since October last year. Many corrugated and brown box manufacturers here are going through the toughest situation in the industry's history and fears growing as it's the longest period as well with no sign of it easing up anytime soon, said an official of the Lanka Corrugated Carton Manufacturers' Association.

The prices of brown kraftliner and brown recycled grades including testliner, and corrugated medium papers will continue to soar, with various sources predicting further price hikes in the coming weeks. During the last four months alone, prices have gone up by as much as over 50pct in Sri Lanka ... TO PAGE 28







Courtesy: The Colombo Stock Exchange

E X	СНА	N G	E R	A T E	S
Mar 22 - Mar 26	US Dollar	Euro	Japanese yen	Pound sterling	Chinese Yuan
Monday	200.04	238.38	1.8437	277.24	30.954
Tuesday	200.86	239.97	1.8526	278.50	30.049
Wednesday	201.19	238.96	1.8594	276.68	31.061
Thursday	201.01	238.16	1.8523	276.02	30.990
Friday	201.60	238.07	1.8508	277.86	30.914

To protect the sanctuary, promote tourism $% \left(\mathbf{r}_{0}\right) =\mathbf{r}_{0}$

"Make Muthurajawela a national wildlife park"

Environmentalists, eco-activists, civil society organisation representatives and tourism industry experts urging the authorities to put a stop to the ecological destruction of Muthurajawela, a marshland with a unique and diverse ecosystem proposed the conversion of sanctuary to a national wildlife park that will ensure the protection of

the wetland while generating income to the state coffers through tourism.

The natural treasure is on the brink of a major ecological disaster due to the spate of destruction inflicted on the coastal wetland ecosystem by heartless elements bent only on money-making. "The conversion of the sanctuary to a national wildlife



park is the only way out to save the sanctuary from further destruction," prominent... TO PAGE 28

Science, policy and capacity, key to future of agriculture - FAO, DG

Brussels/Rome – The Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), QU Dongyu, made an impassioned plea for the primacy of science in guiding responses to global challenges.

He was (virtually) addressing the annual conference of the Forum for the Future of Agriculture (FFA), a prestigious European conference on the future of agriculture, food and the environment.

Hunger is on the rise, Director-General Qu said in his keynote



address, and has been for the past six years. Even before COVID-19 struck, there were nearly 690 million undernourished people; the pandemic likely added a further 132 million to the ranks of the hungry in 2020, he stated, citing FAO's 2020 State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World report.

"More than three billion people cannot afford even the cheapest healthy diet," Qu noted. Far too many children remain stunted. "Food is a basic human right that transcends politics." Food touches the core of our identity, the Director-General said. "No food, no human beings." Yet even as he detailed sobering figures, Qu declared himself an optimist.

Port City Company welcomes Cabinet nod for Special Economic Zone

Approval was granted at the Cabinet meeting held on January 4, 2021 to set up the Colombo Port City Special Economic Zone which will be an International business and services hub with

specialised infrastructure facilities.

Port City investor company, CHEC Port City Colombo (Pvt) Ltd. welcomes the Government's move and expects this initiative will bring more Foreign Direct Investments to Sri Lanka.

"The Colombo Port City Economic Commission Bill" will form the framework law that would be applicable within the Port City and the Cabinet of Ministers approved the proposal made by

President Gotabaya Rajapaksa to take steps to publish the relevant bill on the government gazette and submit it to the parliament shortly. The Colombo Port City Special Economic Zone is expected to create a conducive and competitive environment in attracting foreign direct investment (FDI).

Urban Development via SEZs is not unique to Sri Lanka and there are many successful SEZs in the world. An SEZ will offer relief from various forms of taxation on businesses and individuals who qualify. They also offer superior infrastructure; have streamlined administrative processes in place that



results in ease of doing business. SEZ's have been a useful tool for developing nations to upgrade infrastructure,

human capital and institutional frameworks and test out policies and their impact before they are selectively

implemented outside the SEZ in the rest of the country.

The establishment of a well-positioned SEZ will benefit the nation by upgrading resources and capabilities where policy makers can overcome bottlenecks in resource mobility and attenuate the costs of large-scale implementation or upgrading across the entire country. A successful SEZ sends an important signal that the country is open for business. The facilitative environment expected to be created through the "Colombo Port City Economic Commission Bill" is supported by world-class infrastructure ...

Post pandemic brand strategy



Kishu Gomes

All temporary fixes to stop the bleeding have been done and now you need to think beyond for real recovery and growth.

We have all changed the way we operate during the Covid-19 crisis.

Some changes were forced on us; others represent the height of innovation in a crisis. For the majority, the business impact of the pandemic has been negative; for some, positive.

The pandemic may have wiped your brand strategy slate clean but you have also garnered invaluable experience. Now it's time to bring together your management team and use those lessons to reconfigure your business and operating models for a new reality including your most important brand positioning.

Questing the health of your brand in the new normal world is critical in a new driven world.

For some, the pandemic has stressed business and operating models to the point of breaking. Organisations will ultimately reduce or retire those activities permanently.

What will your future be? This crisis has created an opportunity to reset some of your brand goals and ambitions; it's time to ask: "As we recover from this crisis, do we want the brand to be different — and if so,

Brand marketing

Though it may seem counterintuitive, now is the time to hold steady to ensure a strong come back within your brand marketing after Covid-19. Great opportunities will surface as businesses withdraw themselves.

If your business can maintain a long-term brand marketing strategy, it's going to make a huge impact on your business strategy after the crisis. Your team should start making adjustments, to make your digital brand marketing efforts effective. The response to the shift in searches, competitors, and market share is already

Allocate decent budgets

Most companies took the easy route by cutting branding budgets quite rightly so but you need to now think of long-term growth by competing for mind share. The competitor market has changed. Many businesses are responding to these changes in drastic ways, some by cutting their marketing budgets altogether. Though it may not make sense right away,



holding brand building budgets is the recommended move. Sticking to the same brand positioning strategy and targets will not work for your brand after Covid-19.

Conditions will continue to shift, hence the brand value proposition needs to be dynamic. Brands and companies should plan to redesign their game plan. They should develop continuous experimentation within the key practices of brand communication. Digital marketing teams must change their media plans and campaign calendar as soon as possible to prepare for the reactivating and reengaging their customers. The priority of all future campaigns must be boosting lifetime value and customer experience, as well as delivering a purpose-driven and meaningful brand.

Time to evolve If the world is shifting and evolving, so should your brand. If your tar-

audience's priorities have changed, so must your marketing. If your potential customer's perceptions have altered, even the slightest, so should your marketing.

As 2021 continues to throw its hardest punches, many consumers turn to their favorite brands for direction and solace. This is when your voice as a marketer matters most. No one knows the long-term ripple effects these events will have on the

Conditions will continue to shift, hence the brand value proposition needs to be dynamic. Brands and companies should plan to redesign their game plan. They should develop continuous experimenta-tion within the key practices of brand communication

world, but marketers can choose how to respond and how to represent their

The more traditional marketing tactics might not be enough. More than ever, consumers are looking for authenticity, empathy and solutions. Does your brand strategy cater to your target audience's new needs? If not, it's time to evolve.

To meet the needs of consumers as we enter a time of recovery, marketers everywhere will need to get back to the drawing board. Reevaluate their ideal buyer persona. How do your brand communications need to change to meet your ideal customer's new needs?

Looking at challenges through a strategic brand marketing lens will help optimise each and every brand marketing strategy used throughout the buyer's journey to ensure your brand resonates at every touch point. At the end of the day it's all about being relatable, empathetic and authentic, irrespective of what's happening in the world around us.

Elephant House to support plastic waste recycling

Elephant House has pledged its support for Zerotrash in collaboration with 'Plasticcycle', the social entrepreneurship project of John Keells Group to promote recycling and better plastic waste management practices across the country.

This initiative will be funded by Elephant House for two years and will support the development of a waste collection centre with dedicated transport and service personnel to collect post-consumption recyclable plastic from collection

Zerotrash will focus on the col-

lection and delivery of recyclable plastics to this dedicated collection centre which will be in Boralesgamuwa where all waste disposed of at the location will be segregated according to the different types of plastics to avoid further mismanagement of plastic waste. John Keells Group President, Consumer Foods Industry Group, Daminda Gamlath said, "Through our partnership with 'Plasticcycle', we will focus on increasing the number of locations



The agreement was signed by Co-Founder, Zerotrash, Heminda Jayaweera, President, Consumer Foods, JKH, Daminda Gamlath and Executive Vice President, Head of Corporate Finance, Group Tax and Social Entrepreneurship Projects, JKH, Nisreen Rehmanjee.

where the public can dispose of plastic responsibly. We are constantly looking at innovative ways to minimise the impact of plastic usage and responsible supporting waste management."CEO of Zerotrash, Hasanka Padukka said, "We all have

a role to play as individuals and it is the responsibility of each of us to make Sri Lanka a sustainable and greener place for future generations. We believe in our partners and are confident that this partnership will greatly benefit the nation."

Jetwing Kandy Gallery upgrades rooms with audio solutions

Jetwing Kandy Gallery recently upgraded its rooms with Ruark Audio to offer guests a world-class audio experience during their stay. This enabled the hotel to become the first hotel in Sri Lanka to join the elite Ruark Audio list - worldwide, a hotel spokes-

General Manager, Jetwing Kandy Gallery, Dilip Kumar said, "At Jetwing Kandy Gallery, we believe in the promise of offering a luxurious stay, surrounded by the comforts of world class

hospitality. Giving our guests one of the world's best in-room audio experiences is a testament to this promise. We are excited to be the first hotel in Sri Lanka to introduce the Ruark Audio R1 unit. They are an excellent addition to our rooms, perfectly complementing our ambience." Managing Director, Digital Ear (Pvt) Ltd., Haren Perera said, "As a leading distributor for highend audio solutions and lifestyle products in Sri Lanka, we take pride in offering the best experiences without compromising on quality. What makes our venture with Ruark Audio exciting is that it gives us the opportunity to help develop the local audio industry by paving the way for high-end audio to be a norm in Sri Lanka. Ruark Audio's R1 unit has been developed to take advantage of the latest technologies, making it, as we believe, the best and most complete table top radio available. It is also ideal in the kitchen, perfect in the office and a great device to wake up to in the bedroom."

Evergreen Tea Factory bags three awards

Entrepreneurship Excellence - 2020

Evergreen Tea Factory won three awards at the 'Entrepreneurship Excellence - 2020' award ceremony of the Southern Province.

Southern Province Enterprise Excellence, Best Export Enterprise and the Best Company in the Industry and Manufacturing Sector, Large Category were the three awards won by

The fifth 'Entrepreneurship Excellence' ceremony of Southern Province organised by the National Enterprise Development Authority in collaboration with Hambantota Chamber of Commerce and supported by Chambers of Commerce in Galle and Matara was held at Golden Pearl Hotel, Tangalle recently.



Chairman, Evergreen Group, Aruna de Silva receives the award from Min-

Everyone knows HR

In Japan in house trade unions prioritise the interest of the organisations than unions with political affiliations in other countries. That has been part of Japan's success story.





By Janaka Kumarasinghe

Rocell opens concept store in Galle

Rocell Ceramics opened a fullyfledged Concept Store in the city of Galle, showcasing its wide range of tiles and bathware.

Located at W.D.S Abeygunawardana Mawatha, Pettigalawatte, Galle, the concept store allows walk-in customers to experience Rocell's aesthetic masterpieces. Hailed as the 73rd showroom by Rocell, it stretches over 7,000 sq.ft.

Director, Marketing and Business Development, Tharana Thoradeniya said, "We are thrilled to expand our store footprint with the launch of a new concept store in the heart of Galle.

The new concept store aims to provide a unique and a truly worldclass customer experience guided by our highly experienced team. Redefining the design-first retail approach, we are happy to be at the cutting edge of offering high quality surface coverings and bathware to all Sri Lankans.'



The Rocell concept store in Galle

SLASSCOM National Ingenuity Awards on March 30

SLASSCOM (Sri Lanka Association for Software Services Companies) National Ingenuity Awards 2021 will be held on March 30 at the Shangri-la Hotel, Colombo. "We have received an overwhelming response in terms of applications from all over Sri Lanka," said Head of SLASSCOM's Entrepreneurship and Innovation Forum, Priyantha Bethmage. "All awards categories will be strictly evaluated by our judging panel comprising top professionals in the Sri Lankan IT BPM industry and International experts."

Head of the Awards Subcommittee, Chathuranga Manamendra said, "To align the evaluation criteria with the overall goal of the SLASSCOM National Ingenuity Awards, a holistic approach considering industry best practices and critical parameters that differ for each theme will be taken by our judges. These criteria will help the participants to understand industry expectations and the panels to provide focused feedback and choose the winning products, processes





Chathuranga Manamendra

From survival to success: Resilient responses in retrospect



Prof. Ajantha Dharmasiri

Powered by



PIM Alumni

It has been over a year since Sri Lankans experienced a lock down related to Covid-19. It was more communicated as a curfew, a term better known to us thus far. It was a time of transition from a normal to a new normal, with volatility, uncertainty, complexity, and ambiguity (VUCA 1.0) was at our doorsteps inviting us for a response of vision, understanding, confidence and agility (VUCA 2.0). Today's column reflects how we collectively responded to the ravaging pandemic with resilience, as a community, with emphasis on a premier postgraduate entity.

Overview

The Postgraduate Institute of Management (PIM) being the largest state sector postgraduate entity in Sri Lanka, identifies itself as the "nation's management mentor". During its 35 years of existence, it has produced over 350 CEOs, over 3,500 senior Managers and over 35,000 trained professionals. It is interesting to share how PIM fulfilled its obligations during the lockdown with initiatives, involvements and insights.

Much has been said about the rapid spread of Covid-19 which became almost like the third world war. Nature had stricken back. It has not spared any cast, creed or

CB enters into a currency

country with cruel implications associated. It was a clarion call for the learning community of PIM to collaborate in the name of humanity. Needless to stress the mature adult response that must be demonstrated in taking care of oneself and others with sound hygienic practices. The PIM has been conscious about the dire economic downturn globally, regionally, and locally with its associated multiple social

Initiatives

Several initiatives by the PIM can be categorised as financial, professional, and intellectual, with the involvement of PIM's staff, faculty, students, and alumni. It was an opportunity for us to pay our tribute to our motherland. The PIM was the first state sector higher education entity to contribute Rs. 5 million from its self-generated reserves to the Covid-19 Healthcare and Social Security Fund established by the President of Sri Lanka. PIM is the only state sector higher education entity that does not get any funds from the Treasury either for its recurrent expenditure nor for its capital expenditure for over the past twenty years. Despite the fact that the PIM is having an ongoing building expansion project, self-reliance by itself has shown a significant signal to other state sector educational institutions to have a different revenue model.

With the presence of MBA study groups in Dubai (UAE), Doha (Qatar), Muscat (Oman), Kuwait City Kuwait) and Dhaka (Bangladesh), the PIM can be viewed as the most global, state-sector higher education entity in Sri Lanka. Despite current setbacks with regards to air travel restrictions, the PIM has built a solid financial base for the post-Covid-19 era with a healthy blend of local and overseas program offer-The Covid-19 pandemic offered several key opportunities for the PIM, somewhat parallel to the post-Tsunami era, where the PIM professionally contributed to restoration, reconstruction, and rehabilitation, we started working on multiple fronts. The final year project of the MBA program of PIM is an invitation for the participants to apply what they have learnt in a practical and value-creating manner. The faculty of PIM who are the project supervisors are much geared to work with their respective 'learning partners" in identified areas such as business revival and organisational restructuring. Work has already begun to have a tailored set of MBA final projects to explore Post-Covid-19 issues.

PIM Genesis, our business incubator has started providing advice for the affected Small and Medium Scale Enterprises (SME) for their survival and success. There is a dire need to offer such guidance as the SMEs contribute to over 52 percent



to the Sri Lankan economy. With the involvement of PIM alumni in financial and other relevant sectors, this has become very demanding and highly appreciable. Post- Covid-19 era will offer a plethora of intellectual prospects in management. We started working on multiple fronts, since last March, despite being home locked. Each faculty member was asked to develop a study framework in his or her respective specialisation, with emphasis on key managerial challenges in the post-Covid-19 era. They are supposed to work with an assigned student or a pair of students with a solid literature review and a sound theoretical underpinning. It is expected to have a deep dive into Complex Adaptive Systems (CAS) to understand the now common VUCA 1.0 and the response of VUCA 2.0. This has been a vital part of a series of virtual discussions. We started a compilation of a comprehensive case study collection. Plans are being made to deploy research students to explore cases of transformation from survival to success amidst Covid-19. With the guidance of the PIM Research Centre, several cases will be documented, presented, and published as a PIM case study collection.

Involvements

There was a need to switch over to online learning platforms and to conduct assessments through takehome mode. There was a high degree of adaptability demonstrated by the faculty. They did much more. Linked-in has become a popular platform for the faculty to have rial aspects of post-Covid-19. Moving beyond mere posting of facts and figures, value chain-conversations have been initiated by several faculty members.

It was heartening to note the contribution of PIM faculty through regular columns in the print media such as the Sunday Observer. Despite the limitations of printing the newspapers and circulating among the entire island during the lockdown, the complementary e-papers became popular. The appreciations received by the business community and the applications highlighted were very encour-

aging.

Despite the proliferation of standards of webinars of varying standards of quality and relevance, the PIM faculty contributed in an impactful manner through their participations. There were over five webinars organized by the PIM Alumni (PIMA) with the involvement of one PIM faculty together with other PIM "products" who are proven business leaders. "Leading the transformation in shifting from survival to success" was the overarching theme used in promoting pertinent on-line deliberations.

There was an encouraging response from the students in a variety of ways. The key was the adaptability of the changing context, which was essential. Instead of physical sessions, all learning involvements had to be converted to on-line. With a proven online learning management system (LMS), named Prajna (Wisdom in Sanskrit),

Insights

how effective telecommuting could

The flagship publication of PIM targeting the practicing professionals, published a special issue containing a collection of comprehensive articles discussing a variety of managerial dimensions in the post-Covid-19 progress. The faculty and alumni of PIM both showed interest in contributing such informative and insightful articles. It was an issue similar to what we did after the Tsunami titled, "Tsunami Chal-

Based on the research findings, a comprehensive collection of research papers will be published as a special issue of the Sri Lankan Journal of Management (SLJM). Being the only Sri Lankan management journal hosted by EBSCO, the globally renowned research database, it will have a wider reach to share the authentic insights of Cov-

id-19 challenge.
This will highlight the salience of success practices such as the use of tracing methods to identify virus contacts with the use of military intelligence and healthcare person-

It was encouraging to see the National Science Foundation (NSF) taking a timely step of organising a research conference on Covid-19. It was all about the impact, mitigation, opportunities and building resilience with a fitting theme "from adversity to serendipity". The PIM was so glad to be a strategic partner for this noteworthy endeavor and I was part of the steering committee of the conference, which was ably led by Chairman, NSF, Prof. Ranjith Senarathne. The annual research conference of PIM (PIMARC) will also be focusing on the research findings related to Covid-19 in reaching a wider audience of research scholars, learning managers, administrators, decision makers and implementers. Based on the progress of faculty and student research, it is planned to be held during the latter part of 2021.

Way forward I recall how I coined the very first message to the PIM student community during the lockdown, where I stressed the mature adult response, we need to demonstrate in taking care of ourselves and others with sound hygienic practises. It reminds me of what Victor Hugo observed. "Nations, like stars, are entitled to eclipse. All is well, provided the light returns and the eclipse does not become an endless night. Dawn and resurrection are synonymous. The reappearance of light is the same as the survival of the soul."

The combating of Covid-19 is far from over. We need to move ahead with confidence, having sound strategies fittingly formulated and energetically executed.

and managing the Prajna learning it was an easy transfer. portal are two such examples. constructive discussion on manage-We were also having a locally It was an acid test for us to see Inflation increases in February

swap deal with China The Central Bank (CB) and the People's Bank of China (PBoC) entered into a bilateral currency swap agreement to promote bilateral trade and direct investment for economic development of the two countries, and to be used for other purposes agreed upon by both parties. The People's Republic of China remains Sri Lanka's largest source of imports. In 2020, imports from China amounted to US\$ 3.6 bil-

lion (22.3% of Sri Lanka's imports).

The swap agreement has been approved by the Cabinet of Ministers with the recommendation of the Monetary Board of CBSL. Governors of the two Central Banks, Prof. W. D. Lakshman of CBSL and Dr. Yi Gang, Governor of PBOC, were the signatories to the agreement. Under the agreement, CBSL is entitled for a swap facility amounting to CNY 10 billion (approximately US\$ 1.5 billion). The agreement is valid for three years.

Headline inflation as measured by the year-on-year (Y-o-Y) change in the National Consumer Price Index (NCPI, 2013=100)1 increased to 4.2 percent in February from 3.7 percent in January 2021.

This was mainly driven by the monthly increase in prices of items in the Food category. Accordingly, Food inflation (Y-o-Y) increased to 6.9 percent in February 2021 from 5.9 percent in January 2021. Non-Food inflation

(Y-o-Y) increased marginally to 1.9 percent in February 2021 from 1.8 percent in January 2021.

The change in the NCPI measured on an annual average basis decreased to 5.5 percent in February 2021 from 5.8 percent in Janu-

Monthly change of NCPI recorded at 0.51 percent in February 2021 mainly due to price increases observed in items of the Food category.

Monthly changes of Food and



developed platform with the col-

laboration of a communication pro-

vider, and the "M-learning" through

that has been found to be very use-

ful. The way students positively

responded to getting involved in

sessions using Zoom webinars and

lecture recordings using Loom and

other compatible technologies has

been encouraging. They were regu-

larly guided by a series of encourag-

island wide lockdown, we decided

to convert all sit-down exams planed

for the end of the term to be take

home exams. With the guidance

provided by the faculty, it was a very

satisfactory performance with due

adherence to plagiarism avoidance

requirements (through the similar-

ity index monitored by Turn-it-in

movements, the student communi-

ty got involved in various service

initiatives such as financial contri-

butions, working with their respec-

tive organisations in distributing

essential items to needy and crea-

tive contributions in the social

eminent and prominent personnel

who play an active role in the Cov-

id-19 task force in Sri Lanka are PIM

alumni. Rising to the occasion, the

non-academic staff of PIM respond-

ed committedly by attending to

assigned tasks from home. Desktop

publishing of Professional Manag-

er, the flagship publication of PIM

It was heartening to see some

Despite restrictions for physical

As the first response to the

ing messages from me.

software).

media platforms.

Nonfood categories recorded at 0.42 percent and 0.09 percent in February 2021. Within the Food

category, increases were observed mainly in the prices of vegetables, green chilli, coconut and rice during February 2021.

However, prices of potato and big onion recorded declines during the month. Year-on-year core inflation

decreased marginally to 4.1 percent in February 2021 from 4.2 percent in January 2021, while annual average core inflation remained unchanged at 4.2 percent in February 2021.

Floating agro tourism resort to open in Katana

The Bolagala Floating Agro Tourism Resort in Katana, close to the Negombo tourism hub, will be the newest addition to the inventorv of experiences for tourists visiting Sri Lanka.

This is the first-ever floating resort in Sri Lanka created adopting an agro-tourism theme consisting of 50 floating cabanas.

The project proponent Kelum Perera is an entrepreneur who succeeded in realising his dream of converting abandoned clay mining pits filled with rainwater into a sustainable tourism project. Seeing by clay miners with deeply dug out land spaces that could not be used for any other purpose, Perera launched an initiative to convert 13 acres to an agro and aquaculture tourist resort to restore the natural ecosystem and the scenic beauty which was destroyed due to human

The first stage of the project has been completed and will be opened

This sustainable tourism venture introduces the organic farming concept where the tourists are

the environmental devastation left allowed to have hands-on experience of farming in Sri Lanka. This is the first time the organic farming concept is being put into use in the Negombo area.

> "Sustainable and eco-friendly products are the future for tourism particularly post Covid-19 and we look to the industry to be innovative and create unique experiences such as this project," Chairperson of Sri Lanka Tourism, Kimarli Fernando said.

The project is planned to be completed in two stages: Stage 1 completion of three suite rooms, 27



The Bolagala floating agro tourism resort

deluxe rooms, three GPS movable rooms, a floating swimming pool and a restaurant. Stage 2: Cabanas

with the underwater spa and the other activity-based components. The underwater spa is a unique

feature with four spa rooms (completely underwater), Each room will have a 4'x6' underwater viewing glass to enjoy underwater aqua-

It will cater to the high-end tourist segment charging above the US \$ 400 per night mainly from European countries.

Representatives from international tour operators from Germany, France, UK and Italy visited the site to check hotel standards and quality.

The Middle East market is also targeted in the future.

Business

CSE and SEC invite family businesses to list

(CSE) and the Securities and Exchange Commission of Sri Lanka (SEC) engaged the family business community in Sri Lanka through the inaugural Issuer Forum for 2021 on the theme 'Founder to Family - Leveraging Going Public', at the Shangri-La Hotel Colombo recently.

The event was organised to highlight how a family business can take advantage of going public while ensuring the family retains control and continues to guide the vision of the business and to address the misconceptions regarding listing which deter businesses from exploring an Initial Public Offering.

Globally, companies access public markets for varying reasons including, diversification of funding options to lower bank credit exposure, funding for growth, attracting strategic investors who believe in the company growth story, strengthening management and corporate governance structures and to ensure survivability post-founding generation.

The Chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission Viraj Davaratne said, "One of our objectives is to increase liquidity of the market. There are many misconceptions in the market. One is that the listing process is cumbersome, that it takes



The panel discussion in progress.

The event was organised to highlight how a family business can take advantage of going public while ensuring the family retains control and continues to guide the vision of the business and to address the misconceptions regarding listing which deter businesses from exploring an Initial Public Offering

time and also that it can be very expensive. But it is not cumbersome or expensive as many would perceive. It is one of the best options to raise capital. And that is why we want businesses to come to the capital market and make use of the opportunities. Government has created a healthy environment. The last budget proposal has given many tax incentives which are open until the end of the year. So it is the best time to come and list your company."

Over 70 representatives of prominent family businesses in Sri Lanka were present. The content discussed included sessions on how best to structure an IPO, the preparatory process for a Family business before an IPO and Wealth Management for Family Businesses, as well as Regulatory benefits and tax advantages post IPO, which will help in balancing the Family's needs as well as those of future stakeholders.

The program also featured an interactive panel segment where SEC Commission Member Manil Jayasinghe, Director General SEC Chinthaka Mendis, CSE Chief Regulatory Officer Renuke Wijayawardhane and the Head of Origination and Issuer Relations at the CSE, Purasisi Jinadasa took part.

NSB launches QR Code in Kandy

The National Savings Bank (NSB) launched the QR Code in Kandy recently.

New technology has been at the forefront of the bank which provides safe internet banking services as per global standards and the guidelines of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka. The core banking system will go live in near future and a smart application

will also be introduced. The QR Code is another aspect of this evolution and was first used in a vehicle manufacturing and assembling factory in Japan as an online payment method. Today, this is used around the world as a convenient and safe way of making payments.

NSB teamed up with the national program of promoting the QR code in urban and rural areas. The promotional programs in several districts has clearly contributed to popularising it among the people.

The number of customers who get registered with the QR system and the number of transactions carried out through the QR System is on the increase daily.

Small and medium scale business

people who transact through current accounts are directing their income to their savings accounts through QR

During the Covid-19 pandemic. the use of QR Codes became essential more than ever as a measure of minimising the use of notes and coins, where the virus can remain for hours, a bank spokesman said.

EFC hosts webinar on equal opportunities for women

The Training and Certifications Unit of the Employers' Federation of Ceylon (EFC) recently organised a webinar under the banner, 'Women in Leadership: Working towards equal opportunities amid Covid-19 challenges.

The webinar which was aligned with the International Women's Day, enabled a platform to discuss the efforts taken locally and internationally to shape a 'more equal future' for women leaders in the private sector while facing Covid-19 challenges.

The panel comprised Senior Program Officer, International Training Centre of the ILO in Turin, Jeanne Schmitt, Head of HR, Standard Chartered Bank, Ransi Dharmasiriwardhana, Independent Consultant, Multi Sectoral Global Business Development, Ramya Weerakoon, and Attornev-at-Law and former Assistant Director General and Head of Training, EFC, Ayomi Fernando.

Jean Schmitt said gender diversity helps businesses to thrive. Citing the ILO's report, 'The business case for change (2019), she said that inclusive policies and an inclusive business culture have a positive impact on productivity, ability to attract and retain talent, creativity, innovation and openness and the company's reputation. The share of women in management is proportionate to a country's income, the report revealed.

"Only 22% of all CEO positions are occupied by women," said the ILO expert. The share of women CEOs decreases proportionate to the size of the enterprise. "Only 16% of women CEOs occupy large sized companies while 20% of them are found in medium-sized companies and 26% in small enterprises.'

While 'glass walls' and 'glass ceilings' hinder women from moving into higher levels of decision making and upper-level positions, their visibility, empowerment and leadership is even more crucial in the present digital age, remarked Schmitt. In moving forward and creating a public debate in championing a more gender-balanced workforce, employer organisations can play a crucial role, she said.

Sharing the success story of Standard Chartered Bank in realising a 'culture of equal opportunity and inclusion', its HR Head, Ransi Dharmasiriwardhana said, "Diversity and inclusion is very much a part of our DNA and it is not just a HR initiative for us, but much more than that."

She said her organisation is conscious of overcoming roadblocks such as biases and self-limiting beliefs and priorities.

Ramya Weerakoon said, "In a culture of honour and inclusion, there is nothing which you cannot achieve." Sharing her personal journey of surviving and thriving in gender-based industries with tools such as navigating unconscious bias, developing a language of competence and focusing and strategising on how to balance work and life.

The shift in work-life balance with increased and unrestricted demands on time, domestic violence, fear and anxiety take an enormous toll on women. The senior professional who called for various proactive interventions to mitigate the bur-

Ayomi Fernando said unconscious bias which results from negative messaging can prevent many women from reaching their true potential. This is reflected across the board, said the lawver cum senior trainer who cited a recent global survey which revealed that in every country researched, men and women are less comfortable about women

"Free education of invests in our girls and when we look at our university output, we see many young women ahead of their male counterparts, but sadly after a while a good number of them take the back seat which is a huge loss," said Fernando. Calling for proper information to be made available for girls to select their future careers, she also stressed on the need to open them to wider career options.

Pelwatte adds colour this Avurudu season

for its butter and ghee at selected ing the dairy farming communiretail outlets around the island until April 30.

Manager, Modern Trade, Chaminda Pathirana said, "We are indeed privileged to provide exclusive offers on our most in demand products during the Avurudu season.

We believe that the unmatched

This Avurudu season, Pel- quality and price will help our watte Dairy is offering discounts consumers, while also support-

> Pelwatte can be considered as one of the healthiest products for consumers of all ages as most stringent quality standards are followed during production of Pelwatte products while no artificial preservatives are added to increase shelf-life, he said.

JAT Holdings appoints Dharshan Munidasa as brand ambassador for SEA

ambassador for SEA - an iconic luxury German Kitchen brand represented by JAT Holdings. This partnership was officiated at the SEA Kitchen Studio at the JAT Holdings head office recently.

Founder and Managing Director, JAT Holdings, Aelian Gunawardene said, "SEA is a contemporary and lux99-year-old legacy behind its name, SEA Kitchens are targeted at a discerning, upmarket clientele in Sri Lanka who seek luxury bespoke, exclusive designs that seamlessly integrate with the overall interior designs at home." Munidasa said, "Kitchens are the most important space in your home. It is

JAT Holdings recently appointed ury modular kitchen design brand where you prepare your meals and it is renowned chef and restaurateur, that adheres to superior German qual- a space where you can spend quality Dharshan Munidasa as the brand ity standards and longevity. With a time with family and friends, whilst enjoying a home-cooked meal

> Therefore, it is important that one carefully pays attention to the functionality and quality of the material used on your pantry top, ensuring it has sufficient storage and space consistent with the needs of Sri Lankan cooking."



Brand Ambassador, SEA Kitchens, **Dharshan Munidasa with Managing** Director, JAT Holdings, Aelian Gunawardene (on right).

Make Muthurajawela... Continued from page 25

said.

environmentalist and Head of the Archdiocesan Committee to Protect Muthurajawela, DinushaNanayakkara told the media during a visit to the sanctuary conducted by the Centre for Environmental Justice last week. Tourism industry experts sharing the same sentiments said making the sanctuary a national wildlife park will not only enable the government to generate revenue through tourism but also help protect the park from further destruction.

"A national park with clear boundary demarcations and laws to ensure its protection will be a major boost to ensure the preservation of the natural heritage," a tourism industry expert

"Development should be done with a minimum impact on the environment but that is not the case at Muthurajawela. If it took less than 20 years to destroy around 700 acres one could imagine the timeframe to destroy the entire sanctuary," Nanayakkara said.

Muthurajawela translated as the 'Swamp of Royal Treasure', is a 30kilometre wetland north of Colombo with a history spanning over 700

However, successive regimes had

failed to preserve the rich natural heritage which is now in the hands of ruthless elements who are hell bent on exploiting it to the maximum for monetary gain.

Dumping of large quantities of waste from Colombo on a daily basis, illegal constructions, willful and maliciously setting fire and infrastructure development under the pretext of providing facilities to people permitted to settle down in the sanctuary have caused colossal damage to the ecosystem now on the edge of col-The marshland listed as one of the

home to diverse species, fauna and However, it will not be long before

12 priority wetlands in the country is

the disappearance of the rich wetland due to the rapid loss of habitat, water, air and sound pollution caused by the invaders.

Withered coconut trees, carcasses, felled palms and charred grounds and the discoloured water of the old Dutch and Hamilton canals due to severe chemical contamination is what is left today of this once important sanctuary home to around 40 species of fish, 31 species of reptiles, 102 birds and 48 species of butterflies.

Religious leaders have condemned the destruction but to no avail. Archbishop Cardinal Malcolm Ranjith raised concerns of the issue at several media briefings urging those responsible to put an immediate halt to the destruction of the wetland.

What is also alarming is the encroachment of the land and fixing of 'No Entrance' boards at various locations of the sanctuary. Environmentalists have been calling for the protection of Muthurajawela for the sustenance of the livelihood of those in the fishing industry.

Fishing is the main source of income to a large number of people who eke out a living from the two canals, the lifeblood of the residents. letter from UCA News The mangroves which sustain marine life of the canals and the Negombo lagoon are under severe threat due to clearance of the marshland.

Local corrugated... Continued from page 25

...with no price stability, anticipating that this situation will only get worse without adequate support and involvement from key stakeholders.

This comes in the wake of a drastic shortage in paper due to the pandemic coupled with disruptions in supply chains including costly freight charges. Further, there has been a significant rise in demand for papers from China to meet its domestic needs following the country's ban on importing all wastes from various countries, mainly direct recovered paper, from earlier this year. This resulted in Chinese

paper mills importing recycled brown pulp and both recycled and unbleached Kraft linerboard to use it as a pulp or a fibre source to produce paper, apart from counting on other sources such as local recovered paper within the country, imported recycled as well as virgin pulp.

Cartons produced in Sri Lanka are of superior quality compared to other countries, as they source materials, i.e. waste paper from topnotch suppliers in Europe, USA and Australia. However, the recent second wave of coronavirus taking its toll in these countries has affected waste paper collection, leading to problems in its availability and rise in prices. And on top of all these is the freight shortage.

The packaging industry plays a pivotal role in various industry sectors from electronics and FMCG to various products brought through e-commerce, a sector that is experiencing exponential growth resulting in higher demand for corrugated cartons.

Sri Lanka's total carton production stands at 150,000 metric tons annually, primarily serving the B2B market. There are more than 40 corrugated

carton manufacturers, and about ten of them make up a whopping 70pct plus market share. Many manufacturers today are equipped with fully-automatic, state-of-the-art plants with an appetite to continuously invest in innovation, research and development to increase quality, consistency and durability of their cartons.

Corrugated box manufacturing is an eco-friendly industry, recycling brown boxes as well as waste paper and this is a critical moment for stakeholders, authorities and officials to step in and help support the industry.

Port City Company... Continued from page 25

..made available in the 269 ha of reclaimed Land at Port City and is expected to result in the inflow of financial and human capital and promote local and foreign entrepreneurs, create employment opportunities and enable talent retention.

It is expected that the SEZ will attract multinational enterprises to set up headquarters or regional offices in Port City and in turn they will bring in financial resources, technology, technical and managerial know-how.

"We hope the setting up of a SEZ

will accelerate Sri Lanka's economic growth. A realized master plan for the Port City provides 5.7 million square meters of built up area valued at \$15 billion that will be home to multinational enterprises, corporate headquarters, transient

workers, and residents. "It will be the catalyst for a modern services hub that will help Sri Lanka's transformation into a services-led growth model and elevate the economy to highincome status," a spokesman for the company said.

An economic model... Continued from page 25

... growth and insufficient foreign exchange earnings have resulted in a gradually deflating foreign reserve

According to Central Bank statistics, the country needs USD 8,745.4 million to settle foreign loans and interest within a year from 1.2.2021 to 31.1.2022.

Total official foreign reserve assets available at the end of February 2021 amounted to USD 4,555.7 million only. This is a high risk situation and it has led the international debt rating agencies to downgrade Sri Lanka's foreign debt paying ability to CCC+ which is one level just above the

"Foreign investors pulling out

their money from the Colombo Stock Exchange is another indication that Sri Lanka does not have adequate foreign reserves to manage the external sector and as a result there is a great risk that the foreign exchange rate will start flying soon when the ability to hold it on comes to its tolerable limit," Prof. Fernando said.

Another indication of this crisis he said is the low prices quoted for Sri Lankan International Sovereign Bonds (ISBs) traded in the secondary bond market. For example, a Sri Lankan ISB with a face value of USD 100 that matures in January 2022 is traded only at USD 74.25 thus resulting in a yield of more than 50% to investors. Hence, the government cannot even think of raising dollars by issuing new ISBs at such a cost.

If the policy makers are not keen to solve the problem with the support of the people at this juncture, they will not have many options, other than either to be subservient to countries who offer bail outs for their own economic and geopolitical strategies or to sell national resources to foreigners for dollars. Even though policy makers claim that foreign investment can be attracted, a conducive environment for foreign investments to boost investor confidence and trust is not seen in Sri Lanka.

"Simple rejection of economic realities through the media and hiding the real issues will not solve the problem," Prof. Fernando said, adding that the strategy of financialisation coupled with Modern Monetary Theo-

ry (MMT) by the policy makers is not conducive to the economy when there is no comprehensive master economic plan implemented to boost local production and aggregate demand in the country subject to other limitations of MMT. The excess money pumped to the economy could trigger inflation sooner or later and create even a financial bubble in the future.

"Therefore, It is of paramount importance for the Government to face this reality and to look for the cooperation of every citizen to fix this issue through an economic plan

and a model which encourages people to engage in production, uses technology in an optimal manner and ensures a fair distribution of economic benefits instead of paving the way for crooks and rouges to rob the nation," Prof. Fernando said.

He said implementation of standalone strategies to run the daily affairs will be counter-productive. There are no short and quick answers to the perennial problem that prevails as a result of wrong economic policies adopted by successive governments.

Festive season shopping: A renewed opportunity for retailers



ne Sri Lankan retail selling

fraternity, except perhaps

the essential retail sectors

such as food and medicine,

have lost practically two of

the best festive seasons - April and

December, 2020. For small retailers,

particularly those who sell garments,

cosmetics, gifts, and the likes, the

blow due to Covid-19 was tremen-

dous. During the whole of last year,

almost all of them were deprived of

their personal revenues, leading them

to heavy problems such as shop rent-

als, staff salaries, debts and so forth.

oncoming Sinhala and Tamil New Year festival in the coming month.

The noticeable decline of daily cases

and the commencement of the vaccination programme is a sigh of relief

not only to retail trade and shoppers

but also to the country as a whole.

Despite malicious and mean criti-

cisms, the government seems to have

arrested the grueling health issue

much promise and hope for the retail

sector. This is the first such season

after the emergence of the pandemic

in February last year. Therefore, the

trade can define how successfully

they will confront the challenge with

test to determine the effectiveness of

the behaviour of retailers and shop-

pers equally. While we can see a

buildup in the momentum of custom-

ers, the retailers too seem to be creat-

ing a host of solutions to draw cus-

tomers to their respective businesses.

Retailers have acquired an opportu-

nity to reinforce their respective busi-

nesses and brands during the oncom-

Even if you offer the best deals you

can offer the clientele, they will

undoubtedly expect a safe buying

experience in the store because of the

pandemic threat that remains still.

The reality is that even with the avail-

ing season.

This period will be a good litmus

the ongoing new normal situation.

The festive season in April holds

quite successfully.

Excitement is in the air with the

ability of many online stores for retail products, most Sri Lankan customers still prefer brick-and-mortar shop-

Additional stress

The seasons are stressful for retailers as they make the majority of the year-round sales in the short window during the two seasons in April and December. However, with the approaching holiday season, the retailers have additional stress to seriously look at; they must accommodate strict Covid-19 health guidelines gazetted by the authorities.

They must conform to rules such as one and a half metre minimum distancing, which can produce stern limitation, minimise surface touching, the continuous wearing of face masks and sanitisation facilities. Besides, physical space demarcations must be available inside retail stores for the majority of customers who favour patronising retail shops.

The salient fact is that this is a situation that cannot be controlled and there is no single answer for the issue. Retailers simply have to find individual answers. Hence, let us explore a few top of the mind solutions to make the best out of the difficult time.

Substantial increase

At this point, rethinking the floor space is vitally important irrespective of the products. Similar to the retailer who has lost two seasons, customers have also missed their shopping for two consecutive festivals. Therefore, naturally, the urge for retail shopping will be heightened this season. Although the numbers cannot be predicted accurately, the retailers can safely anticipate a substantial increase.

Hence, getting the customers inside the store and sending them out as quickly as possible is the key to control. Architecting the store floor with the social distancing rules to plan how and how many shoppers can be accommodated is important. Wellplanned and thoughtful display and storage highlighting fast-moving goods are useful. When the customers quickly spot the goods they need to purchase will limit their in-store time. mandates, retailers have limited



File picture of a retail clothing store.

Customers also will wish to complete and leave fast due to the prevailing health risks. The retailers can replicate the in-store-experience in another adjacent space. Social distancing may restrict space for merchandise displays. If any nearby location or space is available such as garages, parking lots, and underutilized storage areas, foot traffic can be diverted easily. Well decorated creativelyarranged temporary sheds or tents can attract customers. Depending on the size of the business, as an additional promotional incentive, these customers who visit the store can be given incentives such as gifts or gift

Focusing on in-store efficiency is one of the most important factors in retail selling, more so when a national health problem exists in the country. With the ongoing pandemic-related

options to manage walk-in customers. It is an unparalleled loss if visiting customers have to be turned back due to the lack of space inside the store even on a perfect day. Therefore, consciously focusing on improving instore efficiency is imperative.

Saving time

Offering assistance to customers waiting to enter the store by assigning staff to help customers can be done. By looking into their needs and directing those to the specific areas or counters can reduce customer's time inside the store. Alternatively, the assistants can help them by bringing such merchandise to the customer to save time. However, in festive seasons, most customers who shop for items such as apparel, gifts, and cosmetics prefer to select those items personally.

sonal experience for the customer inside a store, particularly, when everyone is wearing face masks that hides facial expressions. The staff cannot remove their face masks to greet a customer or properly smile at them. Customers are unable to identify a friendly face or perhaps known per-

This phenomenon undoubtedly reduces the personal touch with each other. Therefore, retailers must find a way to communicate with customers whilst adhering to the health instructions. For example, sending a recorded voice message through the public address system constantly can create a pleasant ambiance, indicating that they are talking to customers live.

The entertaining events and other social activities that prevailed in the past seasons will not be available this environment minimising season due to tight control of gather- guideline laid down by experts in the human contact can produce an imperings. These have been traditions practire retail store is the essential task.

Online communication with the potential customers with the best available product offers must be carried out to make awareness more effective. At present, Facebook is the most used social media platform in Sri Lanka with over six million subscribers

ticed for decades and they are important to the customers. On the contrary, retailers, big and small, used these performances to attract customers to their retail stores. The only alternative seems to be online live performances. Online performance to target clients with images of displays inside the store can have an impact on foot traffic.

Online advertising is inexpensive but extremely effective. Research has revealed that during the pandemic lockdowns, Sri Lankans got accustomed to spending additional time on online platforms. The increase of internet use has tremendously increased in the country during the past year. Therefore, even for a small retailer, reaching prospective clientele is effective and productive.

Online communication with the potential customers with the best available product offers must be carried out to make awareness more effective. At present, Facebook is the most used social media platform in Sri Lanka with over six million subscribers. Advertising on Facebook is more effective where the geographical segmentation can be done easily. Also, Facebook advertising is comparatively the most cost-effective currently. Hence, even small-scale retailers can promote their businesses to customers in their own geographical area without

For retailers in Sri Lanka, the arriving festive season brings excitement and anxiety. After foregoing two previous seasons, this instance has the highest potential to boost their revenues once again. Most importantly, an important factor the retailers must understand is that they may create health issues unknowingly and unintentionally with crowd gatherings. Therefore, strictly and mindfully adhering to each and every health

MAC Holdings appoints Fumio Otani as Chairman

MAC Holdings has appointed Fumio Otani as Chairman of the Board at MAC Holdings (Pvt) Limited. He will take over from the incumbent Chairman and Managing Director, Andre Fernando who will be relinquishing his chairmanship and taking over as Managing Director of the Group.

Ōtani is a Japanese national, educated at the Tokyo Metropolitan University with a bachelor's in mechanical engineering and having followed management programs in respected institutions such as Harvard business

He has held numerous corporate positions during his illustrated career spanning 38 years at Toshiba Corp. (Toshiba Energy Systems & Solutions Corp,Toshiba Americas and Toshiba Asia Pacific). His forte has been company restructuring, digital transformation and special interest into thermal, hydro and renewable energy business

systems.

"I'm honoured to be named as Chairman of the Board for MAC Holdings and to support the next chapter in the company's success," said Otani.

"MAC Group of companies is already a leader in its varied sectors which they engaged in, but I believe it has the potential to grow much further. I'm looking forward to working with the board and management team to build the business through innovation, product and sector enhancements, special focus on power and renewable energy, while exploring investment opportunities to the group of companies," he said.

Managing Director of MAC Holdings Andre Fernando said, "Fumio Otani's long history of leadership, coupled with his successful track record in leading MNCs makes him an ideal candidate to steer the company as its Chair-



Chairman Fumio Otani

man. To his credit he was involved in two power projects in Sri Lanka namely Kukule Ganga and Samanala Wewa

large scale hydro projects. "I'm confident that with his international exposure we are assured that he will bring in multinational culture, Japanese investors and FDI opportunities, strategic expertise in the power



Managing Director Andre Fernando

and renewable energy sector which will help with the Government's vision to make the country 70% on renewable energy mix. While congratulating him on his appointment, the company and the board of directors are looking forward to working closely with him to accelerate MAC Holdings next phase of growth," he said.

"Catering industry has immense potential"

The catering industry has immense potential to be a major attractor of local and foreign visitors if the diverse taste buds could be satisfied, said Six to Six (Pvt) Ltd. Chairman and Managing Director and a veteran in the motor trade industry, Tilak Gunasekera.

"There is a lot of potential in the industry to cater to people with diverse tastes. It is interesting to study and cater to different taste buds. The growth prospects are immense if clean and quality stuff is offered at a reasonable price to customers. We have employed the best chefs in the industry," Gunasekera said, adding that customers include embassies, corporates, government entities and schools apart from individual cus-

The savoury range comprise buns, cakes and other sweet products such as éclairs and chocolates. "We also serve lunch on orders and do catering as well. This has to be pre ordered. We also make fresh fruit juices, ice coffee and chocolate drinks, which are unique tastes. We do get repeated customers who are satisfied with our food. "The country can



Growth prospects are immense if clean and quality stuff is offered at a reasonable price

promote its culture to foreign visitors through food as tourists like to taste local food. Some of our clients are foreigners who request indigenous food and drinks,"

Gunasekera the former Sathosa Motors Managing Director and past chairman Ceylon Motor Traders Association left the motor industry as he felt it had lost its potential. He said the motor industry was doing well until 2019. Thereafter, the industry has been on a downhill run due to the ban on vehicle imports.

"Many of the automobile companies are struggling to survive. Some have offered Voluntary Retirement Schemes to their employees. I have been in the Motor industry well over 35 years and retired as the Managing Director at Sathosa Motors Plc. It was a long innings with many challenges during my career. I was also the Chairman of the CMTA which is affiliated to the CCC (Ceylon Chamber of Commerce), the governing body of franchise holders. I think I made a wise decision to embark on the food industry," Gunasekera



Tilak Gunasekera

said, adding that the automobile industry will not revive under the current regulations that help to save foreign exchange but not the motor vehicle trade.

The ban on vehicle imports will continue until the end this year. The decision to impose the ban is to be reviewed by the end of the year. The ban on vehicles and non-essential goods was imposed in March last year as a move to save the outflow of foreign exchange and revive the economy impacted by the pandemic.

Getting Started in Shares - Part 8 Be an informed investor

(Part 7 appeared last week)

Buying a stock means ownership in a company and ownership gives you certain rights. As a shareholder, knowing your rights is an essential part of being an informed investor. Although the regulatory bodies attempt to enforce a certain degree of shareholder rights, a wellinformed investor who fully understands his or her rights is much less vulnerable to risks.

As a shareholder, you may need to make decisions about taking up various rights and benefits offered by the companies you have invested in. In each case, you should keep your investment goals and strategy in mind and consult an adviser.

Annual General Meeting (AGM): CSE-listed companies conduct an AGM where shareholders vote on electing new directors to the board and other resolutions relating to the company's business. The Chairperson of the board and company Chief Executive Officer usually address the meeting. You will be sent a notice of meeting outlining when and where the AGM is to be held. Many investors see the AGM as a good opportunity to hear what the senior management have to say. This also is an ideal platform for an investor to ask any question he/she may have with regards to the functional-

ity of the organization. Reports and information: CSElisted companies issue annual and interim financial reports to shareholders. Reading these reports is a good way to keep in touch with the company's business and future prospects whilst keeping abreast of the financial performance of the organi-

Corporate actions: This refers to a company making changes to its securities distribution. For example, a rights issue carried out by a listed company would result in an increase in the number of shares issued. These can be complex, and they can

consider consulting an adviser before acting on these.

Final step

Experience is one of the best teachers and as an investor you will learn from both your successes and your mistakes. It's best to start off with a small investment in order to learn how it works and gradually increase the value of your portfolio.

The first thing to do is contact a stockbroker. You do not have to start trading but setting up a CDS account is a useful starting place. Next, keeping up to date with the market is a great way to build your knowledge and confidence. After a study on the market dynamics you would be able to identify the right time to enter and with the assistance of your investment advisor identify the correct stock to purchase.

How to find out more about the

There are many sources of investor education, for the novice and the more experienced investor. The CSE Website (visit: cse.lk)

Publications of the Colombo Stock Exchange CSE Daily, Weekly, Monthly and

Data Library Annual Report of the Colombo Stock Exchange

Social Media: CSE Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn pages CSE Android and iOS Mobile App Seminars and workshops conducted by the CSE

Branches of the Colombo Stock Exchange:

Matara, Kandy, Kurunegala, Negombo, Jaffna, Anuradhapura, Ambalantota and Ratnapura.

Should you have any queries with regards to investment and if you wish to learn more about stock market investment contact our investor education team on 011-2356514.

Courtesy: The Colombo Stock

FITIS' Sri Lanka Internet Day 2021 on April 6-7

The digital chapter of the Federation of Information Technology in Sri Lanka (FITIS) will launch the first ever 'Sri Lanka Internet Day 2021' next month.

The two-day virtual event which will be held on April 6-7 in association with the Ministry of Technology and the State Ministry of Education Reforms, Open Universities and Distance Learning Promotion.

The event will have approximately 40 virtual sessions where some important topics will be addressed by leaders and experts of the public and private sectors. The topics will include the digital vision for Sri Lanka; the country's digital strategy; bridging divides; the foundation of Sri Lanka's digital economy; connectivity to all and tech

startups ecosystem and some sessions will be conducted in Sinhala and Tamil. High-powered panels will moderate discussions and judge interactive competitions for the media, teachers and

An art competition for teachers and youth, a panel discussion for the media on "Fake news in the age of information", "Women entrepreneurs" and "Women in agriculture".

All the events will be addressed by industry experts, subject gurus and motivational speakers who will give valuable insights on how the respective groups can benefit from the internet and what digital inclusivity can do for the entire country.

Spearheading the Internet Day 2021 on the theme 'Digital Inclusion' are cochairs President of the FITIS digital chapter and founder CEO of digital appbased mobility company PickMe, Zulfer Jiffry and Country Head, Venture Capital and Private Equity Partnerships at Microsoft India, Lathika Pai, with the support of CEO of FITIS, Aruna Alwis and the project committee.

"Creating an event around the internet is significant for FITIS, as this has become the single most important salvaging factor of the pandemic which impacted all our lives. One of the things that surfaced during this time is that we are not doing enough to bridge the digital divide and be inclusive. It has also become clear that it is not the responsibility of one set of individuals to create opportunity for all, but more of a community effort to build structures that



are inclusive to all levels of society," said

FITIS has connected with several key players in the Government, local and international business and tech



Zulfer Jiffry

communities, educators and experts in different fields to conduct workshops, panel discussions and online activities the two-day virtual event.

CEO of FITIS, Aruna Alwis said,

"India's expertise in the field of technology is trailblazing, and they have made their Internet Day an annual summit which is participated by industry leaders across the world in the past five years. We were very fortunate to have an expert like Lathika Pai, from Microsoft India, come on board as the cochair of the event. Together with our own experts and the two Co-Chairs Zulfer and Lathika, we are doing some great work to make our first Internet Day a memorable one that will benefit all participants." Co-Chair Lathika Pai said, "Sri Lanka is at a critical inflexion point in digital adoption. It is important for public and private entities to come together to help accelerate this which will result in compounded growth for Sri Lanka's economy."

NCE Export Awards - 2020

Royal Cashews bags Gold

Royal Cashews, a cashew processing and exporting company, was presented the Gold Award in the Fresh and Processed Food Exporter Category and this is the fourth consecutive award at the National Chamber of Exporters' NCE Export Awards – 2020 held at Shangri-La Hotel Colombo

Dr. Ruwan Wathugala said, "Royal Cashews as a leading cashew process-

ing and exporting company in Sri Lanka is honoured to have been conferred the NCE National award for the fourth consecutive time. Royal Cashew brings in a large sum of the much needed foreign exchange to the country each year through exports of a range of sought-after products.

"Royal Cashews secured the ISO Royal Cashews Managing Director 14001:2015 EMS standard certification on international green-oriented processing, ISO 22000:2018 FSMS, HACCP



Royal Cashews Group Managing Director Dr. Ruwan Wathugala and **New Product Development and** Research Manager Ruwan Lahiru Danthanarayana with the Award.

and GMP standard certifications on standardised food processing; and Certificate of Conformity on principles of Ethical Trading Practices.

"Royal Cashews was launched in 1999 and captured the local and foreign markets in a short time," he said.

With the introduction of 'Online Delivery System' by the company recently, customers have been offered the opportunity to order products online and get products delivered to the doorstep.

Royal Cashew products are exported to Malaysia, Japan, USA, UK, New Zealand, Germany, Australia, Austria, the Maldives, Switzerland and Saudi

Eva marks Women's Day with launch of *Diyaniya*

Eva, a brand of sanitary napkins, is again at the forefront of female empowerment with the brand's latest project 'Diyaniya'.

The islandwide project is conducted in partnership with the State Ministry for Women and Child Development, Pre-Schools and Primary Education, School Infrastructure and Education Services, headed by State Minister Piyal Nishantha de Silva.

The primary focus of the 'Diyaniya' initiative is to ensure that all school girls have their menstrual/ feminine hygiene needs satisfied, regardless of whether they can afford these essential items. In the initial phase, the program will cover 250 schools, donating them sanitary cupboards which will include sanitary napkins, facemasks, sanitisers and other essential first aid items.

Group CEO, Capital Maharaja Group, Sunil Kanojia said, "As an equal opportunity organisation, we have always supported the ambitions of women both in the workplace and society at large. The latest venture by Eva is another indication of our commitment to the cause of women's



At the launch of Diyaniya

rights and female empowerment. The project will take a holistic approach and thereby raise awareness about the obstacles facing young women, especially in rural areas. We are confident that through a sustained effort we can normalise issues that are not often spoken about and thus give a voice to

countless women who deserve to be heard." Officials will visit each and every school to conduct workshops on feminine/menstrual hygiene with the support of trained professionals, ensuring that young students have the ability, knowledge and means to practice good feminine hygiene.

island requires storage facilities in

A leading motor spare-parts importer and distributor in the

Dambulla, Kurunegala, Anuradhapura, Embilipitiya or closer to the above cities Area required 5000 sq.ft to 10000 sq.ft

Parking facilities for 3 lorries, and unloading, facilities for minimum of 3 Nos. 40 feet containers

Warehouses are also required in other districts in secure environments, close to the main road with all other facilities

Mr.Dabarera

STATE MINISTRY OF AVIATION & EXPORT ZONES DEVELOPMENT



AIRPORT & AVIATION SERVICES (SRI LANKA) (PRIVATE) LIMITED

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

AIRPORT FACILITY COMPLEX AT COLOMBO AIRPORT, RATMALANA

BID NO: 042/T/2019

Chairman, Standing Cabinet Appointed Procurement Committee (SCAPC) on behalf of the Airport & Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) (Private) Limited now invites sealed Bids from eligible and qualified Bidders for the Construction of Airport Facility Complex as described below. The Works to be carried out in accordance with the Specifications, Bill of Quantities and the Drawings.

Construction period is 730 days.

Location of the project: Colombo Airport, Ratmalana.

Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding procedure.

To be eligible for Contract Award, the successful Bidder shall not have been blacklisted and shall register for Grade C1 - (Building Construction) or above with the Construction Industry Development Authority (CIDA) - Former ICTAD with experience in similar works.

A complete set of Bidding Documents in English Language may be purchased by interested Bidders on submission of a written application to the Head of Supply Chain Management, Supply Chain Management Division, Airport & Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) (Private) Limited, Bandaranaike International Airport, Katunayake, from 29.03.2021 until 28.05.2021 on working days from 09.00 hrs to 15.00 hrs upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Rupees 100,000.00 in cash. A free copy of the Bid Document is available for reference in the above address.

All Bids shall be accompanied by a Bid Security (on demand Bid Bond) in the amount of Rupees Eleven Million (Rs. 11,000,000.00) in cash or an on demand Bid Bond issued by the institution listed in Clause 17.2 of Section 02 - Bidding Data of this document.

All Bidders and their designated representatives are invited to attend the Pre-Bid Meeting on 20th April 2021 at 10.30 a.m. at the Airport Manager's Conference Room, Airport & Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) (Private) Limited, Colombo Airport, Ratmalana.

Bids shall be delivered either by hand or registered post to the address: Chairman, Standing Cabinet Appointed Procurement Committee (SCAPC), Procurement Division, State Ministry of Aviation & Export Zones Develoment, 30th Floor, West Tower, World Trade Centre, Colombo 1 at or before 14.00 hrs on Monday, 31st of May 2021. Late Bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened soon after closing in the presence of the Bidders or their authorized Representatives.

For further details, Bidders can contact Head of Civil Engineering (P&D), Airport & Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) (Private) Limited, Bandaranaike International Airport, Katunayake on Telephone Nos. 011-2263502/03 and Facsimile No. 011-2251356.

Chairman,

Standing Cabinet Appointed Procurement Committee (SCAPC) Procurement Division State Ministry of Aviation & Export Zones Development 30th Floor, West Tower, World Trade Centre, Colombo 1.

Kelani Cables bags SLIM Brand Excellence awards



The Kelani Cables team with the award

Kelani Cables PLC won two awards at the 19th SLIM - Brand Excellence 2020 annual awards ceremony at the BMICH recently.

While the first award was bestowed to recognise the company in the B2B brand of the year category, the second one 'Restart Sri Lanka Resilient Award' was presented to recognise the company for demonstrating endurance during the Covid-19 pandemic. The award bestowed was in the FMCG category. The B2B award was received by the company also in earlier SLIM awards ceremonies.

Director and CEO, Kelani Cables PLC, Mahinda Saranapala said SLIM bestowing the company with two prestigious awards again is a proud moment for Kelani Cables PLC while the recognition endorses the credibility of the company and its innovative products.

The 'Restart Sri Lanka Resilient

Award' that was bestowed for the company's endurance in the Easter attack period and in the Covid-19 era is significant. Our team worked tirelessly towards achieving this recognition.

General Manager, Marketing, Kelani Cables, Dr. Anil Munasinghe said, "Many local companies dedicated to providing customer satisfaction rely on the products of Kelani Cables PLC. The superior quality of our main product, Kelani cables wire and other products in the product portfolio have made many companies successful and houses, industries and buildings secure.

"Kelani Cables is a top-of-themind brand because of the superior quality, innovations, product development strategies and diversifications towards customer satisfaction thus this recognition at the SLIM Brand Excellence 2020," he said.

Brilliant Cuts wins Bronze award



Vindya Perera

Brilliant Cuts (Pvt) Ltd won a Bronze award in the Gem and Jewellery sector (small category) at the 28th Annual NCE Export Awards

Brilliant Cuts operates under the guidance of a mother and daughter duo, Mrs. Malani Polgampola (Directress of Brilliant Cuts) and Vindya Perera (Managing Directress at Brilliant Cuts). Vindya has laid the foundation to build her own brand, Lustre, through Brilliant Cuts.

The concepts of 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.

Initiatives have been put in place by Brilliant Cuts to expand the local gem and jewellery industry to the international market. However, unfortunate circumstances keep arising due to various reasons.

ComBank conducts payment app promotion

The Commercial Bank of Ceylon completed its QR code-based promotion at a mega department store recently, during which shoppers spent nearly Rs. 5 million at the flagship store of the House of Fashions over two days and received a 25% refund for transacting via the ComBank Q+ payment

The mega promotion invited shoppers to pay for their purchases by scanning the QR codes on the all-in-one POS devices at the store's cashier counters via their Com-Bank Q+ payment app, to earn the cashback refund subject to a maximum of Rs. 2,000 per day.

The ComBank Q+ Payment App was downloaded over 2,000 times

over the two days of the promotion, a bank official said. TheComBank Q+ Payment App offers a hassle-free alternative for making and receiving payments for cardholders and vendors. It is also the safer, contact-less option. especially at a time when the country is grappling with Covid-19 safety measures, he said.

The House of Fashions has been equipped with advanced POS devices provided by Commercial Bank which lead the way in offering a fresh experience in the digital space, the official said. These devices facilitate the



The ComBank Q+ Payment App was downloaded over 2,000 times over the two days of the promotion.

acceptance of card based, NFC based, and QR code-based payments, making them 'all-in-one' terminals that pose no additional work for cashiers and merchants.

Singer wins People's Brand of the Year award

Reclaims Youth Choice Brand of the Year award

Singer Sri Lanka PLC clinched prominent awards at SLIM People's awards2021, reiterating its dominance in the consumer durables sphere. Singer was crowned SLIM People's Brand of the Year 2021 award for 15th consecutive timet.

Forging its way to another achievement, Singer clinched the coveted SLIM People's Durables Brand of the Year 2021 award, reaffirming its positioning as Sri Lanka's premier consumer durables retailer.

On a winning streak, Singer also re-claimed SLIM People's Youth Choice Brand of the Year 2021 award after 3 years, because of its renewed focus during the last year to appeal to the youth via a targeted communication strategy and introduction of modern products. Proof of strong progress being made of a heritage brand slowly evolving to be more progressive and future oriented.

Held for the 15th consecutive year, SLIM People's awards 2021aims to recognize brands and personalities with great impact for people. The annual awards is conducted by Sri Lanka Institute of Marketing (SLIM), the national body for marketing in Sri Lanka who allow people to vote for their preferred brands and people.

Commenting on the awards, Mahesh Wijewardene Group CEO of Singer Sri Lanka PLC said, "We are highly honored to win three awards at



Singer's winning team

one of Sri Lanka's most renowned awards ceremonies. Singer has been winning the People's Brand of the Year award since the very beginning of the awards ceremony. These awards speak volumes for the commitment and passion of our team who steered to transform Singer in to a premier retail destination that caters to the growing demand of our customers. What's more significant is that these awards have been bestowed up on us by people with their verdict that makes us a truly customer centric entity."

Shanil Perera, Marketing Director of Singer Sri Lanka PLC said, "We are indeed proud of these awards that further inspire us to reach new heights in the retail segment. We have been

implementing innovative marketing approaches over the last 2 years having identified the need to better engage with our consumers and our team has worked tirelessly to position Singer as the leading consumer durables provider in Sri Lanka.

These awards are a true reflection of the pulse of Sri Lankan consumers from all parts of the country. As Marketers our main goal is to win the hearts and minds of consumers, which makes this award the most sought after accolade and we thank our valued consumers for making it

Singer has demonstrated consistency and resilience with strong strategies in place with key decision-making, sales optimization and improving

productivity and efficiency of staff. Fitch Ratings has affirmed Singer Sri Lanka PLC as (AA) LKA stable having showcased robust financial results and a strong turnaround despite the challenges forced by the COVID 19 pandemic. Recently, Singer also won the Gold award at the SLIM Restart Resilience awards.

Singer Sri Lanka PLC is the leader in Sri Lanka's consumer durables market and is renowned for offering a wide range of top-quality local and international brands to its growing number of consumers across the country. Singer continues to reach out to its customer base via 432 retail outlets consisting of Singer Mega and Singer Plus showrooms and E-commerce platform.

NDB Bank introduces **NDB Family Banking**

Among other things, banking is first and foremost about managing finances and saving for better days. While banks offer various methods in which this can be done, focusing on their individual client needs is what nearly all other banks have in common.

NDB Bank – a bank well- known for its unique and specific offerings for their beloved clients - has introduced a novel method of banking known as Family Banking. With NDB Family Banking, all clients are given the opportunity to bank as one family, under one umbrella.

Speaking of the various benefits that a family can enjoy with NDB Family Banking, Vice President Branch Network Management and Product Development ZeyanHameed said "NDB decided to look at the Family as a whole instead of separate individuals, offering products/services to all family members giving due recognition to all members of the Family on a consistent basis.



While clients will be recognized and given individual attention, with Family Banking, the entire family - parents, children and grandparents will all be recognized as Privilege members."

Any NDB customer can enjoy the Family Banking offering when as a family they fulfill the basic requirements, together with a host of added benefits which are above and beyond what they can enjoy as individuals.

NDB Bank, named the "Bank of the Year Sri Lanka 2020" by the Banker Magazine UK.

The NDB Group assists the growth and development of the Sri Lankan capital market providingcustomers seamless access to the products and services of all its group companies.

LB Finance - Financial Service Provider of the Year

SLIM People's Awards



Re-asserting the Company's stronghold in Sri Lanka's financial sector, LB Finance PLC once again clinched the People's Award for the financial services provider of the year at the prestigious SLIM People's Awards 2021. A trusted brand in the non-banking financial services sector in Sri Lanka, LB Finance is well known within the country for excellent customer service, transparency, strong business ethics and financial stability.

The event was organized by SLIM, apex body of marketing in Sri Lanka. SLIM People's Awards employ a comprehensive research methodology to garner insights into consumer/customer preferences into brands that have won their hearts and minds through consistent and exceptional services. The data is gathered through face-to-face interviews with randomly selected Sri Lankan consumers covering all 25 districts to adjudge and award worthy brands, personalities and corporates. Hence, People's Awards truly reflects people's choice and their admiration for brands they respect.

Commenting on the win, SumithAdhihetty, Managing Director of LB Finance said, "This award reflects the opinion of the general public. Our success as a financial institution depends on how we serve our customers withintegrity and our own financial stability. With five decades of service, we've upheld responsible business practices and pursuedsustainable growth to surpass our stakeholder expectations, especially those of our customers. Winning the People's Award for the third consecutive year is a testament to our strength, capability and more importantly our trustworthiness."

'Rata Purama LANKAQR' Moves to Kandy, including SDB Bank's UPay

The fourth installment of CBSL's 'Rata Purama LANKAQR' campaign was unveiled in Kandy recently involving the cooperation of many of the country's top financial institutions and telcos with a lead role adopted by SDB

An islandwide campaign rolled out last year to introduce LANKAQR as the standard for mobile phone and digital payments countrywide, the 'Rata Purama LANKAQR' initiative has in the period since advanced moving towards a cashless and digitally-savvy society plus greater financial inclusion across Sri Lanka.
Held at the Kandy City Centre, the

event was graced by the Chief Guest, Hon. Keheliva Rambukwella, Minister of Mass Media, top Central Bank officials, and representatives of participating financial institutions and tel-

The 'Rata Purama LANKAQR' initiative continues to be actively driven under the leadership of SDB bank CEO ThilakPiyadigama, who was appointed



as the Chairman of the 'Working Group of Financial Institutions' by CBSL to lead the implementation of the LANKAQR project islandwide.

The Kandy-leg of the LANKAQR national campaign, drawing on the participation of numerous high-profile guests plus the island's top banks and financial institutions, aimed to advance the program's overall vision of promoting digital transactions as the new norm, which is closely aligned with SDB bank-owned mobile payment app UPay's efforts in taking digital conveniences to every part of the island.

The enhanced payment functionality offered through QR-based digital payments allows for numerous benefits to both individuals and businesses. It affords customers anytime, anywhere payment capabilities as well as

the ability to track their finances and spending patterns more accurately. Equally, it provides real-time transaction conveniences to merchants, creating a more vibrant economic space in towns right across the country, particularly through offering a low-cost digital payment solution to SMEs plus informal businesses as UPay has actively done under the guidance of SDB bank.

The resultant digital payment and transaction environment will allow for a greater level of transparency in comactivity, and thereby benefit the country's economy as a whole.

The Kandy-phase of the LANKAQR campaign created further public awareness on the ease, cost-effectiveness and secureness of LANKAQR digital payments for both customers and businesses, with top financial institutions such as SDB bank creating further momentum in realising the national vision of a smooth transition to a digital society.

Lanwa partners Home Lands to deliver lasting value to clients

It was an auspicious occasion for the giants in the construction industry in Sri Lanka. For Lanwa and Home Lands have both in their own inimitable way focused on winning a loyal clientele through professionalism, exemplary corporate citizenry and upholding high standards in their respective ventures. Lanwa, the brand that pioneered the manufacture of rebars in Sri Lanka, is known for their purity of raw materials and high standards of manufacture through innovative technology.

Home Lands, too, are on the same page, pivoting on quality in their thrust to offer a diverse range of residential and real estate solutions,



estate in Sri Lanka.

It comes as no surprise then that both Lanwa and Home Lands, driven by quality and standards, join in partnership to give their discerning clientele a product with lasting value.

Executive Director of Steel Corporations Limited, Dhammika Lokuwithana and the Chairman, Home Lands Holdings (Pvt) Ltd, Nalin Herath and senior staff members of the two entities were

Pan Asia Bank sponsors Western Province Entrepreneur of the Year 2020

Pan Asia Bank continues its efforts to recognize aspiring SMEs as the main sponsor of the 'Western Entrepreneur of the Year 2020', organized jointly by the National Chamber of Commerce of Sri Lanka and the National Enterprise Development Authority for the fifth year in succession at the BMICH on March 10, 2020. Considering that the year 2020 was one of the most difficult years in the recent past for SMEs, Pan Asia Bank took the initiative of supporting this event to recognize emerging SMEs who are spearheading the economy, especially from the Western Province. In fact this is the second year in succession that Pan Asia Bank has sponsored this

There were 25 awards presented to



Naleen Edirisinghe, Senior Deputy General Manager of Pan Asia Bank presents the Merit award to officials of D & D Creations (Pvt) Limited

Union Assurance - Most Innovative Digital Insurance Company

Union Assurance was recognized the Most Innovative Digital Insurtos pearhead digital adaptation in the as the Most Innovative Digital Insurance Company of Sri Lanka and the Most Innovative Digital Initiative of Sri Lanka in 2021 by the worldrenowned Business and Financial journal International Business Maga-

The awards were attributed to the

insurance industry through a comprehensive transformation journey which focuses on the digitization of operations, building capability and adopting disruptive technology.

Jude Gomes, Chief Executive Officer of Union Assurance said, "Our progressive investments in cutting-edge digital technology are coming to fruition.

Our transition to a digital operating model has been rapid, supporting over 500 employees working remotely and helpingUnion Assurance to provide best in class online services to our customers.'

CEAT ups radial production by 72,000, exceeding half a million tyres per year

CEAT Kelani Holdings has announced that it has increased production of Passenger Car Radial (PCR/ Van) tyresby 72,000 tyres year,adding16 per centto itsannual capacity in this category, as part of its expansion plan to support government efforts to conserve foreign exchange through domestic produc-

This first phase of the planned expansion of PCR tyre production in 2021 is the result of the commissioning of two new tyre presses at CEAT's manufacturing complex in Kelaniya. The new presses are the first hydraulic tyre presses installed at CEAT's manufacturing facilities in Sri Lanka and come at a 45 per cent premium over their mechanical counterpart, the Company said, disclosing thatthis upgrade in technology will significantly improve the uniformity of the tyre, the ride and handling parameters and the overall aesthetics of the passenger car radial tyres coming off



The expansion will see CEAT-Kelani's total Car and Van tyre production capacity going up to 500,000 tyres per annum in some of the most popular tyre sizes for rim sizes ranging from 12 to 14, that fit vehicles such as Maruti 800, Suzuki Alto, Estilo, Omni, Swift and Liana, Mahindra Maximo, Nissan Sunny FB15, FB14, N16, March, Bluebird and AD Wagon, Toyota 110, 121, Vios, Soluna, Starlet and Carina, Honda Civic, Hyundai Accent, Perodua (VIVA Elite) and Cherry QQ.

Local demandfor these tyres is rising, especially in the backdrop of the temporary import restrictions imposed by the government.

The next phase of CEAT Kelani's expansion will take place immediately with the addition of two more tyre presses and a tyre building machine, whereby capacity is envisaged to increase by a further 100,000 radial tyres per annum, the Company said. CEAT Kelani Managing Director Mr Ravi Dadlani said, "Our focus in the past one year has predominantly been on strategically ramping up production in specific tyre categories and sizes to cater to market needs and support the national effort to reduce dependence on imports."

The travel restrictions necessitated by the pandemic delayed the commissioning of some of the new machines imported for the purpose, but additional radial production is now coming on line and feeding the market.'

Seylan Kedella Construction Expo concludes today

Seylan Bank is the Title Partner and Official Banking Partner for the eighth consecutive year

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka - March23, 2021 -Seylan Bank, the Bank with a Heart, will be the official banking partner at the largest construction and home decor trade show of the year, Kedella Construction Expo 2021. The exhibition will take place at the Sirimavo Bandaranaike Memorial Exhibition Centre on the 26th, 27th and 28th of

Organized by Asia Exhibitions & Conventions (Pvt) Ltd for the 14th consecutive year, the exhibition will consist of approximately over 200 stalls, featuring a wide range of exhibitors including Household Appliances, Home Decorations, Real Estate, Landscaping, Furniture, Tiles, Granite Traders, Bathroom Fittings, Kitchenware, Electrical Goods, Paints, Wall Design Traders, Ceiling Decorators, Lighting, Home Drapers and Banking and Insur-

Seylan Bank will provide financial solutions and advice to eager consumers looking for financial assistance, allowing them to make their housing dreams a reality. The bank will offer services ranging from Housing Loans, Personal Loans and Credit Cards with



Standing from Left to Right: VenuraWijerathna- Marketing Manager - Asia Exhibitions and Conventions (PVT) Ltd, TyronneChandrasekera - Managing Director - Asia Exhibitions and Conventions (PVT) Ltd, Gamika De Silva – Assistant General Manager – Sales & Marketing – Seylan Bank and NalinKarunaratne - Senior Manager - Brand Marketing - Seylan Bank

the most competitive interest rates and main hall of the event premises, ensurpayment plans in the market. The bank ing customers had easy access to carry will also deploy a mobile ATM near the out cash withdrawals and check their

account balances at any given time during the 3-day long exhibition.

Seylan Bank, the Bank with a Heart, operates with a vision to offer the ultimate banking experience to its valued customers through cutting-edge technology, innovative products, and bestin-class service. The Bank has a growing clientele of SMEs, Retail and Corporate Customers and has expanded its footprint with 172 branches across the country and an ATM network of 216 units. Seylan Bank has been endorsed as a financially stable organisation with performance excellence across the board by Fitch Ratings, with the bank's national long-term rating revised upward, from 'A-(lka)' to 'A (lka)'. The bank was ranked second among public listed companies for transparency in corporate reporting by Transparency Global. Seylan Bank has also been named the Most Popular Banking Service Provider in Sri Lanka in Customer Experience by LMD consecutively in 2019 and 2020. These achievements are a testament to Seylan Bank's financial stability and unwavering dedication to ensure excellence across all endeavours. To learn more, visit seylan.lk

AMW opens dealer showroom at Glitz Park, Gampaha



From left: Ashan Wickramasinghe - Business Development Officer AMW. C. K. Samaraweera - Service Advisor AMW, Mahesh Chandrarathne - Senior Sales Executive AMW, Maleesha Silva - Administrative Officer AMW, Sachindi Ranasinghe - Assistant Manager Operations AMW, Shyamila Ellawala - Administration Executive AMW, Wimukthi Bandara - Branch Manager, Glitz Park (PVT) Ltd, Shashikala De Silva - Director Glitz Park (PVT) LTD, Suransilu Weerarathne - Managing Director Glitz Park (Pvt) LTD, Virann De Zoysa – General Manager Suzuki and AMW Autuomall, Divan Wijerathne – Sales Manager AMW, Ananda Raj – Branch In Charge AMW and Sahan Perera - Senior Sales Executive, AMW.

Associated Motor Ways Private Limited (AMW) recently expanded its presence to Gampaha with the opening of its latest dealer showroom on Kandy Road, Miriswatta in partnership with Glitz Park (PVT)

With this new expansion, AMW hopes to make its services and products more accessible to customers in the Gampaha district.

AMW provides unparalleled solutions through its new showroom to the people of Gampaha who are now able to buy, sell or trade-in vehicles across all makes with greater convenience & reliability. Services and benefits offered to clients include: 3-year warranty period for pre-owned vehicles, best price for vehicles with cash in 24 hours &trade-in facility within just a couple of hours.

The dealership will operate as a 3S Centre offering Sales, Services and Spares for AMW vehicles while also facilitating buying and selling of all types of vehicles. Glitz Park (PVT) LTD has been a partner of AMW since 2005 and is the largest after sales dealership in Gampaha with an impeccable reputation given the quality of services offered

over several years. The facility features sophisticated technology including Touch Diagnostics to detect prior damage to a vehicle.

The event was participated by Managing Director of AMW Brandon Morris, Managing Director of Glitz Park Suransilu Weerarathne, Director - Passenger Vehicles AMW Yohann de Zoysa, Director Glitz Park Shashikala de Silva, General Manger Suzuki Virann de Zoysa and representatives of AMW and Glitz

AMW offers reliable, modern, customer solutions.

BOC-"People's Banking Service Provider of the Year 2021"

"BOC" thanks all Sri Lankans for the People's choice – a true voice of the people who elevated Bank of Ceylon as the "People's Banking Service Provider of the Year 2021" at the SLIM-Nielsen Peoples Awards 2021, the prestigious event that brings out the strength and the impression a brand has created within the people. Organized by the Sri Lanka Institute of Marketing, the national body of marketers in Sri Lanka (SLIM) jointly with the Nielsen Company (Lanka) pvt Ltd, the event is much looked forward to by many renowned brands and brand custodians in the country.

This Awards ceremony is a platform that demonstrates the strength of a brand that comes forth as a true choice of the people among all renowned brands in the countr

All award recipients are selected through an island-wide survey conducted by the Nielsen Company (Lanka) pvt. Ltd, which is one of the renowned multinational research companies in the world.

This independent survey demonstrated the brand's attachment with the people and the effectiveness of the brand's communication towards them. Annually Nielsen conducts a large scale survey across all districts of Sri Lanka. Nielsen states that tabulat-



ed results on brands are made available to SLIM and that these winners selected are truly the ones who have made a lasting impression in the mind of Sri Lankan community.

The award itself states how a brand has penetrated and established itself as a household brand in the hearts and minds of the people escaping the clutter created by every other brand through media over a period of time.

"The achievement is evidence that our strategic thinking and investments

made to project the brand "BOC" and to establish it amongst the people have been a fruitful one. I wish to take this opportunity to thank our staff for the hard work and commitment to develop "BOC" brand as an accomplished brand through the true voice of the people. Furthermore I wish to thank all Sri Lankans including our valued customers for being with us and supporting our journey towards excellence." stated the General Manager Mr. D.P.K. Gunasekera.

The Brand "BOC" has been named as the Country's No.1 Banking Brand for the twelve consecutive years by the Brand Finance Sri Lanka. Since its inception, Bank of Ceylon's motive has been the same -that is promoting social and economic development of the country and its people. As such the BOC brand has been strategically adapting its products and services portfolio with a good understanding of future social and economic trends that requires tailor-made banking and financial services. For BOC as not merely the largest bank but also a state owned one, this is an endorsement of its commitment towards Government's Socio-economic development and digitalization program.

The Bank of Ceylon has reached raordinary milestones such being the first Sri Lankan bank to surpass an asset value of Rs. 2.8 tril-

The Bank of Ceylon is the only Sri Lankan bank to own "a trillion triplet" in the balance sheet. Such capabilities bestows great responsibilities on the Bank of Ceylon to serve all stakeholders including its very diverse customer base from individuals to businesses and organisations from different geographic locations and economic strata.

AFC Ambalantota assists 'Gold Loan' customers



Regional Head Mr. Suranjith Ahangama and Head of gold loan Mr. Surendra Rodrigo in the presence of Branch Manager and Senior Management of Alliance Finance and distinguished guests.

Alliance Finance Co. PLC (AFC) refurbished its AFC Ambalantota branch, No. 127 / A, Main Street and also added Gold Loan Operations.

This will give an opportunity for

the people in Ambalantota area to conveniently avail of their financial needs including Gold Loan. Please contact 047 2031824 for Gold Loan and 047 5703703 for more information.

Switzerland and the United States to support migrant workers

The Swiss and US governments have joined hands to initiate the Safe and Resilient Migrant Workers (SRMW) projectin Sri Lanka. Designed to provide much needed guidance and skills development for Sri Lankan migrant workers, SRMW will be fully integrated with the US Agency for International Development supported USD 18 million youth employment and entrepreneurship project, YouLead.YouLead's work over the past three years on career guidance and vocational skills development, combined with more than ten years of experience by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) working to improve the overall well-being of migrant workers, makes the two partners an ideal

The Swiss contribution of \$1.5 million over three years will provide guidance and skills training for thousands of migrant workers, as well as helping returned migrant workers assess their skills learned overseas and link them to employment and entrepreneurship opportunities in Sri Lanka.SRMW, part of SDC's 'Safe Labor Migration Program Phase IV' was formally launched on March 2, 2021 at the Embassy of Switzerland in Colombo, by Ambassador Dr. Dominik Furgler of Switzerland and Ambassador Alaina Teplitz of the United States.

The project is designed to make overseas employment safer and more rewarding, both financially and professionally, by providing better occupational information and by increasing the skill levels of Sri Lankans who go abroad for work.

It will also work to help reintegrate



returning workers into meaningful productive opportunities in Sri Lanka. SRMW comes at a particularly important time as more than 50,000 migrant workers are returning home due to the pandemic – many of them without employment prospects.

The activity will focus its efforts in Kandy, Kurunegala, Anuradhapura, Puttalam and Vavuniya — all districts with large numbers seeking work overseas, while actively influencing national policy initiatives for improved skilled migration.

The pandemic has undoubtedly highlighted the challenges faced by migrant workers for years, and this developing crisis calls for immediate action. Therefore, the 'Skilled and Resilient Migrant Workers Project' aims to build on the foundations laid by the safe labor migration programmes launched by the government of Switzerland, to accelerate its positive impact on Sri Lanka's migrant labor force," commented His Excellency the Swiss Ambassador to Sri Lanka, Dominik Furgler.

Ambassador Teplitz said, "With migrant workers contributing 9% of Sri Lanka's overall GDP, it is a matter of urgency to equip them with the skills necessary to strengthentheir personal welfare and amplify their contribution to the economy. We recognise their importance to the country's development and applaud the role they play. Hence, it is our duty to help them secure safe, sustainable livelihoods wherever they are in the world."

SRMW Project Director and You-Lead Deputy Project Director Chrishan Pereira said, "This project attempts to build the capacity of community-based organisations (CBOs) to serve the needs of large numbers of returning migrant workers more effectively and sustainably, with a focus on women migrant workers and the skillsets particular to women migrant worker needs. With YouLead's strong relationships with the private sector and training organizations, as well as experience in recognition of prior learning, we are ready to take this challenge head on".

MBSL backs agriculture sector with leasing package for Kartar tractor

Merchant Bank of Sri Lanka and Finance PLC has launched a leasing package for Kartar tractors specially designed to suite the agricultural needs of Sri Lankan farmers. Under this special leasing package, farmers, small and medium scale entrepreneurs engage commercial agriculture will have the opportunity of purchasing 'Kartar' Tractor with easy installment plans tailored for Farming Seasons.

MBSL further provides flexible repayment facilities, a free insurance coverage from preferred insurance companies, free registration and express services with this leasing facility. 'Kartar' customers will receive further benefits with this special leasing package which include two years or 2,000 working hours warranty, three free services and free accessories for 4 services.

The tractor manufactured by renowned Kartar Agro Company of India which has over 40 years of experience in the Indian agricultural machinery sector is an excellent product combined with power, energy, cutting edge technology and com-

The Kartar tractor is being introduced to the Sri Lankan farmers by one of the leading agricultural companies in Sri Lanka; AgStar PLC manufactured to particularly suit the agricultural needs in Sri Lanka.

The Kartar' tractor which is the tallest tractor utilised in the Sri Lankan agricultural field is enhanced with many more special features. These competitive special features include; high power Kirloskar engine with 50 Horsepower capacity and 4WD capability, double clutch facility with independent PTO for maximum efficiency, power steering system with double jacks for easy handling, record breaking highest lifting capacity of accessories and uniquely low fuel consumption.

DPMC opens workshop in Matara

David Peiris Motor Company (Pvt) Ltd. (DPMC) recently opened 'DPMC Workshop Matara', the first company operated vehicle service centre outside of the Western Province.

Located on Galle Road, Thalaramba, Kamburugamuwa, just before the Matara town, the new workshop offers servicing, maintenance and repairs for all Bajaj vehicles, KTM motorcycles as well as body wash & detailing of all types of vehicles.

DPMC currently operates a similar workshop in Madapatha, Piliyan-

DPMC's Divisional Manager (Field Service) Channa Ranawaka said, "We have always invested in providing the highest levels of after sales care and technical support for Bajaj vehicles and now with import restrictions it is



Rohana Dissanayake, Chairman, David Peiris Group lights the oil lamp while DPMC, Director (Vehicle Sales) Nalaka Madugalla (centre) and DPMC Director (Parts and Accesories) Jayantha Ratnayake (right) looks on.

even more critical to maintain and service existing vehicles. This is why we are extending the services of our in-house expertise, to other parts of the country".

the country through our own Workshops. We hope this Workshop will be the first of many to be set up across

MARCH 28, 2021

Hyderabad woman swims across Palk Strait

Second woman to break the hurdle

Nirosha Rajapakse



'Mark Twain' noted "age is an issue of mind over matter. If you don't mind, it doesn't matter". Syamala Goli, a 47 year old Indian swimmer who goes into the history book as the world's second woman to have swum across the 30 mile-Palk Strait between India and Sri Lanka, bears testimony to the statement of 'Mark Twain', one of the greatest American writers of all

Goli has been able to be a source of great inspiration and a tower of strength for anybody, particularly the women who tend to abandon and shatter their hopes, dreams and aspirations due to their pessimistic thoughts on ageing. She became a household name overnight notably, among the women folk in the Indian subcontinent over her courageous and fearless battle to conquer the world of swimming, which gave her popularity and acclaim, despite being the oldest competing with those as young as 15-20 years.

Crossing the Ganges

Representing her hometown of Hyderabad, Syamala Goli became the first woman swimmer to have crossed the river Ganges at the 12th

National Takshila Open Water Long initially I was apprehensive Distance Ganga Swimming Competition in Patna, Bihar which concluded on November 10, 2020. At the encounter, having competed with 40 others, she became the sixth.

She was seen crossing 13 kilometres in one hour and 50 minutes. Her starting point was the Siva Ghat and the finishing line was the Law College Ghat of the river Ganges. Following her history making achievement, Goli said, "I feel very satisfied because



whether I could pull it off, but as the race started, I gathered my thoughts and gave it my best shot."

She is of the belief that your mind is empowered with the strength and capacity of taking over and executing the adventures as long as you are not discouraged over the hardships and obstacles encountered during the run up to the achievement of your goal.

Goli was initially not allowed to participate in the competition, owing to the fact that the organisers of the competition were of the belief that her age would not be apt to compete in an adventurous and audacious swimming competition. But a decision of such nature did not discourage the spirit, interest and devotion with which Goli was heavily immersed.

Challenging the beliefs

Amid resistance and demotivation by the attitudes of some people,

GOLI IS ONE OF THE EXAMPLES WHICH DEMONSTRATE THE FACT THAT YOUR INNER MOST INTEREST, ENTHUSIASM, THE SENSE OF HEROISM, THE FEELING OF ADVENTURE AND THE WILLINGNESS TO EXPLORE THE HIDDEN POTENTIAL OF YOURSELF ARE THE GENUINE FACTORS WHICH CONTRIBUTE TOWARDS THE PATH OF SUCCESS REGARDLESS OF THE FACT THAT HOW OLD YOU ARE



Having the last word

R.S. Karunaratne



Leaving instructions for what should happen to your movable and immovable property after your death is a serious matter, but for some people, the temptation to cause mischief or raise a smile from beyond the grave is too much to resist. If you treat the matter seriously, a last will is not just a list of bequests. It gives an opportunity to leave some money or property to a loved one as a thoughtful gesture.

A carefully worded last will is a sign of maturity. However, except rich people, others do not take the trouble to write a last will which can be drawn up by a lawyer. I understand that it can also be written by anybody and attested by two witnesses.

There is no limit to man's ingenuity. Last wills have been written on napkins, wallpapers and even on hospital charts. In an extreme case, a man wrote his last will on a nurse's petticoat. One last will was even painted on a corncrib. However, the will written on a nurse's petticoat was rejected by court not because it was indelicate, but because it was improperly attested.

More than the way a will is written, what goes into it seems to be important. In the past, people had left unusual wills before their deaths. Legendary US comedian Jack Benny is reported to have left an unusual will before he died in 1974. "Every day since Jack has gone the florist has delivered one long-stemmed red rose to my home," his widow Mary Livingstone wrote in a magazine shortly after his death. Roger Brown died of prostate cancer in 2013 leaving a secret bequest of 3,500 Sterling pounds to seven of his closest friends to use the money for a "boozy weekend."

Second-best bed

William Shakespeare, the world's greatest dramatist, was married to Anne Hathaway who was eight years

LAWS GOVERNING WILLS **VARY FROM COUNTRY TO COUNTRY. IT APPEARS THAT** A WILL HAS TO BE PROVED AS A GENUINE DOCUMENT. THE GENUINENESS OF A WILL HAS TO BE DECIDED BY A COURT. EVEN WHEN AWILL IS GENUINE, ITS **CONTENTS CAN BE BIZARRE OR PROBLEMATIC**

older than him. In his last will, the Bard left his "second-best bed" to his wife while the bulk of his estate went to his daughter Susanna. Nobody knows why he ignored his wife when he wrote the will. A similar event has been reported from Germany. The German poet Heinrich Heine left his estate to his wife Matilda in 1856 on condition that she should marry so that "there will be at least one man to regret my death." We really do not know whether William Shakespeare and Heinrich Heine were unhappy in their marriages.

Many people have left their estate to their favourite dogs. Billionaire hotelier Leona Helmurley left instructions for her \$4 billion fortune to be spent for caring for her dogs. However, when animals become beneficiaries under a will, it leads to problems for the executor. For instance, when a North Carolina widow left \$250,000 estate to two canaries and a cat, one bird was found

The attorney for the estate ordered an autopsy to determine whether the cat had tried to increase its share of the booty. However, the cat was cleared of the charge. Another will showed the bitterness



of a husband when he left his wife "every damn thing I own that she wants (provided) my dog Lobo, who is essentially of the same temperament as I, be allowed more freedom than I have been allowed.'

When a last will is drawn up by a lawyer, it is bound to be full of legal jargon. William B. Benton, a former US Senator and publisher of the Encyclopaedia Britannica, wrote in his will: "Under protest by me, but at the insistence of lawyers, this will is overwritten in legal gobbledygook of the kind I deplore.

Benton sent out a warning: Any casual approach to will-making is risky. When a man left his estate "All

to mother" a legal dispute arose. A litigant contested that "mother" can be his wife or his parent.

Genuine document

Laws governing wills vary from country to country. It appears that a will has to be proved as a genuine document. The genuineness of a will has to be decided by a court. Even when a will is genuine, its contents can be bizarre or problematic. When a woman left her estate to God, the county sheriff reported: "After due and diligent search, God cannot be found in this county." In another strange will, a French woman left her estate to her niece with a proviso that she should keep her goldfish clothed in tights.

Some people make use of last wills for practical jokes. Charles Millar, a Canadian lawyer, in his will left shares in the Ontario Jockey Club to two crusaders against gambling. He left equal shares of the same house to three men who hated one another. Meanwhile, a part of his estate was given to any Toronto mother who gave birth to the largest number of children in the decade after his death. The will was instantly condemned as promoting immorality. However, the bulk of the legacy was divided among four women; each had given birth to nine children within the stipulated period.

Those who make out wills have different mentalities. Some have philosophic ideas and others have mundane views. We hear of an unmarried woman who died in the 17th century. She belonged to the first category. She hated religious rituals during a funeral. Therefore, she left a large sum of money to be given to those attending her funeral provided they maintained strict so-

When the funeral procession began people forgot about the taboo. Everyone including the clergyman was in a happy mood laughing at the graveside. However, her brother remained solemn. At the legal proceedings it was held that her prohibition was absurd.

Burial instructions

Even in Sri Lanka, people leave burial instructions to be followed. Some people want their bodies handed over to medical colleges. Others want their bodies buried or cremated. On rare occasions, some people want their bodies buried or cremated within 24 hours. They are, of course, sensible requests.

When a celebrated author was in his deathbed, his wife and children requested him to write a last will. They were surprised when he said, "I haven't left a fortune. My private library is the only asset I have. Any of my children can use it. If they

do not wish to read books, they can hand over all the books to a university. I have saved a few thousand rupees in a joint account with my wife. She can withdraw the money for my funeral."

Some married couples have their differences even after death. In 1610, a Frenchman left a fortune to a woman who had spurned him 20 years ago. He loved her so much that he remained a bachelor until his death. Another man left his estate to his wife with a proviso that she should not marry anyone else. However, the woman got married after taking over the fortune.

Money

Most of the wills are about money. Even before their deaths, people lay down conditions on how their fortune should be spent. Some fathers leave their legacies to sons with unusual requests. In one reported case, a father wanted his sons to remain clean-shaven. A father who left his estate to his daughter wanted her not to wear miniskirts. A heavy smoker left a million dollars to his wife on condition that she smoked five cigars a day.

Some wills have hidden clauses. wealthy man who died in New York in 1880 had left his estate to his nieces and nephews. However, he wanted the executor to hold a public auction and to sell his 71 pairs of trousers to the highest bidder. He laid down a condition that no purchaser should buy more than one pair of trousers. At the sale all the trousers were sold out. Unknown to the buyers, each trouser pocket had \$1000 sewn into it!

If you have a large fortune, it is good to write a last will. It will facilitate the distribution of the estate among the beneficiaries. However, most of us have no such fortune to

If you can claim that you have lived honestly with an unblemished character, let your children and grandchildren follow in your footsteps. That is the biggest fortune a man or woman can leave.

karunaratners@gmail.com



audience but for the entire mankind. In 2008, when I saw a glimpse of Wall-e, I instantly fell in love with him. After rocking the Box office in America and Europe from the day it was released, it finally came to Australia communicate with. where me and my friends watched it in a packed Chadstone Cinema and became an instant hit among children and adults in that continent too, later earning a massive \$521 million worldwide. Job of recycling From the genius creators of Pixar and Disney studios, another

they had turned off all other machines that worked for them, but forgot about smaller Wall-e. He is lonely with too much time in his hand and except for his pet cockroach, he has no one else to

Wall-e wakes, charges his solar powered engine and works everyday recycling the garbage humans left on earth. At the end of the day comes to his home to sleep where he keeps all treasures that he finds at the garbage piles. After 700 years alone on the planet, another Robot named 'Eve' arrives on earth to do a routine scan to find proof of life's possibility on earth.

Lonely Wall-e immediately falls in love with her and risks his life to be with her. On his way to bringing Eve back to earth, he becomes the most unlikely hero and ends up saving the human kind as well with the help of his advanced girlfriend. From the beginning till the end, Wall-e is adorable, breathheartwarming and many valuable lessons about protecting our mother earth and reducing excessive usage of everything.

Fat culture

It also gives a glimpse of our future in a realistic way and human race's fast walk towards obesity, unhealthiness and addition to an easy life, two simplest examples being the portrayal of obese humans who even refuse to communicate directly except via screens (like today's even in space. With advanced robots, such as 'Asimo' already out of research labs and invention of robots that are capable of 'feeling things', it is not very far that we would see ourselves facing total moral destruction and rely-

such as the Chinese cleaning Robot who goes out of his way to do his job, the broken-down Robots that have turned in to lunatics, doing things over and over and are kept at an isolated area after their course has run out but ends up helping Wall-e to help the human race.

With our self-destructing race to the future and by creating advanced machines solely for humans to have an overly comfortable life, we bring possible danger and risk to ourselves and may not know it until the very end. If such a day comes and our little hero is going to be as adorable as Wall-e, that may be a bright day but the lessons to be learned from the movie of protecting our precious planet and loving what we

Fun and adventure

Wall-e is an amazing adventure that should be watched by every family. It is high quality at a cinema. This movie was praised by all critics, raising its status as the 'Best movie of 2008'and was nominated for many awards including many Academy awards, winning many too, including being nominated at Oscars for the best song of the year. It was even listed by the 'Time' magazine as one of the best movies of the decade and going further later labeling Wall-e as one of the best movies of the 21st century.

I for one, loved Wall-e's every second and have watched it many times. In a technologically advanced time, such as this where children and teenagers are glued to smart phones, away from playgrounds and people ignoring the value of vanishing green from our blue planet, every Sri Lankan family should







Lord Kuberan, the God of wealth in Hinduism



HIS POWERFUL VEHICLE PUSHPAKA

BY DR. SUBASHINI PATHMANATHAN

Lord Kuberan occupies an important place in Hinduism. Lord Kuberan is the God of Wealth in Hinduism. His figure is often described in the form of a white dwarf.

It is said that he is a friend of Lord Indra and a servant of Lord Vishnu. His wife is Chitrari. Kuberan is a devotee of Lord Ruthra (Lord Shiva). Gadauyutham is his weapon. According to legend, Kuberan was the king of Lanka and stepbrother of the ancient Lankan king Ra-

King Ravana kept Kuberan under his captivity to preserve his wealth. According to one Hindu legend, in his earlier birth, Lord Kuberan was a thief. Once when he was robbing the Shivan temple, the light of the temple was blown out. He consequently tried to light the lamp ten times. The attempts earned him credit. He was blessed to be born the king of wealth, Kuberan.

God of wealth

Being the God of wealth, he is covered with jewels and ornaments. His body has a certain deformity. He has three legs and eight teeth only. According to Hindu legend, due to his physical defects, Lord Brahma gifted him a specially designed chariot to move freely.

The chariot was designed by Vishwakarma. It was called Pushpaka Vima-

According to another Hindu legend, Vishwakarma created the beautiful Lanka for the Rakshatha clan, but it left the country due to the fear of Lord Vishnu who might attack them. Lanka was a rich land.

Kuberan took it into his possession. At one stage, the Rakshathas were much interested in occupying the abandoned land and they sent a woman to attract Kuberan's father.

She was the daughter of one of the chiefs, princess Kaikesi. She is also known as Kaikeyi. She succeeded in her mission and ultimately married Kuberan's father Vishrava (or Vesamuni).

Ravana's father was Vishrava (or Vesamuni). His mother was Kaikesi who had three sons and one daughter. Ravana, Vibushanan, Kumberkarnan and Soorpankai were their children.

Ravana was an ardent devotee of Lord Shiva. He was blessed with numerous exceptional powers. With his divine power, he defeated Kuberan and captured his powerful vehicle Pushpaka Vimanam. It was said that the vehicle gifted by Lord Bhrama was stolen by Ravana and used by him to attack the Gods and abduct Sita Devi, wife of Lord Sri Rama. Kuberan could not recapture his kingdom from Ravana. Vishwakarma



built another beautiful kingdom for Kuberan, at Mount Kailash.

Richest Hindu temple

The beautiful and richest state was named Alaka or Alaka Puri, with its beautiful garden named Chaitraratha. Kuberan was the dominant head and guardian of the Northern direction. His second kingdom Alaka was considered much more suitable to watch and protect the wealth of the world. According to Hinduism, Lord Venkadesawara borrowed a huge amount of money for his marriage from Kuberan which was said to have been repaid by Lord Venkadesawara on instalment basis within the period of Kaliyuga.Today, Thirupathi Thirumalai Devasthanam is the abode

of Lord Venkateswara and it is the richest Hindu temple in the world. At the temple, Kubera Yantha was installed. The sacred Kubera Yanthra must be the secret of attracting millions of devotees from all over the world.

The devotees donate cash, gold and precious ornaments. According to a verse in Aaswiyuja bahula trayodasi, the temple is considered to bring wealth and prosperity. Mantra Mahodhadi gives details of Kubera Manthra. Another sacred Mantra Maharnava indicates the process of worshipping Kubera Yanthra.

The Yanthras are made out of metals. According to the Hindu Agama sastras, scientific line figures are drawn in such a manner to focus at a particular point where the radiation generates and spreads all over the universe. It is believed that the full moon of Deepavali day is the most suitable day to worship the Kubera Yanthra. It is believed that a properly and perfectly drawn geometrical Yantra brings fortune to the pos-

The Yanthra is always kept at the temples, cash boxes and almirahs. The Yantra is cleaned with lotus petals, washed with milk and kept on a red silk cloth. The Yantra is always worshipped with five headed ghee lamp. Those who worship it for 72 days will be blessed with all the material wealth in the world.

Changing colours of the sea

BY METHLINI HEWAGE

he Black Sea is not black and the White Sea is not white, but the Red Sea is sometimes red. Occasionally, tiny red marine organisms, known as dinoflagellates, reproduce in such numbers that they colour the entire sea red.

A red tide occurs when there is a major abundance of nutrients in the water and continuous sunshine. When this happens, there can be well over 300 million dinoflagellates for every gallon of sea water, turning the sea a red or brown colour. However, when a bloom reaches these proportions, it becomes dangerous to people and animals.

A large bloom not only uses most of the oxygen in the water, causing fish to become asphyxiated, but each tiny dinoflagellate produces toxic poisons. In 1946, a red tide off Florida caused the death of an estimated 50 million fish and many people suffered food poisoning from eating contaminated mussels, clams and other seafood.

Phytoplankton

Red tides aside, the oceans mainly appear blue. Clear, blue water, however, do contain few nutrients to sustain life, whereas the surface layers of murky green seas are packed with green chlorophyll containing phytoplankton that turn sunlight, water and carbon dioxide into sugars. This makes them the foundation of numerous marine food chains. Most life in the sea and maybe much of life on Earth, depends on their well-being. In temperate regions, the sea appears blue in winter but often turns green during the spring, when new life proliferates in it.

At night, the sea's surface can glow with an eerie green, purple or yellow light. This is because of countless tiny luminescent organisms that flash when disturbed, as in the wake of a whale swimming at the surface. It leaves a long trail of intense green "phosphorescence" from dinoflagellates and comb jellies bursting into light like underwater fireworks.

The ghostly glow has sparked off a tale: The Romans considered it an evil omen; the Bretons believed that the phosphorescence came from the glitter of precious stones in an undersea garden where the sea-god placed the souls of drowned men. Even sci-

ence was baffled for a long time.
In the 7th century AD, it was



Different colours and patterns in different regions in the sea



thought that the glow was the result of the sea absorbing sunlight by day and emitting it at night. The American scholar and statesman Benjamin Franklin concluded that it was an electrical discharge between water and salt

Undersea earthquakes

Sometimes, phosphorescence at the sea's surface is in the form of a gigantic wheel, up to a mile which is 1.6 kilometres, or more in diameter, with waves of luminescence moving out-

wards like the ripples in a pool. The wheels may start with an explosion of flashing lights and spread outwards, rotating like the wheel of a bicycle. These phenomena may be the result of disturbances by small-scale undersea earthquakes on the seafloor.

Not all seas are coloured by living organisms. Rain leaches minerals from rocks and rivers wash debris down to the sea. The Yellow Sea is aptly named, for the sediments washed down by rivers from the Chinese mainland stain its waters a dirty

A RED TIDE OCCURS WHEN
THERE IS A MAJOR ABUNDANCE
OF NUTRIENTS IN THE WATER
AND CONTINUOUS SUNSHINE.
WHEN THIS HAPPENS, THERE
CAN BE WELL OVER 300
MILLION DINOFLAGELLATES FOR
EVERY GALLON OF SEA WATER,
TURNING THE SEA A RED OR
BROWN COLOUR. HOWEVER,
WHEN A BLOOM REACHES THESE
PROPORTIONS, IT BECOMES
DANGEROUS TO PEOPLE AND
ANIMALS

yellow. One of the most extraordinary of sea colours is found in the mystery "muds" or "whitings" of the Great Bahama Bank. Whitings are huge patches of milky water found in the sea to the west of Andros and Abaco islands.

They resemble clouds in a blue sky, appearing to the crews of yachts as shallow white sandbanks in waters up to 30 feet deep. What causes them is hotly debated by rival scientists.

Whitings

The local belief is that they are caused by enormous shoals of small fish, "Whitings" that disturb the bottom deposits.

The sediments are formed from the bodies of millions of minute algae, known as Penicillus, that form crystals of chalk inside their tiny bodies. When they die the cells rot and the needle-shaped crystals fall to the seabed. The fish stir them up, or so one of the theories suggests.

Nevertheless, the only fish to be seen regularly in the whitings, are sharks. These sharks are not the ordinary grey or grey-blue sharks many of us are used to aware of. Instead, the sharks found in these areas are snowwhite sharks of about three feet in length

They swim through the white patches of the sea, invisible except for the black tips of their dorsal fins. Exactly what lies behind the whitings and their strangely adapted pure white sharks still remains a mystery.

Fund to support emerging fashion designers

olombo Fashion Week, popularly known as CFW and its Title Partner for the past 14 years, HSBC Sri Lanka recently launched the Next Gen Emerging Designer Fund to support and empower the next generation of Sri Lankan fashion design talent.

CFW has maintained emphasis on developing the next generation of Sri Lankan fashion designers since its inception. This ensures a steady supply of design talent which further uplifts the fashion industry of Sri Lanka. Over 90 percent of Sri Lankan fashion designers are the product of the CFW design development system.

HSBC Next Gen Emerging Designer Fund is an evolution of the years of mentoring and grooming provided by CFW. The award will provide five high potential emerging designers with the funds and mentorship required to grow as designers and launch their brands. The fund will be released to the next enrollment of emerging designers. The fund will help manage a system that encourages designers to look at showcasing and retailing as a cycle which will allow them to establish their brand and provides continuity for the fashion design industry.

Focus

"The CFW Design Development system has been instrumental in developing emerging designers with a systematic focus on ideation, collection planning and retail. It is the start of fashion design supply chain that feeds the fashion design industry of Sri Lanka. Hence a special emphasis is given to this," Founder and Managing Director of Colombo Fashion Week Ajai Vir Singh said.

Applications are encouraged from residents in Sri Lanka between ages of 18-28 and will give special attention to designers who focus on sustainable practices and responsibility in fashion, with a strong aesthetic and unique point of view. A high-profile judging committee will evaluate the applicants and select five young designers for the award.

NURTURING THE NEXT GENERATION OF SRI LANKAN FASHION

DESIGNERS HAS BEEN THE KEY
FOCUS SINCE THE INCEPTION OF
HSBC COLOMBO FASHION WEEK. THE
DESIGN DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM OF
CFW HAS BEEN AN INTEGRAL PART
OF THE PLATFORM AND BECAME AN
IMPORTANT FORMAT FOR CFW WITH
WHICH TO MENTOR, TRAIN AND
GROOM THE NEXT GENERATION OF

FASHION DESIGNERS

"We are here to use our unique expertise, capabilities, breadth and erspective to open up new kinds of opportunity for our customers. We believe that by bringing together people, ideas and capital that nurture progress and growth that we can create a better world. That's why we are proud to partner with CFW in launching the HSBC Next-Gen Emerging Designer Fund which aims to provide financial support, skills enhancement and mentoring to talented and emerging fashion designers in Sri Lanka. Top five designers will receive a quarter of a million rupees each, followed with an opportunity to showcase their collections at HSBC Colombo Fashion Week 2022," Country Head of Wealth and Personal Banking, HSBC Nadeesha Senara-

The application process encourages designers to think about the funds core objective of uplifting the Sri Lankan fashion design industry and growing its business opportunities. All shortlisted designers will be enrolled in a thorough mentoring program through CFW, with access to industry knowledge, resources and best practices. Under the guidance of CFW, each young designer will also incorporate CFW's Responsible Meter, where every garment

tne said.

will be given a score based on how responsible, accountable and transparent it is.

Honing the skills

Nurturing the next generation of Sri Lankan fashion designers has been the key focus since the inception of HSBC Colombo Fashion Week. The design development system of CFW has been an integral part of the platform and became an important format for CFW with which to mentor, train and groom the next generation of fashion designers. The 'Emerging Designer Showcase' focuses on honing the skills of young designers and providing them with a platform to showcase their creative talent.

This focus has resulted in CFW receiving the highest number of applications this year for its Emerging Designer Program. This is a testimony to the momentum created through the strength of the mentorship and grooming provided by CFW. This year, 11 high potential young designers have been mentored over three months and selected to present their collections at the summer 2021 showcase.

showcase.

Through the CFW Design Development program, emerging designers who have been selected to showcase have been mentored through the creative process by the CFW mentorship panel to help them refine their skills. Each designer was guided on design thinking, collection planning, fashion marketing, brand presentation and retail feasibility over three months.

Aside from being presented with the opportunity to understand the intricacies of how one of the four main fashion events in Asia function, the designers are enriched with the know-how on fine-tuning their collections to better appeal to the market. Through the showcase, designers are also exposed to a diverse audience which would comprised established designers, editors, buyers and influencers, on and off the runway and particularly in terms of fashion retail.

Neglect in elder care; a form of abuse

o live in safety, with dignity and respect is a basic human right, especially during a time when age takes over and one's body and mind begins to deteriorate. However, elder abuse is one of the most common and inherently one of the most difficult forms of abuse to detect as it can occur not only physically but mentally, in the form of verbal abuse, threat and most of all neglect.

"Elder abuse is defined as physical, emotional and financial harm inflicted upon an elder including exploitation and the neglect of their welfare by people who are directly responsible for their care," Director of English Nursing Care, Sri Lanka, Richard Gould said.

Sri Lanka is at a high risk as the demographic is shifting to being one of the fastest ageing economies in Asia. The North Colombo Teaching Hospital records 38.5 percent of their out-patients over the age of 65 years at risk of abuse. The survey highlights 45 percent reporting verbal abuse and neglect, while 5.6 percent report physical abuse. Nevertheless, a substantial number of elders refrain from reporting such misconduct due to fear, shame or mental illnesses.

Neglect as abuse

Sachini lives with her family abroad. Her elderly mother is used to visiting her quite often and Sachini is used to coming down frequently to take care of her. Once the pandemic disrupted all means of travel, this wasn't possible anymore. Sachini's mother was now being taken care of by a home nurse in Colombo.

"During this time, my mother had completely changed. She was once a bubbly and outgoing person who loved to dance and live life to her fullest. She had now become bedridden, unable to speak or even recognise me. She had developed pressure ulcers which were not healing and was given heavy medication without my consent," said Sachini.

Due to the neglect and unprofessional service of the carer who refused to give updates of the elderly's

SRI LANKA IS AT A HIGH RISK AS THE DEMOGRAPHIC IS SHIFTING TO BEING ONE OF THE FASTEST AGEING ECONOMIES IN ASIA. THE NORTH COLOMBO TEACHING HOSPITAL RECORDS 38.5 PERCENT OF THEIR OUT-PATIENTS OVER THE AGE OF 65 YEARS AT RISK OF ABUSE. THE SURVEY HIGHLIGHTS 45 PERCENT REPORTING VERBAL ABUSE AND NEGLECT, WHILE 5.6 PERCENT REPORT PHYSICAL ABUSE

health and only threatened to leave, Sachini's mother had become severely ill. Unnecessary medication and unexplained billing were abusive to Sachini's mother physically and financially. She was desperate to find another way to help her mother, "I had heard about English Nursing Care from a friend, I gave them a call and shared my concerns, this was one of the best decisions I made for my mother and myself too.

They took over my mother in their care and had a team of doctors, a nutritionist, the home nurse and the management networking to get my mother back."

Today, Sachini's mother's bedsores have recovered well, she is able to walk and has become her social self again with medications reduced gradually. Through such professional care,

ing, Sachini's mind is at ease.

Good elder care

Old age requires engaging and comprehensive care. English Nursing Care understands the significance of this responsibility. Thus, 'Care plans' are created by our local experienced Nurse Supervisors and then reviewed, discussed and updated with input from our UK nursing support team.

The thorough knowledge on medical history, current medication dosage and emergencies are pivotal. Staff update family on the progress of the client every week or as requested. Nurses at English Nursing care are trained to inculcate the latest methodologies in their practice with focus on delivering quality care with empathy. A review process is held every month to warrant the service given to your loved ones.



Features

Too many surprises



arah and Nicolas, the soon-to-wed couple bring Samara across the border to Canada, hidden in their vehicle as she's wrongfully accused of carrying illegal drugs. At the border, they pretend to be married, although they aren't, and Sarah is arrested for carrying an ornamental gold pagoda in her handbag. She's bailed out the following day and a court case is filed. She wonders why Nicolas and Samara don't turn up to inquire after her, and learns later that they're in a secret affair and they've betrayed her. She attends the court case alone, pays a fine and faces a suspended sentence of six months imprisonment. The following week, she flies to a city far away, finds employment there and settles down. She follows a university course to become a teacher. She coincidentally meets a young man (Sherman) and falls in love with him. He suggests Sarah be his niece's home-visiting tutor, and introduces her to his family. She gets negative vibes from his sister Kumberlin, whose husband has faced a tragic death in the past, caused by a sudden heart failure, after learning that his wife has deceived him. The relationship continues between Sarah and Sherman. She moves in with him.

Episode 11

Sarah walked into her bedroom. She wanted to lean on the door and wait for him, open the door and see if he was coming, stand outside at least for a moment, expecting his arrival, sit back in bed for a while...and she did them all. So, he arrived. They were silent, but her silence was more expressive than her talkativeness. No conversation distracted them. There was perfect harmony and silence everywhere. She could hear the twinkling of her friends, the shiny ones in the galaxy, giving rhythm to their beautiful

Every day, they took walks outside by dusk and when darkness was falling in pieces they came inside, Sarah first and Sherman next, to join her later in her bedroom. Sarah's gentleness was taken by the whole household. It happened in a very harmonious manner. There was a contradiction to this toning whatsoever. It came from Kumberlin, unplanned but well planned.

Once, when they were walking outside, Sarah asked an unexpected ques-

"Have you ever explained the maze

to anyone else?" "Yes, to Sonia."

"Who's Sonia?"

"She was my ex-girlfriend." "Why did you break up with her?"

"Oh, she went for a rich man." "I see. I had a boyfriend, too, Nico-

las, and the situation was complicated. He preferred my friend." A question was drawn on Sher-

man's face, and Sarah began to tell her story. It started at the crossing of the border and went on till she met Sherman on the bus. "And we pretended to be married

when we went to get Samara. We were going to get married, but it didn't happen 'cause he liked Samara, not me."

"But why did you pretend to be

married?' Sarah thought for a while, trying to find an answer to his question. Why did she really pretend to be married? She kept asking herself, and finally realized that there was no solid answer

to it. It was a general question that continued to flash within even before it was steadily thrown at her by Sher-

him right after."

Sherman laughed. For him, it was too hilarious, although the bringing of Samara, the gold pagoda, the arrest and everything that followed were nightmarish.

table looking for support. Sister Pris-

"Sarah, are you okay?"

"I'll be fine. The whole day I was

man Tilford?'

"One of your neighbours told me. Also, you're living there now?"

smiled and there was much more in Sister Priscilla's smile. Sarah knew that she tried to communicate what she already knew, although nothing was said. However, it was blurted out in a quick second in a specific way very special to the nun.

"Perhaps there's some good news about the dizziness you feel now."

"What I mean is, I think you're

"What makes you think so?" Sarah asked with a smile, knowing it all her heart way before it came from Sister

"Your face says it all." The nun confirmed.

The two friends parted. Sarah was feeling heavy and restless. She went home straight, eager to meet Sherman

"I don't know why I did it. I really thought it was okay. I thought I'd marry

The following morning at the university, Sarah felt something strange about her body, and returning home, she visited the library in the convent. Sitting at a table, she was overwhelmed by dizziness and kept her head on the cilla observed this, and walked to-

"I heard you're going out with Sher-

Sarah was stunned to hear the

"How did you know?"

They looked at each other and

"What do you mean?" Sarah asked. although she knew very well what Sister Priscilla tried to convey.

pregnant."

Priscilla.



when he came home after work. Well, e would be happy to hear it.

Being almost a member of the family, Sarah had a separate key to the gate, and she entered. She noticed that the house was silent, although the door was open. She had expected Kumberlin and Kristina to be home. She also had a planned tuition class with Kristina that afternoon.

However, they didn't seem to be home. Perhaps they had gone out on some sudden errand. But someone was home, obviously and that's why the door was open.

She entered, and she could hear a sound in Sherman's bedroom. She walked there to meet Jerad faceto-face, leaving the room. He was alarmed to see Sarah. It looked like he was disturbed that Sarah saw him leaving his brother's room. He had some papers in his hands, and Sarah's eyes stopped there.

Jerad gave a pretended smile and roceeded. It was bizarre. What could he have been doing in there? And why did he look so disturbed to see Sarah? Definitely he was up to no good, and Sarah's presence there was quite unexpected.

Sarah came to the conclusion that Jerad had gone into Sherman's room for some corrupt reason. It was really the truth, but what could she have done with her knowledge? Nothing! Absolutely nothing! She walked to the front having the same thoughts. The house looked very peaceful and tranquil, but really, it wasn't. She stood at the front door, having her eyes on the gates and noticed a vehicle parking outside. The bell rang and she answered.

"We're from the police. Please open the gate!'

"Yes, to meet Jerad Tilford."

She opened the gate, unsure why the police would come for Jerad, but she speculated. Well, he was probably involved in some misdeed. She hurried inside to pass the news to him.

"The police..." she began to speak, but she was stopped by him before she said anything else.

"I know that. I saw them, but I can't face them now. Tell them I'm not

Sarah was alarmed. Was it right to tell them that he wasn't home? Would she get into trouble if she said so? She was silent for a moment.

"But they're the police. How can I lie to them?" She asked.

"That's okay. Besides, it doesn't affect you anyway. If I'm not home, I'm not home and there's nothing you can do about it!" he confirmed.

She had nothing else to say. She proceeded to the front, and the crowd was standing outside. They looked relieved to see her. There were men and also women. Sarah walked all the way to the front door. Two of them were police officers, and a young female

"We came to meet Jerad Tilford. Is

"He's not in." She replied in a low

"Well, Jerad is in debt to the bank. He hasn't paid his instalments. We're

sorry to have missed him." A man said. Sarah wasn't sure of the purpose of their visit. Of course, it was evident that Jerad was in debt to the bank and

said. But were they going to arrest him? She gave way to her thoughts. In no time, one middle-aged man walked in, almost pushing her. Then followed

the rest of the crowd, and Sarah was thunderstruck. "It's not right to walk into a house without permission!" she firmly said.

they wanted to find him, just like they

"You can't talk to him like that. He's a court officer." A policeman explained to her. His explanation sounded almost

like a threat and Sarah was silent. She realised that apart from the two policemen, the others were from the court, and she was surrounded by all of them. A certain sense of anger rose in her.

Why did Jerad hide himself, leaving her to go through all the chaos? Well, for him, that was a good way out, and Sarah was an excellent bait. She glanced at the surprise party, the sudden visitors, the police and the court officials.

They were speaking very loud. She faintly got their words into herself. They were sounds, just sounds. They fell in her ears and produced an identification. Was it wise to do upon her identification?

> 'Jerad has to pay his debts." "He has tried to mislead us."

"He got away many times." "He keeps away from coming to

the bank."

"He can't do this always."

It was one big hullabaloo. Sarah covered her ears with her hands. Suddenly, she felt heavy inside. She could see the chandelier from a distance. She was overwhelmed by its light, even if it wasn't lit. It was too bright, and she

felt dazed. Her feet were just about to take her off the ground. She was going to fall, but she managed to slip through the crowd and isolate herself, standing all by herself, and the crowd turned to her again. The young girl walked up to her, having a paper in her hand. It was a legal document, and unfortunately, Sarah didn't know it. She didn't know that a legal seizure was just about to happen in a very unlawful manner.

"So we understand that Jerad isn't home. But he has to be informed that we were here. Please hand over this paper to him!" She placed a paper in Sarah's

"Also, you need to sign here con-

firming that you accepted this paper. Now it's your duty to pass this to him.'

Sarah signed the paper without thinking twice. It was an acknowledgement of receipt. Also, the honest court officer had told her that it was so. Sarah believed her. Oh, she trusted her and signed the paper!

"We're going now. Make sure that you give the paper to him. The deadline is mentioned there.

The crowd walked out of the house. They got into the van. Clearly, it was an official van. It was white and had the state logo on it. They disappeared from her eyes. She was relieved out of the commotion. It was a matter of handing over the paper to him now. She turned back to go to him and saw him standing right there. He had his eyes aimed at her, and she walked to him with the paper.

To be continued next week Copyright - Santhoshya Jayamali Seneviratne

Weird yet proven ways to boost your happiness

BY ALEXA V.S.

I'm tired of re-reading the same tips over and over on how to be happy. We all know we should meditate, exercise regularly, sleep better and practise gratefulness.

But isn't there something else? Something just as scientifically-proven, yet less-As someone who's always been fasci-

nated with happiness, I set out to find an an-

swer. Though most of the following tips can be considered weird, they have research that backs their effect on happiness. Listen to sad music I used to believe I was a masochist be-

cause I put depressing songs on repeat after a bad day.

I was wrong. According to a 2014 study that surveyed 722 people around the globe, "listening to sad music can lead to beneficial emotional effects such as regulation of negative emotion and mood as well as consolation." In other words, melancholic songs bring us

comfort. Travel frequently — or at least think about it

At one point or another, we've all heard that traveling has many benefits. But did you know the frequency of our trips has a noticeable impact on our happiness?

A 2021 study by Washington State University concluded that people who travel around 4 times per year are 7 seven percent happier, on average, than those who don't. Moreover, the researchers noticed that

even if they can't, just the act of anticipating a trip makes them happy, according to a Cornell University study. So even if you can't travel 4 times every year, make plans for future trips and reap the

benefits. Buy yourself some happiness by spending on others

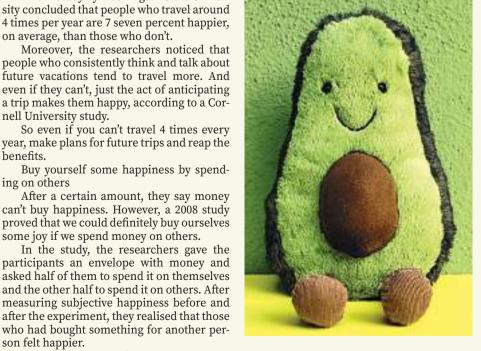
After a certain amount, they say money can't buy happiness. However, a 2008 study proved that we could definitely buy ourselves

some joy if we spend money on others. In the study, the researchers gave the participants an envelope with money and asked half of them to spend it on themselves and the other half to spend it on others. After measuring subjective happiness before and after the experiment, they realised that those who had bought something for another per-

So on the next self-care day, consider buying something for someone else.

Get your hands dirty

Though extremely weird, it seems we should play in the dirt like children.



According to a 2007 study, breathing in the smell of dirt may lighten your mood since it contains bacteria that produces effects similar to antidepressant drugs.

Mycobacterium vaccae, the bacteria, is reported to increase serotonin levels in the brain, the hormone that leads to depression

In other words, let's return to our playground days and get our hands dirty.

Consciously binge-watch Netflix I have good news: A 2020 study by the University of Zurich found that "enjoying short-term pleasurable activities that don't lead to long-term goals contributes at least as much to a happy life as self-control." (Finally! A study that confirms what I knew all along.)

However, it isn't as easy as it sounds. People who experience guilt or are unable to disconnect from work when binge-watching Netflix or eating a cheat meal don't reap the happiness benefit.

To fight this, the researchers recommend consciously planning our downtime. Ensure your schedule has a balance between productive and undisturbed momentarily pleasurable activities.

Buy more takeout or hire a maid

This is another tip that challenges the old adage that money can't buy happiness.

A 2017 study by the University of British Columbia found that people buying time – hiring a maid, buying takeout, paying the child next door to mow the lawn - experience greater life satisfaction.

But does this mean we need to be wealthy to be happier? No.

'The benefits of buying time aren't just for wealthy people," UBC psychology professor and the study's senior author Elizabeth Dunn said. "We thought the effects might only hold up for people with quite a bit of disposable income, but to our surprise, we found the same effects across the income

The idea is to buy yourself out of unpleasant activities, whether that's hiring a butler the entire week or a maid for a couple of hours.

Value your time.

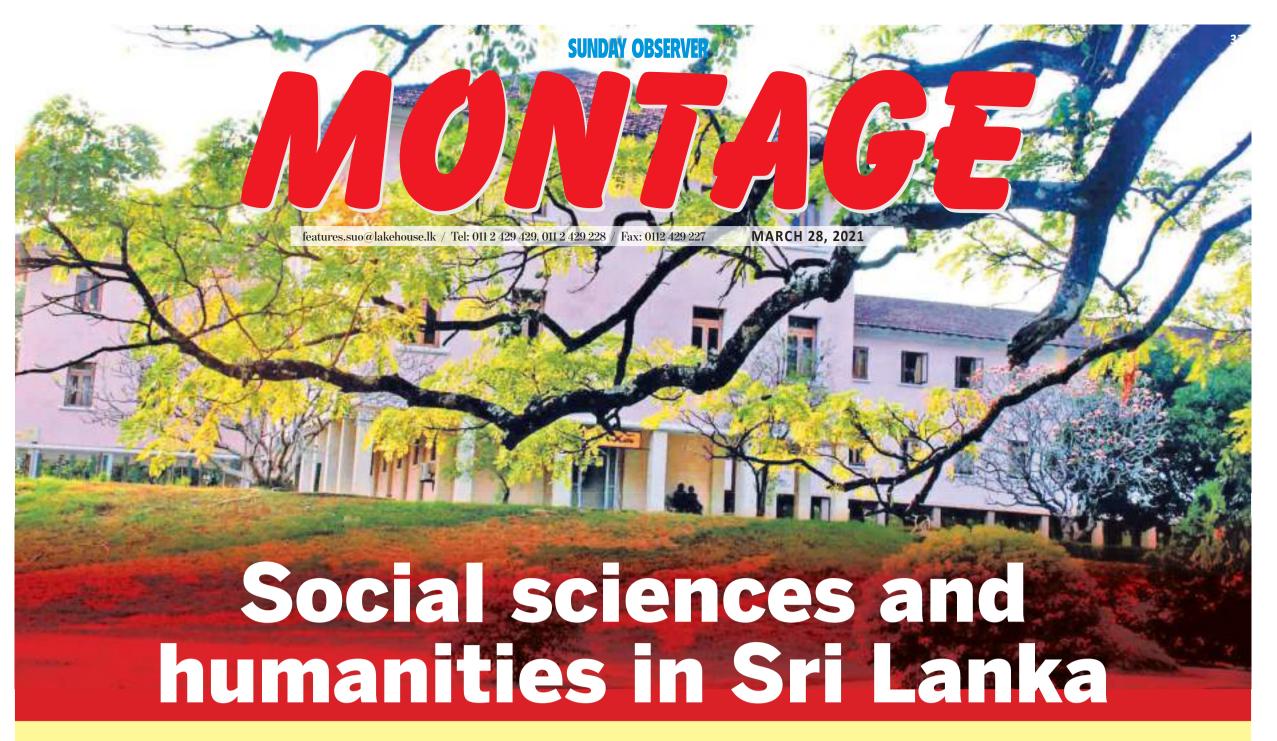
Make your wife happy

I laughed hysterically when I came across the 2014 study that concluded that not only does a happy marriage lead to a happy life, but that a happy wife is the key to a hap-

My husband wasn't as thrilled, though. He resisted the idea until I read the study's conclusions out loud.

"I think it comes down to the fact that when a wife is satisfied with the marriage, she tends to do a lot more for her husband, which has a positive effect on his life," said Deborah Carr, a professor in the Department of Sociology, School of Arts and Science.

As it turns out, the old saying "happy wife, happy life" is sage advice.



BY PROF. SASANKA PERERA

In 2010, looking at the British university system, Terry Eagleton posed the following simple question: "are the humanities about to disappear from our universities?" In answering his own question, he noted that ideally, "There cannot be a university without the humanities," and "if history, philosophy and so on vanish from academic life, what they leave in their wake may be a technical training facility or corporate research institute. But it will not be a university in the classical sense of the term and it would be deceptive to call it one."

This is a question we should ask ourselves today in our context too. Though he was only talking of humanities, the same question can be posed with reference to social sciences too. That is, social sciences deprived of their imagination and re-arranged as mere data-generating practices - as they often function nowadays - reflect the same outcome.

In general, these disciplinary domains are not taken seriously in Sri Lanka. This has happened due to two interrelated reasons, which I had initially referred to in 2017. This can be restated today as well because the operative conditions have not changed:

1) First, most disciplines that fall within social sciences and humanities - barring economics have been exiled into the lower strata of academic hierarchies, as irrelevant 'soft' subjects by educational decision-makers, political leaders and the public.

2) Second, many colleagues in social sciences and humanities have also not shown any clear intent or ability to disprove this popularly held belief by enhancing their own research, intellectual engagement, publishing and public interventions. In this situation, the perception of crisis and decay, which has befallen these disciplines, has become a self-fulfilling prophecy.

While there are serious lapses in training and institutional issues in social sciences and humanities in our country in general, several specific conditions have contributed to this more decisively. These

i. The nature of forums and networks in which contemporary

scholars have become part of;

ii. The quality of publishing in social sciences and humanities; iii. The ways in which social sciences and humanities engage with

and generate theory and finally, iv. The extent to which Sri Lankan social science and humanities knowledge production impact the global discourses in these disci-

Forums and networks

Academic and intellectual networks and forums play a crucial role in constructing and expanding disciplinary knowledge and in building individual careers. But these must be carefully built and maintained. Forums constitutes conferences and seminars.

Networks are made up of local and global institutional and personal connections these conferences and seminars might create over a period. Serious conferences are focused and do not necessarily involve large numbers of people. But today what I see in Lankan universities are extremely broad conferences and seminars under which almost anything could be present-

But this almost unimaginable broadness in conference-thinking and planning so typical in social sciences and humanities in our country is different from the more serious model of global conference ethos, where discussions are more focused and robust.

When colleagues travel overseas or even locally today, many do not seem to carefully select the venues of their academic engagements and subsequent networks they become part of. Instead, many vounger and senior colleagues often come to conferences that I am aware of in India, Pakistan and sometimes Bangladesh where the most outstanding local scholars would simply not come. That is because they do not take these engagements seriously.

To put it differently, many Lankan scholars do not go to intellectually more challenging conferences and seminars. As a result, they will not become part of the more engaging academic networks. Instead, they become part of what may be bluntly called quite mediocre networks. Being part of such networks

and attending such intellectually unchallenging academic conversations will not help build social sciences and humanities in our country or the careers of individual scholars.

Publishing

Can we honestly be satisfied that the norms and parameters of publishing in social sciences and humanities in our country meet global standards? When I read some of these publications in Sinhala and English whenever I visit Sri Lanka, I am constantly reminded that we learn very little from ethical positions and good practices of better-established publishing tradi-

In Lanka, we do not have dedicated academic presses as we see in other parts of the world. To a large extent, we merely have 'printers' who publish almost anything. On many instances, I do not see serious editorial interventions in these publications. That is, lapses in peer-review, selection and copyediting remain unaddressed in the final publication. As a result, published works tend to be uneven.

Many university entities publish journals these days. These forums have expanded over the last twenty years giving more colleagues expanded opportunities to publish. But many of these journals do not follow a recognisable editorial policy when it comes to selection of essays for inclusion, stylistic matters, referencing and so on.

Also, what is published are often very average writings that hardly add anything substantial or new to existing knowledge or debate. But journals and university-based journals in particular, are supposed to fulfil a more significant role than being mere forums for average

Theory and theorising

In any discipline, the generation and engagement with theory are crucially important in ensuring that the output from these disciplines is intellectually robust. It allows for abstract thinking as well as to explain phenomena generally in comparable social and political systems – beyond a specific place.

Akbar Zaidi has observed with

MANY LANKAN SCHOLARS DO NOT GO TO INTELLECTUALLY MORE CHALLENGING CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS. AS A RESULT, THEY WILL NOT BECOME PART OF THE MORE ENGAGING ACADEMIC NETWORKS. INSTEAD, THEY BECOME PART OF WHAT MAY BE BLUNTLY CALLED QUITE MEDIOCRE NETWORKS



social scientists blindly apply imported "theoretical arguments and constructs to Pakistani conditions without questioning, debating or commenting on the theory itself."

In the same sense, Sri Lankan scholarship in social sciences and humanities has not seriously engaged with in recent times with the dominant theoretical constructs that currently hold sway in the more academically dominant parts of the world. Neither have we offered our own constructs and voice to the world.

This is not about discarding borrowed ideas for the sake of that being borrowed. The problem is the lack of critical engagement with these ideas. Every theory and all bodies of philosophical knowledge emerge from specific historical trajectories and in specific historical conjunctures, all of which impact upon the nature of theory that is constructed.

When these ideas are taken elsewhere, to countries, such as ours, where historical conditions are vastly different, would these theoretical constructs be able to explain our social phenomena equally well? The issues is, most practitioners of social sciences and

regard to Pakistan that Pakistani humanities in our country do not

even pose this question. Impact on global disclosures

To what extent does Sri Lankan social science and humanities knowledge production impact global discourses in these disciplines? Given the conditions outlined earlier, which negatively impact our knowledge production and dissemination in these disciplines, can we seriously think we have the capacity to impact global discourses? If my brief outline above on dynamics of networking and knowledge production forums, lapses in publishing and engagement with theory or lack thereof is correct, how would we be able to impact global discourses? Who would listen to us? In many ways, we have literally become an island unto ourselves. But no discipline can evolve robustly if it does not engage with the world and if it does not borrow knowledge from the world and impart knowledge to the world at the same time.

The future

I think there are two possibilities for Sri Lanka's future in knowledge production in social sciences and humanities:

1) The first possibility and the easiest, is to do absolutely nothing. Let the kind of teaching, research, publishing and networking that predominate today continue despite the kind of serious problems I have briefly outlined. They will certainly add to the quantum of the information that is produced. At times, they would also add to developmental planning as well, along with promotions within universities. But this approach will certainly not contribute to any kind of serious advancement in knowledge locally or globally.

2) The second possibility is to seriously recognise the existence of the problems I have outlined and find ways to deal with them. It is not impossible to upgrade our teaching if there is adequate political will. It is a matter of personal responsibility as well as university oversight to ensure that conferences we organise, seminars we attend and networks we become part of are carefully selected that would benefit persons and the institutions they represent in intellectual terms, while also adding to the advancement of knowledge more generally.

It is similarly well within reach to restructure our journals to ensure that they represent a commitment to knowledge and quality and not to mere quantity. However, given that Sri Lanka's market for academic publications is limited, it will be quite difficult to establish dedicated academic presses. Nevertheless, it is well within the realm of possibilities for selected universities to work with and train private sector publishers to produce more serious academic works as part of the work they do and to take them to the world.

These are serious questions that need serious reflection and equally serious solutions along with pragmatic decisions from individual academics and from the university system. It is also a matter of choice not to make the kind of decisions I am advocating and simply maintain the status quo.

Only the future will tell us what decisions were ultimately made. That is, whether we have opted to reinvent ourselves so that we can address the world and negotiate with the world in the production of knowledge, or whether we have opted to be in the shadows of our island and engage in quotidian ordinariness.

International Children's Book Fair in June



The International Children's and such as those held in Bologna, Shang-Youth Book Fair is organised for the first time in Sri Lanka, providing a new bracket within the book reading culture in our society. The objective of this book fair, literature convention and cultural festival is to introduce children's books from local and international publishers that conform to high standards of writing and publishing to re-establish and enhance the reading habits of children in the country.

Various activities and workshops on drama, dance, painting music and other cultural programs shall be organised vis-à-vis the aforesaid book fair, in collaboration with national and international cultural centres.

Writers, illustrators, editors and others interested in creating and contributing to children's and youth literature will be invited to participate at the

The book fair will be organised in compliance with the same standards applicable to international book fairs

hai and Sharjah with its objective of recognising and encouraging children to become avid readers.

literature books

The objective of this book fair is to promote children's and youth literature books produced in Sri Lanka and other countries. There will be no text books or stationery items sold at the book fair. The organisers objective is to endeavour to create a child-friendly environment to pique their interest in reading and transport them to a new world of quality reading, with the aid of story tellers, clowns, dancers, singers, artists and other forms of worthwhile entertainment.

Convention

The Convention will be a more developed extension of the Convention held in 2019, organised by IBBY Sri Lanka. The event will be held for three consecutive days from June 18 June

The International Children's Book Fair, Literature Convention and Cultural Festival 2021 will be held from June 19 to 26 from 10am to 7pm at the Public Library, Colombo.

In parallel, the second convention and International Workshop on Children and Youth Literature will be held from June 18 to 20 at the **Goethe Institute, Colombo.**

The Children's and Youth Literature Awards Festival will be held on June 14 at the German Cultural Centre.

to 20. The facilitators of the event will consist of authors, editors and publishers of children and youth publications recognised by local and international platforms. The presenters will contribute by way of physical and online participation. The stakeholders will be selected by calling applications prior to the event.

Books project and Literary Award Festival

One-hundred books project and Children and Youth Literary Award Festival will be a special activity among the many events. One-hundred children and youth books published within the past decade and conforming to high standards of writing and publishing will be selected and recognised. Three recognised books under the categories of Best Book for Children, Best Book for Youth and the Best Books with illustrations will be recognised with certificates and cash awards.

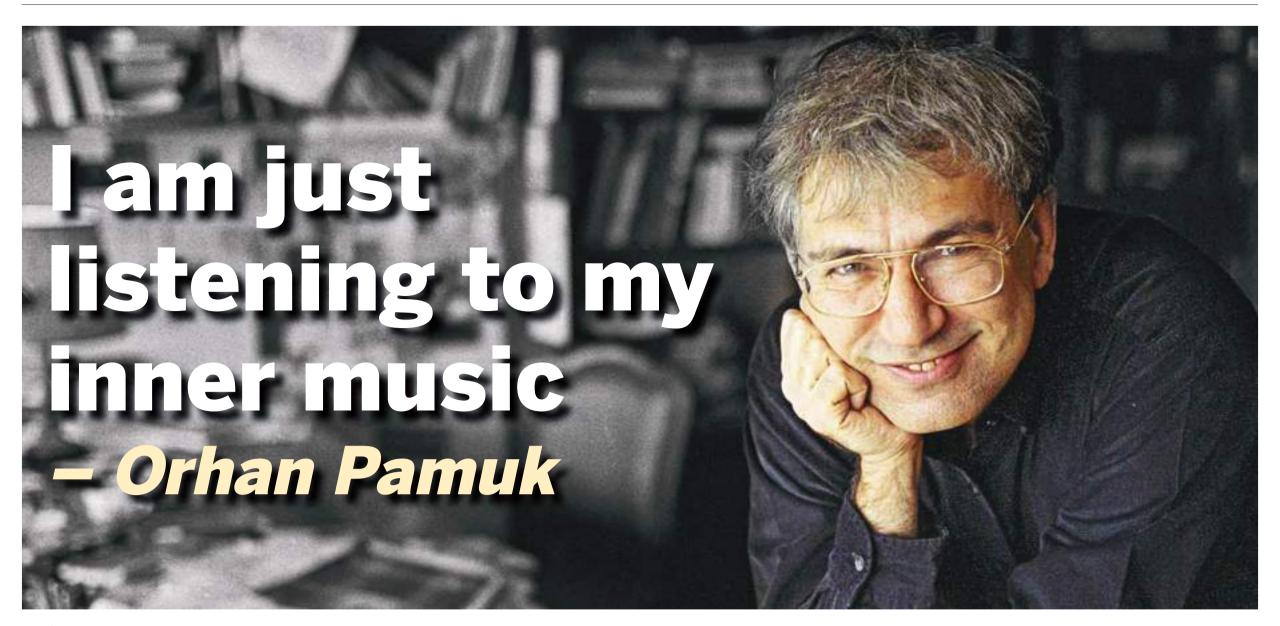
The selected hundred books will be listed in a specific catalogue for promotion among foreign publishers at international forums to explore the possibility of translation. To evaluate and assess whether such books have

conformed to applicable standards, a selection committee shall be drawn with the participation of officials or persons of the Educational Publication Advisory Board of the Ministry of Education, The Book Development Council of the Ministry of Education, The Colombo Public Library, The National Institute of Library and Information Sciences of Colombo University and Room to read.

Art festival

Many art and cultural events will be held from June 19 to 26 including, full day open-air activities with the participation of local and foreign cultural institutes, international children and youth film festival, drama and street drama performances, musical fair, art exhibition and activities, conferences and discussions for children. youth and parents, writers forums and platforms to meet authors, illustrators, editors and publishers of children's and youth publications.

Features



BY ASHEN PERERA

rhan Pamuk was born on June 7, 1952 and is a Turkish novelist, screenwriter, academic and recipient of the 2006 Nobel Prize in Literature. One of Turkey's most prominent novelists, his work has sold over 13 million books in 63 languages, making him the country's best-selling writer.

Pamuk is the author of novels including Silent House, The White Castle, The Black Book, The New Life, My Name Is Red, Snow, The Museum of Innocence, A Strangeness in My Mind and The Red-Haired Woman. He is the Robert Yik-Fong Tam Professor in the Humanities at Columbia University, where he teaches writing and comparative literature. He was elected to the American Philosophical Society in

Of partial Circassian descent and born in Istanbul, Pamuk is the first Turkish Nobel laureate. He is also the recipient of numerous other literary awards. My Name Is Red won the 2002 Prix du Meilleur Livre Étranger, 2002 Premio Grinzane Cavour and 2003 International Dublin Literary Award.

The European Writers' Parliament came about as a result of a joint proposal by Pamuk and José Saramago. Pamuk's willingness to write books about contentious historical and political events put him at risk of censure in his homeland. In 2005, the ultra-nationalist lawyer Kemal Kerinçsiz sued him over a statement regarding the Armenian Genocide in the Ottoman Empire. His intention, according to Pamuk himself, had been to highlight

issues relating to freedom of speech in the country of his birth. The court initially declined to hear the case, but in 2011, Pamuk was ordered to pay 6,000 liras in compensation for having insulted the plaintiffs' honour.

Career as a writer

He started writing regularly in 1974. His first novel, Karanlıkve Işık (Darkness and Light) was a co-winner of the 1979 Milliyet Press Novel Contest (Mehmet Eroğlu was the other winner). This novel was published with the title Cevdet Beyve Oğulları (Mr. Cevdet and His Sons) in 1982 and won the Orhan Kemal Novel Prize in 1983. It tells the story of three generations of a wealthy Istanbul family living in Nişantaşı, the district of Istanbul where Pamuk grew up.

Pamuk won a number of critical prizes for his early work, including the 1984 Madarali Novel Prize for his second novel Sessiz Ev (Silent House) and the 1991 Prix de la Découverte Européenne for the French translation of this novel. His historical novel Beyaz Kale (The White Castle), published in Turkish in 1985, won the 1990 Independent Award for Foreign Fiction and extended his reputation abroad. On May 19, 1991, The New York Times Book Review stated, "A new star has risen in the east—Orhan Pamuk." He started experimenting with post modern techniques in his novels, a change from the strict naturalism of his early

Popular success took a bit longer to come to Pamuk, but his 1990 novel Kara Kitap (The Black Book) became one of the most controversial and popular books in Turkish literature, due to its complexity and richness. In 1992, he wrote the screenplay for the movie Gizli Yüz (Secret Face), based on Kara Kitap and directed by a prominent Turkish director, Ömer Kavur.

Pamuk's fifth novel Yeni Hayat (New Life) caused a sensation in Turkey upon its 1994 publication and became the fastest-selling book in Turkish history. By this time, Pamuk had also become a high-profile figure in Turkey, due to his support for Kurdish political rights. In 1995, Pamuk was among a group of authors tried for writing essays that criticised Turkey's treatment of the Kurds. In 1999,

Pamuk published his book of essays Öteki Renkler (Other Colors).

In 2019, the 66-year-old Nobel Laureate held an exhibition of his photographs of Istanbul taken from his balcony, named "Balkon: Photos by Orhan Pamuk". The exhibition captured the "subtle and ever-changing view of Istanbul" photographed by Pamuk from his balcony using a telephoto lens. Curated by Gerhard Steidl, the German publisher of his photo book Balkon, the exhibition ran for three months at the YapıKredi Culture and Arts building on Istanbul's teeming Istiklal Street. It featured more than 600 colour photos selected from over 8,500 taken by Pamuk over five months in late 2012 and early 2013, in what was described by the gallery as "a period of intense creativity".

Style

Pamuk's books are characterised by a confusion or loss of identity brought on in part by the conflict between Western and Eastern values. They are often disturbing or unsettling and include complex plots and characters. His works are also redolent with discussion of and fascination with the creative arts, such as literature and painting. Pamuk's work often touches on the deep-rooted tensions between

East and West and tradition and modernism or secularism.

Pamuk speaks about "the Angel of inspiration" when he discusses his cre-

"I am just listening to an inner music, the mystery of which I don't completely know. And I don't want to know."

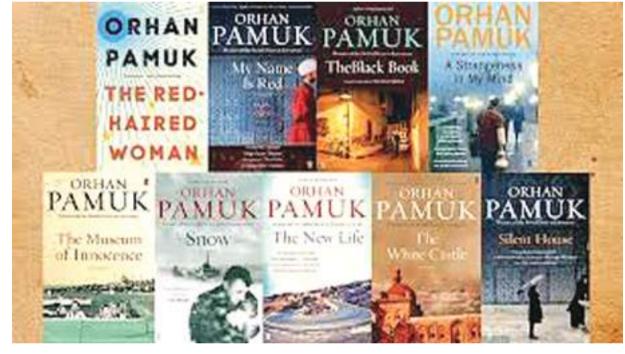
"I am most surprised by those moments when I have felt as if the sentences, dreams and pages that have made me so ecstatically happy have not come from my own imagination - that another power has found them and generously presented them to me."

A group of writers assert that some parts of Pamuk's works are heavily influenced by works of other writers and some chapters are almost totally quoted from other books.

Pamuk said that his works have been inspired by the writings of rebel poet Kazi Nazrul Islam. One of the writers, nationalist popular-historian Murat Bardakçı, accused him of counterfeiting and plagiarism in the Hurriyet, a Turkish newspaper.

Another accusation is that Pamuk's novel The White Castle contains exact paragraphs from FuadCarim's Kanuni Devrinde İstanbul ("Istanbul in the Time of the Kanuni") novel. After a question raised at the 2009 Boston Book Festival as to whether he wanted to respond to these accusations, Pamuk responded, "No I do not. Next question?".

However, many attributed such accusations to their ignorance about post modern literature and the literary technique of intertextuality which Pamuk almost always uses in his novels in full disclosure.



"In Search of Connection"

Solo exhibition

Search of Connection", a solo exhibition by Rupaneethan Pakkiyarajah will be held at the Paradise Road Gallery from April 1 to April 28.

In the exhibition, Rupaneethan explores the creation of identities and how this process is inherently othering and belittling to those we leave out of the identities we erect. Rupaneethan's works explore these connections and disconnections, this cohesion and inherent ex-

To the artiste, these interwoven relationships between humans can be mapped out following the lines of electrical and telephone wires that crisscross maniacally across our island linking paddy fields, hills, huts and houses to public buildings, churches, mosques and temples.

In the wake of the 2019 Easter Sunday Attacks, the non-physical borders between communities grew increasingly impermeable,



Wind and Land, 2017, Pen, Brush and Ink on Drawing Sheet

only to be further cemented by Covid-19; and yet, the wires of connectivity remain, our identities reified stronger than ever.

Rupaneethan's exhibition seeks to explore the idea of identity - his own identity, community-based identities and the way in which nature itself shapes our identities. Like our own bodies, the body of the earth can embody caste, class, race and religion – infusing these identities in the landscape itself; we see them reflected in our rivers, growing amongst our gardens and snaking between the paddy fields that dot our island.



Waves and Land 3, 2020, Mixed Media on Canvas

Women Empowered Global IWD 2021 short film sheds light on the "Mom Penalty"

BY NIROSHA RAJAPAKSE

Highlighting one of the most grueling issues faced by women during the global Covid-19 pandemic, Women Empowered Global launched a short film on the "Mom Penalty" on International Women's Day that fell on 08th March

'The Mom Penalty' is a touching, nearly three-minute film that depicts just how challenging the past year has been for women. Undoubtedly the months of pandemic lockdown have been harsh on all of us. But it has been especially brutal for working moms. They have had to juggle endless workplace demands alongside managing an unequal load of housework, childcare and remote schooling. As a result, four times, more women than men dropped out of the workforce.

To highlight this concern, Women Empowered Global launched this film on International Women's Day around the world, to address the elephant in the room - the Mom Penalty. "I am so excited to announce this beautiful, meaningful and powerful short film to commemorate International Women's Day, to celebrate, recognise and appreciate all Women around the world.

This beautiful production was conceptualised by my dear friend and Personal Growth Officer at Women Empowered Global Ruchi Sharma, as it takes us on a deep reflective and relatable journey of a working mother & quote;, commented Senela Jayasuriya, Founder and CEO of Women Empowered Global.

'There have been many times in my own path as a working mom and woman where I faced so many struggles and personal challenges that tried to stop me from reaching my goal. Some of the toughest personal challenges for me have been the battles inside my own



Ruchi Sharma

mind. There have been many days I questioned myself, my abilities and my worth. But I learnt to channel that energy into new growth opportunities, and struggles into more courage and mo-

This is my truth and I want to encourage and inspire as many women as I possibly can in my lifetime, with my truth and vision, that you have the power inside you, you are already strong, and sometimes we just need to remind ourselves and each other of our own power and our strength. And remember- together, we are stronger" Senela continued.

The short film can be viewed on



Senela Jayasuriya

Women Empowered Global 's Facebook and Instagram page @WomenEmpGlobal or via the link https://youtu.be/JFFk-Fmy3H1I on its YouTube page WOMEN EMPOWERED GLOBAL.

"As a working mom myself, this subject is very dear to my heart. From having to give up a high-profile overseas job to starting on my own from scratch, juggling demanding deadlines, working longer hours, navigating the world of remote learning with a young kid, endless housework and the anxiety of ageing parent" said Founder and Chief Creative Officer of Human Sense, Ruchi Sharma the creative agency behind this humane

Shine a light on Autism

Early detection, interventions improve quality of life of Autistic children



n a few days on April 2, thousands of people around the world will light up their buildings, streets and homes in blue to convey an important message - that of promoting early detection and interventions which would help autistic children to lead a normal life despite the obstacles they face.

We are fortunate that steps to detect autistic children as early as possible and introduce timely interventions such as home centred activities and vocational training for such children have been put in place with the blessings of the Health Ministry and the State in Sri Lanka, with encouraging results. The Sunday Observer spoke to the Sri Lanka Association for Child development (SLACD) President, who is also a Senior Lecturer in Paediatrics - Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura and Consultant Paediatric Neurologist, Teaching Hospital, Colombo South, Dr Saraji Wijesekara, to share her views drawing on her hands on how these results were achieved and her experiences in dealing with such children.

Excerpts

Q: Autism Awareness Day falls on April 2. What is the theme of this year's Autism Day? How relevant is it to the needs of the Lankan child with autism?

A: The theme for 2021 is "Shine a light on Autism". This is to re-focus awareness about persons with autism specially children, which is a subject that needs more attention.

Q: How important is it as a step forward especially with regard to Lankan children with Autism?

A: The recent Education ministry's initiatives under the concept of education for all, envisions that every child has some form of education until he/she is 18 years. The vast maiority of school leavers are in the ages of 14-17. The implementation of vocational training by the Ministry of Education has played a pivotal role in educating children with disability, such as

Q: Not many people understand what Autism is. Describe Autism in simple language

A: Autism is a condition demonstrating poor social communication skills and some peculiar behaviours that could be repetitive in an affected child. In Sri Lanka, still the presenting complaint is the speech delay as in

most developed countries. However, the symptoms and signs vary vastly among persons.

Q: Is autism a disease or a condition?

A: Autism is not a disease entity. It is a condition. The causative factors are yet to be identified. Genetic influence coupled with environmental triggers have shown to be the major risk factors. The dietary components, screen time and lack of stimulatory inputs to the developing brain have been positively associated with many stud-

Q: Are there different types of autism or degrees of autism? What are the symptoms?

A: The symptoms of this condition fall into a spectrum. In the study conducted in Sri Lanka, the most significant presentation was the speech delay. When detected late i.e. close to three years and it could be considered a delayed presentation. Others include: Avoidance of eye gaze, lack of interest in the surroundings, living in his/her own world, not playing with peers, ritualistic behaviour, such as rocking, hand movements, spinning and interest in rotatory objects, such as the fans and rolling the tyres of cars among a range of symptoms. Some may have a jargon of words with no meaning and have echolalia (repetition of the question itself with the same wording). They may not like cuddling, hugging and kissing. Some may be frightened of loud noises or familiar noises, such as the blender and polisher.

Q: How are the symptoms catego-

A. Depending on the severity of the symptoms, they can be categorised as mild, moderate or severe.

$oldsymbol{Q}$: What are the usual outcomes of each episode?

A: The outcome would depend on the severity of the seizure.

Q: I understand there are certain factors that put some people more at risk of getting Autism than others. E.g. those with ADHD. Do you agree? If so what are they?

A: Children with autism could have many associations. Attention deficit hyperactivity is one such condition. Epilepsy, aggressive and depressive behaviours and learning disability can also be witnessed in some.

Q: Is it correct that teenaged mothers and older mothers are more prone to have autistic children due to low birth weight babies and declining hormones as they reach the end of their menstru-

be the reason. However, no quality re-

search publications have proved it so

Q: How widespread is Autism in Sri Lanka? Has there been any recent study on the figures?

A: Sri Lanka has only 2000 data which is 1/93. No recent data has been published yet. But from the numbers seeking medical care, it shows that the incidence of autism is increasing and the awareness among public is soar-

Q: Is Autism curable?

A . Autism is a neurodevelopmental disorder. It is not curable. But early intervention with therapy and guidance would help them lead a normal life including opportunities in education, employment and marriage.

Q: Is it preventable if detected early?

A: As we have multiple factors responsible for autism, it is difficult to implement preventive strategies. However, early detection and intervention with therapy would lead to a better quality of life.

Q: How is it diagnosed and by whom? I understand a multi-disciplinary team is needed to treat and diagnose autistic children. Who comprises this team?

A: The Multi-disciplinary team which delivers this care comprises doctors, nurses, occupational therapists, speech and language pathologists, physiotherapists, psychologists, teachers who have been trained and social workers.

Q: Do they have specific roles?

A: Their role is to help the child improve and each one of them will work on attaining certain short and long term goals for the child ensuring A: The hormonal theory could his participation in society.

Q: How are such children diagnosed?

A: It is a clinical diagnosis. That means the behaviour pattern would help us diagnose it. There are validated questionnaires to be filled by the parents/caregivers, teacher assessments and doctors' assessments which will help diagnose. Investigations, such as MRI brain, EEG and blood tests would help eliminate other causes and does not help diagnosing Autism.

Q: Are the intervention methods used tailored to the specific needs of

A. The term 'Joint Attention' is important. That is the parent and the child have to engage in the same task without any interferences. It is integrated in the daily routine. The speech therapy, behaviour modification therapy, sensory integration activities are some areas that the key stakeholders would work upon.

Q: Tell us about the role parents play in this process? How important is their

A: Parents are the best therapists or doctors to their autistic child, as they are the ones who know the child well. They have to carry out activities with their child without any external disturbances (i.e. no mobile phones, talking to friends) and interactive play with the child or read or write. No screens are recommended for regular use in these children as it could, perhaps, make the condition worse.

Q: What are the challenges that face those dealing with the care of autistic children?

A: The lack of literacy about Autism. There is a lack of understanding the condition and directing those afflicted by this condition for early therapy. Most care givers give up as there is no instant cure for the condition. They lack support and are not given ade-



Dr Saraji Wijesekara

quate recognition for their demanding

Q: Today, we have an invasion of new technology and new methods on treating children with behavioural problems. There was a conference you participated recently in which such methods were highlighted. Tell us about some of these new methods and approaches to dealing with children with behavioural problems.

A: There are apps in mobiles where the parents can use to detect initially to check if their child has early signs if the baby behaves in a peculiar manner. There are many reliable sites on the web that provide information to the caregivers as well as the cli-

the mode of therapy in our country due and caregivers of children with autism? to cultural and economic reasons. Video conferencing has been tried with success due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The series of webinars conducted by experts in the field to reach every corner of the country has been successful in the recent past while usage of social media, such as Facebook, YouTube and WhatsApp has been a main source in disseminating knowledge.

Do you think all Autistic children need to attend special schools? If so why?

A : Education for all and inclusive education for socialising in a normal classroom is the target by the Ministry of education. Moderately affected children who disturb the class and have aggressive behaviours can be managed by teachers for special education. The very severe ones where it is impossible to socialise, the special schools would be the choice. Recommendations by the doctors, psychologists and teachers will have to be considered to decide who needs extra

Q: There are still many myths surrounding Autism. How have they prevented parents seeking early treatment and detection?

 $A_{\ }^{st}$ Parents still lack understanding of the condition and hence delay bringing their child to medical attention. Myths regarding speech is common. They attribute the delay to someone in the family who also started to talk late. This will prevent early identification which in turn reduces the chance of getting proper care at the time of brain development.

Q: Do you see a rainbow of hope for such children in the near future?

A. I am optimistic as the Government has identified childhood disability as a key area that needs attention. A lot of background work is happening i.e. development of infrastructure, trained personnel and motivating families with disability.

Q: Since we are in the midst of a Covid-19 outbreak, how likely are children with autism to get infected with this virus? Do you have guidelines for protecting them and their caregivers?

A . This is a time for all of us and more so to the children with autism. They have the risk that any other child would have and may not adhere to the rules and regulations.

The guidelines are such that if this child gets the infection, he/she needs to be kept with the reliable caregiver and if caregivers need to be quarantined, the child needs to be with them. The most important message to the caregiver is to practise health guidelines to prevent infection.

The home-based management is **Q:** Have you a message for parents

A: Autism is not a disease; it's a condition which the child has to live with for the rest of his/her life. Early detection and intervention at the age where neural connections are being strengthened is key strategy to improve the quality of life in children with autism. Hence do not delay to seek medical advice. Multidisciplinary care is the successful mode intervention to allow maximum participation of the child in family, school and society.

FAMILY TIME CROSSHORD 20.(K) Doesn't let go to 25.(K) What commercials are

DOWN

- 1. (K) Traffic slow-downs 2. (K) Black-and-white
- cookie sandwich
- Sheets, covers and pillowcases (2 words)
- (K) Dejected "Don't change it" to
- editors
- Boston newspaper
- (K) One of two common replies
- (K) Quits 9. (K) "I dropped it!"
- 10.Initial poker payment
- 11. "Want to hear a secret?" 16.(K) Ring of Hawaiian flowers
- waste 22.(K) "____ time for a hot
- bath"
- 24.Quite a long, long time
- 32."___ as good a time as any"

26.Debt letters, in poker 27. Active Italian volcano

28. Kindness, generosity and

30.(K) Place for a pig's roots

34. Accountant, briefly

compassion

29.Biblical watercraft

- 37.Roll out, as a flag 39.Oozes
- 40.(K) Identical twins share
- it 41. Prefix for "legal" or
- "trooper" 42.(K) Tree choppers
- 43.(K) Make a "Bravo!" sound 45.A Pac-Man character
- 47.(K) Massive continent 48. Wearing shoes
- 50. Reward for a bellhop 51.(K) Low-hanging clouds produce it

ACROSS The personnel department offers them 23. Any Loch Lomond girl (K) Not outgoing at all 25. (K) Isn't said incorrectly? 8. (K) Bar on a sink 27. (K) Rim 12. (K) Length x width 28. (K) Need for the wheels on the bus 13. Golfer's driving aid to go 'round and 'round 14. (K) Heavy weight measurements 31. Questioning word with 15. Busybodies "everybody?" 17. Makes a choice 33. Chaperone

- 40. (K) Male parent
 - 41. Shows impatience, in a way 44. (K) Shark feature
 - 46. (K) Is, in the past tense 49. (K) Car part between wheels 50. Sandwich ingredient, sometimes (2 words)
 - 52. Gather a ripe crop
 - 53. Ruffle feathers
- 54. Miscellany 36. Difficult responsibility or burden 55. Egyptian cobras
- 38. Snail-paced and plodding 39. (K) Ugly duckling, in time

35. (K) Our closest star

56. Tissue layer 57. (K) Happy

Sudoku 10

Have fun with this highly addictive logic-based number placement puzzle, the objective of which is to fill the 9x9 grid with digits so that each column, each row, and each of the nine 3x3 subgrids that compose the grid contains all of the digits from 1 to 9. The solution to the puzzle will appear next week.

8				3				1
	1	6		3		4		
	3		1		7		6	9
		9						4
			6	1	4			
4						6		
6	7		9		8		5	
3		8		5		1	4	
5				5 6				8

Can you find the answer to this riddle within the solved puzzle?

Riddle:

Historic word?

Last week answer: 45-A) Toes





18. Music staff note after fa

20. (K) About to burst into tears

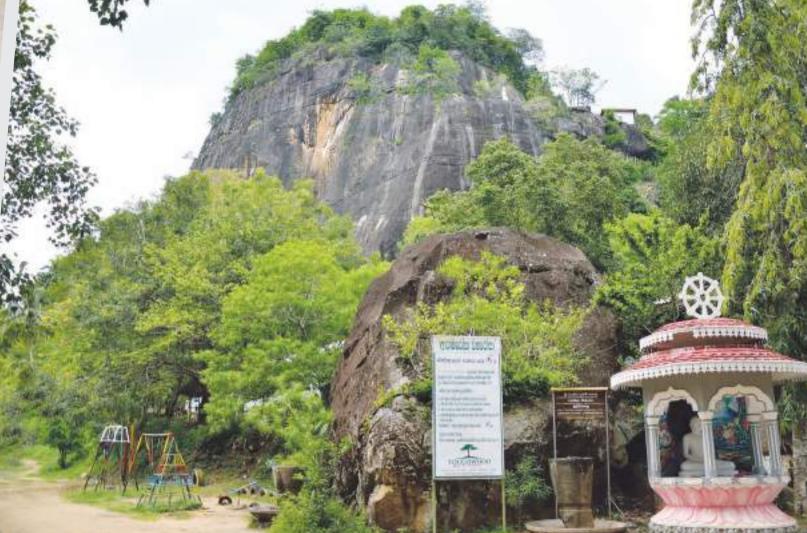
19. Airline's best guess

21. (K) IV - I

Feature



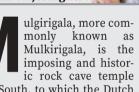




Soothing spiritual sanctuary in the South



—Text & Pix by—



in the South, to which the Dutch gave exaggerated attention, within their territory. The Mulgirigala rock cave temple is one of the oldest and most revered temples in Southern Sri Lanka.

Have you ever been to Sigiriya? Most of you are sure to have done so. Even those of you who haven't, would have at least seen a picture of the Sigiriya rock. Why are we talking about Sigiriya? All of you may know what Sigiriya is like. The best introduction to the Mulkirigala Raja Maha Viharaya is to describe it as 'Little Sigiriya'. Then you can create an image of this place in your mind.

The Mulkirigala Raja Maha Vihara is at Mulkirigala, Hambantota. There are two main roads that give access to the Mulkirigala Vihara. One is 21 km from Tangalle. The other road runs inland through Middeniya - Weeraketiya. We drove down the second road because it was the easiest and shortest approach from Katuwana via the Julampitiya Weeraketiya road.



It is a rock cave temple that consists a series of rock caves carved out of the face of a huge rock outcrop. It is a temple of great antiquity and famous for its fine murals of great historical significance.

Surrounded by a plain landscape, Mulkirigala is deemed to be the tallest rock, reaching majestically up to the sky for over 300 metres. A flight of 533 steps, from the lower terrace of the Vihara, guides pilgrims

SURROUNDED BY A PLAIN LANDSCAPE, MULKIRIGALA IS DEEMED TO BE THE TALLEST ROCK, REACHING MAJESTICALLY UP TO THE SKY FOR OVER 300 METRES. A FLIGHT OF 533 STEPS, FROM THE LOWER TERRACE OF THE VIHARA, GUIDES PILGRIMS TO REACH THE SEVEN TERRACES WHICH COMPRISE ROCK CAVE SHRINES WITH RECLINING BUDDHA STATUES AND BEAUTIFUL MURALS BELONGING TO DIFFERENT PERIODS

to reach the seven terraces which comprise rock cave shrines with reclining Buddha statues and beautiful murals belonging to different periods. The ascent to the terraces is steep. At one place, an almost perpendicular series of steps must be climbed with the aid of an iron rail. The final flight of steps, carved into the rock boulder leads to the summit terrace of Mulkirigala, on which stands an ancient Dagaba and a shrine room. The view is breathtaking as it cannot be replicated anywhere else in the island.

The origin of Mulkirigala is obscure. Though it is not mentioned in any of the ancient chronicles, it has been the abode of bhikkhus from early times. This is proved by the three Brahmin inscriptions carved along one of the drip-ledge rock cave of Mulkirigala

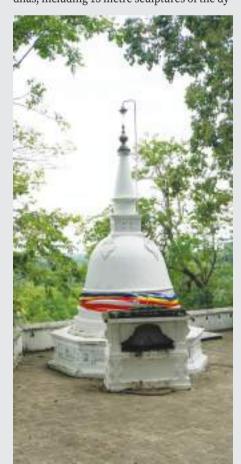
The general belief is that the Mulkirigala Vihara was founded by King Saddatissa who built Dakkhina-giri Vihara. Dakkina-giri means 'rock in the south'. This may well have been the earlier name for Mulkirigala. This place is also known as Muhundragiri, Muvathitigala and Mulagiriya.

An interesting legend is associated with the name of the Mulkirigala temple. Two indigenous persons who had seen the rock while hunting informed the king that there is a place to build a temple. The king taking heed had been to the place for inspection and commented Mu kivu gala hondai (the rock that he suggested is good). It is thought that this phrase has later evolved to Mu Kee Gala, Mu Kiri Gala and then to Mulkirigala.

Dutch link

The Dutch, who ruled the Maritime Provinces in the 18th century, called this rock as Adam's Berg, They seemed to have confused this with the Adam's Peak (Sripada). They believed that the tomb of Adam and Eva were located there. Due to this reason, Mulkirigala was popular among the foreigners.

Mulkirigala caves have a mixture of religious and secular (non-religious) paintings and sculptures with several reclining Buddhas, including 15 metre sculptures of the dy-



ing Buddha. The Mulkirigala Vihara contains many murals based on Jataka stories, such as Wessanthara and Thelapaththa. There are seven cave shrines, each contains seven reclining Buddha statues at Mulkirigala. One is known as Dakkinagiri Vihara and was constructed by King Dhatusena around 400 AD. Giri vehera was constructed by King Agbo. At one of the walls of the Raja Maha Vihara, where a unique mural was illustrated, the depiction of a woman playing drum is said to be found only in Mulkirigala.

It is also believed to be one of the 64 temples erected by King Kavantissa, who ruled from Magama, in the kingdom of Ruhuna. According to historians, this may have been the Samuddagiri or Muhudugiri Vihara built by the king. He is also credited with building a Buddha statue 18 cubits in length, in a large cave under the rock.

Regal link

A lamp with mustard oil is believed to have been lit in the cave on the advice of some arahat monks, with the hope that it would remain lit for 5,000 years. King Kavantissa's son King Dutugemunu, who unified the country under one flag, is believed to have built another Buddha statue, 18 cubit in size, out of red sandalwood. The Mulkirigala was renovated by King Kirthi Sri Rajasingha.

After visiting the seven rock cave shrines, we returned to the lower terrace where we stepped into a museum at the foot of the rock. It houses numerous artefacts found during the Dutch period and beyond. Among the most valuable exhibits is an

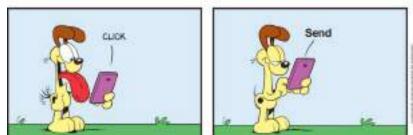
ancient VOC emblem engraved land deed which was bestowed to Mulkirigala Vihara by a Dutch Governor in 1766. Among other exhibits are several VOC coins and ancient Ola

To reach the top of the rock boulder, where the ancient dagaba is situated, you have to climb 533 steps. Sounds tiring, isn't it? But once you start climbing, you won't feel tired, because the environment will comfort you and give you a boost. Also, along the way, you will find many people offering you the Belimal drink to quench your thirst.

































OBSERVER EDUCATION

MARCH 28, 2021



MSU'S REWARDING CAREER OPPORTUNITY...



SLITHM TO INTRODUCE MANY NEW COURSES...



KIDDIES WORLD INTERNATIONAL...



THE 9 BEST PLATFORMS FOR PREMIUM...



PAGE **52**

Gateway teachers attend International conferences

46

ers of the Gateway Colleges took part in a week long Professional Development programme by attending the World Education Summit and the Microsoft E2 Conference. The Management of Gateway made a decision to give a week's break to all the teachers to invest their valuable time in Continuous Professional Development (CPD), an important aspect that did not have due attention during the year long Pandemic. In doing so, Gateway invested substantially to enroll its teachers in these conferences that were held online this year.

The World Education Summit (WES) is a 4-day event that is considered to be one of the best, biggest and costliest educational summits in the world that celebrates achievements and developments in education with provocative and stimulating debates on current and emerging challenges. The event provides access to over 100 hours of professional learning on demand for a full year, under 10 unique themes: impact, values, digital, culture, cognition, curriculum & assessment, inclusion & support, inspection & turnaround, implementation & evaluation and talent development. This year's summit featured over 200 speakers from around the world, including education giants such as Professor John Hattie, Professor Dylan Wiliam, Professor Guy Claxton, Dr. Shirley Clarke, Prof. Sugata Mitra, Prof. Michael Fullan, Sadhguru and Dame Alison Peacock to name a few.

Education Exchange or E2 as it's popularly known, is Microsoft's flagship Education event that is held every year exclusively for exceptional MIE (Microsoft Innovative Educator) Experts. Being the only Microsoft Showcase School in Sri Lanka and one among only 325 in the world, Gateway took the advantage of enrolling all its teachers since this year's conference was open to all Educators. In fact, 2021 has been very significant to the Gateway Colleges since a hundred of their teachers were recognized by Microsoft as MIE Experts. The event offered an unparalleled opportunity to learn together and celebrate the achievements of extraordinary change makers - both leaders and educators - who are transforming edu-



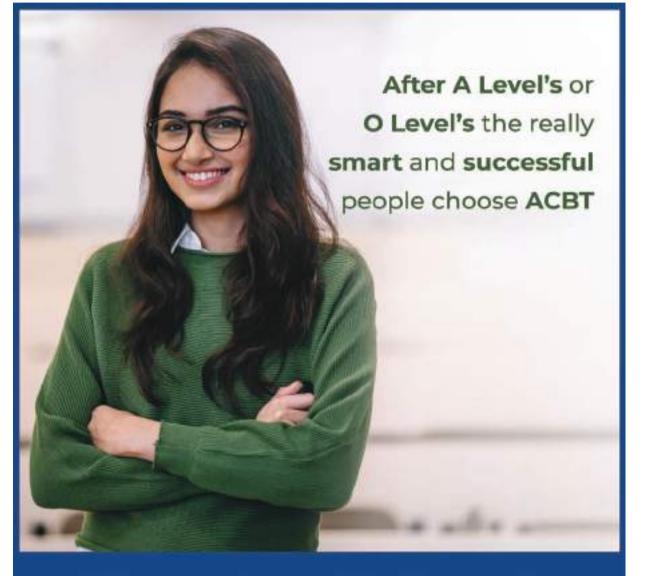


cation to ensure students can achieve more in their lives today and in the future. The event offered 5 tracks of learning: Build your career, Studentcentered learning, STEM, Student engagement & well-being and School & System leadership.

Education itself continuously evolves and has been transformed over the course of the past three decades by the digital revolution. Gateway stays abreast of these developments by encouraging and giving prominence to the CPD of staff. Research and study of education systems and standards across the globe helps the school discover new trends,

better methodologies, and innovative approaches.

Teachers of Gateway are expected to log their training hours through the Performance Management Portal which enables them and the school to track progress. They do not stop with their initial educational qualifications or prior teaching experience: instead engage in Continuous Professional Development (CPD) throughout their careers. Discussing plans for next year, during which Gateway College will celebrate her 'Silver Jubilee', Gateway's Chairman says that Gateway is, and will always be, 'a Place for Every Member of Staff to Grow'.



Call us and we will tell you why

Enrolling now for Australian qualifications in

- Business
- · Bio Medical Science
- Engineering
- Computer Science
- Design

23 years in Sri Lanka, managed by one of the largest education companies in the world Navitas Limited

Hotline: 077 3000 900 Colombo | Kandy | www.acbt.net





Start Ahead... Stay Ahead With the Pre Schools of the Gateway Group

Welcome to our Kindergartens - where your little ones begin their own story...

We are a space where imaginations run wild, where children enjoy their childhood and learning takes place, in the most fun way possible.

At Gateway, closed doors during the past months did not mean doors closed for learning. Having successfully completed a virtual teaching and learning programme, we are ready to begin school physically, complying with all health and safety guidelines.

Among the most storied names in private education in Sri Lanka, Gateway has a long heritage of preparing its students intellectually, emotionally and spiritually to become upstanding citizens.







SPRINGFIELD KINDERGARTEN
No. 388, Robert Gunawardena Mawatha,
Battaramulia. Tel: 0112 053 044

SEVEN (s BY GATEWAY No. 12, Mendis Road, Moratuwa. Tel: 0112-641-509 KOPS No. 132A, Kurulubedda, Nawalia Road, Nuqegoda: Tel: 0777 875 447

UCL Students excel with more Monash Global Awards of Excellence

Universal College Lanka (UCL) is the exclusive partner for Monash education in Sri Lanka, providing a guaranteed pathway to the prestigious Monash University in Australia and Malaysia through the Monash University Foundation Year and the Monash College Diploma programmes.

UCL students have excelled at the recently completed semester examinations of the MCD Programme (Monash University Year 1 equivalent), achieving Monash Global Awards of Excellence at programme/ course- level topping all three streams - Business, Engineering and Science, emerging as Best Performers by securing the top exit score in each course, prior to transitioning to Year 2 at Monash University to complete their degree.

Student Name
SRIKANTH KAUSHAL
SAVINDI JAYASINGHE
BHAGYA ABEYGUNASEKARA

In addition, UCL students have secured 43 Monash Global Awards of Excellence at unit/ subject level at the same examination. These awards are presented to the students who awards are presented to the students who achieve the highest marks in their respective units/ subjects at the examination conducted simultaneously across all Monash partners internationally, including those studying in Australia.

Student Name	Unit Name
DINULKA PALANSURIYA	PHYSICS A
AKSAYA SIVAKUMAR	
ABDULLAH ARIFF	
SWYRIE NETHRA DEVENDRA	
SHENUKI NETHANYA RAJAPAKSE	
MARYAM MASTHAQ	MICROECONOMICS
NADEEM GHAZZALI SADUK	
AKIL DILHAN RUSHDI UVAIS	
MARISSA TANUSHREE SAMARANAYAKE	
CHAYA NAVIKA PIERIS	
NIRUMI DINETHYA DE SLIVA	



Srikanth Kaushal

SANUTHI SAMIDULA HETTIARACHCHI

JOSHUA RAVEEN NANAYAKKARA

MAHIMI NISALYA HETTIARACHCHI

BHAGYA INDEEWARI ABEYGUNASEKARA

CHATHURYA SUMUDUNI JAYAWARDANA

KAVISHA TEHANI DASSANAYAKE

CHARIN AKSHITA WIJETILLEKE

SRIKANTH KAUSHAL

AFRAH OUSMAND

SUSHANE PERERA

GWYNETH GWEE

FARHAN NAUSHAD

ABDULLAH ARIFF

MARYAM MASTHAQ

SRIKANTH KAUSHAL

SITHUM HERATH

NURANGA WALPOLA

ANANYA ONELLI GAMAGE

ISHIRA SAVINDI JAYASINGHE

ASHINI VIMANSA GUNATILAKA

FATHIMA RESHMA SABRY

DEVMAL PALAPATHWALA

TIHANSA SENULI PERERA

ISHIRA SAVINDI JAYASINGHE

KAVINDI CHAMATHKA JAYASEKARA

CHATHURYA SUMUDUNI JAYAWARDANA

YUVIN METHSUKA AMARADASA

MANUJA PAVITHRA HERATH KIRINDE

BHAGYA INDEEWARI ABEYGUNASEKARA

BHAGYA INDEEWARI ABEYGUNASEKARA

URENA KUMARASINGHE

URENA KUMARASINGHE



MANAGERIAL COMMUNICATION

MANAGING PEOPLE AND ORGANISATIONS

INTRODUCTION TO FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING

PHYSICS FOR

ENGINEERS

ENGINEERING DESIGN II

CHEMISTRY 2

BIOLOGY 2

BIOLOGY 2

ADVANCED MATHEMATICS

ENGINEERING MATHEMATICS

PREPARATORY MATHEMATICS

Savindi Jayasinghe



Bhagya Abeygunasekara

These high performing UCL students are eligible to apply for the International Merit Scholarships and Special Study Grants upon transition to Further, UCL alumni have gone on to excel at Monash University with Chamalka Perera achieving the award for the Most Outstanding Undergraduate Performance with a First Class in Bachelor of Mechatronics Engineering Honours at Monash University Malaysia in June 2020. UCL Alumni Framjee Hathy achieved the Best Business Graduate award in December 2019 followed by the Best Honours Graduate award in December 2020 at Monash University Malaysia.

Mr. Gihan Silva, Chief Executive Officer was delighted and stated, "It is momentous that UCL has been successful in garnering a total of 295 Monash Global Awards of Excellence and producing the Best Graduates at Monash University, which is a testament to its uncompromising commitment to achieving academic excellence and offering quality transnational higher education to discerning students in Sri Lanka."



Gihan Silva **CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

Dr. Dhananjay Kulakarni, Dean of Academic Affairs stated, "The credit goes to the brilliant students and the highly committed, qualified and experienced UCL faculty including Monash University alumni, for collaborating towards these stupendous achievements. The PHD and Masters qualified UCL Faculty including Monash alumni is probably the best for a higher education provider of this magnitude in Sri Lanka. UCL lecturers are carefully selected and have attained strong track records in teaching as well as in research pertaining to their area of expertise. Our lecturers adopt innovative and interactive teaching and learning techniques to prepare them to excel in a world class university like Monash."



Dr. Dhananjay Kulkarni **DEAN OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS**

Monash University is the largest university in Australia, and a member of the Group of Eight a prestigious alliance of leading Australian research intensive universities. Monash University is the only university among the Group of Eight to hold the "Triple Crown" accreditation for its business school. Globally. Monash University is ranked 55th according to the QS World University Rankings 2021 and 64th according to the Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2021. Monash University also holds the highest possible ranking of 5 in ten research disciplines, placing it as a world class university.

For more information on how to start your Monash journey in Sri Lanka and enrol for the Monash programmes, contact UCL on 0774 777 000 or log on to www.ucl.lk or visit our Instagram / Facebook pages Monash at UCL. You can also visit the state- of- the- art UCL Campus located at No. 503, Sri Jayewardenepura Mawatha, Sri Jayewardenepura.

START YOUR MONASH JOURNEY FROM HOME AT UCL

The Monash College pre-university programs at UCL prepare you for success at Monash University and guarantee* you a place in your destination degree with a top 100 ranked university** in the world.

AFTER A/LEVELS#

MONASH COLLEGE DIPLOMA PATHWAYS

- **BUSINESS**
- **ENGINEERING**
- INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
- **SCIENCE**

AFTER O/LEVELS[^]

MONASH UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION YEAR

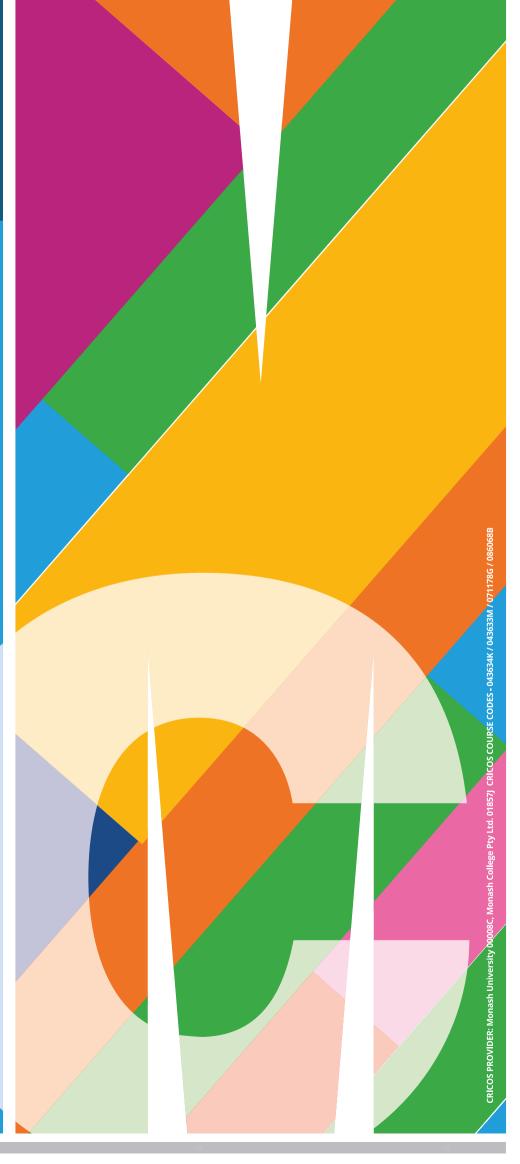
*Entry requirements into Monash University apply I #Entry Requirement - A/Levels ^Entry Requirement - O/Levels I **Times Higher Education World University Rankings

- © 0774 777 000
- UCL: UCL, 503, Sri Jayewardenepura Mawatha, Sri Jayewardenepura
- www.ucl.lk

A partnership between:







After O'Levels? Start a globally recognized UK Degree at AMDT School of Creativity.

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

AMDT School of Creativity: the globally

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

recognized Creative School in Sri Lanka.

university that's recognized as one of the top 50 Creative schools worldwide) and Pearson (UK's most recognized awarding body).

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

The real problem - What stops youngsters from graduating early?

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

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

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

The new universal solution -'Year Zero' - Saving time and learning for future careers

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

As most companies prioritize "Degrees" over A'Levels when hiring new blood, AMDT's Year Zero combined with the industry exposure it provides will ensure that students are open to stable employment opportunities globally even before they complete their degrees.

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

AMDT's advanced teaching techniques also focus on improvina the thinking in addition to its internationally recognized course content delivered



by some of the finest minds working in today's Creative industries with numerous years of experience collaborating with many brands and projects. This makes learning very relevant to what's out there in real life. With courses available to study in both part-time and full-time options, students will be guided to develop talent, obtain skills, and build up their personality to face their future careers

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

reason why AMDT's students

before they graduate! With a

good focus on helping





build their best portfolios of work through individual and group projects, AMDT's students get exposed to a competitive learning environment that prepares them to harness the best of their skills and abilities.

visit the premises at 317A, Galle get hired by companies even

Start your Creative degree right after O'Levels at AMDT

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

Creative Career Courses:

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

Call or WhatsApp 11 4381 981 hello@amdt.lk

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

AMDT School of Creativity is a place for everybody!

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

Get hired even before you graduate as you start working,

you can switch to part-time classes.

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

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

Friendly learning

designed to bring the best out of your Creative thoughts.

environment

FALMOUTH UNIVERSITY

Taught by the finest minds in the Creative industries

and facilities.

The best facilities to

bring out the best in you

AMDT's studios and digital

labs are equipped with the

latest software technologies

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







LNBTI Team the winner in Port City Colombo Ideathon

Port City Colombo Youth Speak Forum 2021 was organized by AIE-SEC in Sri Lanka with Port City Colombo. The main objective of this event was to give a place for Sri Lankan youth to express their ideas and educate themselves on Sustainable Development. As an internal event linked to the Port City Colombo Youth Speak Forum the Port City Colombo Ideathon was held.

Through the Ideathon the Sri Lankan youth aged 16 to 30 were given the opportunity to pitch their breakthrough ideas.

The Ideathon was based on three main categories: Urban Development & Green Cities, Technological Advancements & Smart Cities, and Urban Livelihood & Social Well Being. Both individual and team applicants were encouraged to participate.

From LNBTI, two teams participated in this event under the category 'Technological Advancements & Smart Cities'.

Through the participation, they gained considerable knowledge on Sustainable Development and different technological models related to the smart city concept. Further to that, they went through crash



sessions organized by AIESEC Sri

It is with great delight we announce that one of the LNBTI teams placed FIRST in the top three finalists at the Port City Colombo Ideathon! The teams consisted of Sadeeka Tharushi and Mishen Dilruk Perera from Batch 5 students studying ICT at LNBTI.

Lanka Nippon BizTech Institute (LNBTI) is a premier higher education institute in Sri Lanka, offering Japanese quality ICT programmes. Incorporated by the dynamic collaboration between Metatechno Inc. and hSenid ventures, LNBTI is the only institute in South Asia to offer ICT degree pathways leading to Japanese Universities which are UGC recognized.

We produce world-class ICT professionals with Japanese morals/ethics and business mannerism. By adopting Japanese educational practices, LNBTI always strives to deliver the benefits of Japanese management models as well as technologies to our students.

As a higher education body that focused in ICT education imbuing Japanese quality standards, our aim is to equip the future generation with one of the refined, technologically sound ICT Programmes in Sri Lanka, and to mold the promising young minds to be competent gogetters in the future world.

LNBTI's intention is to develop Japanese quality ICT professionals who can confidently join the lucrative and a rapidly growing ICT industry as ICT professionals in Japanese companies internationally or





MASTERS DEGREE IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (MBA)

(TWO YEARS DURATION - UNIVERSITY DEGREE PROGRAMME. UGC APPROVED) ASIAN SCHOOL OF BUSINESS MANAGEMENT (PVT) LTD

MBA (Masters' Degree in Business Administration)

Eligibility: Criteria.1. Bachelor Degree / Professional Qualification with Two years work Experience.

Criteria.2. Persons with 5 Years Managerial / Executive Experience.

Program Duration: Two Years (Lectures are conducted in Sundays throughout 9.30 - am – 3.30 pm)

Fee: Rs.350,000 (All inclusive) (payable by installment basis)

Program is conducted by joined hands with EIPEL Campus,

Dehiwela with the Academic Cooperation of IIC University of Technology, Cambodia.

A member of the International Association Universities and Listed in the International Handbook

of Universities published by the UNESCO's International Association of Universities and is recognized By the UGC Sri Lanka.

Study Center: ASIAN SCHOOL OF BUSINESS MANAGEMENT (PVT) LTD Study Center: ASIAN SCHOOL OF BUSINESS MANAGEMENT (177) 216

#649, KANDY ROARD, ILUKEWELA, WEUDA. KURUNEGALA Reg. No. PV 121602. TEL: 071 8237050



Registration for Bachelor of Business Administration [External] Degree Programme University of Peradeniya 2020

MODE OF DELIVERY: Online

MEDIUM: English

ELIGIBILITY: Pass in one sitting at the G.C.E. (A/L) examination in any stream

TARGET GROUP: Those who aspire career advancement in the fields of business, management and finance



WITH THREE EXIT POINTS

THIRD YEAR - BBA DEGREE SECOND YEAR - HIGHER DIPLOMA FIRST YEAR - DIPLOMA

APPLICATION

visit www.pdn.ac.lk/cdce

Printout of the completed application form with the original bank payment slip should be sent to the Assistant Registrar, Centre for Distance and Continuing Education, University of Peradeniya on or before 30th of April, 2021 by registered post

For more information: CONTACT

Assistant Registrar Centre for Distance & Continuing Education University of Peradeniya Peradeniya.

Telephone:

0812388057/0812392218/0812392215

Fax: 081-2384329

Email: cdceuop@gmail.com

High recognition for Bristol MBA's academically and Industry driven focus

ristol Institute has established a strong foot in the tertiary and higher education market based on the formula of offering academically rigor high-quality degree programs in Sri Lanka.

As such, the demand for their MBA program from UWE has accelerated due to the structure and practicality of the program and the positive reputation garnered across a range of industries.

The degree equips current and future leaders with the mix of academic and industry understanding and skills to drive high-level business strategy. The course content is structured to include actual examples of challenges from the corporate world and are taught in a way that fosters reflective thinking, critical analysis and synthesis. Many of the assessments are industrydriven, with the academic emphasis, thus making it more relevant to those who have already carved out their career path in a specific field. That being said, as organisations today are increasingly analyzing the value of the degree and how it might benefit the company's own growth, sustainability and innovation. Bristol MBAs have become highly sort out postgraduate qualification in Sri Lanka.

Backed by their partnership with the University of the West of England Bristol (UWE Bristol), and armed with a team of experienced lecturers who possess the ideal balance of academic and professional acumen along with top level industry experience to deliver an unparalleled, modern and inspirational learning experience, the institute has successfully completed eight batches of their MBA program, with the pandemic in force not disrupting students signing up for the program.

With the aspirations of providing high quality degree programs Dr. Nazeefa Fawzer, the Head of Academic Affairs at Bristol Institute emphasis the need to inculcate students learning experience which will implant academic integrity, creativity and innovation throughout their study at Bristol Institute. According to her "At Bristol students are always challenged to think, perform, and grow from their current mindset, which in turn helps to shape their self-develmore effective leaders on the job



Dr. Nazeefa Fawzer, with Dr. Fiona Jordon, Associate Dean - Strategic Partnerships, Faculty of Business and Law (FBL), UWE

vides unique active learning experience through simulations where students learn analytical and decision making skills".

Apart from rich content delivered via engaging methods by a pool of lecturers, the Institute also has a vibrant research culture with active participation in Research Communities focused in the areas of entrepreneurship, leadership, and global finance, among others.

This research-based learning environment helps students to enhance and broaden their learning experience and in turn positively influence their career goals. Working within research groups on projopment journey and makes them ects and assignments also fosters richer discussions and effective and in real time. This MBA pro-sharing of knowledge and informa-point of view.

tion, therefore encouraging more collaborative learning that's applicable in a work environment as well. To further make the course content relatable and meaningful, industry-based guest speakers representing top Corporates and Professional bodies are a regular feature in the program.

This is where graduates are invited to workshops, discussion panels, and guest speaker events where they will meet top industry executives and learn about the latest business insights.

As a whole the MBA at Bristol Institute offers a board room experience rather than a lecture room experience with a holistic approach of blending industry and academia

ACCA outlines the value of promoting diversity in finance

The Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) has been a consistent promoter of the value of diversity in organizations and has been advising and guiding organizations on how the role of finance can contribute in driving diversity and value within organizations.

Giving a further insight into this subject was ACCA member, Sajindu Perera, Head of Finance Integration at MAS Intimates, who spoke on how organizations can benefit from promoting diversity and inclusion in finance functions and departments.

Sajindu says the first step is in gaining a proper understanding of diversity and inclusion. "While these are two inter-connected concepts, they are far from being interchangeable.

Diversity is about representation, whilst Inclusion is about how well the contributions and perspectives of the different groups of people are valued and integrated into an organization's environment.

Each Finance Department must have the right mix: "A practical and meaningful plan towards building a truly collaborative and conducive culture with accountability and governance must be in place where organisations must adopt different approaches that align with the diverse stakeholders they deal with.

For this to happen seamlessly, finance must consciously create diverse teams to ensure there's a greater pool of talent to leverage to meet diverse requirements" avers

Today's finance teams need a mix of technical capabilities, that includes commercial understanding in order to support business operations, and people management skills to liaise with stakeholders, so diversity is more important than ever before.

Furthermore, businesses need to ensure finance professionals gain the appropriate level of expe-



rience across the finance function and beyond the finance function to develop the necessary level of capability needed.

This goes beyond developing the necessary technical 'knowhow'. Providing this breadth of experience enables finance to develop the broader business based skills required" she adds.

Sajindu further affirmed that culture of openness in finance will also resonate strongly with the younger generation of finance professionals in the workforce and ensure in a high bearing on recruitment and retention success.

Women in Finance: Specifically on the involvement of women in the accounting and finance field, Sajindu notes that there's more interest now, but more progress required in terms of women taking on senior finance roles in organisa-

To address this gap, she believes the first step would be to forge a gender-equal world to enable diversity agendas and raise awareness against gender bias. This will help to tackle labeling and stereotyping of women and instead empower them to be effective leaders.

Biases Go Beyond Gender: She further stated that biases don't just relate to gender anymore today, and also exists in the inclusivity of varied generations that make up Sri Lanka's workforce.

"As organisations, we now need to look at how do we facilitate the varying generations at the organization and how we create a conducive workspace to be able to retain the skill of the senior or more matured workforce, whilst also giving growth opportunities to bring out the best in our young talent".

Finance leaders must embrace open ways of working: In today's finance function, diversity means much more than equal opportunities, going much further than gender, ethnicity or social equality.

It is also about diversity in the ideas, skills and capabilities that people from all ranges of backgrounds, experiences, ages, geographies and cultures can bring to the finance function" explains Sa-

Despite the challenges around addressing the gaps and overcoming the barriers, Sajindu feels that more organisations today acknowledge the issues and are committed to making changes, which is a step in the right direction.

She said however, that there are no quick fixes to these challenges and can only be resolved successfully with deep commitment and a sustained effort.

ACCA's with their 140,000 members, and 404,000 students in 170 countries being a testimony to the breadth of skills and experiences diversity brings, intends to be at the forefront of supporting businesses to build finance capability through diversity and drive this important agenda moving forward.

Dr. Dayan Rajapakse wins National and Provincial **Gold Awards as Entrepreneur of the Year**

Dr. Dayan Rajapakse, Chairman and Managing Director of ESOFT Metro Campus won two Gold Awards at the award ceremony organised by the Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry of Sri Lanka at the BMICH last Thursday. He won the Provincial Gold Award for Entrepreneur of the Year in the Western Province in the Extra Large Category, as well as the National Gold Award for Entrepreneur of the Year in the Extra Large Category.

ESOFT Metro Campus is a trusted name in higher education, with over 20 years of experience in serving the Sri Lankan youth. ESOFT has built a name for awarding qualifications from reputed international partners including Pearson (Edexcel) UK, the British Computer Society (BCS), London Metropolitan University UK, and Kingston University UK.

Today, ESOFT is the largest private sector higher education provider in the country with 40 facilities across the island and paving the way for 40,000 students each year.

In 2019, ESOFT Metro Campus wasrecognised by the Ministry of Education and the University Grants Commission as a Non-State Degree Awarding Institution.

ESOFT is headed by Dr Dayan Rajapakse, a visionary entrepreneur who believes that the future of the country rests on the pillars of education, agriculture, tourism, and IT which helps to empower the youth and drive economic growth.

Reflecting on his path and the way forward, Dr Dayan had the following to say:

"Most professionals look at entrepreneurship only as a last resort, or only after they have retired. But the reality is that rather



National Gold Award (Extra Large Category)

than being an employed professional, the personal returns and the benefits to the country are several folds bigger when the same effort is applied as an entrepreneur. Currently, we see many IT professionals engaging as entrepreneurs as it is relatively easy for them to establish their venture and find clientele. Whilst continuing to support them, we as a country must also look at ways of encouraging and promoting entrepreneurship among professionals in other areas and disciplines as well."

"if we are to look at creating more employment opportunities for the youth of this country, we need to establish more industries in diverse areas. We will not only solve the immediate concerns of lucrative employment and empowerment of young men and women, we would also pave the way for much needed exports and international trade."



Provincial Gold Award (Extra Large Category - Western Province)

This vision lead to the establishment of ESOFT Technologies, Sun Grow Exports, Mechrich, and Ayubo Leisure. ESOFT Technologies offers cutting edge software and technological solutions and retail solutions via our award winning products. Sun Grow Exports is our latest diversification which focuses on cultivating exotic fruits and spices for the export market. Mechrich is a solutions provider focusing on hosted PABX solutions, Networking, Security and access control systems, and Air Conditioning solutions, and Ayubo Leisure provides a comprehensive integrated solution for the tourism sector, whilst also providing transportation services and logistics support.



Minali, Yoosuf victors at grand finale of IGNITE 2021

Speech Contest for school children in Sri Lanka was held at the Hilton Colombo on March 18.

This grand event was led by the District 82 of Toastmasters International, which is the worlds leading non-profit organization for communication and leadership development.

Close to 900 students were registered for the senior and junior categories of the contest. The first round was conducted through recorded speech video submissions and the second round was held one-on-one live via Zoom online platform.

Sixteen students, eight from each category, qualified for the grand finale. Twelve soft skill development workshops were conducted in each stage of the contest for the contestants via Zoom by top Toastmasters from Sri Lanka and around the world.

The winner of the senior category was Minali Alwis Weerakkody of Musaeus College, Colombo.

The first runner up was Dewmi Pbasara Dissanayake from Anuradhapura Central College, and the second runner up was Thenumi Ranasinghe from Kings Cross College,

The winner of the ju-nance) of Ceylon Electric-

Yoosuf of Zahira College, Colombo. The first runner up was Sethuli Nandasiri from Musaeus College, Colombo and the second runner up was Thuhas Dinsara Thilakaratne from Lyceum International School, Nugegoda.

The winners were awarded with valuable certificates, higher education scholarships from CMA Sri Lanka & GIHE Campus and many other valuable gift packs.

The principal objective of IGNITE 2021, supported by District 82 the main organizers with the support of the Education Ministry of Sri Lanka was to providea guidance and a foundation to improve the English speaking and oratory skills of school children, the future leaders of Sri Lanka.

The chief guest of the grand finale was Distinguished Toastmaster (DTM) Sudash Liyanage, the Region 13 Advisor of Toastmasters International who is the Head of Environmental Science Division of Hayleys Agri-

culture Holdings Limited. The guest of honor was the District Director of D82, DTM Noorul Munawwar, the Deputy General Manager (Projects and High-Tension Mainte-

The All Island English nior category was M. U. ity Board. As an honorable guest, Assistant Director Anand Arasu represented the Education Ministry of Sri Lank.

> Former General Manager (Skills Management) as well as the Chief Judge andPast District Directorof D82, DTM Zameen M. Saleem delivered the keynote speech in this occasion.

Main sponsors of IG-

NITE 2021 were Alpha Apparels Ltd, INSEE Cements & Toastmaster Sudath Fernando as GOLD Sponsors, China Machinery Engineering Corporation as SILVER sponsor, CMA Sri Lanka, GIHE Campus and Nobel Vision Institute as educational partners, EVENT TV as television partner, LAKE HOUSE as print media partner, AAT Sri Lanka, Atlas & Distinguished Toastmaster Noorul Munawwar as Gift partners joined together to enrich the all island speech contest's inclusive experience to a greater

The event was broadcast live via PEO TV channel 20 and Event TV. Also IGNITE 2021's reach over social media engagements grasped close to 100K people attention across the country which assures next year's IGNITE All island speech contest would be a bigger and better than



MSU'S rewarding career opportunity for Human Capital Management

mployees are the lifeline of an organization. Therefore, it is vital that every organization hires the right employees and motivates them from time to time so that they develop a sense of attachment towards their organization and also deliver their best. In the years to come, it is going to become even more evident that people are the biggest competitive advantage and differentiator for any organiza-

Until we develop artificial intelligence, we pretty much need human capital to accomplish anything in the world today. In fact, it takes human capital to create some other forms of capital. Human capital is needed to design and build the high-tech machines used today. And as we move deeper and deeper into a knowledgebased economy that depends on information, knowledge and high-level skills, human capital will become increasingly important.

The Management & Science Institute (MSI) as a registered institute under the Tertiary & Vocational Education Commission (TVEC) Sri Lanka offers a multitude of diploma programmes in a wide variety of specialisation and provides students an opportunity of pursuing their bachelor's degrees and postgraduate degree programmes at Colombo, MSU Malaysia or at any of their partner Universities in the United Kingdom, Australia, Germany, and

To complement the needs for talents with human capital management expertise, the Management & Sciences Institute (MSI) offers the Diploma in Human Capital Management with aims to equip students with the requirements for careers in human capital vary. It is also focusing on human resources as an essential function of an organization and sees employees as a capital, meaning that by investing in employees, organizations can grow their capital in the future.

At the heart of every successful business lies the human capital management team who drive all aspects of staff management. Having a career in Human Capital Management is a very rewarding experience and sets you up for an exciting future.

Here are a few benefits of

studying Human Capital Management (HCM)

It's a versatile field: You will gain knowledge and experience in multiple areas like Business, Leadership, Law, Marketing, Psychology, and Education.

You can work in any industry: Needed in any industry and many of the skills that you develop will be transferable across sectors. In fact, changing industries as an HR professional is probably easier than for any other kind of job. You can use the foundational knowledge you have acquired no matter what kind of business your organization is in or even whichever country you are based in.

You have room to grow: As an important business function, HC Mallows for an interesting growth trajectory. If vou decide to work for a larger company, you might even move up the corporate ladder to top management roles like Chief Human Resource Officer or Chief People Officer. As you ascend, you will acquire new skills, authority, and a higher salary. But opportunities are just as limitless in smaller companies. Here you will have the greater opportunity to personalise relationships with every employee and be given more autonomy in skill-building.

A satisfying and rewarding career: By far the best thing about HCM is the people you will work with and positively impact. Over time, you will see how much your support and position make in the difference of a company's employees, and you will help people reach their full professional potential. It can be a very rewarding career

Lessons are conducted through a combination of classroom learning and on-the-job training. The programmes seek to maximize learning by utilizing hands-on discovery and discussion presentations, which allow room for creative thinking and problem-solving.

Students will graduate with cutting edge knowledge of the best industry practices, as well as a service innovation mindset, adding further value to their future employability.

Committed towards ensuring a high rate of student's suc**cess**; besides providing international experience and exposure among students in their relevant subject areas, extensive industrial training components are also blended into all the programs of study to enhance graduates' employability.

MSI has an excellent panel of lecturers both part time and full time who offer a stimulating and challenging learning experience. Our full-time faculty is complemented by visiting lecturers, experienced industry leaders and experts.

All programmes are conducted over a period of 16 months on both a full time well as on a part time semester basis with the entry requirements being the G.C.E. O/L/ or A/L.

MSI is the Colombo Centre for MSU Malaysia, one of the top Universities in Malaysia, Asia as well as globally. MSU currently ranks in the Top 100 among the world's top young Universities, Top 200 among Asia's best universities, Top 301+ for Graduate Employability Ranking and Top 401+ for University Impact.

Ranked by both Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) and Times Higher Education (THE), MSU's

world rankings place it in the Top 47% of the world's best Universities in QS World University Ranking 2021 and Top 200 for impact on quality education, gender equality, and decent work and economic growth in the University Impact Rankings

MSU also rated as QS-rated 5-Stars on the metrics of Teaching, Graduate employability, Facilities, Social Responsibility, and Inclusiveness.

With 98.7% of its graduates successfully securing employment within six months of their graduation, MSU is ranked by the Ministry of Higher Education (MoHE) as Malaysia's No.1 for graduate employability. Also rated by MoHE as SETARA Tier-5 Excellent Status University and ranked as The Most Entrepreneurial Private University in Malaysia.

MSU is recognized by the University Grant Commission (UGC) Sri Lanka, the Malaysian Qualifications Agency (MQA), the United Kingdom's Accreditation Services for International Schools, Colleges & Universities (ASIC) the Japan's Alliance on Business Education and Scholarship for Tomorrow (ABEST21) and the Accreditation Council for Entrepreneurial & Engaged Universities (ACEEU) as well as member of the Association of Commonwealth Universities

For further information in obtaining programmes offered by MSI, kindly visit the Management & Science Institute (MSI) at No. 300 Galle Road, Colombo 3 or call us on Tel: 011 257 6900 / 011 257 6700 Hot line 077 0777 880 or email enquiry@msi.edu.lk or visit www.msi.edu.lk

What Schools do not teach Kids

How Do We Guide our Generation to Younger Thrive in The Future Work World?

The issue with the educational system as of today is that while all ideas and concepts are correctively taught, the skill of presenting such ideas are unfortunately not touched upon. The value of such ideas

are realized only when the individual voices them at the required discussions. Our education system

sets such a low bar for the importance of presentation, communication, collaborative skills, creativity and critical thinking skills which is why most of us grow to dislike Public Speaking.

However, to survive in the fast changing world, our children ought to be equipped with the highest form of confidence, leadership skills, growth mindset, critical thinking, problem solving and communica-



tion skills and the old school methods are not exactly enough.

Modern Learning Studio's iLead Public Speaking and Leadership Club is the ideal platform for kids to build on those much needed skills.

As a child completes school, in order to move further with their studies and work on their career, they ought to unlearn what they learned during their school years and then figure out their path which consumes

the better years of their What if these skills are

honed during their school

iLead is a structured club which meets twice a month with dedicated commitment from our mentors in order to develop such skills and to face any challenges. For kids as young as five

years to fifteen years, this Club works on building communication and collaborative skills among children inter age, inter race and inter mindset. The corporate world has

a mix of different age groups working together to achieve unanimous goals. iLead builds on such skills with team building activities and

The aim of life is not just to survive, it is to face all obstacles, grow, succeed and

Written by AymenRazvy

www.leamojo.com

POSTGRADUATE INSTITUTE OF **INDIGENOUS MEDICINE**

UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO

Calling Applications for MD in Unani Moalijat and Board Certification Selection Examination - 2021

- 1. Closing date for Application 03.05.2021
- 2. Date of Examination -03.06.2021
- 3. (a) Registration Fee Rs. 1,000.00
 - (b) Examination Fee Rs. 10,000.00

(Candidates from non-state sector will be charged 50% more of the *above fees)*

4. Following payment of the Registration Fee to the Account No. 84061028 at any branch of the Bank of Ceylon and by submitting the payment receipt, the application form and other relevant details can be collected from the Senior Assistant Registrar, Postgraduate Institute of Indigenous Medicine, 5th Floor, National Ayurveda Teaching Hospital, Borella during the working hours (9.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.) from 29.03.2021 to 03.05.2021.

Director

Postgraduate institute of Indigenous Medicine



"All schools throughout the island reopen for all grades on 29th March" - Minister of Education Professor G.L. Peiris

Programme of training 100 selected English Teachers of Galle District under the English Smart Class Project conducted combining modern technology with the objective of improving the English language skills of the school students was held at the Galle District Auditorium recently.

the patronage of Minister of Plantation Industries, Dr. Ramesh Pathirana with the participation of Secretary to the Ministry of Education, Professor Kapila Perera, Media Secretary Buddhika Wickremadara, Director of Brandix (Eastern), Senthil Easwaran and

The programme was conducted under Lawrence Vincent. Under this programme, which started island-wide last year, steps have been taken to provide Smart Classrooms to 200 schools in the Southern Province. Brandix Institution is sponsoring this timely programme co-ordinating with the Ministry of Education. These English Smart

Classes are implemented through an Internet App named Read to Me that includes lessons prepared through syllabus textbooks from Grade 3 to Grade 8 of schools.

'Right to Me' expects to implement this programme covering all schools of this country by year 2022.



Galle District Teachers trained for the Island-wide **ENGLISH SMART CLASS PROGRAMME**



Programme of training 100 selected English Teachers of Galle District under the English Smart Class Project conducted combining modern technology with the objective of improving the English language skills of the school students was held at the Galle District Auditorium recently.

The programme was conducted under the patronage of Minister of Plantation Industries, Dr. Ramesh Pathirana with the participation of Secretary to the Ministry of Education, Professor Kapila Perera, Media Secretary Buddhika Wickremadara, Director of Brandix (Eastern), Senthil Easwaran and Lawrence Vincent.

Under this programme, which started island-wide last year, steps have been taken to provide Smart Classrooms to 200 schools in the Southern Prov-

Brandix Institution is sponsoring this timely programme co-ordinating with the Ministry of Education.

These English Smart Classes are implemented through an Internet App named Read to Me that includes lessons prepared through syllabus textbooks from Grade 3 to Grade 8

'Right to Me' expects to implement this programme covering all schools of this country by year 2022.





BE WORLD READY WITH A DEGREE FROM AN AUSTRALIAN UNIVERSITY - ECU

RANKED IN THE WORLD'S **TOP 100** YOUNG UNIVERSITIES

(Times Higher Education Young University Rankings 2020)

5 STAR **** TEACHING QUALITY

(The Good Universities Guide 2021)

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE UP TO

Choose from a wide range of bachelor degrees:

- Bachelor of Commerce
- Bachelor of Computer Science
- Bachelor of Science (Cyber Security)
- Bachelor of Science (Biomedical Science)
- Bachelor of Science (Nursing Studies)¹

APPLY NOW

HOTLINE: 011-2555123 EMAIL: INFO@ECU.EDU.LK ECU.EDU.LK - ECU SRI LANKA CAMPUS

Terms and Canalhons Apply *BSc (Nursing Studies) excluded from Scholarship

JOIN MSI FOR A EXCITING CAREER IN HUMAN CAPITAL MANAGEMENT

Transfer options to Malaysia, Australia, Japan or Germany

MSU Malaysia or any of the partner Universities across the world!

School of Science

- Biomedical Science
- Forensic Science
- Nutrition Science

School of Business

- International Business
- Business Management
- Human Capital Management
- Retail Management



Management & Science Institute (MSI) No.300, Galle Road, Colombo 03, Sri Lanka. www.msi.edu.lk | Email : enquiry@msi.edu.lk Tel: 0112 576 900, 257 6700



School of Hospitality

- Hospitality & Tourism Management
- Event Management
- Leisure Outdoor and Adventure Management

School of Computing

- Information Technology
- Business Computing
- Information Technology
- (Mobile and Wireless Technology)

Administered & Accredited by MSU Malaysia

Scholarships

Available:

Management & Science University University Drive, Off Persiaran Olahraga, Section 13, 40100 Shah Alam, Selangor, Malaysia.



ADMISSIONS OPEN **J** Call us on FOR NEW INTAKE **1** 077 0777 880

SLITHM to introduce many new courses for 2021 intake



BY INOKA PERERA BANDARA

ne only and main Instituion in Sri Lanka generating professionals for tourism and hotel management is the Sri Lanka Institute of Tourism & Hotel Management (SLITHM). This Institution, operating since 1962 through several main objectives relevant to the tourism sphere, is the most correct and easiest path for rural youth to obtain overseas employment through tourism and hotel management sphere.

The specialties of SLITHM are, operating courses covering all aspects of tourism and hotel industry, giving students the relevant training, providing on-the-job training to students and operating courses in Hotel School in Colombo and other centre located in Kandy, Kurunegala, Anuradhapura, Bandarawela, Ratnapura, Koggala, Pasikudah and Jaffna giving more opportunities to rural youth.

The next intake will have 500 students to study in Colombo at the main Hotel School in Kollupitiya while another 1,000 students are to be absorbed to SLITHM branches island-

SLITHM is also operating the Samudra Hotel located on its premises with the objective of providing practical training facilities for its students. Through that, students are given complete practical training in addition to theoretical training.

According to Sri Lanka Tourism, Chairperson, Mrs. Kimarli Fernando, the Government is endeavouring to promote tourism in Sri Lanka, which is reviving once again through opening of airports to tourists and all health guidelines that have to be followed in the case of tourists travelling to the country have been updated to the good of tourists and the country.

"Our next objective is promoting Ayurveda, wildlife and adventure tourism. We have already taken steps to promote our wildlife resources worldwide using various ways to attract tourists to visit our country with a view to visiting our wild life sanctu-

"The biodiversity of our coun-



Sri Lanka Tourism, Chairperson, Mrs. Kimarli Fernando



SLITHM, DirectorGenral, Mrs. Nadeeka Wataliyadda



try is such that, a tourist in a light aircraft could visit sea and beaches, cool mountains, see a leopard in the wilderness and elephants in a 'Wew Thawulla' and come back to Colombo and savour a crab curry in a day. When tourists are travelling in this way in the country and in rural areas, more people providing services for them should be generated. Tourists don't like to stay inside hotels all the time. They like to travel freely. So, the opportunity has dawned for village-centered tourism. The workforce providing those services is being trained by SLITHM. Our youth have to be educated to make use of those services".

According to the Chairperson, more workers have to be generated for the tourism industry that is gradually reawakening. SLITHM, Director General, Mrs. Nadeeka Wataliyadda spoke about its readiness to generate

more workers to the Tourism and Hotel Management sector for its tasks.

"Even though there is a setback in the number of students in year 2021 compared to year 2020 due to the unfavourable health conditions in the country, we covered as much as possible of the syllabus through online classes. But, it did not agree 100% with the students of our branches. There were many issues with internet facilities for our rural students. We changed our evaluation systems for those students. We held practical exams for small groups. Whatever problems arose due to the Covid pandemic, we held examinations as usual and ended our courses. Now, we are ready for new courses for year 2021".

"Our courses are based on developing professional skills and talents necessary for the Hotel and Tourism sector. So, while giving pride of place to practical training, we are taking steps to the maximum to empower professional entering the hotel and tourism industry imparting knowledge charging very concessionary course fees."

"The tourism industry is reviving gradually. This reviving industry need workers in the coming months. People cannot be prepared to fulfill this need in a day or two. Opening

in the surroundings. Furthermore, the 'Home Stay' concept that is the setting up of a comfortable room in the home for tourists who come, for example, to observe elephants is becoming very popular at present. Now, the country needs novel concepts such as Community-based Tourism. This year, we are concentrating on short term courses preparing villagers for suitable hospitality services. Why is that? Many tourists who like to bathe in village streams and rivers, reap paddy and help in harvesting, climb up to a village 'Chena Hut' and observe elephants, enjoy a 'Halapa' or a 'Wandu Appa' prepared in a village hut's hearth and savour the cooling water of a young coconut (Kurumba) visit Sri Lanka. People offering them hospitality services should be generated from those far-flung villages."

So, we are making arrangements to hold very short term edification courses for those people based on our provincial Hotel Schools.

> We are telling you to prepare for the reviving hotel and tourism sector as much needed workers for the sector, without wasting time thinking of its instability. SLITHM has courses rel-

evant to any segment you want to join. Especially through courses such

1) Certificate Course in **Event Management**

2) Tracking & Hiking

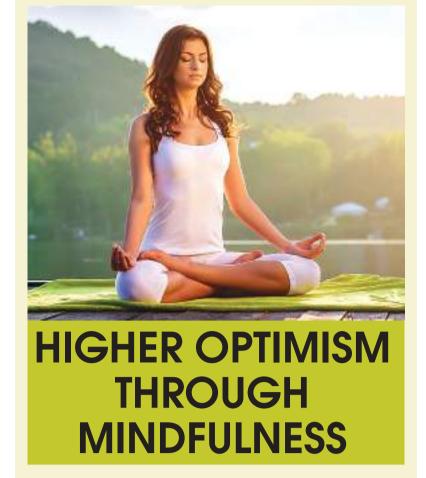
3) Community based Tourism Certificate

4) Tourist Guide Certificate, We are shouldering the national programme of preparing an economic methodology based on people activating concepts such as 'Tourism for villages'. Why? Instead of village people coming to Colombo seeking employment, we are pointing them towards a methodology of directing village people towards tourism, which will uplift the village economy centered on villages".

"Furthermore, the Hotel and Tourism section of students who are leaving schools after G.C.E. (Ordinary Level) examination under the 13 years of continuous education activated by the government is also entrusted to us. We have readied over 1000 students for the tourism sector through this programme in years 2019 and 2020. Even though this is somewhat a difficult task, we are bound to accomplish it as this is a government service shouldering the national endeavour". For further Further information

of new tourism courses - contact







editation has been around since the beginning of mankind. This ancient practice calms the mind and body, relieves stress and boost brain function. Its health benefits are well-documented. According to the latest studies, meditation should be included in the school curriculum. Students who meditate perform better in school and handle academic stress more efficiently. Research has linked meditation to a rise in IQ levels, improved mental function, and higher grades. Meditation is

believed to help relieve stress, lessen depression, lower blood pressure and improve sleep while boosting memory, mood and even social intelligence. Meditation can produce a deep state of relaxation and a tranquil mind. Dur-**MEDITATION SHOULD BE** ing meditation, you focus your INCLUDED IN THE SCHOOL attention and eliminate the **CURRICULUM. STUDENTS** stream of jumbled thoughts WHO MEDITATE PERFORM may be that crowding your **BETTER IN SCHOOL AND** mind and caus-

ing stress. This

process may re-

sult in enhanced

physical

emotional wellbeing. After all it's an ideal topic to discuss on this Medin Poya Day with the spiritual thoughts in your mind. Spending even a few minutes in meditation can restore your calm and inner peace. Anyone can practice meditation with no special equipment.

and

There are many ways to practice meditation, but in general the goal is to achieve a state in which the mind is clear, relaxed and inwardly focused. Meditation is also a practice in mindfulness; this means being present in whatever is happening around the person without judgment. Mindful meditation is effective in its ability to alter our relationship with what is happening at any given moment. We can enjoy life as it occurs, be fully engaged in activities and better cope with challenging or difficult events. Meditation improves mental well-being, academic skills and social abilities within students. Youngsters who were taught meditation in school reported better concentration on their tasks. They were also more selfconfident and had a more positive outlook on life. Meditation has been shown to promote a stronger self-identity and higher optimism.

In today's hectic world, students are struggling with the demands of school and personal life. Many times, they end up feeling overwhelmed. External factors, such as social media. peer group pressure, and family problems, only make things worse. Meditation helps reduce depression and anxiety. In the long run, it improves mental focus and brain function. This makes it particularly beneficial for young people. This discipline strengthens the mind-body connection, promoting healthy behaviours. Students who meditate are able to handle stress better and experience more positive emotions. Meditation helps ease

At the same time, it decreases activity in the sympathetic nervous system.

Young people who meditate for just a few minutes a day feel less stressed before exams and school projects. Other studies have found that students' creativity and intelligence improved after meditating for 15 minutes twice daily. This discipline may improve brain function, increase optimism, and enhance alertness and added to that meditation improves students' behaviour.

It has also the power to improve academic achievement. This practice helps reduce mental clutter and offsets the negative effects of stress.

The benefits of meditation don't end here. This ancient discipline can improve a student's life on every

level. With regular practice, it leads to improved memory and concentration, increased confidence and self-esteem, improved sense of self-worth and a more positive body

image with a greater creativity. Moreover, Feelings calmness and inner peace combines with higher grades and test scores with the improved behavioural profile. On the whole, delving into meditation improves the inter-student

relationships enhancing the cognitive function and their learning

HANDLE ACADEMIC STRESS

MORE EFFICIENTLY.

Meditation promotes mental and emotional well-being. When you meditate, you focus on the present moment and de-clutter your mind. This causes positive changes in your mindset and lifts your mood.

Additionally, this practice increases serotonin levels in the brain, which makes you feel happier and more positive. Researchers at the University of Oregon have found that meditation activates the brain areas that help people regulate behaviour according to their goals. In layman's terms, it improves your decision-making skills and boosts cognitive performance, setting you up for success.

A lesser known benefit of meditation is its ability to reduce destructive behaviours, such as smoking and drug abuse. These problems are common among students and young people. Nowadays, many students are dealing with trauma and major stressors at school or at home. This makes it hard for them to sit in class and focus on their tasks. Meditation can help these kids manage their emotions and sustain attention for longer periods of time. It also improves overall mental health and eases anxiety symptoms. After just a few sessions, most students feel happier and more relaxed. Meditation may reduce aggression among youngsters and even ward off fatigue. It's also a great way to boost their immune systems and protect them from illnesses. Without a doubt, this discipline should be taught in schools and become a lifelong habit. Meditating for just a few minutes a day can change your life forever. It's a simple, proven way to relax your senses and find comfort. Regular practice can sharpen your mind, clear doubts, and boost your overall health.







SRI LANKA GERMAN TRAINING INSTITUTE – KILINOCHCHI

STATE MINISTRY OF SKILLS DEVELOPMENT, VOCATIONAL EDUCATION, RESEARCH & INNOVATION



ADMISSION FOR THE FULL TIME COURSES UNDER THE NATIONAL APPRENTICE SHIP SCHEME -2021

Applications are invited from Male & Female candidates who hold following minimum qualifications for the admission of year 2021

01. (a) Age-Between 16-24 years as at 30.04.2021

(b) Education-

Passed in 06 subjects at the G.C.E. (O/L) Examination including Sinhala/Tamil language and Mathematics in not more than two attempts.

Passed in 06 subjects at the London (O/L) Examination including English language and Mathematics in one sitting.

National Vocational Qualification Level 3 Certificate in relevant field.

Applicants who have special skills

The preference will be given to the candidates who have placed among first three places in a Provincial level competition or obtain a certificate of merit or above by a national Competition of Sri Lanka Inventors Commission in Electrical/ Electronics/ Automobile/ Mechanical/ Food Technology/Construction and Computer fields.

Note: Candidates following full time courses at National Apprentice & Industrial Training Authority (NAITA) and bonded for period of 02 years or more are not eligible to apply for these full time courses.

02. Course Medium:

All courses are conducted in English. Up to G.C.E (O/L) English knowledge is enough to follow the courses. Special English classes will be conducted to improve the English knowledge of the trainees.

03. Entrance Examination

Applicants who possess the requisite minimum qualifications will be allowed to sit for the admission test provided examination fee referred to in column 4 below have been paid.

Medium: Sinhala/Tamil//English

b. Examination Centers:

A written examination for admission will be conducted at the Centers in Kilinochchi, Colombo, Kandy, & Batticaloa as indicated in the application.

Kindly note that if an adequate Number of candidates are not available at particular centers then the management reserve the right to change the centers by accommodating such applications according to the preference of the candidate.

Examination Subjects:

The examination will consist of question papers based on Mathematics, General knowledge, Intelligence test, Technical knowledge, English knowledge and Technical Drawing.

04. Examination Fee

Applicants should pay Rupees Five Hundred only (Rs. 500/-) as examination fee Paying voucher of the Bank should be attached to the application. The application should be forwarded together with the paying voucher of the Bank.

Payment:

The payment can be made to any Peoples Bank Branch to the Accountant, Sri Lanka German Training Institute which credit to Account Number 048-1-001-8-0086726 maintained at Kilinochchi Branch. Paying vouchers that defaced or erased will not be accepted. Application which does not contain a credit voucher to the value will be rejected. Examination fees will not be refunded to candidates those who are not appearing for the examination or on rejection of their applications for any other reason.

05. Primary Selection

Primary selection of candidates for admission will be merit based on the written examination and those who obtain the required highest marks will be called for interview to the final selection. Cutoff marks for less privileged provinces would be decided by the Management of SLGTI. (Less privileged provinces are decided according to Sri Lanka Examination Department)

06. Final Selection

Those who obtained highest marks from interview would be considered for final selection. Extra-curricular activities are specially considered.

The selected candidates will have to go through a medical examination and those who fail the medical test will be discontinued.

07. Training Courses (NVQ Level 4)

Serial No	Course	Duration
01.	Automobile Mechanics	02 years
02.	Auto Electrician	02 years
03,	Power Electrician	02 years
04.	Air conditioning and Refrigeration	02 years
05.	Electronics	02 years
06.	Machinist (Tool Machinery)	02 years
07.	Welder	02 years
08.	Baker	02 years
09.	Laboratory Technician (Food & Technology)	02 years
10.	Assistant Quantity Surveyor	02 years
11.	Draft Person	02 years
12.	Construction Site Supervisor	02 years
13.	Surveying Field Assistant	02 years
14.	ICT Technician	02 years
15.	Computer Hardware & Network Technician	02 years

Selected candidates will be allowed to follow the above mentioned courses of training depending on the aptitude they show in the trade selection test conducted after first three months of basic training.

08. Bond to be signed

All selected candidates are required to enter in to a bond to undergo full time training at SLGTI for period of 02 years in their allocated Trades and enter in to agreement with the National Apprentice & Industrial Training Authority (NAITA) as per their requirements.

09. Applications

The application should be prepared as per the specimen form given at www.slgti.com and photo copies of the following certificates should also be attached with the application.

- a. Birth Certificate
- Educational Certificates
- c. Applicants who apply under special skills should forward the certificate of Provincial/National level competition issued by Sri Lanka Inventors Commission. (if available)

The envelope in which application is enclosed should be marked, "Recruitment of Apprentice - 2021" on the top left-hand corner.

Obtaining Application Form:

- By down -loading via the institute's web site www.slgti.com
- By visiting to the institute.

10. Closing date of applications

Applications should be sent to The Director/ Principal, SLGTI, Ariviyal Nagar, Kilinochchi by registered post on or before 30.04.2021

11. Admission cards

Admission cards for the examination will be sent to all qualified candidates on around 17.05. 2021. If any candidate does not receive the admission card, contact over the telephone number given below within 14 days from the date.

Under the "Nipunatha Sisu Saviya" scheme, the trainees will be paid Rs 4000/= monthly depending on their attendance.

Accommodation will be provided to the trainees, who come from other provinces.

Director/Principal SLGTI, Ariviyal Nagar, Kilinochchi. Telephone -0214927799



Special Circular issued regarding reopening of Govt Schools

Chief Provincial Secretaries, Provincial Secretaries of Education, Provincial Directors of Education, Zonal Directors of Education, Divisional Directors of Education, Heads of Pirivenas and Principals has been issued by Secretary to the Ministry of Education, Prof. Kapila Perera regarding the reopening of other grades including Grade One in all government schools and government approved private schools of the Western Province for year 2021 on 29.03.2021.

Accordingly, it is mentioned in the circular that all schools in the

A special circular addressed to Western Province which were not refer children either to exams or number of days. open for other grades will be reopened on 29.03.2021 and if any area is locked down steps should be taken to temporarily close the schools in such areas only.

Three days have been allocated from 26.03.2021 to 28.03.2021 to prepare the schools as a place for teaching and learning as a health secured

It is emphasized in the circular that priority should be given to suitable activities so as to build the mental health of the children after absorbing them to the school environment and it is not suitable to

sports activities.

Further, Guidelines as how to conduct classes while adhering to social distancing have also been included. Accordingly, classes that have children up to 15 may conduct classes all days of the week. Classes where the student population is 16 to 30, children should be divided into two groups and conduct classes to each group in alternative

Where there are more than 30 children, they should be divided into three groups and conduct classes to each group on equal

As per the circular, the Academic and non Academic staff should report for duties as usual as the teaching and learning activities will be normalised with the reopening of all schools.

It is also mentioned in the circular that this special circular is also published in the official website www.moe.gov.lk of the Ministry of education.

Accordingly, School Academic activities will end for the first term island-wide on 09.04.2021 and will restart on 19.04.2021 for the second

CA Sri Lanka's Business Level exams successfully completed with over 8000 students

of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka (CA Sri Lanka) concluded successfully with over 8000 CA students sitting for the exam which was held in March 2021.

The exams which were offered in Sinhala, English and Tamil medium was conducted as a physical examination across the country at examination centres located in Colombo, Kandy, Galle, Kurunegala, Anuradhapura, Rathnapura, Bandarawela, Jaffna and Batticaloa amid strict health and security conditions.

The exams were conducted over a period of four days on 13th & 14th March and 20th& 21st March 2021. Over 6000 students sat for the exam conducted in Sinhala medium, whilst over 1500 students sat the exam in English medium. The exams were conducted in line with the stipulated guidelines issued by the Health Authorities in relation to Covid-19.

A unique feature of the CA Sri Lanka programme is that students who successfully complete each level will receive a recognised qualification, which guarantees employability. Accordingly, students who complete the Business Level exam successfully will qualify as a Certified Business Accountant (CBA) with a host of career progression opportunities along with guaranteed employability in the SME sector as well as the corporate sector and in audit

The CA Sri Lanka programme

The Business Level I & II exams comprises of three levels; Business, Corporate and Strategic Level and at each level, the student will receive a qualification recognised both locally and overseas. Students who complete up to the Corporate Level will qualify as a Certified Corporate Accountant (CCA) and gain employment in a large organisation as an accountant.

The benchmark qualification offered by CA Sri Lanka is the Associate Chartered Accountant (ACA) which students can obtain after completing the Strategic Level of the CA programme.

An ACA possess the competence and skills to be a CEO or CFO of a range of organisations including top corporates such as multinationals and conglomerates.

The CA Sri Lanka qualification is globally recognised, and stakes claim to being one of the preferred qualifications in Sri Lanka and is well-known for offering one of the most futuristic curriculums as it incorporates a multitude of global and local trends, current and future market needs and versatile skills ranging from finance to leadership to man-

Students with a minimum of three simple passes at the GCE Advanced Level examination from any subject stream can register with CA Sri Lanka and kick start a successful career as an accountant. For more information visit www.casrilanka. com or call 112 352000.

Kiddies World International Pre School rewarded At Star Awards

Affirming their success in preschool sector Kiddies World International Pre School, Katugasthota was recently recognized for their entrepreneurial excellence at Star Awards 2020.

Organized by the Department of Industrial Development and Entrepreneurship Promotion of the Ministry of Industries of the Central Province, the annual State Awards ceremony saw Kiddies World International Pre School win a 'Star Award' Micro category services. Meanwhile they earlier won the Productivity award runner up in Kandy District in 2017 and 2018.

The prestigious awards ceremony was held on recently at Grand Kandy Hotel with Governor of the Central Province, Lalith U. Gamage attending as its Chief Guest.

Held annually, Star Awards is known for its comprehensive assessments of its entrants which entail a mix of field visits, presentations and several rounds of thorough interviews. They assess both the performance of the organisation and its operations, as well as its entrepreneurial spirit. Picture shows the owner of Kiddies World International Pre School Mrs. Sanduni Peramune receiving the award at the ceremony.



The Best Thing You Can Do If You Want To Be A Doctor Is Be The Child Of A Doctor



BY NICK MORRISON

Students with a parent who is a doctor are much more likely to apply to study medicine than their ...

Ambition, hard work, a sense of vocation - all seen as essential qualities for anyone who wants to be a

But this list misses out what is perhaps the most important attribute of all: being the child of a doc-

For it turns out that one of the biggest factors in determining whether someone goes to medical school is if one, or both, of their parents is a doctor.

Students who have a parent who is a medical practitioner are eight times more likely to go on to study medicine or dentistry at university than their classmates.

It is not what you know, or even who you know that matters, it is who you are.

The familial determinism is even stronger among future veterinarians, with children of farmers 20 times more likely to study veterinary science, agriculture or related disciplines.

Even becoming an artist is not down to ability alone: children of artists are three times more likely to study arts and design courses than their peers.

The findings are contained in research for UCAS, the U.K.'s undergraduate admissions body, that illuminates how much our family background shapes our study and career

And it also reveals how the lack of informed advice, as much as aptitude or ability, closes off some possible study and career paths.

Two in five students said they would have made better choices in their applications to university if they had access to better information, according to a survey carried out as part of the research.

And one in five said they inad-

vertently ruled themselves out of applying for undergraduate courses that interested them because of uninformed choices they had made in high school. Subjects including medicine,

dentistry, maths, economics and languages require students to have taken certain courses at school before applying to university. Students who have not pursued the 'right' courses in high school may be unable to study them at university.

Parents and extended family who have followed that path themselves are often the best source of information, and students without that familial knowledge lose out as

"Some students would have made different decisions had they had better careers information, advice and guidance," said Clare Marchant, UCAS chief executive. "Students should know the consequence of each and every choice they make along their journey.

"Whilst choice is a core part of the UK higher education system, it is essential that students know how to navigate this. No student should unknowingly close the door to their career aspirations."

This particular affects children from less advantaged backgrounds, who are likely to consider the possibility of going into higher education at a later stage than their more advantaged peers, when crucial choices may have already been made, she

More than a quarter of students would make different choices at 14 now they know what their degree involves, while a third would make different choices at 16.

One way of trying to help students become better informed and raise aspirations is to embed careers information, advice and guidance in schools for primary (5-11) and early secondary (11-14) children. Ms Marchant added.

Global Excellency and Asian Awards for Nilu Anandappa NICE International teacher

Nilu Anandappa proudly represented Sri Lanka in both the well recognized international contests, and was titled with Royal Honors in both Global Excellency and Asian Awards. She is 32 years of age and a proud product of Ave Maria Convent a leading Catholic Girls School in Negom-

Nilu says everything she is today is totally belonged to her loving parents who dedicated their lives to bring up her. According to Nilu she was a forward student since her childhood.

She Loved and participated in all the extracurricular activities specially music. Nilu is a good singer too. She had been the organist of St. Peters Church for about 8 years and also was an active member in the choir.

The passion of becoming a teacher started in the age 13 As she explained "Once I was walking with my friend we noticed a primary teacher was struggling to form a straight line with some naughty bunch of kids. You might be thinking what's the big deal in it? Same as my friend we carry different perceptions as individu-

We had a firm argument and finally she gave up and accepted that teaching primary kids is not an easy task at all. Someone might think it's a simple job but NO the real fact the complexity is noticed once you start experienc-

It's not an easy task to mould a little child into correct path with a helping hand and a proper guidance. That perception made me to lead my goal of becoming a qualified teacher" she explained.

The main objective she focused was to encourage and higher order thinking in a way that increases student performance.

To build a long term career as an experienced teacher in a position that offers opportunities for career growth, and to keep up with cutting edge teaching technologies.

As she thinks patience, Empathy, Self improvement, Adaptable, stress management and communication are her recognized skills. At the moment she is a teach-

er at NICE International as a class teacher and also a subject teacher. As Nilu said her favourite area is Mathematics. She teaches Mathematics, English, Science, Geography and History. Her words about her school "It's actually my second home. Mostly my personal theme of

NICE Is "We are from different people who should guide them



countries but still we smile from the same language, "it's a loving home actually an environmental friendly home for locals and foreign kids. Starting from preschool to AL it shows a massive updated development yearly.

Something special about NICE is it embraces a kid with warm arms full of affection, knowledge and proper guidance.

Waking up and making a move to school with a happy face gives me a new lesson each day. The Uniqueness of each and every teacher has made the school a leading international school in Sri Lanka. Project based learning is an interesting area she loves to work with.

Her little thought about teaching was something different. Nilu said teaching is a blessed career, a career where all the professions are built, she said "you can be a teacher by completing all your exams but you cannot be a complete teacher if you don't have the ability and the creativity to teach.

A qualified teacher will never say a student you are weak, you cannot and you will never pass exams. If a teacher pours the child negativity she or he is not suitable to this career. We are the mould them help them to clear the path to lead the future. Favouritism should not be in this career. Each and every student should be our priority.

Future is unpredictable you might underestimate a child thinking he cannot he will never success, but we never know he might be the person you will have to get your car repaired when it faces a sudden breakdown on

Be positive, remember every child has a unique talent we as teacher should recognize it. Teaching is not only covering a huge syllabus of loads of books but bringing up a child into a good citizen is also important.

Nilu loves challenges. Motto in her life is to follow your heart not the crowd, simple as working alone and stand for the right even if you are alone. In the future she wishes to perceive her dream in building her own school for special needs.

Finally her words about these awards "I feel very blessed and grateful for being an Awardee in this International forum of Global Excellency Awards by Global Digital Academy and Asia Awards 20/21, powered by RULA Awards and World Research Congress and bagging the prestigious title of Asia's Outstanding teacher of the year. I would like to thank for recognizing my profile in Global Platform.

Nilu thanked all the beautiful people who was with her in this journey of success, "I would like to thank my parents, mom and dad without their dedication I would have not be able to be who am I today.

My husband who always tries to encourage me and special thanks to Kawisha and family a student of mine, I never felt I had no siblings once I met you all.

Thanks for supporting me from the start. I am so fortunate and blessed that I had you in all ups and downs of this path.

She ended up with a little thought of Victoria Erickson "Remember that you are more than skin and bones.

You are one thousand stories of before, one thousand stories of potential. One thousand stories you've yet to see and know, feel and breathe.

There's more to come. And it's something beautiful" Every NO and every rejection that came to my life had made me who am I. "LISTEN TO YOUR HEART, LIS-TEN TO YOURSELF"

How to Plan Your Life When the Future Is Foggy at Best

BY KATE NORTHRUP

The year 2020 did not turn out as we planned. Unemployment rates in the U.S. are close to twice what they were in February of 2020, and the number of people furloughed is still towering over February averages. Plus, with the profound shakeup of our daily lives, a lot of folks are asking, What do I really want to do with my life, given that everything else seems to be up in the air? If there's any beauty that's come from this pandemic, it's that we're reorganizing our priorities to honor what really matters to us. And for many, "career" is top of the reboot list. But letting go of what we always thought we could count on, like a fiveyear plan, can be painful and leave us feeling like we're floundering. Having a plan is one of the best stress-reduction strategies out there. As humans, we crave feeling like we're in control and that we have certainty. In fact, research shows that a sense of control helps us stave off symptoms of depression and anxiety and can even decrease mortality risk. And the more we crave control, it turns out, the higher achieving we tend to be.

Just because we no longer have the illusion of knowing what our longterm future holds doesn't mean we can't still benefit from the stress-reduction - and achievement-enhancing results of planning. It all comes down to how we look at time and goals.

If you want to thrive and be part of the meaningful change, adaptability is the key ingredient. But I don't

mean to just go with the flow and take life as it comes to you. This new brand of adaptability channels our desire to make a strategic plan, while building in planned checkpoints for course correction as new information arises and circumstances shift. It's called micro-

Micro-planning is simple. It takes a larger vision and breaks it down into yearly, quarterly, monthly, weekly, and daily check-in practices to plan and adjust as necessary.

We get some of the same stabilizing effects that a five-year plan may have given us but with shorter chunks of planning that make more sense in our current economic and cultural

Micro-planning is based on biomimicry, "a practice that learns from and mimics the strategies found in nature to solve human design problems and find hope along the way."

Prolonged stress, like the kind experienced during a global pandemic of unknown length, can cause a significant decrease in our ability to function optimally, especially when it comes to our cognitive abilities (like our brain handling high-order tasks or our ability to make decisions based on our goals instead of based on our habits).

Micro-planning allows us to relieve this stress without the seduction of thinking, however erroneously, that we have control over what is going to happen in the next one, three, five, or more years of our lives.

There are six elements of micro-planning:

1. Purpose: Identify your compelling purpose that allows flexibility in terms of how it will come to pass. So many people are in a reboot phase when it comes to their careers. New directions can feel risky, but when we look back at our career history, we often find a thread that connects what all of our different roles have had in common. That thread is a great place to start when it comes to identifying your compelling purpose. For example, my purpose is to help leaders become more connected to sustainable sources of personal power so we can all make

While how I implement this purpose may change as circumstances change around me, the purpose itself remains the same. If you aren't clear on your purpose, do a quick exercise: Jot down the most fulfilling career experiences you've had to date. Notice what commonalities they have. Those are the ingredients of your purpose.

our highest contribution to humanity

and the planet.

2. The Year: Make a plan for the year that aligns with your purpose, based on the best information you have available to you. Reflect on the previous year and what worked (or didn't work) and take into account past lessons you've learned. Identify one to three areas of growth that you want to focus on. I don't recommend trying more than three; a larger overhaul often fails because, when we put too much on our plate, we end up overwhelmed and not achieving the results we want. Your yearlong plan could include a job search, pursuing growth opportunities in the career you currently have, meeting and exceeding your KPIs, laying the groundwork for starting your own business, or whatever else makes sense for the current moment you're in.

3. Quarters: At the beginning of each quarter, reassess what you're working on and how you're working by asking yourself powerful reflection and planning questions, such as: What themes emerged this past quarter? What worked, and what didn't? What did I learn? How can I apply what I learned in the next quarter? What needs to shift in my plan based on new information and circumstances?

Based on the answers to these questions, set goals for the next quarter, being careful to choose no more than five per quarter. (The fewer the better; the fewer things you do with more focus and attention, the better results you'll get.) For example, you might notice that a theme that emerged over the previous quarter was that you weren't recognized for your ideas at work. After reflection, you realize you weren't advocating enough for them.

You may then shift your plan for the next quarter and set a goal to share one new idea with your department every month and that when you do so, you also share very clearly how it will positively impact results for your department. You might also decide to read two books on increasing your influence as a leader to improve in this

4. Months: Each month, take your goals for the quarter and assess where you stand with them. For any active goals, break them into specific projects and then break each project down into phases. Every project requires four distinct phases to get it off the ground and achieve the results we want: planning and initiation, shipping/launching/ making it visible, completion and integration, and rest and reflection.

For example, if your project is to "search for a new job," the "plan and initiate" phase would be updating your resume, tapping into your network for potential opportunities, and searching for openings. The next phase, "making it visible," would be applying for jobs, showing up for interviews, and following up after. The "complete and integrate" phase would be the onboarding phase once you receive your new job offer. Finally, the "rest and reflect" phase would be allowing yourself to exhale and celebrate, knowing that a new cycle has begun — and you have accomplished your goal.

5. Weeks: At the start of each week, make a weekly to-do list — rather than a daily one that's a mile long and leaves you feeling defeated when you shut down for the day. This weekly plan allows you to have a broader view of what's ahead and gives you more flexibility to plan than your average to-do list. But don't just think about work tasks. Prioritize movement, sleep, time outside, hydration, and healthy food, too, as you look ahead in your week. Optimizing your physical energy make you significantly more effective at executing your plans than buying into the common, yet inaccurate, belief that our best work comes exclusively from

6. Days: Finally, track your energy on a daily basis. Gathering data about yourself and your physical, mental, and emotional energy at the end of the day can give you powerful information as to how to optimize your workflow. Keep a journal by your bedside and jot down how you felt emotionally, mentally, and physically. Note what you worked on, how it went (what went well, what didn't, and what you learned), and what you're grateful for. This five-minute practice allows you to incrementally adjust the way you show up at work and in your life so you can approach your weekly, quarterly, and annual planning more mindfully. Using this data collection practice to make micro-adjustments to the way you work and your goals also gives you a tremendous sense of control, which has been proven to decrease the amount of time it takes to get tasks

The world is changing dramatically all around us, and we need to change with it. Clinging to a long-term strategy like the five-year plan isn't going to work anymore. But letting go of our need and desire to know what the future holds does not mean a freefall into anxious indolence. By breaking down our planning processes into smaller chunks, we begin to check in more frequently and adapt more naturally. The five-year plan may be dead, but our capacity for doing our most impactful work and live into the goals that we set for ourselves is very much alive.

The Future Of Work - Pandemic Trends One Year In

BY ALAINA PERCIVAL

Everyone had to rapidly respond to the challenges posed by COVID-19. One year in and the way that business is conducted has been completely altered. As we move forward, some of the changes brought about by the pandemic will be a permanent part of doing business. The profound implications of that will affect every industry, and people everywhere, especially marginalized groups like women, and people of col-

One of the biggest changes we have seen is the trend of companies moving their headquarters or opening up new operations away from expensive cities like New York and San Francisco, to locations with lower taxes and lower costs of living. In the technology industry, this is especially true, where we have seen an exodus of companies leaving the bay area. Hewlett Packard Enterprises, Dropbox, and Oracle all recently announced they'd be moving to Texas. Others are moving to or expanding in places like Atlanta, Miami, and Denver.

There is a lot of potential for a positive impact with this trend. Companies are starting to realize that top talent doesn't need to be in a specific city and they're opening up to the idea of hiring in nontraditional tech

This means new opportunities for those who are connected to diverse regional locations, it lowers the barriers for professionals who face economic barriers to moving to the nations most expensive cities, and presents a strong opportunity for better career balance for couples who moved to a location to prioritize one partner's career but not the other.

Remote work and video conferencing seem to be trends that are here to stay. Before the pandemic, 80% of workers said they would prefer flexible work options to employment at a prestigious company. Since the pandemic, new data shows that 80% of employees would not even accept a job if it didn't have those remote work benefits. In response to this 83% of employers are now offering telecommuting options with the result being as much as a

47% increase in productivity Remote work and video conferencing seem to be trends that are here to stay. Before the pandemic, 80% of workers said they would prefer flexible work options to employment at a prestigious company. Since the pandemic, new data shows that 80% of employees would not even accept a job if it didn't have those remote work benefits. In response to this 83% of employers are now offering

telecommuting options with the result being as much as a 47% increase in productivity.

Remote work and video conferencing seem to be trends that are here to stay. Before the pandemic, 80% of workers said they would prefer flexible work options to employment at a prestigious company. Since the pandemic, new data shows that 80% of employees would not even accept a job if it didn't have those remote work benefits. In response to this 83% of employers are now offering telecommuting options with the result being as much as a 47% increase in productivity.

Changes like these have the ability to open up opportunities to a talented and much more diverse workforce, but increasing diversity needs to be a strategic decision that is supported by initiatives and process changes within organizations. Without purposeful steps economic recovery becomes more difficult and underrepresented and marginalized communities fall further behind.

Some of the changes we are seeing as a result of the pandemic are having this effect, 25% of women are considering leaving the workforce or decelerating their careers. The disproportionate amount of unpaid labor that has fallen on them in the form of caring for children and elderly relatives is a major cause of this issue.

Women and people of color have experienced a disproportionately negative financial impact during the pandemic. A trend like that could indicate a regression of the progress made in recent years. As recovery takes place it will be important to keep an eye on the data and ensure that this is not a change that is permanent.

Amid the disruptions of the pandemic, the people were not silent. In the last year, we have seen the rise of protests against racial injustice and inequality. The corporate world is starting to respond. Many major companies have crafted policies and made statements to oppose

However, those are just words if they are not backed up by action. Moving forward, it will be important to continue to push for equality, and hold corporations accountable to their commitments.

Business has been changed forever by the events of the past year. Which of those changes are permanent are not yet set in stone. It is up to both people and companies to take advantage of this period of radical change. We have an opportunity now to make things better or to make them worse. Only through strategic effort, vigilance, and empathy, can we start to heal in a way that makes us stronger as a society and an economy.



State Ministry of Rural and School Sports Infrastructure Improvement

National Institute of Sports Science

The Leading Institute of Sports Education in Sri Lanka since 1979



Calling Applications for Sports Education Courses – 2021

Physical Fitness Instructor Training Course (NVQ-04)

This course has been designed to produce physical fitness trainers, equipped with sciencetific knowledge and practical skills for excercise prescription with a view to control high incidence of non - communicable diseases prevaling in the country.

The course is conducted according to National Vocational Qualification level 4 (NVQ - 04) and on succeful completion of the course the student will be able to start his/her carrer as a physical fitnes trainer in a fitnes center/gymnasium.

Duration : 12 Months, On Saturdays or Sundays between 9.00 a.m.

: Rs. 20,000/-Course Fee Medium : Sinhala/English

Qualifications: Should have passed G.C.E (Ordinary Level) with a sports

background.

Further Information: Course Coordinator 011 2684921 extension 234

Certificate Couse in Coaches Skills Development

This course is conducted to improve knowledge and skills of sports coaches. Applications are called in this year from Hand ball, Cycling, Savate Kick Boxing, Netball, volleyball and Hokey coaches.

Those who successfully complete the course will be recognized as a qualified coach in the relevant sport. They will be registered under this ministry awarded "Coaches Registration Certificate".

Duration: 03 Months (On Saturdays or Sundays between 9.00 a.m. 4.00

Medium: Sinhala / English

Course Fee: Rs. 5,000.00

Qualifications for admission to the Course:

- 1. Completion of a level course relevant to the sport being coached.
 - 2. 05 years' experience as a Coach.
 - 3. Experience in coaching players who acquired successes at international / national / provincial / District level.

Further Information: Course Coordinator 011 2684921 extension 241

Certificate Course in Sports Science-Level 1

This course has been designed with a view to equip the sports coaches with up to date sciencetific knowledge to develop as professional Sports coaches. The course is conduted for Baseball, Kabaddi and wrestling this year. Sports coaches working in governmenmt/private sector organization and those who are working as volunteer coaches can apply for this.

Duration : 06 Weeks (60 hrs. per each course - 02 or 03 days per week from 9,00a.m. to 4.00 p.m.)

Medium : Sinhala/English

Course Fee: Rs. 7,000,00

Qualifications:

I. If an open competition, should have trained sportsmen and sportswomen or teams which achieved first or second places at District level competition or first, second or third places at a Provincial or National level competition or be member of a team that has made the above achievements.

II. If a school competition, should have trained sportsmen and sports women or teams which achieved first or second places at Zonal level competition or first, second or third places at Provincial or National level competition or be member of a team that has made the above achievements.

III. Should have passed the Sports Diploma conducted by the National Institute of Sports Science.

Certificate Course in Sports Science- Level II

Courses to be conducted relevant to the sports field of Judo, Badminton and Volleyball as a further step to provide correct sports techniques to the sports Coaches.

Duration :12 Weeks (120 hrs., 02 or 03 days per week from 9.00a.m. to 4.00p.m.)

Medium : Sinhala/English

Course Fee: Rs. 10,000.00

Qualifications:

- Should have passed the Certificate Corse in Sports Science Level 1 (Judo, Badminton and Volleyball)
- 2. Should have passed the Sports Diploma conducted by the National Institute of Sports Science.

3. Should have trained successful sportsmen or women at National/Provincial/District level.

N.B. Priority will be given to those who submit high performance and sports educational qualifications in addition to the required qualifications when enrolling for the above courses.

Procedure to submit applications

Applications could be downloaded from the website www.niss.gov.lk or can be collected from at the National Institute of Sports Science during office days from 09.00 a.m. to 04.00 p.m. Completed applications should be sent to reach the "Director, National Institute of Sports Science, 100/7, Independence Avenue, Colombo 07" on or before 28th April, 2021.

N.B: The course/sports applied for should be written on the top left comer of the envelope containing the application.

Director, National Institute of Sports Science, 100/7, Independence Avenue, Colombo 07. Telephone: 011 2684921 Fax: 011 2667709 Website: www.niss.gov.lk

The 9 Best Platforms for premium and free Online Courses, Plus One Invaluable Learning App

DAVE JOHNSON FORBES STAFF

nline learning is becoming the rule rather than the exception. Here are the best online learning courses

Everyone daydreams about taking a class at the local community college to pick up a new skill or to learn about a subject just for the love of learning. But it often stays a daydream because who has the time or energy to go to class after a long day of work? That's why online learning has become so popularthere are a slew of online learning courses out there which can help you master everything from a second language to sleight of hand to Native American culture.

The best online learning courses offer a variety of curriculum with credentialed or qualified instructors at affordable prices. And there are so many options to choose from. Here are the best online learning courses, plus a bonus: the definitive online learning tool that you can use to master the arts of math and science.

- Best Online Course Catalog:
- Best Language Learning App: Rosetta Stone
- Best Free Language Learning App: Duolingo
- Best Creative and Graphic
- Design Courses: Skillshare • Best Learning Platform for Kids:
- Kahn Academy · Best Expert and Celebrity
- Instructors: MasterClass Best Credentialed Instructors:
- The Great Courses Plus
- · Best Online College Courses:
- Coursera Best Math and Science Help:
- Wolfram Alpha

1. Best Online Course Catalog

Udemy is an online learning site that offers about 130,000 online courses for both individuals and businesses. For individuals, there's no subscription model; you pay for each class you take, and prices vary quite a bit, ranging from as little as \$50 to more than \$150 each. But classes are frequently marked down such that a \$140 class might routinely be available for as little as \$15. There's also a business plan available, which is only a good deal if your employees make frequent use of the courses, since it's \$360 per person per year.

The range of courses is absolutely enormous, with categories that include coding, business, finance, IT, office productivity, personal development, design, marketing, lifestyle, photography, music, academics, and health and fitness. If you're honing your programming skills, you'll find classes on machine learning, all major languages and software testing. There are courses on business skills like entrepreneurship, business law and practical e-commerce classes on tools like Amazon FBA and Shopify.

Not surprisingly, Udemy works with a lot of instructors, and any-

Officers and Professionals in the industry

Application Level

Entry Qualification

Syllabus Objective

and Content

Step into a Professional Career in

one with a desire to teach can sign up and create a syllabus. The site has some guidelines instructors must follow to ensure course quality, but the site has no specific requirements for who may become an instructor and offer classes, which means course quality-and instructor competence-will vary from class to class.

2. Best Language Learning App **Rosetta Stone**

Rosetta Stone has been around a very long time-it launched in 1992, though obviously it wasn't an online service at the time-and has developed a reputation as a superb language course. Nonetheless, Rosetta Stone is a demanding program. It immerses you in language and doesn't always provide clear definitions for new vocabulary, preferring to have you build your knowledge through context. That's not for everyone, but fans of the program often return to focus on yet another language.

There are a total of 23 languages vou can learn in Rosetta Stone: Arabic, Mandarin, Dutch, French, German, Greek, Hebrew, Hindi, Irish, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Latin, Farsi, Polish, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish (both Latin American and European), Swedish, Tagalog, Turkish and Vietnamese.

And you don't need to choose; while the three-month plan (\$36 total) only unlocks a single language, any of the other subscription plans gives you unlimited access to all of Rosetta Stone's languages. You can get a year for \$8 per month or a lifetime subscription for \$199. Keep an eye out for discounts; Rosetta Stone frequently reduces prices, making the lifetime plan a good deal, especially if you plan to tackle more than one language.

3. Best Free Language Learning **Duolingo**

Looking for some online language lessons but you're not sufficiently motivated to subscribe to a course like Rosetta Stone? Duolingo might be the learning solution you're looking for. First and foremost, it's completely free-both the website and mobile app are adsupported. If you want to remove the ads, though, you can pay \$7 per month. Even that is something of a

bargain, though. Duolingo offers no fewer than 36 languages. Of those 36, 34 are "real" languages: Arabic, Chinese, Czech, Danish, Dutch, Esperanto, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Hawaiian, Hebrew, Hindi, Hungarian, Indonesian, Irish, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Latin, Navajo, Norwegian, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Russian, Scottish Gaelic, Spanish, Swahili, Swedish, Turkish, Ukrainian, Vietnamese, and Welsh. If the real world isn't enough for you, you can also pick up Star Trek's Klingon and Game of Thrones' High Valyrian.

4. Best Multi-Platform Language **Learning App** Babbel

Babbel is an interesting language learning platform that combines communicative didactics, cognitivism, behaviorism and constructivism in its lessons for faster



learning that will stick with you. Your efficiency and proficiency are helped along by progressive lessons, an interlinking framework to help keep you on track when building up to more difficult lessons. Refresh your Spanish or learn Italian, Russian and Swedish with the help

Babbel provides two options when you sign up-either a live option that provides you access to classes with a teacher or an app subscription, where you get unlimited access to lessons for all languages, levels and time commitments. For a limited time, you can save 50% on your first subscription.

5. Best Creative And Graphic Design Courses

Skillshare

Skillshare has a catalog of about 27,000 classes (plus another 2,000 free classes), but unlike some online learning sites, it leans hard into creative topics. The site is broadly divided into three main categories:

1. Create: populated with courses on animation, creative writing, film & video, fine art, graphic design, illustration, music, photography, UI design and web development. 2. Build: business analytics, entre-

preneurship, leadership & management and marketing. **3.** Thrive: lifestyle and productivity.

If you want to learn how to animate in After Effects, learn about composition and color use in street photography or learn responsive web design fundamentals, this is the site for you. Even many of the Build and Thrive topics seem aimed at creatives.

There's a course on productivity tips for artists and "Art from Your Heart: How to Art Journal for Wellness and Balance." And the classes on how to start a business and Microsoft Excel Bootcamp are skills any freelance artist needs to know. That said, there's also content on the site that doesn't fit into any of Skillshare's three categories, which you'll probably only find by random searches, like a slew of cooking classes and some stargazing and astronomy classes.

You can get a sampling of Skillshare with the site's free lessons, but the real meat of the site is unlocked with a Premium membership, which lets you access an unlimited number of courses. Skillshare Premium costs \$32 per month, or you can save \$216 over the course of the year by getting an annual subscription for \$168.

Some of Skillshare's courses are built and presented by individuals. Skillshare doesn't vet the instructors, but does enforce course guidelines. While what you'll find in these classes is of somewhat uneven quality, Skillshare also creates high-quality classes called Skillshare Originals. These classes generally have high production values and are taught by noted experts or celebrity instructors.

6. Best Learning Platform For Kids

Kahn Academy

Kahn Academy is one of the better known educational resources online; many people know the site's origin story, in which founder Sal Khan began tutoring his cousin and created animations with voiceover narration to explain math concepts and posted them on

From those humble beginnings grew a site that's been lauded by Bill Gates, and today offers a large

array of K-16 courses for free. Kahn focuses on studies that mirror and support coursework that students will encounter in grade school, high school and college: It includes math from algebra to calculus, sciences including biology and physics, history, civics economics, coding and more. And while there's substantial coverage of most grade school and high school topics, Kahn Academy's deepest and most comprehensive coursework is in every level of math from first grade through college, including AP (Advanced Placement) prep work.

Kahn Academy is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and offers all of its content for free. Its content is available to independent learners, but Kahn also has extensive partnerships with educators to help students use Kahn Academy content in academic settings. Because of this unique approach, Kahn doesn't need to partner with unaccredited and unvetted instructors; Kahn works closely with credentialed content contributors, and details about them are clearly listed on the web site.

7. Best Expert And Celebrity Instructors MasterClass

If someone turned TED Talks into a community college, you'd end up with something a lot like MasterClass. It's educational, but not in a college curriculum sort of way; instead, it's what would happen if the most famous person in a given field taught a college survey course on the topic. The result is

engaging, entertaining, glitzy and glossy, but also practical and edu-

The result is that MasterClass doesn't have the sheer volume of courses that some of the alternatives have; to maintain the very high production values on all of MasterClass's content, it offers somewhere around 100 courses, but each one is dazzling. There are courses in business, politics, design and photography, film, music, science and tech, sports and writing. Want to learn magic? Take Penn & Teller's course. There's a comedy course from Judd Apatow and a class in music curation from Questlove. Astronaut Chris Hadfield teaches space exploration. Even a topic as mundane as dog training is taught by Brandon McMillan, a master animal trainer and Emmy-winning host of the TV show "Lucky Dog."

MasterClass has a single sub-

scription level, which gives you unlimited access to all the site's content for \$180 per year. That works out to \$15 per month, though you need to pay the whole year up front.

8. Best Credentialed Instructors **The Great Courses Plus** The Great Courses Plus and

MasterClass are often compared to one another, and they do share a lot in common. Both deliver slick, professionally-produced video that uses instructors of some note; neither allow unvetted teachers to create content. But while MasterClass uses celebrity lecturers, The Great Courses Plus tends to use less-wellknown but thoroughly reputable instructors. The course on "Unlocking the Hidden History of DNA" is lectured by New York Times bestselling author Sam Kean, for example; a course called "Medical Myths, Lies, and Half-Truths" is taught by Dr. Steven Novella, a Yale School of Medicine professor and host of the Skeptics Guide to the Universe podcast.

There are about a dozen course categories overall at The Great Courses Plus, covering topics as diverse as economics, food and wine, history, math, music, art, science and travel. While there's some content for younger learners, most of the courses here are aimed at adult

A subscription to the Great Courses Plus costs \$20 per month or \$150 per year, and makes all the content on the site available in all-you-can-eat form. One word of warning: don't confuse this steaming service with The Great Courses, a sister site in which you pay for each course individually.

9. Best Online College Courses Coursera

Like a handful of other online learning sites, Coursera eschews letting "just anyone" sign up to teach classes in favor of partnering with colleges and corporations—on the site you'll find course content from major universities (Duke, Arizona State, Case Western and the Georgia Institute of Tech to name a few), museums like the Museum of Modern Art and the American Museum of Natural History, and companies like Autodesk and Red Hat.

All that expertise gets channeled into around 3,000 classes on topics as diverse as business, arts and humanities, IT, math, physics and engineering, social sciences and languages. But here's where Coursera is different than most other learning sites: not only can you take individual classes for personal enrichment or career development, but you can also leverage the classes into earning an online degree.

Coursera allows you to earn a number of degrees and professional certificates, and it's easy to see which degree programs Coursera offers as you browse the site's course catalog.

Because Coursera has such a wide range of offerings, there's no single price to get on board. You can join for free and survey a large number of classes without paying anything.

Coursera Plus gives you access to 3,000 courses and the opportunity to earn professional certificates for \$399 per year. Or you can enroll in a degree program-costs vary, but are identified on the site. In addition, there are enterprise plans available for businesses, and students enrolled in participating schools can take some Coursera classes for credit for free.

10. Best Math And Science Help **Wolfram Alpha**

Wolfram Alpha is not an online learning course. In fact, it can be challenging to wrap your head around what, exactly it is. It looks like a search engine, but it's not, in the sense that Wolfram Alpha does not crawl the internet looking for information that way Google does.

Instead, it's an "engine for computing answers and providing knowledge," and consequently leans heavily into mathematics, though it also can answer questions about science & technology, society & culture, and more. The site combines its own cu-

rated data with the ability to perform calculations on demand as well as to find the best and clearest way to present the results. The result is that Wolfram Alpha can solve a vast range of math problems from simple arithmetic to calculus and statistics, graphing the results and showing its work as needed.

It can tell you how fast a satellite has to be to stay in geosynchronous orbit and tell you the speed of sound at any altitude. If you are in a technical field of study, Wolfram Alpha can become an indispensable tool.

The site is free, though you can upgrade to Wolfram Alpha Pro for \$5.49 per month.

That unlocks step-by-step solutions to problems so you can see how a problem was solved, along with practice problems, enhanced calculators, and downloadable results so you can import them into other documents. There's also special pricing for students and educators that brings it down to \$4.75 per month.

Study levels and degrees

There are main higher education qualifications offered for a student as a Diploma, Bachelor's (first cycle), Master's (second cycle), and Doctoral (third cycle) levels.

A higher education qualification is proof that you've studied a subject to a certain level or that you've completed a specific program.

Education levels Diploma qualifications:

A Diploma can be a qualification worth 37 or more credits on the Regulated Qualifications Framework and the Diploma of Higher Education is a higher education award below the standard of a bachelor's degree, at the same level as a Foundation Degree.

Bachelor's (First cycle) qualifi-

The first cycle degree program is the first level of university studies. To graduate, students must acquire 180 university educational credits (CFU) through a maximum of 20 exams. The first cycle degree program lasts for three years or four years, and at the end of your studies you will obtain a "Bachelor's" qualifica-

Master's (second cycle) qualifi-

To graduate in a second cycle degree, students must acquire 120 university educational credits (CFU) through a maximum of 12 exams. The second cycle degree program lasts for two years, and at the end of

your studies you will obtain a "Master" qualification. Doctoral (Third cycle) Qualifi-

Third-cycle education that concludes with a doctoral degree covers 240 credits, the equivalent of four years. A program that leads to a licentiate degree covers at least 120 credits, equivalent to two years. The actual period of study is the time that is actively spent on third-cycle

 Basic Accounting Business Management Quantitative Techniques FEES - Rs.25,000 + Admission FEE Rs.2,500 Analyst Level - 1 **Entry Qualification** : On the completion of "Application Level" or on prescribed qualifications : 4 months (Lectures on Sundays) Duration **Syllabus Objective** : Understanding on in-depth tax knowledge and and Content possessing required technical skills through interpersonal skill development, enabling the participant to serve as a middle management accountant with sound Tax Knowledge in an organization. Direct Taxation Indirect Taxation Compliance Management · Accounting for Taxation Compliance Management Prescribed : AAT (PF)CA (Strategic Level), (CMA Strategic level), Qualifications HNDA, Degree Holders Degree with Accountancy

Within

equivalent qualification

the business environment

: A/L three subjects at one sitting or any other

: Understanding on the fundamentals of taxation and

• Principles of Taxation • Business Economics

: 4 months (Lectures on Saturdays Only)

ourse FEES - Rs.35,000 + Admission FEE 2,500 + Exemption Fees Rs.2,000 Per Subject (if applicable

0770 884 927



SRI LANKA INSTITUTE OF TAXATION (Incorporated by Act of Parliament No.21 of 2000) 484, Havelock Road, Colombo - 06. Mob : +94770 884 927 Web : www.slitaxation.l Tel:+94112055201 E:study@slitaxtation.lk

and Taxation Subjects and any other qualification

approved by the Council

frontoffice@lakehouse.lk

suo.advt@lakehouse.lk

INTERNATIONAL

SLIIT INTERNATIONAL, established by SLIIT, the largest non-state higher education institute in Sri Lanka, is a state-of-the-art campus with cutting-edge academic infrastructure and facilities at Nawam Mawatha, Colombo 2.

SLIIT INTERNATIONAL has a unique culture that fosters innovation, collaboration and pursuit of

SLIIT INTERNATIONAL offers Computing and Engineering degree programmes of Curtin University, a leading university in Australia ranked in the top 1% of universities globally (ARWU - 2020).

We would like to invite a smart and self-confident young lady interested in developing a career in marketing / customer service to join our dynamic team as receptionist / student enrolment assistant.

RECEPTIONIST / STUDENT ENROLMENT ASSISTANT

The ideal candidate should possess:

- At least 3 passes in G. C. E. (A/L)
- A minimum of 4 years experience in front office / customer service
- Excellent communication skills in English
- High level of personal initiative and accountability
- Excellent interpersonal, coordination, planning, and organizational skills including ability to set priorities and meet deadlines
- Ability to multi-task, set priorities and meet deadlines
- Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with faculty, staff, and students
- A passion for and willingness to be trained in marketing / customer service

A competitive salary commensurate with qualifications and experience will be offered to the successful candidate.

Please send your application via email to careers@sliit.lk, clearly indicating the post applied for in the subject line, to reach us within 10 days of this advertisement.

SLIIT INTERNATIONAL

SLIIT INTERNATIONAL, established by SLIIT, the largest non-state higher education institute in Sri Lanka, is a state-of-the-art campus with cutting-edge academic infrastructure and facilities at Nawam Mawatha, Colombo 2.

SLIIT INTERNATIONAL has a unique culture that fosters innovation, collaboration and pursuit of

SLIIT INTERNATIONAL offers Computing and Engineering degree programmes of Curtin University, a leading university in Australia ranked in the top 1% of universities globally (ARWU - 2020).

We would like to invite an innovative, enterprising, and career-minded person to join our energetic team as a Marketing Executive (Student Enrolment).

MARKETING EXECUTIVE -STUDENT ENROLMENT

The ideal candidate should possess:

- A bachelor's degree from a recognized university
- 2 3 years experience in sales / marketing / student enrolment
- Teamworking skills and excellent communication skills
- High level of personal initiative and accountability
- Excellent interpersonal, organizational, planning, and coordination skills including ability to set priorities and meet deadlines
- · Excellent organizational skills including ability to multi-task, set priorities and meet deadlines
- Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with faculty, staff, and students
- Results orientation commitment to achieving targets

A competitive salary commensurate with qualifications and experience will be offered to the successful candidate.

Please send your application via email to careers@sliit.lk, clearly indicating the post applied for in the subject line, to reach us within 10 days of this advertisement.



Pan Asia Bank, 'The Truly Sri Lankan Bank' with over twenty-five years of presence in the Banking Industry is on an ambitious growth trajectory. Ranked among the 'Top 30 Corporates' by Business Today and crowned 'Best Green Bank Sri Lanka 2020' by Global Banking & Finance, we are on a mission to reach the pinnacle of the

We are looking to handpick dynamic, results-oriented and highly motivated individuals who wish to join us in this exciting journey and make a positive contribution as a valued member of our growing organization.

BRANCH MANAGERS

(Panchikawatte, Borella, Wellawatte, Battaramulla, Bambalapitiya, Ambalangoda & Vavuniya Branches)

- Overall management and running of the branch as a 'profit centre' while adhering to the set norms/ operational guidelines
- Develop and execute, integrated sales relationships, deposit mobilization and credit strategies in line with the Area Business Plan whilst upgrading service quality
- Set KPIs for the branch staff, constantly review progress and faster an environment in which branch staff work together to achieve set business goals
- Support portfolio growth by identifying cross-sell apportunities, guiding the team to deepen relationships and increase client acquisition and retention
- Ensure continuous business growth by interacting with the local business community and participating in society events/functions

Candidate Prerequisites

- 10 years work experience in a Commercial Bank with leadership exposure Full/Part qualification in Banking
- Bachelors' Degree will be an added advantage
- Sound communication skills and a flair for public relations
- Exercise innovative leadership within a performance-driven culture and possess a "service-oriented mindset" Hands-on experience in lending and growing the loan book is a must
- Knowledge of both Retail and SME banking, covering Consumer Banking Operations and Credit Evaluation
- with adequate exposure to Credit Administration

Remuneration

The successful candidates will be provided with an attractive remuneration package including tringe benefits. commensurate with industry standards and will be placed in an appropriate grade based on the level of competencies and experience.

Please forward your resume within 07 days of this advertisement, stating contact details of two non-related referees, to careers@pabcbank.com indicating the position applied for on the "Subject" line. Information forwarded by you shall be treated in strict confidence and referees shall be contacted with your consent.

Head of Human Resources, Pan Asia Banking Corporation PLC, No. 450, Galle Road, Colombo 3.

Email : careers@pabcbank.com Web : www.pabcbank.com

: 0114 667 416

only with the shortlisted candidates. Pan Asia Banking Corporation PLC is a licensed commercial bank Ritch Rating 1888-1801





Pan Asia Bank, 'The Truly Sri Lankan Bank' with over twenty-five years of presence in the Banking Industry is on an ambilious growth trajectory. Ranked among the 'Top 30 Corporates' by Business Today and crowned 'Best Green Bank Sri Lanka 2020' by Global Banking & Finance, we are on a mission to reach the pinnocle of the

We are looking to handpick dynamic, results-oriented and highly motivated individuals who wish to join us in this exciting journey and make a positive contribution as a valued member of our growing organization.

SENIOR MANAGER - CARD CENTRE

As the Senior Manager - Card Centre, you will head the unit and will be responsible for the overall operations as well as for achieving key performance deliverables, including growth of the cards partfolio and profitability.

- Formulate plans and strategies to drive Card Operations
- Maintain good relationships with Card schemes (Visa, MasterCard, Union Pay)
- Lead Card related system development and projects Manage Credit Card reconciliation and Vendor Management
- Assist sales feams to achieve sales volume & product-mix by keeping abreast of changing trends, economic indicators, competitors and overall bank direction
- Manage complaints and service related matters relating to the bank's Card business
- Lead Fraudulent Management Framework Initiate marketing and business development drives
- Drive customer engagement to increase the usage

Candidate Prerequisites

- 10 years experience in Card Operations/Card Centre of which at least 03 years at a managerial level in Banking/Financial sector/Card Operations
- A University degree or an equivalent qualification in Business Administration; Banking, Finance or related fields Preferably below 45 years of age
- Ability to exercise innovative leadership within a performance-driven culture and possess a
- "customer-centric/service-oriented mindset" Ability to manage a large team and promote a performance-driven culture
- Project management skills with exposure to new technologies
- Strong business sense and organizational/planning skills Ability to perform in a competitive environment
- Sound communication skills and a flair for public relations with strong analytical skills

The successful candidate will be provided with an attractive remuneration package including fringe benefits, commensurate with industry standards and will be placed in an appropriate grade based on the level of competencies and experience.

Please forward your resume within 07 days of this advertisement, stating contact details of two non-related referees; to careers@pabcbank.com indicating the position applied for on the "Subject" line. Information forwarded by you shall be treated in strict confidence and referees shall be contacted with your consent.

Head of Human Resources, Pan Asia Banking Corporation PLC, No. 450, Galle Road, Colombo 3.

: career: Rpababank.com Email Web: : www.pabcbank.com

:0114 667 416

Please note that we would carrespond only with the shortisted candidates. Pan Asia Banking Carporation PLC is a licensed commercial bank Plich Rating 1886-(kg)



UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO SRI LANKA

VACANCIES

Applications are invited by this University for the following post from those who possess required qualifications.

POST OF FULL TIME SUB-WARDEN FEMALE/MALE (CONTRACT)

Qualifications: A Graduate from a recognized University.

Preference will be given to those who have experience in administration and management of

Hostels.

Not more than 45 years. Age: Salary:

Rs. 42,885/= + Rs. 7,800/= + Cost of Living &

other approved allowances

- Universities Provident Fund Contribution by the employer an amount equivalent to 15% of the salary to the Universities Provident
 - Contribution by the employee an amount equivalent to 10% of the salary to the Universities Provident
- Employees Trust Fund
- Contribution by the employer an amount equivalent to 3% of the salary to the Employees Trust Fund

Applications can be downloaded from the Website: www.cmb.ac.lk

Duly filled applications should be sent to **"Senior Assistant Registrar** Non-Academic Establishments, University of Colombo, 94, Cumaratunga Munidasa Mawatha, Colombo 03" by Registered Post on or before 23rd of April 2021. The Post applied for should be marked on the top left hand corner of the envelope. Applications without photocopies of relevant certificates will be rejected.

Applicants from Government Departments, Corporations and / or other Statutory Boards should channel their applications through the Heads of such Institutions.

Registrar **University of Colombo** Colombo 03.

22.03.2021

VACANCY Account Assistant

We are Solid Lanka Engineering (Pvt) Ltd. a developing Civil Engineering Construction Company at Kandy area.

Candidate should have a part qualification from a recognized Accounting body such as AAT/ICASL with minimum one year experience.

Interested applicants please forward your CV within the next 07 days.

Solid Lanka Engineering (Pvt) Ltd., No. 547, Old Gampola Road, Peradeniya. solidlanka@yahoo.com, admin@solidlanka.com



Musaeus College, Colombo 07

VACANCIES

Musaeus College, is the leading government approved private school for girls in Colombo.

We are looking for experienced and dedicated females with a passion for teaching, who possess relevant academic or professional qualifications from a recognized institution for the following vacancies.

❖ Physics (English Medium) - A/L - (National

Curriculum)

* ICT

- A/L - (National Curriculum)

Law

- A/L - (Edexcel Curriculum)

Chemistry

(Sinhala & English Medium) - A/L - (National Curriculum)

An attractive remuneration package awaits the right candidate.

Please send your CV within 10 days of this advertisement to "The Principal, Musaeus College, No. 58, Rosmead Place, Colombo 07" or by email to vacancies@musaeus.lk (Please state the position applied for, on the top left corner of the envelope / subject line on e-mail.)



MANAGER RISK AND COMPLIANCE

LankaClear (Pvt) Ltd., operates under the guidance of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka providing vital payment infrastructure and information security solutions within the financial services sector of the country. Due to large scale project implementations and diversified technology usage in all operational processes we are seeking to strengthen our professional team and engage dynamic, high caliber individual to fill the above vacant position.

Reporting directly to the Board Risk Committee with dotted line reporting to the GM/CEO, the Manager Risk & Compliance is responsible to ensure that the overall risk situation of the company is comprehensively addressed and the operational framework of the company complies to statutory, national and international standards.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES & ACCOUNTABILITIES OF THE POSITION

- Develops and reviews risk management policies and governance and guides the LCPL teams in their application.
- Implements compliance requirements and the required set of risk reports for various departments
- Ensures that the risk identification, assessment, processes, and tools of the company are introduced, effective, comprehensive and consistently applied in LCPL.
- Assures all significant vulnerabilities have mitigation plans that will sufficiently control the probability of the risk to lesser the impact of the risk
- Evaluates and reports on the vulnerabilities and risks to the various industry certifications and standards such as PCI-DSS and ISO -27001.

QUALIFICATIONS, EXPERIENCE AND PERSONAL **ATTRIBUTES**

- An IT, Statistics or Accounting related Degree or equivalent professional qualifications from a recognized institution. Masters of Science in Information / Cyber security discipline
- Formal certification in one or more Information Security related disciplines such as CISSP, CISA, CISM, CRISC and GIAC.
- Minimum 5 years of experience in the field of IT out of which at least 3 years in Information / Cyber security or risk and compliance.
- Experience and Knowledge in Governance frameworks and standards such as ISO/IEC 27001, PCDSS, NIST etc.

Age below 40 years

Please post or email your CV with the names and contact details of 2 non-related referees within 07 days of this advertisement, to the postal address or e-mail address given below. Applicants e-mailing applications should state the post applied for in the subject field while others should state same at the top left hand corner of the envelope.

LankaClear (Pvt) Ltd Level 18, Bank of Ceylon Head Office, BOC Square, 1, Bank of Ceylon Mawatha, Colombo 01.

E-Mail: careers@lankaclear.com Web: www.lankaclear.com

Head of HR & Administration

(While we value all applications received, only short-listed candidates will be called for interview)

TRANSACT THE FUTURE

CHIEF INFORMATION SECURITY OFFICER - CISO (AGM Level)

LankaClear (Pvt) Ltd., operates under the guidance of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka providing vital payment infrastructure and information security solutions within the financial services sector of the country. Due to large scale project implementations and diversified technology usage in all operational processes we are seeking to strengthen our professional team and engage dynamic, high caliber individual to fill the above vacant position.

Reporting directly to the Board Audit Committee with dotted line reporting to the GM/CEO, the CISO is responsible to ensure that the entire IT Infrastructure Framework of the company has taken adequate steps to minimize all internal and external IT security threats and comply to all national and international standards.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES & ACCOUNTABILITIES OF THE POSITION

- Establishing, implementing and maintaining the IT Security and Governance Framework of the company.
- Accountable for laying down guidelines to ensure information and communication technology infrastructure/ assets of LCPL are adequately protected by adopting global security best practices while aligning with corporate strategy.
- Ensure LCPL is in legal and regulatory compliance with the rules for relevant authorities in terms of adherence to security best practices and guidelines while being compliant with the latest PCI-DSS and ISO standards.
- Ensure LCPL adopts highest security standards in terms of securing sensitive and confidential information and thereby reducing operational risks and reputational damage of LankaClear
- Provide an independent reporting of LCPL's information and cyber security status to the Board of Directors and Senior

QUALIFICATIONS, EXPERIENCE AND PERSONAL **ATTRIBUTES**

- Bachelor's Degree from a recognized University in Computer Science. A Master's degree in Information Technology / Cyber Security discipline would be an added advantage.
- Formal certification in one or more Information Security related disciplines such as CISSP, CISA, CISM, CRISC, GIAC family certifications (GSLC /GISP)...
- Minimum eight (8) years of experience in the field of IT out of which at least three (3) years in Information / Cyber Security, including minimum of 5 years in a managerial position.
- Experience and Knowledge in Security and Governance frameworks and standards such as ISO/IEC 27001, PCI-DSS
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills with the ability to communicate security concepts to technical and non-technical audiences
- Age below 50 years

Please post or email your CV with the names and contact details of 2 non-related referees within 07 days of this advertisement, to the postal address or e-mail address given below. Applicants e-mailing applications should state the post applied for in the subject field while others should state same at the top left hand corner of the

Head of HR & Administration LankaClear (Pvt) Ltd Level 18, Bank of Ceylon Head Office,

BOC Square, 1, Bank of Ceylon Mawatha, Colombo 01.

E mail: careers@lankaclear.com Web: www.lankaclear.com

(While we value all applications received, only short-listed candidates will be called for interview)

VACANCY ADVERTISEMENT China GEO Engineering Corporation

Project Name: Thambuttegama Water Supply Project

Address: Galnewa Road, Nallachchiya, Thambuttegama Town, Anuradhapura

1. Construction Manager

BSc Degree in Civil Engineering or equivalent, 15 years experience in water section projects, civil structure, Architectural Engineering etc. skilled use of computer, office software, AutoCAD, MS Project etc. thorough knowledge of the condition of contract (ICTAD/FIDIC)

2. Civil Engineer BSc Degree in Civil Engineering, post qualifying experience more than 5 years in water section projects,

civil structure, pipe line, skilled use of computer, office software, AutoCAD, MS Project etc. 3. QA/QC Engineer

BSc degree in Civil Engineering, post qualifying experience more than 8 years, skilled use of computer, office software.

Mechanical Engineer & Electrical Engineer BSc Degree in Mechanical & Electrical Engineering, post qualifying experience more than 5 years in water

section projects, skilled use of computer, office software, AutoCAD etc. **Engineer Assistant / Technical Officer**

NDT or NCT in Civil Engineering, post qualifying experience more than 5 years, skilled use of computer,

office software, AutoCAD, etc. Laboratory Technicians (Civil Structure/pipe line) NCT in Civil Engineering, Post qualifying experience more than 5 years with Laboratory Testing, materials

testing & civil construction testing, skilled use of computer, office software.

Pro (Public Relations Officer/Project Coordinator) BSc Degree or NDT/NCT in public relations, post qualifying experience more than 5 years, skilled use of computer, office software.

Store Keeper

Post qualifying experience more than 5 years on project site.

9. Operator (concrete pump car/JCB/Excavator)

Contact No. 025-2051601 (Admin Office) please send CV to E-mail: cgcthamwsp3@gmail.com



National Research Council of Sri Lanka

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

VACANCIES

The National Research Council of Sri Lanka is a government funding agency that provides financial assistance to public sector scientists in the country.

Applications are invited from qualified citizens of Sri Lanka for the following post in the National Research Council (NRC).

Chief Executive Officer - HM 2-1 Post

Job Description: Be responsible and accountable for all the activities and administrative and financial affairs of the NRC. Who under the general direction and control of the Council, exercise, perform and discharge powers, functions and duties of the Council as may be delegated by the Council and provide leadership and encouragement to the staff of the NRC, for excelling in official achievements and pursuing objectives and functions of the NRC.

Qualifications:

1. A Bachelor's Degree in Science which is recognized by the U.G.C and Postgraduate Degree in Science/Agriculture/ Business Administration or any other relevant field of Corporate membership of a recognized professional institution in Management

At least 20 years experience in Managerial Level out of which 05 years of experience should be at Senior Managerial Level with a proven track record in a Corporation, Board or a reputed Mercantile Establishment after obtaining the first degree.

2. A Bachelor's Degree in Science which is recognized by the U.G.C and PhD Degree in Science/Agriculture/Business Administration or any other relevant field

At least 05 years experience at senior Managerial Level with a proven track record and management experience in a Corporation, Board or a reputed Mercantile Establishment after obtaining first degree.

Age: Should be not less than 35 years and not more than 55 years.

Salary Scale : HM 2-1- [Rs. 91,645 – 2,700x 12 – 124,045]

Other conditions applicable for the above post 1. Applicants should be citizens of Sri Lanka.

- 2. Applicants should be physically and mentally fit to discharge duties of the post well and to serve in any part of the island.
- 3. Applicants should be of excellent moral characters.
- 4. Recruitment by a structural interview conducted by a panel appointed by the appointing authority.
- 5. This appointment will be permanent with entitlement to Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) and Employees' Trust Fund (ETF). As per the National Research Council Act No. 11 of 2016, this appointment will be for a period of five years calculated from his/ her date of appointment. The CEO unless reappointed may, if he/she was a member of the staff of an institution governed by the said Act on the day prior to his/her appointment as CEO, revert to his substantive post in the institution provided he/she has not completed his/her sixtieth year.
- Other fringe benefits applicable to the stipulated post of the National Research Council. (Vehicle or Vehicle Allowance, Fuel Allowance & Telecommunication Allowance)
- 7. Applicants should forward their signed applications with copies of birth certificate, other relevant certificates together with names and addresses of two non-related referees and marked the post applied for on the top left hand corner of the envelope under registered post/ courier to reach the "Chairman, National Research Council, 120/7, Vidya Mawatha, Colombo 07" on or before 20th April
- You should email a scan copy of the CV to admin@nrc.gov.lk to ensure the timely submission, in spite of COVID related postal/ courier delays. All pages of CV should be signed by the candidate.
- 9. Applications from officers in government Departments/ Corporations/ Statutory Boards should be forwarded through the heads of their respective Institutions.
- 10. All applications that do not comply with the above requirements will be rejected.

This advertisement is published in the NRC website, www.nrc.gov.lk

National Research Council 120/7, Vidya Mawatha

Colombo 07

: 011-2675176 Fax: 011-2675136

Email: admin@nrc.gov.lk

The Housewives' companion **Classifieds on** Daily Actus

IMMEDIATE VACANCIES

Site Engineers / T.O. (Civil)

NDT / HNDE / NDES with over 3 years experience NCT with 3 years (Negombo)

Contact: 0718709961, 0718709962 E-mail: swarnaconstructions.sl@gmail.com

NCT with 1 year (Dickwella).

JOB VACANCY

Position open for sales coordinators at a reputed medical imports company in Wattala. School leavers welcome. Contract: **0777777516** or send Cvs to: jcl52@eol.lk

ISLANDWIDE DISTRIBUTORS ARE NEEDED

CEYLON GREEN AYURVEDA MANUFACTURING PVT. LTD.

We are a fast growing Ayurveda products manufacturing Company who wants to establish an islandwide distribution network. We are pleased to invite Distributors with sound business acumen to join with our

OUR REQUIREMENTS:

- FURNISH A BANK/CASH **GUARANTEE OF RS. 500,000.00**
- TRANSPORT / STORES **FACILITIES**

PLEASE CONTACT 0777 322 580

J. Orchids

Assistant Manager / Floral Designers

J. Orchid, a leading flower arranging company in Sri Lanka a Member of the Jayaratne Group of Companies in search of competent and skilled personnel to fill the following vacancies the newly opened branch in Marawila.

ASSISTANT MANAGER (Male/Female)

- Pleasant and pleasing personality
- Ability to converse in English and Sinhala Languages
- Knowledge in Computer Literacy
- Candidates should be residing in Marawila or close
- proximity to Marawila Town ■ Age Below 45 years

FLORAL DESIGNERS (Male/Female)

- Individual who values honesty and integrity
- Experience as a floral designer in Sri Lanka or overseas will be an added advantage
- Age Below 50 years

If you are an outstanding individual with above prerequisites please contact us between 10.00am to 1.00pm during weekdays or send your updated curriculum vitae with two non-related referees to,

> **Jayaratne Group of Companies** 2B, Elvitigala Mawatha, Colombo 08.

E-mail: jvip3pho@gmail.com Tel: 0114 616 533

We are looking for full -time and part-time Nurses and Assistant Nurses for a state of the art medical clinic situated off Duplication Road. E-mail vour CV to: embjobinquiries@

VACANCIES

gmail.com

Engineering Architectural Consultancy Firm Requires.

Chartered Architects, Quantity Surveyors,

Technical Officers - Draftsmen and Trainees.

forward your CV to: aeca@sltnet.lk 0712758505.



supply of latest, premium quality instruments to diverse markets in Health, Scientific and Water Sectors in



SALES EXECUTIVE/COORDINATOR- MALE

We are on the look out for a young self-motivated individual who has the passion to embark on a career in Health Care - Diagnostic Devices

Candidate Profile

- · Advance Level Qualifications in either Bio Science or Commerce stream with a valid riding license.
- Experience in insurance sales or Direct Marketing is an added advantage.
- Age between 19 25 years.
- Willingness to travel extensively within the allocated province.
- · Sultable candidates will be provided a company-maintained motor bike or monthly rental.
- · Trainings required for the role will be facilitated.
- High Remuneration package coupled with a lucrative variable pay scheme.
- A career path leading to high management positions within a sales team awaits the right candidate.



(C) ? Head of Group Human Resources Analytical Instruments (Pvt) Ltd No. 100, Elvingala Mawatha, Colombo 08 🐧 0112-639000 | 🦒 www.sipith

BE BETTER INFORMED!

News you can trust now free on your mobile phone.

Sampath Bank

WE PRESENT YOUR FUTURE



AVAILABLE AT

Google play

C App Store

Windows Store

visit - apps.lakehouse.lk

DOWNLOAD TODAY!

Peace Corps

PEACE CORPS SRI LANKA **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY**

Peace Corps Sri Lanka is looking to hire and train individuals to become Tamil or Sinhala language and culture teachers for American volunteers in Sri Lanka.

Learn more about this opportunity at an online information session on: Friday, April 9, 10-11am RSVP to npiyasiri@peacecorps.gov

Peace Corps is a U.S. organization promoting international peace and friendship. Peace Corps Volunteers will come to live and work for two years as English Teachers in rural Sri Lankan schools. Peace Corps is looking for multiple Language and Cultural Facilitators. (LCFs) to live alongside volunteers for their first months in Sri Lanka. Short term contract

Qualifications include: A/L + 2 years of coursework/higher studies; proficiency in English, basic computer knowledge; proficient speaking, writing and presentation skills.

For detailed information about these jobs see: www.topjobs.lk under the International Development section. Send a Cover Letter and Resume to:

> PCSLJobsLCF@peacecorps.gov. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for an interview.



GSMB TECHNICAL SERVICES (PVT) LTD

1. LEGAL OFFICER

Required Qualification & Experience (1 & 2 & 3 below)

- A Bachelor's Degree in Law (LLB), which is recognized by the University Grants Commission (UGC)
- Attorney –at-Law & Registered Company Secretary
- Minimum of one-year post qualifying experience in the field of Active

2. HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGER

Required Qualification & Experience (1 or 2 or 3 below)

- 1) Should have obtained a Bachelor's Degree recognized by the University Grants Commission (UGC) and should have at least one-year service experience in the subject field relevant to the post after obtaining the degree
- Should have passed the Intermediate Examination of a Chartered Professional Institute compatible to the subject field relevant to the post and should have obtained at least one-year service experience in the relevant field after obtaining the qualification
- Should have obtained a Proficiency certificate of not less than National Vocational Qualification level seven (NVQ- Level 7) issued by a Vocational Training Institute recognized by the Tertiary and Vocational Education Commission and should have at least one-year experience in the relevant field in government service or semi government organizations after obtaining the qualification

All Applicants

- Internal & External candidates should have all the above qualifications
- Age Limit should not below 22 years & not more than 45 years (Maximum age limit will not be applicable for officers already in government service or semi government organizations)
- The appointment will be for one year period under contact basis & the contract will be extended based on performance
- Should attach copies of educational certificates, experience & other relevant certificates with your CV

Note:

The employee should contribute 8% to Employees Provident Fund & the Company contribution is 12%. Another 3% will be contributed to Employees Trust Fund Salary Scale & Category -

MM 1-1 (Rs. $53,175 - 1375 \times 10 - 1910 \times 15 = \text{Rs. } 95,575/=$) and other allowances provided by the Company

Forward your CV with details of 02 non related referees under registered cover on or before 12/04/2021 to reach the following address. Position applied for should be written on the top left hand corner of the envelope.

Chief Executive Officer, GSMB Technical Services (pvt) Ltd, No. 190/A, Ratnaweera Building, Stanley Thilakarathna Mawatha, Nugegoda.



VACANCIES

GSMB Technical Services (Pvt) Ltd is a government owned subsidiary company of Geological Survey & Mines Bureau under the preview of Ministry of Environment. Application will be received to fill the below mentioned vacancies existing at the

- Practice/Legal work.
- Experience as Board Secretary will be an added advantage.

Requirements:

• A Bachelor of Science Degree in Computer Engineering/Communication Engineering/

as a Senior Lead Security Engineer.

- Electrical Engineering/Information Security/Cyber Security from a recognized University
- A minimum of Two (02) years of experience as an Information Security Engineer in a reputed company, preferably in the Finance Sector

SENIOR LEAD SECURITY ENGINEER

We are in search of a dynamic individual who fulfills the criteria to perform

- A professional qualification related to Information Security such as GISP, CCSA, CEH, RHCSA, MCSA, RHCSE, CISSP, PMP will be an added advantage
- Preferred age Below 35 years

Key Responsibilities:

- Effective management of complex network/communication infrastructure of the Bank
- Maintenance of Information Security Standards (i.e ISO 27001, CBSL BSS and PCI-DSS) and compliance of audit requirements of the Bank
- Design, implement and manage the IT security frameworks of the Bank
- Effective management of IT security implementations such as Firewalls, IPS, SIEM, Proxies etc.
- · Conduct analysis related to infrastructure requirements and designing and implementation of hardware and software solutions required by the Bank
- Management of Application Servers, Web Servers, Mail Gateways and load balances
- Management of Bank's Security Operation Centre (SOC) activities

Other Competencies Required:

- Sound technical understanding of technologies such as Firewalls, VPN, PLI, Cryptography, Anti-Virus, IPS, End Point Security, WAF, NAC and Proxy
- Thorough knowledge on Application Security i.e DNS, e-mail, Middle-Ware platforms and Security Assessments i.e VPAT
- Ability to perform in Windows, Linux and UNIX environments
- Effective communication and people management skills
- Strong analytical and problem-solving skills Ability to work under pressure and autonomously

An attractive remuneration package coupled with a modern and conducive work environment awaits the right candidate.

Selection will be strictly on merit. Any form of canvassing will be a definite disqualification. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

Please log in to www.sampath.lk and apply online on or before 7th April 2021.

CHIEF MANAGER - HUMAN RESOURCES Sampath Bank PLC, No. 110, Sir James Peiris Mawatha, Colombo 02.

(c) 0112 30 30 50 (d) www.sampath.lk



UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO INSTITUTE FOR AGRO-TECHNOLOGY AND RURAL SCIENCES

VACANCIES

The University of Colombo Institute for Agro-Technology and Rural Sciences will entertain applications for the under mentioned posts from suitably qualified persons up to 23.04.2021.

01.Post: Management Assistant (Book Keeping) Grade III

QUALIFICATIONS

- (1) Should have passed the G.C.E. (O/L) Examination in six (06) subjects at one sitting with credit passes in :-
 - Sinhala Language/Tamil Language
 - English Language/English Literature ii.
 - iii. Mathematics

AND

(2) Should have passed in all subjects at G.C.E (A/L) Examination (except the Common General papers) at one sitting.

Preference will be given to those who possess the following:

(a) An acceptable qualification in computer applications of not less than six (06) months duration obtained from a recognized institute.

- (b) Two years of experience in the use of computer application packages.
- (03) In addition to the above qualifications, the candidates should have possessed following post specific qualifications for the above post.
 - a) The National Certificate for Accounting Technicians of the Sri Lanka Technical College/College of Technology under the Ministry of Skills Development and Vocational Training or any other equivalent qualification obtained from the recognized institute.

b) G.C.E. (A/L) qualification should be in the Commerce Stream.

: Not less than 18 years and not more than 30 years of age on Age

the closing date of applications.

Salary Scale: U MN 1 (III) - Rs. 30,725-17x300-35,825 p.m. : By written examination and interview.

01.Post: Sub - Warden, Grade II (Full-time) - Female

QUALIFICATIONS

(I) A graduate of a recognized University. Preference will be given to those with experience in administration and management of Hostels.

: Not more than 45 years of age on the closing date of Age applications.

Salary Scale: U-MN 3(II) -Rs. 42,885-18x660-54765 p.m. : By Interview Selection

CONDITIONS OF SERVICE

- 01. These posts are permanent. The appointments will be on probation for a period of three (03) years.
- 02. Selected candidates if presently serving in a Government Department will have to obtain his/her release through their respective appointing authority. Government employees will not be entitled to maintain their pension rights whilst in the University Service.

BENEFITS

- 01. Selected candidates will begin to contribute to the Universities Provident Fund by means of monthly deduction from his/her salary an amount equal to ten (10%) percent of his/her basic salary. The University will, in addition out of its funds contribute at the same time a sum equal to seven (07%) percent of his/her earnings to the Universities Provident Fund and eight (08%) percent of his/her earnings to the Pension Fund.
- 02. Three (03%) Per centum of his /her basic salary will be contributed by the Institute to the Employees Trust Fund in terms of Provision of the Employees Trust Fund.
- 03. In addition to the above salary, Government approved allowances and Cost of Living Allowance approved by the University Grants Commission will also be paid to the staff where relevant.

HOW TO APPLY

Application forms and relevant information could be downloaded from the Institute Web site: http://uciars.cmb.ac.lk. Duly completed applications on prescribed form together with certified copies of relevant certificates etc., should be sent under registered cover, indicating the post applied for on the top left-hand corner of the envelope, to reach the Senior Assistant Registrar, University of Colombo Institute for Agro-Technology And Rural Sciences, Weligatta, Hambantota on or before 23.04.2021.

Applicants from the University system/ Government Departments / Corporations / Statutory Bords, should channel their applications through their respective Heads of Institutions.

The Institute reserves the right to shortlist the candidates. Applications which do not conform to these requirements, incomplete applications and applications received after the closing date will be rejected without intimation.

Director

University of Colombo Institute for Agro-Technology and Rural Sciences

22.03.2021

VACANCIES

With the view of further expanding Ayu Pharma & Neutra (Pvt) Ltd's distribution network applications are invited for the following positions, to cover all the districts in the Island.

SALES EXECUTIVE

Qualifications:

- Age below 30 years.
- G. C. E. (A/L) passed.
- Valid driving licence
- 2 years experience in the pharmaceuticals / Cosmetics field.

SALES REPRESENTATIVES

Qualifications:

- Age between 18 and 30 years.
- G. C. E. (O/L) passed.
- Valid driving licence
- Excellent communication skills. Experience in the marketing field will be advantageous.

If you possess the above qualifications, please forward your complete CV with contact details of non-related referees to reach us within 10 days of this advertisement.

Ayu Pharma & Neutra (Pvt) Ltd

No.45, Sri Maha Vihara Road, Panadura. Email: ayupharma.neutra@gmail.com

VACANCIES IN OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF SEWERAGE PUMP STATIONS IN COLOMBO MUNICIPAL COUNCIL AREA

Larsen & Toubro Limited of India is the contractor appointed under the Greater Colombo Wastewater Management Project to rehabilitate eight (08) pump stations of the Colombo Municipal Council area. Two Pump stations are already completed, and two more pump stations will be commissioned in the next few months. The new pump stations are designed for SCADA based automatic operation.

The Project Management Unit (PMU) of the above Project has decided to provide O&M support to the Colombo Municipal Council to operate the pump stations effectively through (i) training of staff and (ii) provision of technical staff through the contractor. Provisions for such assistance are provided in the Contract. Accordingly, applications are called for the following positions for immediate employment.

Senior O&M Engineer - BSc Eng. (Electrical/Electronic) with more than ten years' experience in Electrical Instrumentation and SCADA fields. Including providing O&M support for public wastewater pump stations or treatment plants - Part Time.

0&M Support Engineer - BSc Eng. (Mechanical/Mechatronics) with a minimum of one-year post-graduate experience in Mechanical installations, controls, SCADA - Full Time.

O&M Support Engineer - BSc Eng. (Electrical/Electronics/ Instrumentation) with a minimum of one-year post-graduate experience in electrical installations, controls, SCADA - Full Time

You are requested to submit your application together with the Curriculum Vitae on or before 5th April 2021 via e-mail addressed to the following. You are also requested to indicate your expected salary in the application.

The Administration Manager Larsen & Toubro Limited, L&T Construction 50 1/1, Jethawana Road, Colombo 14.

E-mail: maheshknp@Lntecc.com

Duration of Employment - 19-April-2021 to 31-Dec-2021 (9 Months) Locations - Bambalapitiya, Slave Island, Wanathamulla and CS3 Sewerage Pump Stations in Colombo

Employer - Larsen & Toubro Limited (the Contractor)

You are expected to work closely with the Consultants to the Project and the Colombo Municipal Council pump station operating staff.

ENGLISH MEDIUM QUALIFIED NURSERY CLASS TEACHERS

- A Muslim Nursery school seeks qualified Nursery class teachers. Educational Qualifications:
- G. C. E. O/L qualified with a minimum of 6 passes including credit pass in Sinhala / Tamil Language and Maths.
- Diploma in Early childhood education.

Apply by E-mail within 7 days. queenswayintl@hotmail.com Director, Queensway Girls International School, 350 Dematagoda Road, Colombo-9.

IMMEDIATE VACANCIES

IELTS Teachers/English Teachers

- Minimum 1 year of experience
- Excellent in teaching Written/Spoken in English

Student Counselors

- Good command in Written/Spoken English
- School leavers can also apply

Receptionist

- Good command in Written/Spoken English
- School leavers are welcome

Please send your CV to flexinstitute04@gmail.com or call for an interview on 0777 761 346



6A, Parakumba Place, Colombo 06. E-mail: flexinstitute04@gmail.com www.flexinstitute.lk

Assistant Accountant - Gampaha

Reputed Organization looking for minimum 2 years experienced lady for above post with capability of making monthly P&L and preparing documents for audit. Degree from recognized University and experience of Human Resources handling / auditing will be an advantage.

Account Assistant - Gampaha

Minimum 2 years experience with sound IT knowledge. HR experience will be advantage including handling salary.

H.R. Assistant - Gampaha

Minimum 1 year experience in HR Management.

General Manager, P.O. Box 11, Veyangoda.

ranjith.wijekoon@gmail.com

IMMEDIATE VACANCY HEAD OF FINANCE (CHIEF ACCOUNTANT)

- ► Fully Qualified Chartered Accountant with at least 05 years post qualification and 10 Years experience in commercial sector.
- ▲ A Bachelors degree in Finance / Accountancy / Business Administration or equivalent
- ▶ Present monthly and annual financial reports and plans to the CEO and the board of directors in order to make effective strategic financial decisions
- ▲ An energetic team player with positive mind set and high degree of leadership qualities, interpersonal skills coupled with integrity, commitment, passion and speed.
- Liaising with banks, Tax authorities, suppliers & other relevant parties
- Lead & manage cost controls, internal controls & profitability improvements





Damith - 071-9674632



Bata

BE A PART OF OUR WINNING TEAM

The world's leading manufacturer & retailer of footwear celebrating 71 years of its presence in Sri Lanka, invites dynamic, energetic and committed individuals for the Below mentioned position.

IMMEDIATE VACANCY

MANAGER - MERCHANDISING

A suitable candidate should be:

- · CIM/SLIM fully qualified.
- · Minimum age requirement 35 years.
- · With more than 5 years of experience in a similar position and experience in footwear industry will
- be an added advantage Knowledge of Profitability and Revenue Management, Business Planning, Inventory Management &
- Merchandising Strategies · With good knowledge of Product Development, Brand Promotions and Retail Store Operations
- · Good command of English with analytical and presentation skills An attractive remuneration package including other benefits will be offered to the right candidate

Apply with complete CV, recent photograph,2 non related referees and contact telephone numbers to following address. (Please indicate the job applied for on the top left hand corner of the envelop or email subject)

Manager- Human Resources

Bata Shoe Company of Ceylon Limited

No. 100, General Sir John Kotelawala Road, Ratmalana | Tel: +94 11 2605 119, 11 2633 791/2 Email: hrd.lanka@bata.com / nirasha.abeyagunasekera@bata.com | Web: www.bata.lk

MINISTRY OF PLANTATION

TEA RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF SRI LANKA **TEA RESEARCH BOARD**

VACANCIES

Applications are invited from the citizens of Sri Lanka for the following posts at the Tea Research Institute of Sri Lanka, Talawakelle.

01. SENIOR RESEARCH OFFICER

(Preferably specialized in Weed Science, Food Science, Soil Microbiology, Analytical Chemistry, Biometry / Statistics, Entomology & Process Technology)

Responsible for planning, implementing research projects, analyzing results and presenting data in specialized disciplines under minimum guidance from the Head of Division(HOD), Principal Research Officer (PRO) and guiding technical and experimental officers for collecting & recording data. Senior Research Officer will be responsible for planning technology transfer programs of the division under the guidance of the HOD, PRO.

A. A four (04) year special degree with a first class or second class upper division in Science /Agriculture or Engineering from a recognised University with appropriate subject combinations.

B. A four (04) year special degree with a second class lower division in Science/ Agriculture or Engineering from a recognized University with appropriate subject combinations and a minimum of one (01) year post graduate degree in the relevant field.

C. A degree in Science / Agriculture or Engineering with appropriate subject combinations and a two (02) year post graduate research degree in the relevant field.

AND

D. A PhD degree in the relevant field and eight (08) years research experience two (02) years experience after obtaining Ph D degree.)

Note: Research publications relevant to the respective discipline will be an added qualification.

a. A PhD degree with minimum six (06) years satisfactory service as a Research Officer AR 1 category

OR

b. M Phil / M Sc (02 year research degree) with eight (08) years satisfactory service as a Research Officer AR 1 category.

(NB: An applicant who qualifies under (B) or (C) above, has to obtain an additional Post graduate degree by research to be eligible for SRO)

Note: Publications relevant to the respective discipline will be an added qualification

Salary Scale:

AR 2 (2016) (I) Rs.76, 200 - 10x 2,000 - Rs.96, 200/p.m

Age:

Should not be less than 30 and not more than 45 years. The upper age limit will not apply to the internal candidates

Method of Selection: By a Structured Interview.

02. SENIOR ADVISORY OFFICER

Job Description:

Responsible for planning, implementing advisory & extension projects, analyzing results and presenting data in specialized disciplines under minimum guidance from the Head of Division (HOD), Principal Advisory Officer (PAO) and guiding technical, and extension Officers for collecting & recording data. Senior Advisory Officer (SAO) will be responsible for planning technology transfer programs of the division under the guidance of the HOD, PAO.

A. A four (04) years special degree with a first class or second class upper division in Science /Agriculture or Engineering from a recognized University with appropriate subject combinations.

B. A four (04) years special degree with a second class lower division in Science/ Agriculture or Engineering from a recognized University with appropriate subject combinations and a minimum of one (01) year post graduate degree in the relevant field.

OR

C. A degree in Science / Agriculture or Engineering with appropriate subject combinations and a two (02) years post graduate degree in the relevant

AND

D. A PhD degree in the relevant field and at least eight (08) years research experience (two (02) years experience after obtaining PhD degree.)

Note: Research publications relevant to the respective discipline will be an added qualification.

a. A PhD degree with minimum six (06) years satisfactory service as an Advisory Officer AR 1

OR

b. An M Phil / M Sc (18 months degree) with eight (08) years satisfactory service as an Advisory Officer AR 1 category. (NB: An applicant who qualifies under (B) or (C) above, has to obtain an additional Post graduate degree by research to be eligible for SAO)

Note: Publications relevant to the respective discipline will be an added qualification

AR 2 (2016) (I) Rs.76, 200 - 10x 2,000 - Rs.96, 200/- p m

Should not be less than 30 years and not more than 45 years. The upper age limit will not apply to the internal candidates

Method of Selection: By a Structured Interview.

03. RESEARCH OFFICER

(Preferably specialized in Food Science, Chemistry / Biochemistry, Biometry / Statistics, Zoology & Chemical Engineering)

Job Description:

Implementing research projects, analysing results & presenting data in specialized disciplines under the supervision of Senior Research Officer (SRO), Principal Research Officer (PRO) or Head of Division, and guiding technical, experimental and extension

officers for collecting & recording data and assisting SRO, PRO in identification and planning of research

A special degree of four (04) years duration with a first class or second class upper division in Science /Agriculture or Engineering from a recognised University with appropriate subject combinations.

A special degree of four (04) years duration with a second class lower division in Science / Agriculture or Engineering from a recognised University with appropriate subject combinations and a minimum of one (01) year post graduate degree in the relevant

A degree in Science /Agriculture or Engineering with appropriate subject combinations and a two (02) years post graduate research degree in relevant discipline.

Internal:

A degree in Science / Agriculture or Engineering from a recognised University and six (06) years satisfactory service as an Experimental Officer /Extension Officer.

Salary Scale: AR 1 (2016) (I) Rs.53, 150 - 10 x 1,375 - 15 x 1,910 -

Should not be less than 22 years and not more than 45 years. The upper age limit will not apply to the internal candidates

Method of Selection: By a Written Competitive Examination and a Structured Interview

04. EXPERIMENTAL OFFICER

Job Description:

Rs.95, 550 p.m

Assisting in planning and implementing research, & presenting data in specialized disciplines under the supervision of Research Officer / Senior Research Officer / Principal Research Officer.

A Bachelor's degree in Science / Agriculture / Tea Technology & Value Addition / Plantation Management which is recognized by the U.G.C

Internal: (1 or 2 below)

- 1. Having obtained the qualifications required by the external candidates above.
- 2. Completion of minimum eight (08) years satisfactory service as a Technical Officer (Research & Development) in the Management Assistant Technological Category (MA 2-2).

Salary Scale:

MA 4 (2016) Rs. 37, 970- 10x 755 -15x930- 5x1, 135 -65, 145/- p.m

Should not be less than 22 years and not more than 45 years. The upper age limit will not apply to the internal candidates.

Method of Selection: By a Written Competitive Examination and/ or a Structured Interview.

05. EXTENSION OFFICER

Job Description:

Attending to all extension /advisory work relevant to tea and coordination of relevant agricultural and non-agricultural services under the supervision of Advisory Officer / Senior Advisory Officer / Principal Advisory Officer.

External:

A Bachelor's degree in Science / Agriculture Tea Technology & Value Addition / Plantation Management which is recognized by the U.G.C

Internal: (1 or 2 below)

- 1. Having obtained the qualifications required by the external candidates above.
- 2. Completion of minimum eight (08) years satisfactory service as a Technical Officer (Research & Development) in the Management Assistant Technological Category (MA 2-2).

MA 4 (2016) Rs. 37, 970- 10x 755 -15x930- 5x1, 135 -65, 145/- p.m

Should not be less than 22 years and not more than 45 years. The upper age limit will not apply to the internal candidates

Method of Selection: By a Written Competitive Examination and/ or a Structured Interview.

- Accommodation (Fully furnished quarters /Hostel rooms) will be provided if available or an allowance will be paid in lieu of accommodation.
- Medical benefits available according to the prevailing rules of the Institute's Medical Scheme.
- Free transport will be provided for urgent medical treatment according to the Institute's guidelines.
- Transport will be provided every weekend to Colombo and Kandy from St. Coombs, Talawakelle.
- Provident Fund: The selected candidate will be required to contribute 10% of the salary to the Staff Provident Fund while the Institute will contribute 15%. The Institute will also contribute 3% to the Employees' Trust fund.
- Other fringe benefits applicable to employees in the Tea Research Institute.

The Posts are permanent. Application giving full Curriculum Vitae along with the copy of Birth Certificate, copies of relevant Educational and other Professional Qualifications, Service Certificates and the names and addresses of two non-related referees who can assess the applicant's skills and knowledge in the relevant field, should be sent under registered cover to reach the undersigned on or before 12th April 2021.

Applications from officers in the State Service/ Corporations/Statutory Board should be forwarded through the Head of the respective Institution. Non conformity with this requirement will result in the application being rejected. Also state the post applied on the top left -hand corner of the envelope.

Kindly visit Tea Research Institute's web site www.tri.lk for information.

> The Director Tea Research Institute of Sri Lanka St. Coombs, Talawakelle.



Qualifications:

External Candidates: (1 or 2 below)

A Bachelor's Degree in Marketing, Business Management or Commerce which is recognized by

A Postgraduate Degree qualification (Masters') in the relevant field or Full / Associate Membership of a recognized professional Chartered Institute, which is relevant to the subject area of the post.

Minimum of 15 years' experience at a "Managerial Level" out of which 05 years of experience should be at Senior Managerial Level with a proven track record in a Corporation, Statutory Board' Institution or a reputed private institution.

Full Membership of a recognized professional Chartered Institute, which is relevant to the subject area of the post

Minimum of 15 years' experience at a "Managerial Level" out of which 05 years of experience should be at Senior Managerial Level with a proven track record in a Corporation, Statutory Board/Institution or a reputed private institution.

Age: Should be not less than 45 years and not more than 60 years.

Salary & Other Allowances: Basic Salary Rs.150,000 (Performance Allowance Rs.75,000/= + Transport allowance Rs 50,000/= + Monthly fuel allowance applicable to the post according to the Government Circulars + Mobile phone reimbursement Rs.9000/=)

The Ideal Candidates should also:

- Have excellent analytical, Problem solving and organizing skills with the ability to evaluate,
- review, interpret data and should be highly self-motivated individual;
- Possess strong leadership qualities, interpersonal communication skills; Be able to demonstrate good IT skills.
- A proven ability to lead and direct multi-disciplinary teams. Experience in proper deployment and efficient management of human and other resources.

- Every applicant, i. Should be a citizen of Sri Lanka.
- ii. Should be physically and mentally fit to discharge the duties of the post well and to serve in any part of Sri Lanka.
- iii. Should be of excellent moral character.

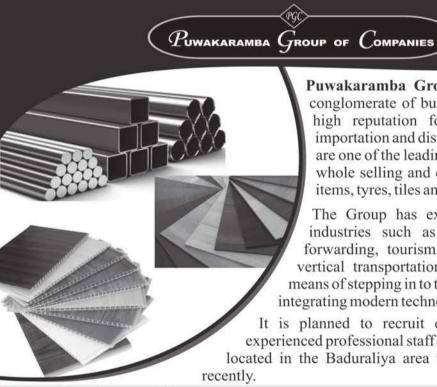
If you have the right qualifications and experience, please submit your curriculum vitae with copies of certificates under registered cover within 10 days of this advertisement to: (The post applied should be indicated on the top left hand corner of the envelope.) Or e mail with all scan copies of certificates to vacancies@lankasathosa.org.

(The organization will correspond only with the sort listed candidates)



The Chairman Lanka Sathosa Limited No.27, CWE Secretariat Building, Vauxhall Street, Colombo 02.





Puwakaramba Group of Companies is a conglomerate of business specialized with a high reputation for over 3 decades for importation and distribution in Sri Lanka. We are one of the leading company in importing, whole selling and distributing for hardware items, tyres, tiles and bath ware appliances.

The Group has expanded its horizons to industries such as manufacturing, freight forwarding, tourism, renewable energy and vertical transportation system solutions as a means of stepping in to the service industry whilst integrating modern technology and global trends.

It is planned to recruit energetic, qualified and experienced professional staff for the proposed factories located in the Baduraliya area which are to be opened

Proposed factories are as follows.

- 1. PVC Ceiling Panel Factory
- 2. PVC Wall Panels Factory
- 3. Ceiling Grids Factory
- 4. GI Box Bar & Round Tubes Factory

WE ARE LOOKING FOR

- PRODUCTION MANAGERS
- TECHNICAL OFFICERS (CIVIL / ELECTRICAL / MACHINERY)
- PRODUCTION SUPERVISORS

Attractive remuneration Package above company standards, performance based Bonus, free accommodation & other fringe benefits will be offered to the right candidates.

Please forward your CV stating the names and address of two non-related referees to the address



Manager - Human Resources 481, Galle Road Rawathawatta, Moratuwa Tel: 0115 541 541 / Fax: 0112 655322 E-mail:puwaagehrd@sltnet.lk

















NATIONAL CHILD PROTECTION AUTHORITY

VACANCIES (RAGAMA AND KARAPITIYA)

Applications are hereby invited from qualified citizens of Sri Lanka for the vacancies mentioned below at Ragama and Karapitiya Vedio Evidence Recording units. The applicants should possess the following qualifications:

EVIDENCE RECORDING ASSISTANT MA 03 (02 Posts)

Qualifications:

External Candidates

Educational:

A Bachelor's Degree in Psychology/ Sociology/ Mass Communication which is recognized by the University **Grants Commission**

ASSISTANT COUNSELOR MA 03 (02 Posts)

Qualifications:

External Candidates

A Bachelor's Degree in Psychology / Sociology / Health Promotion / Education in Special Need / Speech and Hearing Sciences / Drama and Theatre which is recognized by the University Grants Commission.

Diploma in Counseling recognized by the University Grants Commission or Tertiary Vocational Education Commission will be an added advantage.

Other (For the above posts -01,02)

Salary Code and the Monthly Salary Scale of the employee category:

DMS circular 2/2016 -MA 3 Rs.[32,200-10 x 445 -11 x 660 - 10 x 730 -5 x750 - 54,960.00]

In terms of DMS circular No. 02/2016 schedule II the initial salary step of above as at 01.01.2020 is Rs. 32, 200, 00

Age: Age should be not less than 23 years and not more than 45 years. The upper age limit will not apply to the internal candidates.

Recruitment procedure

Recruitment will be done by the results of a written competitive examination and / or a structured interview conducted by a panel appointed by the appointing authority.

VEDIO TECHNICAL ASSISTANT MA 2-1 (02 Posts)

Qualifications

External Candidates

Having obtained a certificate of proficiency not below than the National Vocational Qualification Level 5, issued by a Technical/ Vocational Training Institute accepted by the Tertiary and Vocational Education Commission (Videographing/ Photographing) with one year work related experience.

Internal Candidates:

Having obtained the qualifications required by the

Salary Code and the Monthly Salary Scale of the employee category:

DMS circular No. 2/2016 MA 2-1 Rs.[30,310 -10x300 -7x350 - 4x 495- 20x 660 - 50,940]

In terms of DMS circular No. 2/2016 Schedule II the initial salary step of above as at 01.01.2020 is

Age: Age should be not less than 18 years and not more than 45 years. The upper age limit will not apply to the internal candidates.

Recruitment procedure

Recruitment will be done by the results of a written competitive examination and / or a structured interview conducted by a panel appointed by the appointing authority.

MANAGEMENT ASSISTANT -NON -TECHNOLOGICAL (TYPE SETTING -SINHALA) MA 1-1 (02 Posts)

External Candidates Educational:

- in six subjects in one sitting with credit passes for four subjects including i. Sinhala

1. a) Having passed the G.C.E. (O/L) examination

- ii. English language
- iii. Mathematics
- Having passed three subjects (other than the General Paper) at the G.C.E. (A/L) examination.
- 06 Months Certificate course for Typesetting/ Computer Literacy

Internal Candidates

Employees of the categories of Primary Level-Skilled, Primary Level-Semi skilled and Primary Level-Unskilled who possess the following qualifications are eligible to apply.

Educational:

- Having passed the G.C.E. (O/L) examination in six subjects with credit passes for four subjects including
 - i. Sinhala
 - ii. English language
 - iii. Mathematics
 - 06 Months Certificate course for Typesetting/ b) Computer Literacy

Having completed a minimum of five (05) years satisfactory service in a permanent post under the above employee category.

MANAGEMENT ASSISTANT -NON - TECHNOLOGICAL (TYPE SETTING - TAMIL) MA 1-1 (02 Post)

External Candidates

Educational:

- a) Having passed the G.C.E. (O/L) examination in six subjects in one sitting with credit passes for four subjects including
 - i. Tamil
 - ii. English language
 - iii. Mathematics
- Having passed three subjects (other than the General Paper) at the G.C.E. (A/L) examination.
- 06 Months Certificate course for Typesetting / Computer Literacy

Internal Candidates

Employees of the categories of Primary Level-Skilled, Primary Level-Semi skilled and Primary Level-Unskilled who possess the following qualifications are eligible to apply.

Educational:

- Having passed the G.C.E. (O/L) examination in six subjects with credit passes for four subjects including
 - Tamil
 - English language
 - iii. Mathematics
- 06 Months Certificate course for Typesetting / Computer Literacy

Other:

Having completed a minimum of five (05) years satisfactory service in a permanent post under the above employee category.

MANAGEMENT ASSISTANT -NON-TECHNOLOGICAL (PROOF READING SINHALA) MA 1-1 (02 Posts)

External Candidates

Educational:

- 1. a) Having passed the G.C.E. (O/L) examination in six subjects in one sitting with credit passes for four subjects including
 - Sinhala

examination

- ii. English language
- iii. Mathematics Having passed three subjects (other than the General Paper) at the G.C.E. (A/L)

Internal Candidates

Employees of the categories of Primary Level-Skilled, Primary Level-Semi skilled and Primary Level-Unskilled who possess the following qualifications are

Having passed the G.C.E. (O/L) examination

- in six subjects with credit passes for four subjects including
 - Sinhala
 - English language

iii. Mathematics

Other:

Educational:

Having completed a minimum of five (05) years satisfactory service in a permanent post under the above employee category

MANAGEMENT ASSISTANT – NON-TECHNOLOGICAL (PROOF READING -**TAMIL) MA 1-1 (02 Posts)**

External Candidates

Educational:

- Having passed the G.C.E. (O/L) examination in six subjects in one sitting with credit passes for four subjects including
 - Tamil
 - ii. English language
 - iii. Mathematics
- Having passed three subjects (other than the General Paper) at the G.C.E. (A/L) examination.

Internal Candidates

Employees of the categories of Primary Level-Skilled, Primary Level-Semi skilled and Primary Level-Unskilled who possess the following qualifications are eligible to apply. **Educational:**

- Having passed the G.C.E. (O/L) examination in six subjects with credit passes for four subjects including
 - Tamil
 - ii. English language

iii. Mathematics Other:

Having completed a minimum of five (05) years satisfactory service in a permanent post under the above employee category.

Other (For the above posts -4, 5, 6, 7) Salary Code and the Monthly Salary Scale of

the employee category: DMS circular No. 2/2016 - MA1-1 Rs. [27,910-

10x300 - 7x350 - 4x495 - 20x660 - 48,540.00In terms of DMS circular No. 02/2016 Schedule II the initial salary step of above as at 01.01.2020 is

Rs.27,910.00 Age: Age should be not less than 18 years and not more than 45 years. The upper age limit will not apply to the internal candidates.

Recruitment procedure

Recruitment will be done by the results of a written competitive examination and / or a structured interview conducted by a panel appointed by the appointing authority.

Benefits:

Apart from the basic salary, Cost of Living Allowance will be paid to all posts mentioned above, 12% to EPF and 3% to ETF will be borne by the Authority.

Every applicant should be a citizen of Sri Lanka and should be of excellent moral character and should be physically and mentally fit to discharge the duties of the post well and to serve in any part of the island.

Specimen application form could be downloaded from the official website of the National Child Protection Authority (www.childprotection.gov.lk). Duly Completed applications should be sent only by registered post to reach the following address on or before 12th April 2021. Every application should be sent along with certified copies of Birth Certificate, NIC/Passport, educational, professional qualifications and experience certificates. Separate applications should be sent for each position if you wish to apply for more than one position. The post should be marked on the top left-hand corner of the envelope. Applicants from State sector/ Corporation / Statutory Bodies should send their applications through their Heads of the Organizations.

Incomplete, illegible applications which are not conformity with the above requirements and applications received after the closing date will be rejected without any notice. Any form of canvassing will be a disqualification. Only short-listed candidates will be called for interviews and/or Written Examination. The decision of the Board of Directors of the National Child Protection Authority with regard to these recruitments shall be final.

Chairman,

National Child Protection Authority, No: 330, Thalawathugoda Road,

Madiwela,

Sri Jayawadenapura. Telephone Number - 0112778911- 14

Web Site - www.childprotection.gov.lk

MAJOR INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT IN KATUNAYAKE

We are looking for experienced, reliable and highly motivated individuals to be a part of this prestigious landmark project.

CONSTRUCTION SUPERVISION EXPERTS

* All Candidates must:

- Be below 65 years of age & in good health.
- Corporate Membership (Charter) with specified years of experience is essential.
- Have experience in Construction supervision of multi-storied buildings.

1. ARCHITECT

- One Position/ Duration 35 Months.
- BSc Degree / MSc in Architecture or Equivalent.
- Corporate Membership (Charter). 10 + Years' Experience in working in high rise
- buildings. - Experience in construction works of airports buildings preferred.

2. MECHANICAL ENGINEER

- One Position / Duration 20 Months.
- BSc Degree in Mechanical Engineering or Equivalent. Chartered Engineer and Corporate Member of Institution of Engineers, Sri Lanka with minimum of
- 10 years' experience. Minimum of 3 years work experience in Plumbing, Fire Protection and Mechanical Ventilation and Air
- Conditioning. Experience in construction works of airports buildings preferred.

3. BRIDGE ENGINEER (PRE-CAST)

- One Position / Duration 19 Months.
- BSc Degree in Engineering in Civil Engineering or equivalent. Corporate Membership (Charter) - Chartered Engineer and Corporate Member of
- Institution of Engineers, Sri Lanka with minimum of 10 years' experience in bridge construction and roads.
- Minimum of 2 years work experience in posttensioning of structures.
- Experience in construction works of airports buildings preferred.

4. SENIOR POWER SUPPLY ENGINEER

- One Position / Duration 21 Months.
- BSc Degree in Electrical Engineering or Equivalent. - Corporate Membership (Charter)
- 15 + Years' Experience including minimum 5 years in low and medium voltage systems.
- Experience in construction works of airports buildings preferred

5. SENIOR ELECTRICAL & TELECOM ENGINEER

- One Position / Duration 22 Months. - BSc Degree in Electrical & Telecommunications
- Corporate Membership (Charter) - 15 + Years' Experience including minimum of 5 years' experience in telecommunication background.

- Experience in construction works of airports

buildings preferred

Engineering or Equivalent.

- **6. SENIOR SYSTEM ENGINEER** - One Position / Duration 19 Months.
- BSc Degree in Systems Engineering or Equivalent. - Corporate Membership (Charter)
- 15 + Years' Experience. - Experience in construction works of airports buildings preferred

- 7. SENIOR QUANTITY SURVEYOR
- One Position/36 Months - BSc Degree in Quantity Surveying or Equivalent
- Corporate Membership (Charter)
- 15 + Years Experience - Experience in construction works of airports buildings preferred

- **8. QUANTITY SURVEYOR**
- Two Positions/37 Months
- BSc Degree in Quantity Surveying or Equivalent - Corporate Membership (Charter)
- 10 + Years' Experience - Experience in construction works of airports buildings preferred

buildings preferred

- 9. SENIOR CIVIL ENGINEER One Position/37 Months
- BSc Degree in Civil Engineering - Corporate Membership (Charter)
- 15 + Years Experience in working in high rise buildings.

CONSTRUCTION SUPERVISION SUPPORTING STAFF

All Candidates must:

- Be Below 65 years of age & in good health.
- Corporate Membership (Charter) with specified years of experience is essential.
- Have experience in Construction supervision of multi storied buildings.

10. INSPECTOR 2a (BUILDING)

- Three Positions/Duration 36 Months.
- NDT or equivalent in Civil Engineering - Minimum of 10 years' experience in high rise building
- construction. Experience in construction works of airports
- buildings preferred

11. INSPECTOR 3a (MECHANICAL)

- One Position/Duration 30Months
- NDT or equivalent in Mechanical Engineering.
- Minimum of 10 years' experience in Plumbing, Fire Protection and Mechanical Ventilation and Air Conditioning, Sewage treatment, rain water
- harvesting. Experience in construction works of airports buildings preferred.

12. INSPECTOR 4 (ELECTRICAL)

- One Position/Duration 36 Months.
- Minimum of 10 years' experience in electrical installations and other disciplines such as CCTV
- Experience in construction works of airports buildings preferred

13. INSPECTOR 4a (ELECTRICAL) 2

- NDT or equivalent in Electrical Engineering
- Minimum of 10 years' experience in electrical installations and other disciplines such as CCTV access control in commercial buildings

Experience in construction works of airports

- One Position/ Duration 36 Months. - NDT or equivalent in Civil Engineering
- construction and roads. - Minimum of 2 years work experience in post

- Minimum of 10 years' experience in bridge

buildings preferred

buildings preferred

- One Position/ Duration 38 Months
- NDT or equivalent in Civil Engineering.
- Experience in construction works of airports buildings preferred

Storm and waste water disposal, water transmission

16. AUTO CAD OPERATOR 1 (BUILDING) 2

- One Position/Duration 36 Months. - Experience in construction works of airports buildings preferred

- 17. CHIEF LABORATORY TECHNICIAN
- Minimum of Credit Pass for Mathematics or Science subjects in GCE O/L
- of Chief Lab Technician Experience in construction works of airports

buildings preferred

- **18. LABORATORY TECHNICIAN**
- Four Positions/ Duration 38 Months. - NCT or equivalent course in Civil Engineering
- Minimum of simple Pass for Mathematics or Science subjects in GCE O/L - 15 years' experience in similar Laboratory/Field

testing/Inspection environment. Experience in construction works of airports

- One Position/ Duration 38 Months. - Experience in construction works of airports - Experience in construction works of airports buildings preferred



Head of Human Resources NTP CEYLON (PVT) LTD.

Email: ntpceylonhr@gmail.com

L 2B, Crescat Residencies, No. 75, Galle Road, Colombo 03, Sri Lanka. Tel: +94 11 239 7771 / +94 777 259 808

Daily Acws Daily News Thinakaran

DOWNLOAD TODAY!



Marriage Proposals in the

Best way

to fulfil

your

Future Dreams

Sunday Observer

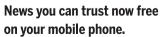
- NDT or equivalent in Electrical Engineering
- access control in commercial buildings
- One Position/Duration 30Months.

14. INSPECTOR 6 (BRIDGE STRUCTURE)

- tensioning of structures and piling works. Experience in construction works of airports
- 15. INSPECTOR 7 (UTILITY)
- Minimum of 10 years' experience in Sewage disposal
- One Position/ Duration 38 Months. - NCT or equivalent course in Civil Engineering
- 15 years' experience in Laboratory/Field testing with minimum of 2 years work experience in the capacity

- buildings preferred 19. SURVEY ASSISTANT
- NOTE: 5 Years + experience in Airfield construction field will carry added weight to your application. If you feel you are the ideal candidate we are looking for, please send your CV to ntpceylonhr@gmail.com along with the position and the position number on the subject line of the email. Alternatively, CV's can be sent through post to the address specified below.





visit - apps.lakehouse.lk

AVAILABLE AT







INTERNATIONAL

SLIIT INTERNATIONAL, the international operation of SLIIT, the largest non-state higher education institute in Sri Lanka, is a state-of-the-art campus with cutting-edge academic infrastructure and facilities at Nawam Mawatha, Colombo 2.

SLIIT INTERNATIONAL has a unique culture that fosters innovation, collaboration and pursuit of excellence.

SLIIT INTERNATIONAL collaborates with reputable overseas universities to offer internationally recognized foreign degree programmes in Sri Lanka.

SLIIT INTERNATIONAL offers Computing and Engineering degree programmes of Curtin University, a leading university in Australia ranked in the top 1% of universities globally (ARWU - 2020).

We would like to invite innovative, enterprising, and career minded persons to join our energetic team to promote internationalization and make a difference in Sri Lankan higher education.

ASSISTANT LECTURER - COMPUTING

- A bachelor's degree in Information Technology / Software Engineering / Computer Systems and Network Engineering / Data Science with 1st or 2nd Class Honours,
- OR a pass in a bachelor's degree AND a one-year master's degree in a specialization mentioned
- Experience in teaching at undergraduate level

ASSISTANT LECTURER - ENGINEERING

- A bachelor's degree in Mechatronics / Mechanical Engineering with 1st or 2nd Class Honours,
- OR a pass in a bachelor's degree AND a one-year master's degree in a specialization mentioned
- Experience in teaching at undergraduate level

A competitive salary commensurate with qualifications and experience will be offered to the successful candidate.

Please send your application via email to careers@sliit.lk, clearly indicating the post applied for in the subject line, to reach us within 14 days of this advertisement.

INTERNATIONAL

SLIIT INTERNATIONAL, established by SLIIT, the largest non-state higher education institute in Sri Lanka, is a state-of-the-art campus with cutting-edge academic infrastructure and facilities at Nawam Mawatha, Colombo 2.

SLIIT INTERNATIONAL has a unique culture that fosters innovation, collaboration and pursuit of excellence.

SLIIT INTERNATIONAL offers Computing and Engineering degree programmes of Curtin University, a leading university in Australia ranked in the top 1% of universities globally (ARWU - 2020).

We would like to invite a highly creative and enterprising person to join our energetic team as Graphic Designer / Visualizer.

GRAPHIC DESIGNER / VISUALIZER

The ideal candidate should possess:

- A bachelor's degree or equivalent professional qualification, or an NVQ level 6 qualification in the relevant field.
- A minimum of 2 years experience in a similar capacity
- Proficiency in using graphic design / animation software packages / tools
- Excellent planning, organsing and time management skills
- A proven track record of success in developing innovative concepts for marketing / branding in a reputable Institute / organization
- A commitment to meeting deadlines

A competitive salary commensurate with qualifications and experience will be offered to the successful candidate.

Please send your application via email to careers@sliit.lk, clearly indicating the post applied for in the subject line, to reach us within 10 days of this advertisement.

THE ASSOCIATED NEWSPAPERS OF CEYLON LIMITED

VACANCIES

The Associated Newspapers of Ceylon Limited (ANCL), widely known as Lake House, is the home and heart of print media in Sri Lanka. The country's pioneer print media institution has a history of over 100 years and 25 years of online publishing continues to occupy the number one spot in the print media industry.

We invite young and dynamic individuals who possess the following qualifications and requirements for the positions mentioned below;

Machine Minders (Sheet Fed) (04 positions)

- Academic Qualifications : * Should have passed G.C.E. (O/L) with six (06) subjects including 03 Credits
- Professional Qualifications: * Should have completed successfully a Certificate Course in Offset Lithography at Sri Lanka Institute of Printing or any other government recognized Institute
- **Work Experience**
- : * Should have 03 years working experience as a Machine Minder at a recognized printing firm

Book Binders (02 positions)

- Academic Qualifications
- : * Should have passed G.C.E. (O/L) with six (06) subjects including 03 Credits
- Professional Qualifications: * Should have completed successfully a Certificate Course
 - in Book Binding at Sri Lanka Institute of Printing or any Other Government recognized Institute.
- **Work Experience**
- : * Should have 03 years working experience as a Book Binder at a recognized printing firm

Trainee Book Binders (02 positions)

- Academic Qualifications : * Should have passed G.C.E. (O/L) with six (06) subjects including 03 Credits
- $\textbf{Professional Qualifications:} \ \, \textbf{\$} \ \, \text{Should have completed successfully a Certificate Course}$ in Book Binding at Sri Lanka Institute of Printing or any Other Government recognized Institute, will be an added qualification

Letter Press Machine Minder (01 position)

- **Academic Qualifications**
- : * Should have passed G.C.E. (O/L) with six (06) subjects including 03 credits
- Work Experience
- : * Should have 03 years working experience as a Letter Press Machine Minder at a recognized printing firm

: Below 35 years Salary: Negotiable

Please send your CV with names and contact details of two non-related referees to the under mentioned address within 7 working days of this advertisement stating the position on the top left corner of the envelope.



Head of Human Capital

THE ASSOCIATED NEWSPAPERS OF CEYLON LTD. No. 35, D.R. Wijewardene Mawatha, Colombo 10. dgm.hc@lakehouse.lk

Our client is a Regulatory body, with a mission to deliver high standard service and contribute to development, to have access to essential infrastructure in the most efficient manner. In order to sustain its service quality, embark on new strategic initiatives and enhance its progressive work culture, they are in search of an exceptionally competent professionals to lead the operations as the;

SECRETARY TO THE COMMISSION

MSL Ref. No.7595

The selected candidate will be reporting to the Chairman and the Commission.

Minimum Qualifications and Experience

- Should be an Attorney- at- Law.
- Postgraduate qualification in a relevant field. • Experience in corporate secretarial practices, Judiciary
- or Administration.
- Possess at least 15 years' experience in handling secretarial services and advising the board in similar organization.

Age - below 45 years.

Job Role

- Perform corporate secretary duties of the Commission.
- Arrange and coordinate Commission meetings by providing all necessary information related to proper conduct of the meetings.
- Recording Commission meeting minutes and the Commission decisions.
- Communicate the Commission decisions to the relevant division heads.
- Maintain Commission decision registry.

Gross Salary - Rs. 250,000.00

DEPUTY DIRECTOR - LEGAL MSL Ref. No.7596

The selected candidate will be reporting to the Director General.

Minimum Qualifications and Experience

- Attorney -at Law with Bachelor of Laws (LLB) from a recognized university.
- Should be a notary public with the license to practice in both Sinhala and English languages.
- Should possess a minimum of fifteen (15) years of experience in handling all types of legal work including litigation, institutional law and consumer, utility or regulatory law is preferred.
- Preference will be given to candidates possessing Master of Laws (LLM)

Age - below 45 years.

Job Role

- Vet all regulatory tools developed by the commission for legal compliance.
- Vet all important correspondence and legal notices of the Commission.
- Represent the Commission (members and staff) at any court action by entities regulated by the commission or
- Represent the Commission at the LD or AG and assist in drafting all Laws relevant to the regulated industries.

Gross Salary - Rs. 200,000.00

☑ No: 08 Tickell Road, Colombo 08. ⊞ mslr@sltnet.lk mww.bposrilanka.com

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY MSL Ref. No. 7597

The selected candidate will be reporting to the Chairman.

Minimum Qualifications and Experience

- Should be an Attorney -at -Law or Charted Secretary.
- Prior experience in handling executive secretarial practices in a similar type of organization.
- Strong Public Relations and Communication skills. Minimum 10 years of experience in the similar capacity.

Age-below 40 years. Job Role

- To provide administrative services including diary management, booking meetings, planning events, organizing travel, and preparing travel itineraries, correspondence, and prioritizing emails for the Chairman.
- To collaborate with the Senior management through regular correspondence, arrange meetings and prepare briefing materials for the Chairman.
- To provide administrative support in the delivery of assignments and initiatives on behalf of the Chairman's office as and when required.
- To ensure all correspondence and relevant materials are produced in a timely and accurate manner. • To coordinate divisional reports and documentation for
- the Commission meetings and other meetings with outside partners. • To coordinate, attend and take minutes for the
- Chairman's meetings and any other relevant meetings. To produce reports for the Chairman as and when
- required. • To follow up on action points from meetings on behalf of the Chairman.
- To provide administrative support to the Chairman in the follow up and completion of divisional works as per the Corporate plan.

Gross Salary -Rs.200,000.00

Other benefit schemes applicable to the above positions

The selected candidates may be entitled to a comprehensive medical insurance scheme, property loan interest reimbursement; Professional membership subscriptions and Post-graduate course fee together with other benefits implemented by the Commission along with other statutory allowances.

Please forward your complete resume with contact details of two non-related referees together with scanned copies of educational, other relevant certificates and a recent photograph to mslr@sltnet.lk within 14 days of this advertisement quoting MSL Ref. No. in the subject line of your e-mail. Only short listed candidates will be contacted and the selection will be based on the performance at the interview.



Bishop's College, Colombo 03.

VACANCY

Applications are invited from candidates with good academic background. personality, physical fitness and good communication skills in English for the following vacancy.

LAB TECHNICIAN

Requirements:

- Qualifications in Laboratory technical course.
- Age Limit below 50 years.
- Minimum 3 years of similar experience with practical and theoretical
- Should be able to assist practicals from grade 6 to A/L's (including local and edexcel syllabus)
- English communication skills mandatory

Closing date for applications: 01st April 2021

Please provide a complete CV along with two non-related referees to:

The Principal,

Bishop's College,

#15, Boyd Place, Colombo 03.

E-mail: hr@bishopscollegecolombo.com



UNIVERSITY OF VOCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY ((((())))



VACANCIES

Director/Chief Executive Officer at University College of Jaffna

University of Vocational Technology established by the Act No.31 of 2008 invites applications from suitably qualified citizens of Sri Lanka to serve as Director / Chief Executive Officer at the University College of Jaffna.

Nature of Appointment:

• Three years contract with an initial salary of Rs. 100,000/- per month with an annual increment of Rs. 10,000/- along with other applicable allowances to the post. Selected candidates will become contributors to the "Employees Provident Fund and Employees Trust Fund".

This Position is entitled to,

- Assigned Vehicle
- Fuel Allowance
- Communication Allowance
- Interim Allowance (DMS Circular 01/2015)

Age Limit:

Age should be not less than Thirty Five (35) years and not more than Fifty Four (54) Years. Upper age limit is not applicable to the applicants who are in Government services.

1. (a) A degree with specialization in the field of Engineering, Economics, Business Management or Similar Subjects.

(b) Corporate membership of a recognized professional Chartered Institution or Corporate membership of Institute of Engineers Sri Lanka.

AND

A Master Degree obtained in the field of Engineering, Economics, Business Management or Similar Subject

3. (a) Candidate should have been in the post of Senior Lecturer Grade I or above post of a University.

(b) Candidate should have at least ten 10 years experience in a post of senior managerial level in a public institution / establishment or recognized private mercantile establishment after obtaining first degree / professional qualification.

OR

(c) Candidates should be an officer in an all island services serving 15 years or more in the executive capacity and out of the 15 years, 03 years should be in the Grade I or above post of the relevant service.

Selection Procedure:

Structured Interview.

Please refer www.univotec.ac.lk for application

Other Conditions:

- Duly filled application form of the applicants indicating the academic and professional qualifications should be sent to the Director General, No. 100, Kandawala, Ratmalana by registered post on or before 28.04.2021. The achievements of the career path should be specifically mentioned.
- Applicants presently employed in Higher Educational Institutions, Government Departments and Government Corporations should forward their application through the Heads of their Institutions.
- The post applied should indicate clearly on the top left hand corner of the envelope.
- Incomplete applications will be rejected.
- Only the short listed applicants will be called for the interview.

Vice Chancellor University of Vocational Technology

No.100, Kandawala, Rathmalana 28th March 2021

Tel: 0112630706 Web: www.univotec.ac.lk

Vácáncies

Staff required for the ADB funded project. Wind-Solar

Hybrid Park.Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Note: All positions - at least half the time should be spent in Jaffna – excellent accommodation provided.

Environmental Expert/Deputy Team Leader

Required Qualifications - Post graduate degree ; 10 yrs in conducting EIAs ; At least 3 Env. Assessments in wind-solar projects; preferably experience in noise modeling and shadow flicker modeling.

Duration - 6.25 months

Biodiversity Expert

Required Qualifications - Post graduate/ doctoral degree 8 years in conducting environmental assessments; expert from Northern province preferred

Duration - 3.25 months - Intermittent within 7 months

Health Safety Expert

Required Qualifications - Engineering graduate with industrial safety courses like NEBOSH, Diploma in Safety etc; experience in working in energy sector

Duration - 1.5 months - Intermittent within 7 months

please send over your CV with contact details. Further details Mr. Jayantha Perera 077 - 644 3454 E mail: info@emlconsultants.com

Vacancy Announcement -**Diplomatic Mission**

Job title – Policy Officer Political and Cultural Affairs

Please find a more elaborate job description online: www.netherlandsandyou.nl/your-country-and-the-netherlands/ sri-lanka/latest-news

General information:

- Location: The Netherlands Embassy No: 25, Torrington Avenue, Colombo 07.
- Working hours per week: 40 •

Tasks:

- Policy and advice: 1. supply regular oral & written reporting to the (Deputy) Head of Mission (HoM) on the following main topics: cultural heritage and contemporary arts, political and human rights developments in Sri Lanka and if opportune the Maldives and geo-political developments in and around Sri Lanka, 2. provide high quality advice on policy development on the main topics and on effective ways of implementing policy (strategy/ approaches), 3. explain independently the Dutch policies and priorities to the Sri Lankan public and effectively represent the Embassy, 4. scout outreach opportunities for the (Deputy) HoM and prepare, write speeches and follow up on meetings with public, private, CSO and academic representatives.
- Project management: 1. implement the strategies/approaches by developing them into (multi-/annual) projects and activities, 2. plan and implement existing and new projects and activities, 3. identify and act on cross-sectoral opportunities, notably in the economic and agricultural sector (other priority sectors of the Embassy), and cross-linkages with the reconciliation and sustainability agenda, 4. pro-active partnership building with (non-)governmental organisations in Sri Lanka and the Netherlands.
- Communication and social media: 1. advice the (Deputy) HoM on communication and engagement with the media, 2. codevelop and implement the Public Diplomacy and Netherlands branding agenda of the Embassy, including organising events and providing content for websites and (social) media.
- Embassy team efforts: 1. being part of the Embassy event team on a rotating basis to co-organise Embassy events, 2. maintain online workspaces, register contacts and archive work as per the Embassy rules, 3. any other task assigned to the Policy Officer on the basis of professional capabilities and capacity as deemed

Requirements:

- Level of education: university level;
- Level of experience: at least 5 years' experience required;
- S/he has a thorough knowledge of Sri Lanka's political development, its governance structure and the human rights
- S/he has experience with or is familiar with cultural heritage and contemporary arts;
- S/he has strong analytical and project development skills;
- S/he has an external orientation, representation skills, extensive networks and the ability to effectively use networks;
- S/he has experience and/or affiliation with human rights, gender equality, Public Diplomacy and communication;
- S/he works independently, has organisation skills and is result
- oriented as well as creative and flexible; S/he has the ability to work with different software and has
- financial skills: S/he has excellent written and oral communication skills in English and Sinhalese. Knowledge of Tamil and/or Dutch is an

You can apply until 11 April 2021. We need to receive your CV and motivation letter by e-mail: col@minbuza.nl

The largest **Job Market** in Sri Lanka

www.observerjobs.lk



Widest reach for your employment advertisement Email: info@observerjobs.lk Hotline: 1949

> For more information 0777270012 / 0112429314

VACANCIES

LEESONS HOSPITAL (PVT) LTD #33, Tewatta Road, Ragama

- **ASSISTANT ACCOUNTANT** ■ Part qualification in Chartered or CIMA
 - Minimum 3 years experience in the similar capacity
- ACCOUNTS CLERK (1 year experience) (female) Good knowledge on Accounts & Computers. Ability to work in a

flexible hours. **SECRETARY** - Female

- Excellent written, verbal communication both English & Sinhala
- Minimum 2 years experience in the similar capacity.

PUBLIC RELATION OFFICER (PRO) - Female IT EXECUTIVE - Minimum 1 year experience in the similar capacity

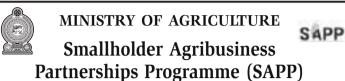
ASSISTANT PHARMACIST (1 year experience)

TELEPHONE OPERATORS - (Female) STORES ASSISTANT - (Female)

■ Minimum 1 year experience in the hospital background AIR CONDITIONER TECHNICIAN

ELECTRICIAN

Salary Negotiable Walk-in interview will be starting from 29^{th} to 02^{nd} April 2021 from 9.30 a.m. to 11.30 a.m.



VACANCIES

Smallholder Agribusiness Partnerships (SAPP) Programme is a project, implemented under the Ministry of Agriculture jointly funded by the Government of Sri Lanka (GOSL) and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). The total programme cost is US\$ 105 Million and it is designed to contribute to Sri Lanka's smallholders' poverty reduction and competitiveness. It mainly focuses on the development of 4P (Public, Private, Producer Partnerships) value chain projects in collaboration with private sector promoter companies, Farmer/Producer Organizations and farmers to develop production and marketing system with commercial orientation while increasing the income of rural communities for sustainable rural development. The programme is implemented islandwide.

Applications are invited from the citizens of Sri Lanka with the below mentioned qualifications to fill the vacancies in the Programme Management Unit.

PROCUREMENT SPECIALIST - 01 POST

Summary of Responsibilities

Procurement Specialist of SAPP is responsible for managing the project's supply of products, materials and or services (including consultancies). In order to strategize with team members to cut or effective utilization of procurement expenses, he/she should capitalize his/her all skills and competencies for the benefit of the project in consultation with the Higher Management.

Qualifications/Experience Required:

1. A Bachelor's Degree holder preferably in the field of Economics, Commerce, Business Administration, Management, Accounting or any other relevant field

in a recognized Professional Body and At least 12 years of post-qualifying practical experience at managerial level

Associate membership / similar professional qualifications

Corporate/Chartered Membership in a recognized Professional Body with 9 years post qualifying experience at managerial level

An Officer of the Government All Island Services Class I with at least 10 years' experience in Class I post with required experience specified above.

Experience with a professional qualification successfully completed by a recognized professional body in the relevant field would be a special advantage.

All the Qualifications should be in the relevant field of the post.

Note: Working experience in a similar or higher capacity in a donor funded project would be considered a significant advantage.

Languages- Excellent written and verbal communication skills in English and Sinhala/Tamil is a must with sound knowledge in Microsoft office packages as most of the work need to be done by him/herself. Working knowledge of another official language is desirable.

Salary Scale: Based on the Management Services Circular 01/2019

- Rs. 160,000 (Initial Salary scale) + CoLA
- Rs. 175,000 + CoLA (with two increments, salary scale at the 3rd Year and till end of the programme period)

General Conditions Applicable for the Above Mentioned Positions **Duration of services:**

The incumbent will be appointed for the program period i.e. 30 June 2023, subject to annual renewal based on the performances reviewed.

6 months of probation period and performance to be reviewed and confirmed in the post after the probation period.

Age Limit -Below 64 years by the closing date of application.

Location - Programme Management Unit (PMU) is in Nawala. However, traveling to project locations are involved frequently.

Languages- Excellent written and verbal communication skills in English and Sinhala. Working knowledge of another official language is desirable.

The employee will be member of the Employees' Provident Fund and Employee Trust Fund and contributions would be made to the said schemes by the Employer and Employee in accordance with the relevant Acts.

Method of Selection

Only shortlisted applicants based on the highest qualifications and experience, will be called for an interview and selection will be based on the performance at the interview.

Applications giving all particulars of qualifications, experience and other relevant information with two non-related referees should be sent under registered cover with the name of the post as appearing in the advertisement written on the top left hand corner of the envelope to the Programme Director, Smallholder Agribusiness Partnerships Programme, No. 214/A, Nawala Road, Rajagiriya or by an e-mail (info@sapp.lk) within 2 weeks of this advertisement date.

Applicants employed in Govt. Departments, State Corporations, Boards and Authorities will be given the highest priority and their applications should be sent through the Heads of their respective organizations.

Programme Director.

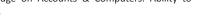
Smallholder Agribusiness Partnerships Programme (SAPP) No. 214/A, Nawala Road, Rajagiriya

BE BETTER INFORMED! News you can trust now free on your mobile phone.









Observer Jobs. R 2

INSIDE

OTHER ADVERTISEMENTS

Horticilturisht (01) - Male

- 1. Candidates should have a 2 year Agriculture Diploma (NVQ 5/6) from recognized Sri Lankan Agriculture Institute or equivalent professional Qualifications.
- 2. Experience in Floriculture will be added Advantages.
- 3. At least 2 year of experience working in the field of cut foliage plant and export Company. Passed G.C.E. O/L English
- Language. 5. Riding/Drivers License would be an advantage.
- 6. Around Katana Area is will be

advantage. Please send your full CV along with your salary expectations to

E-mail: info@asiancuttingslk.com

Asian Cutting Lanka (Pvt) Ltd. Kandawala, Katanà. Telephone No. 031 2240152 / 031 2241599

Senior Accounts Assistant

Minimum 3 years Experience

Sales Assistants - Outlets

Minimum 2 years Experience

Forward your CV'S

rajabojunhr@gmail.com

Raja Bojun (Pvt)Ltd. Liberty Arcade 282 R.A.De. Mel Mawatha,



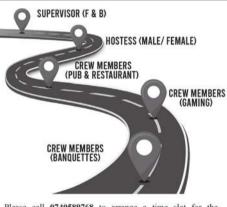


CAREER **OPPORTUNITIES**

Browns Group being one of Sri Lanka's largest diversified conglomerates expands its presence in the entertainment and hospitality sector through its prestigious subsidiaries, Excel World and Excel Restaurants (Pvt) Ltd.

Excel Restaurants (Pvt) Ltd. manages reputed restaurant brands in the country including, Darley rd. Pub & Restaurant, Loon Tao, Floor by O!, Shore by O! & The Four Leafed Clover.

WE HAVE FOLLOWING VACANCIES TO BE FILLED ON URGENT BASIS.

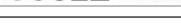


Please call 0740589768 to arrange a time slot for the interview or please email your cv to careers@excelworld.lk

Human Resource Department Excel World Entertainment Park, No.338, T B Jayah Mawatha, Colombo -10

THE COLOR OF SHORE OF PARK PRE





SENIOR TECHNICAL OFFICER (for Road Project - Polonnaruwa)

Requirements:

- NCT (Civil) or equivalent
- Minimum 10 years experience in road projects

Accommodation will be provided and salary negotiable.

ASSISTANT TECHNICAL OFFICER (for Road Project - Polonnaruwa)

Requirements:

- NCT (Civil) or equivalent
- Minimum 02 years experience in road projects

Accommodation will be provided and salary negotiable.

Email your CV to: slconstructions10@gmail.com including the position applied for on the subject line.



Sunday Observer

Is the best way to fulfil your Future Dreams

WATER TECHNICIAN

A leading Dyestuffs and Chemical Company have a vacancy for above post. Individual with 02 years experience and liaising with local bodies are preferred.

- Visit customers and maintain
- water treatment plants. · Good knowledge in water
- testing parameters. · Writing reports and proposals for water treatment plants

Kindly send your resume within 07 days

The Director

DEVI TRADING COMPANY.

125, Bankshall Street, Colombo - 11. Tel Nos: 011-2 335124-5 E-mail: devi@devitrading.com

POST OF ACCOUNTANT

Experienced Accountant for a leading Catering Company situated at Panagoda, specially who was working in a Star Hotel. Age below 50 years. Attractive salary negotiable. Apply to

American Caterers (Pvt) Ltd., Templeburg Industrial Zone, Panagoda, Homagama. Contact 0715354049 Email: dilfoodspytltd@gmail.com

VACANCY

We are looking for energetic, self-motivated individuals to fill the below vacancies immediately Our office is located in Rajagiriya.

SALES REPRESENTATIVES (Colombo, Gampaha, Kadawatha, Ampara,

- Batticaloa, Jaffna) Experience in field sales of motor spares, hardware & electrical items will be an
- advantage. Must have own motor bike.
- Monthly income Rs. 55,000/- to 65,000/-

070-6523416 / 070-6988871

Please apply within 07 days E-mail: careers @somapalaco.com

Colombo Dockyard PLC Sri Lanka's Pioneer Shipbuilding & Ship Repairing Center **VACANCIES**

Post of Executive (Stores Management)

Required Qualifications;

- A Degree or Advanced Qualification in Stock/Inventory Management/ Material Control from a recognized institute.
- At least 10 years' Experience in Similar Capacity in a Reputed Organization . Heavy Engineering Firm or in relevant field.
- Qualification in Mechanical Engineering (NCT, City & Guilds or equivalent qualification) would be an Advantage.
- Good Analytical Skill and Experience in Required Computer Applications.

Administrative Assistant (Purchasing)

Required Qualifications;

- Passed GCE (A/L) & GCE (O/L) with Credit Passes for Sinhala, English and Mathematics.
- IT Literacy including practical knowledge in MS Excel,
- Diploma in Material Procurement field/Equivalent professional qualification,
- Good Working Experience in the material procurement field, will be added advantageous qualifications.

General Requirements:

- Good working knowledge of English (writing, understanding and communication).
- Should be a highly motivated & energetic individual with good physique who can work under extremely challenging/demanding conditions and a team player with sound interpersonal skills.
- It is essential that the applicants should be able to commit for work in late hours, weekends and holidays as and when required.

Please email your complete resume hrd@cdl.lk within 07 days of this

Colombo Dockyard PLC

Graving Docks, Port of Colombo, Colombo 15. Email:hrd@cdl.lk

advertisement. The post applied should be stated as the subject of the email.

The General Manager (Human Resource Development & Administration)

Telephone : 0112429000

VACANCY FOR ASSISTANT STORE KEEPER

Esteem Engineering (Pvt) Ltd. We are a fast growing construction company based in Biyagama, currently looking for right candidates.

Key Requirements Gender - Male

One year experience in Store Keeping

A/L Commerce

Please forward your CV: esteemengineering. plc@gmail.com / 0114063228

ACCOUNTS ASSISTANTS

- Passed in GCE A/L (Preferably in Commerce) Full or part qualification in AAT or similar Accountancy Course will be an added
- Should be computer literate (MS Office)
 - Age should be around 25 years Possess excellent communication skills

Kayo Trading Pvt. Ltd., No. 101/7, Hunupitiya Lake Road, Colombo 2.

info@kayotr.com



Civil and Mechanical Divisions

Chartered Engineers

- BSc (Civil / Mechanical) Chartered Engineers with minimum 10 years' experience
- Project Management tools a must
- Age below 40 years
- Should be capable to work individually under pressure with long hours and travel to any place in the country

Project Managers

- ➤ BSc Civil Engineers with minimum 05years' experience
- ➤ Project Management tools a must
- ► Age below 30 years
- Should be capable to work individually under pressure with long hours and travel to any place in the country
- Good team work and communication skills

- ▶ BSc Civil Engineering with one year experience or NDT with 5 years of experience
- ► Having Aluminium/ Ceiling experience will be an added advantage
- Knowledge in computers, CAD Microsoft office is a must

Technical Officer

➤ NCT or equivalent qualification with minimum 3 years experience in Leisure sector preferable

Storekeeper

- Successful completion of GCE (O/L) examination
- Age should be below 35 years
- Ability to work in system will be an added advantage

Please forward your complete resume by mail/ e-mail with contact details of two non-related referees and a passport size photograph to reach us on or before 02nd April2021, indicating the post applied for on the top left corner of the envelope or in the subject cage of the e-mail. Any form of canvasing will be a disqualification.

Email to: hr@accessprojects.lk

Access Projects (Pvt) Ltd

Access Tower I, No 278, Union Place, Colombo 02

ICTAD-C1 & ISO 9001-2015 certified Company

Eco Solve is an ISO 9001: 2015 certified Lighting Solution provider. We design & manufacture LED lights in Sri Lanka since 2010. With the idea of further promoting our brand in Colombo & Kandy, we wish to fill the following vacancies immediately.

Managers / Assistant Managers

(Colombo / Kandy)

- Qualifications;
- Age 28-35
- Must be Fluent in English
- G.C.E (A/L) Passed
- Minimum 5 years experience in Sales - Living in Colombo & Kandy Districts - preferred

 Having valid driving license Successful candidates will be entitled for an attractive remuneration package with a car and sales commission.

If you possess the above qualifications, please forward your CV within 10 days of the publication with details of two non - related referees to careers@ecosolve.lk



Eco Solve Pvt Ltd

No, 27 Colombo Road, Kandana

For classified advertisements and for replies

received in response to advertisements published under Lake House box numbers

> Manager front office +94 112429341 **Hotline 1949**

A leading International School in Colombo with a student body of diverse cultures is looking for a dynamic personality to take over the role in the capacity of

PRINCIPAL

- Key Responsibilities O Provide strategic direction to the school system, standardized curricula, assess teaching
- methods and monitor student achievement. O Encourage parent involvement and manage the partnership with international curriculum

providers who are currently partners of the school.

- Candidate Profile • A sound education background from a reputed University preferably a Masters qualification
- in a key area of interest in the field of education. O Should have served as a Principal of a reputed International, Government, Private School in Sri Lanka or Overseas with at least 5 years' experience in the capacity of Principal. • A candidate with work experience in the capacity of Deputy Principal with more than 10
- years' experience is also eligible to apply. O Teaching in a key subject in the O / Level or A / Level stream will be an added advantage.
- O A strong disciplinarian able to drive academic, non-academic issues related to a School.
- O A proven track record of leadership skills to motivate and inspire a team in today's challenging environment. O A pleasant personality with a passion for teaching, grooming, and guiding students
- O Strong communication skills and public speaking skills. O Respond immediately to concerns from parents, students, teachers and School Administrators.

O Excellent management skills, decision-making skills and the right attitude. Please forward your complete resume in PDF format with contact details of two non-related referees to mslr@sltnet.lk within 10 days of this advertisement quoting MSL Ref. No7598 in

An attractive, negotiable remuneration package awaits the right candidate.



throughout their academic career.

the subject line of your e-mail.

™ No: 08 Tickell Road, Colombo 08. mslr@sltnet.lk mww.bposrilanka.com

The Housewives' companion Classifieds on Daily Actus

Bishop's College, Colombo 03.

VACANCY

Applications are invited from candidates with good academic background, personality, physical fitness and good Communication skills in English for the following vacancy.

ADVANCED LEVEL - LONDON (Pearson Edexcel)

MATHEMATICS

Requirements:

- Degree/Diploma from a reputed University or Higher Education Institute in Mathematics
- Age Limit below 50 years.
- Minimum of 2 years of teaching experience in the particular subject as a teacher at school level.
- English communication skills mandatory
- Team worker

Closing Date for applications: 01st April 2021

Please provide a complete CV along with two non related referees to:

The Principal,

Bishop's College,

#15, Boyd Place, Colombo 03.

e-mail: hr@bishopscollegecolombo.com

IMMEDIATE VACANCIES

SMEC International Pty. Ltd., Australia, company which is one of the leading International Engineering Consultancy organizations in the world. Vacancy exists for the following positions in this organization; to work in projects in Colombo.

Contract Specialist

- A Graduate Civil Engineer with at least 15 years relevant experience in procurement and contract management, out of which at least 10 years should be in externally funded projects.
- Knowledge of Construction law dispute resolution and arbitration procedures are essential.

Senior Construction Engineers

- Graduate Civil Engineers with cooperate membership of a professional institution and at least 15 years relevant experience in construction management of civil engineering projects out of which at least 10 years should be in construction of sewer pumping stations and/or sewer network or related systems.
- At least 05 years' experience in externally funded projects or overseas is desirable.

Engineering Assistants

- NDT/HNDE/NDES of NAB/ D.Tech, NVQ Level 6 or 7 in Civil Engineering with at least 02 years in plant training or.
- Government Technical Officers Examination (Civil), Part 1 with 10 years' work experience or
- NCT (Civil) with 5 years of work experience.
- Experience should cover minimum of 3 years in Water supply / Drainage & Sewer works. Should have a high level of Computer literate.

Please submit CVs to the address given below.

Email: Buddhini.Ranasinghe@smec.com



SMEC International Pty Ltd. Level 2A, Parkland 1, No. 33, Park Street, Colombo 2





MINISTRY OF PLANTATION

TEA RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF SRI LANKA

TEA RESEARCH BOARD



POST OF ESTATE MEDICAL PRACTITIONER ST. COOMBS ESTATE, TALAWAKELLE

Applications are invited from the citizens of Sri Lanka for the above post.

Job Description:

Maintaining a Healthy Workforce by attending to their day-to-day medical needs under the guidance of Superintendent. Also should be able to maintain all relevant documents and co-ordinate health services with Health Department.

Educational Qualifications:

GCE (O/L) Examination with English & Arithmetic / Mathematics (This will not apply to those who have experience in the Trade)

Registered member of the Ceylon Medical College Council

Experience:

4 years' experience as a Junior Estate Medical Assistant (JEMA)

Rs. 32, 320/= - 1,350 x 40 - Rs. 86,320/= Annual Increment - Rs. 1,350/=

Should not be less than 22 years and not more than 45 years.

The post is permanent. The Selected candidate will be required to work at St. Coombs Estate, Talawakelle or any other Estates managed by the Tea Research Institute of Sri Lanka as per the service requirements.

Application giving full Curriculum Vitae along with the copy of Birth certificate, copies of relevant Educational and other Professional Qualifications, Service Certificates and the Names and Addresses of two Non-Related Referees who can assess the applicant skills and knowledge in the relevant field, should be sent under registered cover to reach the undersigned on or before 12th April 2021.

Applications from officers in the State Service / Corporations / Statuary Boards should be forwarded through the Head of the respective Institutions. Non-conformity with this requirement will result in the application being rejected. Also state the post applied for on the top left-hand corner of the envelope. Kindly visit Tea Research Institute's Website: www.tri.lk - For information.

> The Director TEA RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF SRI LANKA St Coombs, Talawakelle.

ARE YOU EMPLOYED...???

RUSH, COME JOINUS. MONTHLYRS.40000/75000. + Plus /AGE 22-45

MALE AND FEMALE. / WITHA/LOREXPERIENCE WITHO/L EMPLOYMENTINCOLOMBO

Forward your CVvacancyjob354@gmail.com

NEGOMBO SOUTH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL Piliyandala Branch

Spoken English Instructress

Local Secondary

•Science •History •Computer •Sinhala English Literature
 English
 Mathematics

London O/L Chemistry
 English

Primary

• Gr 2 class teachers • Elocution Local A/L • General English

HR Manager, No.304/10,Wawanawatta,Piliyandala Tel: 0114382080 / 0773328312 Email: nsispiliyandalahr@gmail.com



State Pharmaceuticals Corporation of Sri Lanka

VACANCY

State Pharmaceuticals Corporation is the sole importer of pharmaceuticals and medical devices for the government hospitals and the leading importer and distributor of pharmaceuticals for the private sector in Sri Lanka.

Applications are invited from suitably qualified Sri Lankan citizens to fill the following

MANAGER (PROMOTION & PUBLICITY) MM 1.1 - GRADE II -(01 VACANCY)

(a) (i) Bachelor's Degree relevant to the field of Mass Communication of a University/ Institution recognized by the University Grants Commission,

(ii) Any other equivalent Degree of a University/ Institution recognized by the University Grants Commission.

(b) Computer Literacy

And

And

(c) Minimum of three years post qualifying experience in the field of Mass Communication/ Mass Media of a Public! Corporation/ Board/ Statutory body/ Reputed Mercantile Establishment.

Salary Scale: Rs. 53,175/- 1375/- x 10, 1910/- x 15 - 95,575/-

(Approximate monthly remuneration will be around Rs. 115,474/-)

: Should not be less than 18 years and not more than 45 years. The upper age limit will not be applicable to Internal Candidates.

Fringe Benefits:

The selected candidates will be entitled to an attractive range of fringe benefits including a monthly attendance incentive, encashment of unutilized sick leave, annual bonus and profit sharing incentive, welfare benefits, medical benefits and medical insurance scheme for the employee and the family for hospitalization.

Applications should be with full bio-data including age, qualifications, training, work experience, present position, salary point and scale, previous positions held, dates of joining and leaving the previous employers, together with copies of educational & service certificates and names with addresses of two non-related referees.

Please note that the applications without copies of the relevant certificates will be rejected.

Applications from employees of Public Sector Organizations should be forwarded through the respective Heads of Institutions.

Envelopes enclosing applications should be marked the post applied for on the top left hand corner and should be sent under registered cover on or before 07.04.2021 to reach,

Deputy General Manager - Human Resources & Administration State Pharmaceuticals Corporation of Sri Lanka 75, Sir Baron Jayathilake Mawatha Colombo 01.

Tel. 011 2320356/9

Marriage Proposals Hamilton of Treated Streets

Highlight your Marriage Proposal Ad to get more attraction



Additionally pay only RS. 500/-

classified@lakehouse.lk

011 2 429 383 Ramani - 011 2 429 347 011 2 429 342 Susantha - 011 2 429 343

Fax - 011 2 429 375/380

IMMEDIATE VACANCIES

TECHNICAL OFFICERS CIVIL

SITE SUPERVISORS CIVIL

TRAINEE Q.S. CIVIL

STORES ASSISTANCE 1 Year to 3 Years Experience

Wisal Constructions Pvt Ltd, No. 103/69, Cinnamond Gardens,

Mithree Mawatha, Ekala, Jaela. Email: wisalconstructions@gmail.com

Mobile: 0717215515

Vacancy

For Latest Project in Colombo Area

B.Sc. (Elect) or equivalent with 5 years construction experience

B.Sc. or equivalent with 2 years construction experience

Construction Superintendents

NDT (Civil) or equivalent with 3 years construction experience

lease E-mail your CV with contact details to us within 7 days and the post applied for should be mentioned on the subject line of your email

JCK Construction (Pvt) Ltd 0382288559/info@jck.lk/janaka@jck.lk

VACANCIES

Immediate Vacancies for the Lecturers Departments of English, Management, Banking / Finance & IT.

(For Basic Degree/ Masters/ PhD) Full Time / Part Time

Please forward your CV to infosdticampus@gmail.com

© 076 999 888 9

VACANCY FOR

TECHNICAL OFFICER (TO) (Male)

For housing scheme in Negombo

Qualifications:

NCT Civil or equivalent with 2 years experience.

EPCI (PVT) LTD., No. 01/A, Gampaha Road,

0777-689769, 0777-689787, 0777-689864

E-mail: ekalaprestress@gmail.com

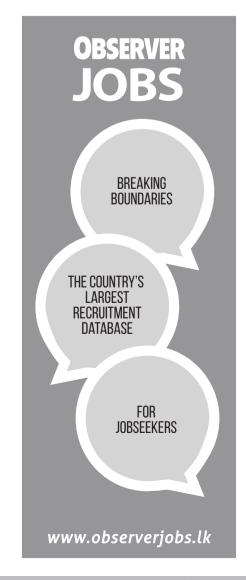
Mabima, Makevita

Best wav to fulfil your **Future Dreams**



in the

Sunday Observer





SUNDAY OBSERVER TENDER AND OTHER ADVERTISEMENTS



Take Pride in Contributing to the **National Development**

The Uva Wellassa University is setting new trends in Undergraduate, Speciality, Corporate as well as Continuing Education by focusing on value addition to the national resource base. The academic programs of the University have been carefully designed to bring up a new generation of graduates competent in creating value to their employers. You could also become a partner in this great national endeavor.

Procurement Notice

The Chairman, Procurement Committee of Uva Wellassa University invites bids from eligible bidders to provide the following Services.

Description	No. of Vehicles	Tender No.	Tender collection fee/ Non refundable
Hire/ Lease of Vehicle (for three (03) years)			
01. Motor Car sedan (1490CC-1600CC / Petrol / Non Hybrid / Air Conditioned / Toyota, Nissan or equal (for Vice Chancellor)"	01	UWU/GA/V/21/01	Rs. 2,000.00
02. Motor Car Sedan (1490CC-1600CC / Perol / Hybrid or non Hybrid/ Air conditioned / Toyota, Nissan or equal (for Registrar, Deans, Librarian).	04		

A complete set of bidding documents may be purcliased by any bidder, on submission of a written request to the Deputy Registrar (General Administration and upon production of a receipt as respect of payment of a non refundable fee in above mentioned each tender for the Shroff of the Uva Wellassa University between 9.00 a.m. and 3.00 p.m on any working day or direct deposit cash to the Bank of Ceylon A/C No. 3114820 from 28.03.2021 to 19.04.2021. The bidder can also download the bidding documents from the University website. http.//www.uwu.ac.lk/procurement. Those who are obtaining bidding documents from the University website should submit the complete documents along with a Bank Draft drawn in favour of the "Uva Wellassa University" for as mentioned above as no refundable fee or the payments could be made to any branch of the Bank of Ceylon to Uva Wellassa University, A/C No. 3114820 and the cash receipt/deposit slip should be attached with the bidding documents. Bidders may also examine the bidding documents free of charge.

Bids must be delivered or sent under registered post at or before 2.00 p.m. on 20.04.2021 and will be opened immediately thereafter. Bidder or his authorized representative (with a letter of authorization) is allowed to be present at the time of opening of bids. The tenders enclosed in a sealed envelope and should be marked relevant Tender No. on the top left corner of the envelope as indicated above and should be sent either by registered post to the Chairman, Procurement Committee, Uva Wellassa University, Passara Road, Badulla or can be deposited in the tender box at the Registrar's Office of Uva Wellassa University.

Further details could be obtained from Deputy Registrar (General Administration) on telephone No. 055-2226470 during office hours.

Chairman, **Procurement Committee, Uva Wellassa University**

Badulla. 28.03.2021





Media Empowerment for a Democratic Sri Lanka (MEND) Program Call for Expression of Interest: A Citizen Journalism Project

The IREX MEND Program: The International Research & Exchanges Board (IREX) is implementing the

USAID-funded Media Empowerment for a Democratic Sri Lanka (MEND) program. The goal of MEND is to improve citizens' demand for and access to balanced and reliable news and information and to support Sri Lanka's efforts to strengthen media freedom and democratic governance. One of the core objectives of the MEND program is to foster dialogue on national reconciliation.

Program Description: When the COVID-19 pandemic hit Sri Lanka, the media was, like everyone caught unprepared. MEND sprang into action and initiated an island-wide reporting program. Working with local partners, a 30-minute online video news magazine was produced daily, highlighting stories of particular interest relating to COVID-19, debunking fake news surrounding the pandemic and "cures," consulting experts on the best ways to protect oneself, and other issues.

In just a few months, it had reached over 800,000 viewers. The program was a success because it filled a niche: fresh, immediate stories from the most remote parts of Sri Lanka. Budding journalists equipped with enthusiasm and mobile phones can create wonders. Citizen journalism also gives the mainstream media a run for its money: established outlets face competition from ordinary people with basic tools, who do not have the overhead or policy impediments that often constrict professional journalists.

IREX/MEND would now like to take this program to a new level. IREX is seeking a partner organization to create a sustainable citizen journalism project, capitalizing on the advantages of the format — its ubiquity, immediacy, and freshness — while seeking to minimize the downside (lack of knowledge of laws, ethics, and techniques)

IREX envisions creating a dedicated platform for stories. This will be developed and curated by the partner organization. The platform will be maintained by professional journalists, who can vet the stories for possible legal or ethical problems, as well as improve content as/if necessary.

IREX will also work with the partner organization to develop a training curriculum that will be made available to citizen journalists. This will be in the form of webinars, workshops, and mentoring sessions to help the CJs hone their

Who is eligible?

IREX encourages potential local partners - media associations, media-based local organizations, media training institutes, new start-up groups with a proven journalistic background, to express their interest.

Evaluation Criteria

IREX will evaluate expressions of interest and concept notes based on the innovative ideas presented, the ability to reach out to a wider audience, the ability to generate inclusive and vibrant dialogue online, and the potential to engage youth and marginalized groups.

How to apply

Interested organizations are encouraged to submit the following documents for consideration:

- a. Expression of Interest (500 words Max)
- b. Brief concept note including a problem analysis, objective, anticipated results, program idea (activities), monitoring strategies and sustainability (1500 words max).
- d. Organizational Registration

Deadlines: Expressions of Interest should be submitted by midnight April 9, 2021 Applications should be sent to kjayatilake@irex.org with the subject line Expression of Interest: A Citizen Journalism Project. No telephone calls will be entertained.



AG170XXXX DANXIA SUPER 2.2, 4LZ2200-AUTO (SUNTEC) - 60hp 2018 On view to vehicles 8.30 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. Jagath-0773743431, Kumara-0713327281, Niluka-0777558423, Dushyantha- 0777689596, Dananjaya-0772241567, Lakmal-0773437420, Buddhi - 0772192443, Priyankara - 0779632154, Asanka-0763876614, Upul-0777689552, Lakshitha-0774188547, Anaz-0762687228.



ILMA EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

ANNUAL SUPPLIER REGISTRATION

- **Calling for suppliers from the following categories for registration:** 1. Marketing and Promotional Material
- 2. Stationery and Office Supplies
- Security Systems and Services
- 4. Office Equipment, Computer Hardware and Software
- 5. Electronics and Appliances
- 6. Repairs and Maintenance
- 7. Staff Welfare Services
- 8. Furniture and Fittings
- 9. Motor Vehicle Repairs and Maintenance
- 10. Network Maintenance
- 11. CCTV Camera Systems and Maintenance
- 12. AC Repairs and Maintenance

To Register, visit: https://www.ilma.edu.lk/supplier-registration-form/

Telephone: +94114362212 +94114362252

: **+94112515184**

: info@ilma.edu.lk Website: www.ilma.edu.lk Company Reg. No. GA 147

4/100, Thalakotuwa Gardens, (Vijaya Kumaratunge Mawatha), Colombo 05, Sri Lanka.



Public Utilities Commission of Sri Lanka



(Public Notice under Section 18 of the Public Utilities Commission of Sri Lanka Act No. 35 of 2002)

PUBLIC HEARING ON THE ISLANDWIDE POWER FAILURE OCCURRED IN THE TRANSMISSION LICENSEE'S NETWORK (CEYLON ELECTRICITY BOARD) ON 17TH AUGUST 2020

The Public Utilities Commission of Sri Lanka (Commission) hereby notifies its decision to hold a Public Hearing to investigate on the islandwide power failure occurred in the Transmission Licensee's (Ceylon Electricity Board) network on 17th August 2020.

The consequences of the said power failure include the Transmission Licensee's inability to serve a total energy demand of 27.5 GWh equivalent to an estimated cost of Rupees Four Billion (LKR 4 Billion) to the economy followed by additional consequence losses due to the failure. The determination of the Public Hearing will include but not be limited to findings on Socio Economic impacts and appropriate recommendations on avoidance of future repetitions of similar incidents.

The Commission intends to conduct the Public Hearing as prescribed under section 18 read with Section 15 of the Public Utilities Commission of Sri Lanka Act No. 35 of 2002 and according to the procedure approved by the Commission on Public Hearing.

The Stakeholders and General Public are hereby invited to surrender written submissions if any on the impacts or any issues or information connected with the power failure and the Commission may consider such submissions or may summon such parties if necessary, to give oral evidence at the hearing.

This Public Hearing is held under and by virtue of powers vested with the Commission under Section 18 of the Public Utilities Commission of Sri Lanka Act No. 35 of 2002 and will be held on May 07, 2021 from 09.30 hrs at Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall (BMICH), Bauddhaloka Mawatha, Colombo 07.

Written submissions if any should be sent within 28 days from the date of this notice to:

Chairman

Public Utilities Commission of Sri Lanka Level 6, BOC Merchant Tower 28, St. Michael's Road, Colombo 03.

: 011 2392641

Email: consultation@pucsl.gov.lk For further information and/or clarification please contact Ms. Janaki Vithanagama on 0776618031or 0112392606-8

> BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION Janaka Ratnayake Chairman Date: 28th March 2021



PROCUREMENT NOTICE

STATE PHARMACEUTICALS CORPORATION OF SRI LANKA

The Chairman, Procurement Committee of the State Pharmaceuticals Corporation of Sri Lanka, Colombo 01 invites sealed quotations from registered and previous sources for following items and bids will be closed at the respective times on the dates given below and will be opened immediately thereafter. (E.mail/Fax offers as well as FOB offers are not acceptable).

Sealed Bids may be sent by post under Registered Cover or may be personally deposited in the Box available for this purpose at Internal Audit Department in the Mezzanine Floor of the State Pharmaceuticals Corporation at No. 75, Sir Baron Jayatillake Mawatha, Colombo 1, Sri Lanka.

Bidders or their authorized Representatives will be permitted to be present at the time of opening of

SURGICAL SPECIAL ITEMS

Tender No.	Closing Date	Closing Time	Item	Quantity
DHS/RSS/RQ/50/21	09.04.2021	2.00 p.m.	Surgical suture	1,200 Nos.
DHS/RSS/RQ/226/19	09.04.2021	2.00 p.m.	Distel End Cutter, with safety hold and hard metal tips & Ligature Cutter with hard metal tips	Pl. refer RQ item list

Bids should be prepared as per the particulars given in the Bidding documents available at the Head Office of State Pharmaceuticals Corporation of Sri Lanka, No. 75, Sir Baron Jayatillake Mawatha, Colombo 1.

Wherever necessary potential Bidder/Bidders should get registered in terms of the Public Contracts Act No. 3 of 1987 before collecting the Bid Documents and also should get the contract registered after the award.

CHAIRMAN - PROCUREMENT COMMITTEE STATE PHARMACEUTICALS CORPORATION OF SRI LANKA 75, SIR BARON JAYATILLAKE MAWATHA,

COLOMBO 1, SRI LANKA. : 00 94-11-2335008 / 2344082

FAX TELEPHONE : 00 94-11-2335008 / 2326227 / 2335374

dgmsurgical@spc.lk / pharma.manager@spc.lk **E-MAIL**



TENDER FOR SUPPLY, INSTALLATION AND COMMISSIONING OF INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM FOR THE CENTRALIZED INVESTMENT UNIT OF THE CENTRAL BANK OF SRI LANKA

Tender Number	LK-CBSL-223669-GO-RFB
Tender Description	Tender for Supply, Installation and Commissioning of Investment Management System for the Centralized Investment Unit of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka
Non-refundable Fee	Sri Lankan Rupees Nineteen Thousand Five Hundred (LKR 19,500/- or in United States Dollars Hundred (US\$ 100/-).
Pre-Bid Meeting	Date : 06 April 2021 Time : 1400 Hrs Location : Head Office Building, Central Bank of Sri Lanka, No 30, Janadhipathi Mawatha, Colombo-01, Sri Lanka and/or MS Teams
Bid closing and opening	Date: 04 May 2021 Time: 1400 Hrs. Location: Head Office Building, Central Bank of Sri Lanka, No 30, Janadhipathi Mawatha, Colombo-01, Sri Lanka

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

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



INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

TENDER NOTICE

UNIVERSITY OF KELANIYA - KELANIYA

Quotations are hereby invited from individuals or institutions, having adequate financial assets and experience in the relevant field for the running of canteens of Hostels of the University of Kelaniya for the Academic Year 2019/2020 (2021).

Dr. C.W.W. Kannangara Hostel and Yakkaduwe Pragnarama **Hostel - Canteens and Trade Shops**

One Tender should be submitted in respect of all the two (02) Hostel Canteens and Tender will be awarded only to one successful Tenderer.

Tender Forms and relevant other details could be obtained from 29.03.2021 up to 10.00 a.m. on 28.04.2021 on weekdays from the Senior Assistant Registrar / Students Welfare upon payment of a **non-refundable Tender Fee of Rs. 500/** = made to the Shroff of the University and the receipt thus obtained should be submitted for the purpose.

Duly completed sealed Tenders, marked the name of the relevant Tender on the top left-hand corner of the envelope enclosing Tenders should either be sent by Registered Post addressed to the Senior Assistant Registrar / Students Welfare of the University of Kelaniya or deposited in the Tender Box kept at the Students Welfare Division of the University to be received at or before 10.30 a.m. on 28.04.2021 and Tenders will be opened at 11.00 a.m. on the same day. Further details in this regard could be obtained by contacting the Telephone No. 0112-903125.

Registrar University of Kelaniya.

26.03.2021



Take Pride in contributing to the **National Development**

The Uva Wellassa University is setting new trends in Undergraduate, Speciality, Corporate as well as Continuing Education by focusing on value addition to the national resource base. The academic programs of the University have been carefully designed to bring up a new generation of graduates competent in creating value to their employers. You could also become a partner in this great national endeavor.

Procurement Notice

The Chairman, Procurement Committee of Uva Wellassa University invites bids from eligible bidders to provide the following Service.

No.	Description	Tender No.
01	Lease / Rent houses for Student Hostels (Badulla Area)	UWU/GA/LH/2021/01
	Lease / Rent house for coordination office & Students accommodation place (Colombo area).	

Bidder could obtain an application at General Administration Division of the Uva Wellassa Univesity between 9.00 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. from 28.03.2021 to 19.04.2021 on any working day. The bidder can also download the application from the University website: http:// www.uwu.ac.lk/procurement/.

Bids must be delivered or sent under registered post at or before 3.00 p.m. on 20.04.2021 and will be opened immediately thereafter. Bidder or his authorized representative (with a letter of authorization) is allowed to be present at the time of opening of bids. The tenders enclosed in a sealed envelope and should be marked as - Tender No. "UWU/GA/LH/2021/01" on the top left corner of the envelope and should be sent either by registered post to the Chairman, Procurement Committee, Uva Wellassa University, Passara Road, Badulla or can be deposited in the tender box at the Registrar's Office of Uva Wellassa University.

Further details could be obtained from Deputy Registrar (Admin) on telephone No. 055-2226470.

Chairman,

Procurement Committee, Uva Wellassa University Badulla.



UNIVERSITY OF JAYEWARDENEPURA

Rent out of a building for the **Faculty of Engineering, University of Sri Jayewardenpura**

The University of Sri Jayewardenepura is looking for a suitable building located within 500 meters of the Faculty of Engineering, 45, Rawathawaththa Road, Moratuwa which should fulfill the following requirements.

- 1. Extent of the Building Space: Building to be used for Lecturer Hall (for 200 students)
- 2. Nature of rent : (03 days/weeks)
- 3. Ownership : Sole ownership or joint ownership is
- 4. Value for Payment : As per the assessment of the Government Chief Assessor

acceptable. Title should be clear.

- **5.** Adequate power and running water supply is required.
- **6.** Building space should be covered with fence or well.
- 7. Adequate Sanitary Facilities (Please mention the Toilets count for both ladies and gents separately)
- Should be able to rent out for three years subject to the annual renewal of the lease agreement.
- 9. Value per square feet.
- 10. Rent value per day.

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 07.04.2021.

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.
- iii. Extent of the Land: A certified copy of the deed and a certified copy of the Survey Plan of the relevant land.
- iv. Grama Niladhari Division and Number.
- Present usage of the land, indicate earliest date of availability.
- vi. Contact telephone number.
- vii. 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

University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Gangodawila, Nugegoda.

WANTED

Want to purchase discarded motor vehicles to dismantle for spare parts. Specially Chinese made &

NCG Holdings (Pvt) Ltd 157 Y, Kabellaowita, Veniweľkola, Polgasowita Contact : 0777 907673

Leyland motor vehicle)

WANTED **SUPPLYER**

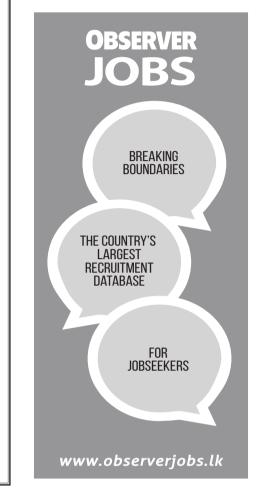
Wanted Supply and Installation of Passenger/goods lift for stores in Wattala. Contact: 0777777516 or jcl52@eol.lk

Registered **Security Company** for Sale

Reputed Security Firm to be sold with all the relevant documents, staff and with the clients.

Contact: 071-2725722 071-8338598

Repeat Your Ad For **Better Offers**





INVITATION FOR SUBMISSION OF BIDS

SriLankan Catering Limited hereby invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the supply of following commodities.

COMMODITY	REFERENCE NUMBER	CLOSING DATE & TIME
Chicken Thigh and Breast	SLC/DPC/G00DS/002/2021	11 th May 2021 at 10.30 am
Cheese Happy Cow 25g/ 17.5g portion or Equivalent	SLC/CEO/GOODS/006/2021	11 th May 2021 at 11.00 am
Jam Strawberry 15g portion	SLC/CEO/GOODS/007/2021	11 th May 2021 at 11.30 am
Maxi Roll	SLC/CEO/GOODS/005/2021	11 th May 2021 at 12.00 pm
Channa pea Whole, Egg Noodles Chinese Dry, Egg Plant Grilled Roasted Frozen, Wine Leaves Stuffed	SLC/CEO/GOODS/002/2021	11 th May 2021 at 12.30 pm

Reputed bidders are invited to quote confirming their eligibility.

Prospective bidders could obtain the bidding document and more details from the web link of http://www.srilankancatering.com/procurement-notices after 30th March 2021. Sealed bids should be delivered to Chief Executive Officer, SriLankan Catering Limited before the deadline as per the respective bidding documents.

Prospective bidders could obtain further details from, Thilina Siriwardana Tel: E- mail - thilina.siriwardana@srilankancatering.com or (+94) 19 733 4241

> Chief Executive Officer **SRILANKAN CATERING LIMITED** Airline Centre Bandaranaike International Airport Katunayake, Sri Lanka.



Have YOU Already COMPLIED

with Anti Money Laundering and Countering the Financing of Terrorism (AML/CFT) obligations under the Financial Transactions Reporting Act, No.06 of 2006 (FTRA) and Designated Non-Finance **Business (Customer Due Diligence)** Rules, No.1 of 2018 (CDD Rules)



If you are a;

- Real Estate Agent
- Gem and Jewellery Dealer
- Person Engaged in Casino Business
- Lawyer, Notary, Trust and Company Service Provider or an Accountant

as defined in the Section 33 (Designated Non-Finance Business) of the FTRA.

Your non-compliance with the AML/CFT obligations will result in sanctions including penalties under the FTRA.

(FTRA and CDD Rules can be downloaded from www.fiusrilanka.gov.lk) For further information, please contact:

Director Financial Intelligence Unit of Sri Lanka Central Bank of Sri Lanka No. 30, Janadhipathi Mawatha, Colombo 01



ශූී ලංකා මහ බැංකුව இலங்கை மத்திய வங்கி CENTRAL BANK OF SRI LANKA



මූලූ නුද්ධි ඒකකය நிதியியல் உளவறிதல் பிரிவு FINANCIAL INTELLIGENCE UNIT



0112477125 🖨 0112477692





fiudnfbp@cbsl.lk



www.fiusrilanka.gov.lk

PUBLIC TENDER

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

SUPPLY, INSTALL AND COMMISSIONING OF 3000 kWp GRID CONNECTED ROOF TOP SOLAR POWER SYSTEM OF ANSELL

TEXTILES LANKA PVT LTD, SEEDUWA.

Design, Supply, Installation and commissioning of 3000 kWp Grid connected roof top solar power system connected to three transformers (2 nos of 1000 kVA & 1 nos of 630 kVA)

Parties who are interested please confirm your interest before the 5th of April 2021

Ansell Textiles Lanka (Pvt.) Ltd No. 32, Kammalwatta, Seeduwa Mob. 076-7057236 Tel. 011-4676676



INVITATION FOR BIDS

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF EXTERIOR DECORATIVE TIMBER ROOF WORKS FOR EASTERN ENTRANCE GATE HOUSE AND PANEL ROOM IN DEFENCE HEADQUARTERS COMPLEX AT AKUREGODA

CONTRACT NO: DHQC/DEC TIM ROOF / EAST ENT/2021

 The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee (PPC) on behalf of the Ministry of Defence now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for Supply and Installation of Exterior Decorative Timber Roof Works for Eastern Entrance Gate House and Panel Room in Defence Headquarters Complex at Akuregoda as described below and approximately estimated to cost LKR 61 million (excluding VAT).

The Works consist of Supply and Installation of Exterior Decorative Timber Roof Works for Eastern Entrance Gate House and Panel Room in Defence Headquarters Complex at Akuregoda. The intended Completion Date of the Works shall be 175 Days from the Start Date.

- 2. Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding Procedure.
- 3. To be eligible for the Contract award, the successful bidder shall not have been blacklisted and shall possess a valid business registration in Sri Lanka for last five (5) consecutive years pertaining to the trade of architectural wood works. Documentary evidence supporting the bidder's experience and expertise in the trade/industry shall be submitted along the bid. Documentary evidence to support Bidder's experience and track record shall be provided with the Bid.

The bidder shall be either;

I. Manufacturer of the offered timber roof work or the authorised agent of the manufacturer of the offered timber roof work.

The manufacturer shall be accredited and registered under ISO 9001.

0

II. A licensed installer of the manufacturer of the offered timber roof work.

If the bidder is not the manufacturer of the offered timber roof work, then he shall be mandatorily required being an organisation possessing ISO 9001 certification.

- 4. Qualification requirements to qualify for contract award include:
 - Average annual turnover in the last five (05) years shall be at least LKR 92 million.
 - Experience in at least three (3) projects of supply and installation of decorative timber roof works which should have been successfully completed within last five (5) years out of which at least one project should be of value not less than LKR 10 million.
 - The minimum amount of liquid assets net of other contractual commitments and exclusive of any advance payment which may be made under this Contract, shall be not less than LKR 30 million.
- 5. Interested bidders may obtain further information from **The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee (PPC), Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla** and inspect the bidding documents free of charge at the same address **from 29th March 2021 until 29th April 2021 from 0900hrs to1500 hrs during working days.**
- 6. A complete set of Bidding Documents in English language may be purchased by interested bidders on submission of a written application to The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee (PPC), Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla from 29th March 2021 until 29th April 2021 from 0900 hrs to 1500 hrs during working days upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Sri Lankan Rupees Fourteen Thousand Five Hundred (LKR 14,500.00). The method of payment will be by cash or Bank draft drawn in favour of The Director, Project Management Unit, Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla.
- 7. Pre bid meeting will be held at **1400 hrs on 7th April 2021** and a site visit will be held on **same day** after the pre bid meeting at the Project Management Unit of Defence Headquarters Complex site at Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla.
- 8. Bids shall be delivered in duplicate to the address below or shall be deposited in the Tender box placed at the address below at or before **1000 hrs on 30th April 2021.** Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened soon after closing in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend.
- 9. Bids shall be valid up to **30th July 2021** (91 Days after the date of Bid opening).
- 10. All bids shall be accompanied by a "Bid-Security" of **Sri Lankan Rupees Six Hundred and Ten Thousand (LKR 610,000.00)** obtained from a commercial bank operating in Sri Lanka approved by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka in the form of an unconditional and on demand guarantee and shall be valid up to **27th August 2021** (119 days after the date of Bid opening).
- 11. If any bidder wishes to submit bids for several packages of the same block or any other blocks of this project, the bidder shall establish the qualification/ eligibility criteria required under each contract separately, if not the bidder will not be qualified for the award of more than one bid.
- 12. In addition to Item 11 of above, if any bidder was already being selected/is working as a contractor in any of the packages of the block/s of this project; the bidder shall establish his financial and technical requirements under specification/ eligibility criteria exclusively for this bidding package. If not, the bidder will not be qualified for the award of this bid.
- 13. Bidders shall present the registration certificate under the Public Contract Act No.3 of 1987 before purchasing the bidding documents.
- 14. Bidders are advised to inform in writing, to The Director Project Management Unit, Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla the name and the NIC/Passport Number of the individual who is participating at the bid opening at least prior to three (03) working days of the bid opening.

The address(es) referred to above is (are):

The Chairman,

Project Procurement Committee (PPC), Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta,

Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla.

Tel: 0094-011-4209885
Fax: 0094-011-4209885
E-mail: pmudhqc@gmail.com

Ministry of Tourism



Civil Aviation Authority of Sri Lanka (CAASL)

Invitation for Bids (IFB)

Implementation and Maintenance of the Fully Automated Platform for Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS)

IFB/SP/2021/04

- 1. Chairman, Departmental Procurement Committee (DPC), CAASL invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for Implementation and Maintenance of the Fully Automated Platform for Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS).
- 2. Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding (NCB) process.
- 3. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information relating to this bid from Environment, Research and Projects Section, Civil Aviation Authority of Sri Lanka at No. 152/1, Minuwangoda Road, Katunayake (Phone: 011 2358824). Bidding documents may be inspected free of charge at the above office
- 4. Bidding documents will be issued from the Environment Research and Project Section of CAASL from 30/03/2021 to 20/04/2021 during 9.00am till 3.00pm on working days and a non-refundable sum of Rs.2, 500.00 (+ VAT) will be collected for the bidding documents.
- 5. All Bids shall be accompanied by a Bid Security of Rs.100,000.00 (One Hundred Thousand) an unconditional on demand Bid bond obtained from a commercial bank approved by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka which shall be valid up to 120 Calendar days from the date of closing of Bid and included in the "Technical" envelope.
- c. Completed proposals are required to be submitted with both Technical and Financial proposals in two envelops with the signatures of authorized individuals/ official stamp shall be hand delivered or posted under registered cover addressed to the Chairman, Departmental Procurement Committee, 152/1, Minuwangoda Road (Opposite Radar Hill), Katunayake with the marking "IMPLEMENTATION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE FULLY AUTOMATED PLATFORM FOR UAS" at the top left-hand corner of the envelope with two sets marked "Financial" and "Technical" separately.
- 7. Closing date of submission of Bids is 21st April 2021 at 2.30 pm. and late submissions will be rejected.
- 8. A "Pre bid meeting" will be held on 08th April 2021 at 1000 hrs at the Head Office Building, at No. 152/1, Minuwangoda Road, Katunayake.
- Successful bidder is required to render an unconditional Performance Bond in the name of CAASL for the value of 10% of the total contract value. The Civil Aviation Authority will have the right of claiming the Performance Bond value on demand if the company does not provide a satisfactory service.

Chairman

Department Procurement Committee Civil Aviation Authority of Sri Lanka No. 152/1, Minuwangoda Road, Katunayake. OBSERVER JOBS

> BREAKING BOUNDARIES

THE COUNTRY'S LARGEST RECRUITMENT DATABASE

FOR JOBSEEKERS

www. observerjobs. lk



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

GENERAL SIR JOHN KOTELAWALA DEFENCE UNIVERSITY

INVITATION FOR BIDS

DESIGN AND BUILD CONSTRUCTION WORKS OF PROPOSED SWIMMING POOL COMPLEX AT SOUTHERN CAMPUS, EDISON HILL, NUGEGALAYAYA SEWANAGALA GENERAL SIR JOHN KOTELAWALA DEFENCE UNIVERSITY

General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University Contract No: KDU/PRO/RP&SERVICE/ 2449/2021

- The Vice Chancellor of General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University, Ratmalana, Sri Lanka as the Chairman of the Departmental Procurement Committee of the University invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for Design and build construction works of proposed swimming pool complex at Southern Campus, Edison hill, Nugegalayaya, Sewanagala. Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding Procedure.
- A complete set of Bidding Documents in English language may be purchased by interested bidders on the submission of written application to Director Logistics, General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University, Ratmalana, Sri Lanka from 0900 hrs to 1500 hrs on working days during the period from 29 March 2021 up to 10 May 2021 upon payment of a non-refundable fee of LKR 2,500.00 to Bursar KDU in cash.
- Bidding document may be inspected free of charge at the above address, from 0900 hrs to 1500 hrs on working days during the period from 29 March 2021 to 10 May 2021 (Telephone 0710219449/ 0710219384 Fax 011-2632430).
- 4. Sealed bids shall be delivered to the address below or shall be deposited in the bid box placed at the address below on or before the bid closing time and date. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened soon after the closing.
- 5. Tenders will be closed and opened at **10.00 a.m.** on **11 May 2021** at General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University, Ratmalana.
- 6. Interested bidders may obtain further information from Director Logistics, General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University, Ratmalana, Sri Lanka. (Telephone 011-2632430/0710219384 Fax 011-2632430, and from the 'Invitation for Bids' published at www.kdu.ac.lk/ocls/tender-notices)

Chairman

Departmental Procurement Committee, General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University, Ratmalana, Sri Lanka.



Associated Newspapers of Ceylon LimitedNo 35, D R Wijewardene Mawatha, Colombo 10

6

1949

BE BETTER INFORMED!



News you can trust now free on your mobile phone.





DOWNLOAD



NOTICE FOR INVITATION OF BIDS

Supply of Machineries and Equipments for an agribusiness value chain development project implemental by Plenty Foods (Pvt) Ltd in collaboration with the Government.

NO	Description	Quantity
01	Multi-Functional Machine (Intercultivator)	2750
02	Manual Seeder Cum Fertilizer Applicator	2750

Those who are interested may collect the applications together with specifications thereof by paying a nonrefundable fees of Rs. 500.00 and forward the same to the under noted address or insert the Bidding Box which is available in the factory office complex.

Closing date of applications will be April 08, 2021 and all Suppliers are requested to produce their samples on April 20, 2021, where bidding applications are opened

For further inquiries, please contact following telephone numbers. 081-5004400/081-2420230

The Director, Plenty Foods (Pvt.) Limited, Janasavigama, Pallekelle.

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

DESIGN, SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF PROPRIETARY **MOVEMENT JOINTS SYSTEM OF BLOCK 04** (EXCLUDING PVC WATER PROOFED AREA AT GROUND FLOOR) OF **DEFENCE HEADQUARTERS COMPLEX AT AKUREGODA**

CONTRACT NO: DHQC/MOV JOINT 4 EX PVC WP/2021

1. The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee (PPC) on behalf of the Ministry of Defence now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the Design, Supply and Installation of Proprietary Movement Joints System of Block 04 (excluding PVC Water Proofed Area at Ground Floor) of **Defence Headquarters Complex at Akuregoda** as described below and approximate estimated to cost **LKR 35.2 million** (excluding VAT)

The Time for Completion for the whole of the Works shall be 119 Days.

The Works consist of Design, Supply and Installation of Proprietary Movement Joints System of Block 04, excluding the PVC water proofed area at ground floor.

Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding Procedure.

- 2. To be eligible for contract award, the successful bidder shall not have been blacklisted and shall have a valid business registration in Sri Lanka for at least five (05) years.
- 3. Qualification requirements to qualify for contract award include:
 - Average annual turnover value in last five years shall be at least LKR 53 million.
 - Experience in successful completion of one similar project of design, supply and installation of proprietary movement joint systems of value not less than LKR 10 million, completed within last five
 - The minimum amount of liquid assets (after setting apart for other contractual commitments) and exclusive of any advance payment which may be made under this Contract, shall be not less than LKR 26 million.
- Interested bidders may obtain further information from The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee (PPC), Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla and inspect the bidding documents free of charge at the same address from 29th March 2021 until 29th April 2021 from 0900 hrs to 1500 hrs during working days.
- 5. A complete set of Bidding Documents (Except Volume 1) in English language may be purchased by interested bidders on the submission of a written application to The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee (PPC), Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla from 29th March 2021 until 29th April 2021 from 0900 hrs to 1500 hrs during working days upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Sri Lankan Rupees Nine Thousand Two Hundred (LKR 9,200.00). The method of payment will be cash or Bank draft drawn in favour of The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee (PPC), Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla.
- 6. A pre bid meeting will be held at 1100 hrs on 07th April 2021 and a Site visit will be held after the pre-bid meeting on same day at the Project Management Unit of Defence Headquarters Complex site at Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla.
- 7. Bids shall be delivered in duplicate to the address below or shall be deposited in the Tender box placed at the address below at or before 1000 hrs on 30th April 2021. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened soon after closing in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend.
- 8. Bids shall be valid up to **30th July 2021** (91 Days after the date of Bid opening).
- 9. All bids shall be accompanied by a "Bid-Security", of Sri Lankan Rupees Three Hundred Fifty Five Thousand (LKR 355,000.00) obtained from a commercial bank operating in Sri Lanka approved by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka in the form of an unconditional and on demand guarantee and shall be valid up to **27th August 2021** (119 days after the date of Bid opening).
- 10. If any bidder wishes to submit bids for several packages of the same block or any other blocks of this project, the bidder shall establish the qualification / eligibility criteria required under each Contract separately, if not the bidder will not be qualified for the award of more than one bid.
- 11. In addition to Item 10 of above, if any bidder has already been selected/is working as a Contractor in any of the packages of the block/s of this project, the bidder shall establish his financial and technical requirements under specification / eligibility criteria exclusively for this bidding package. If not, the bidder will not be qualified for the award of this bid.
- 12. Bidders are strongly advised to present the registration certificate under the Public Contracts Act No.3 of 1987 when relevant, before purchasing the Bidding Document from Project Procurement Committee (PPC).
- 13. Bidders are advised to inform in writing, to The Director Project Management Unit, Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla the name and the NIC / Passport Number of the individual who is participating at the bid opening at least prior to three (03) working days of the bid opening.

The address(es) referred to above is (are):

The Chairman, **Project Procurement Committee (PPC), Defence Headquarters Complex Project,** Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla.

0094-011-4209885 Tel: 0094-011-4209885 Fax: E-mail: pmudhqc@gmail.com









Hand over your Classified Advertisements to Our nearest Branch Office Anuradhapura - TEL: 025 22 22 370 FAX: 025 22 35 411 / Kandy - TEL: 081 22 34 200 FAX: 081 22 38 910

Kataragama - TEL: 047 22 35 291 FAX: 047 22 35 291 / Maradana - TEL: 011 2 429 336 FAX: 011 2 429 335 Matara - TEL: 041 22 35 412 FAX: 041 22 29 728 / Nugegoda - TEL: 011 2 828 114 FAX: 011 4 300 860 / Jaffna - TEL: 021 2225361 FAX: 021 22 25 361



PROCUREMENT NOTICE - GLOBAL

STATE PHARMACEUTICALS CORPORATION OF SRI LANKA

The Chairman, Procurement Committee of the State Pharmaceuticals Corporation of Sri Lanka will receive sealed Bids for supply of following items to the Department of Health Services for Year 2021/2022.

Bid Number	Closing Date &	Item Description	Date of Issuing of Bid	Non Refundable
	11.05.2021	15,000 Bottles of Dextran 40, 10% in	Documents	Bid Fee Rs. 12,500/
DHS/P/WW/757/21	at 9.00 a.m.	Sodium Chloride for IV use 500mg	30.03.2021	+ Taxes
DHS/P/WW/01/22	11.05.2021 at 9.00 a.m.	2,500 Tablets of Glycopyrronium bromide tablet 0.5mg	30.03.2021	Rs. 3,000/ = + Taxes
DHS/P/WW/02/22	11.05.2021	125,000 Tablets of Mebeverine	30.03.2021	Rs. 3,000/=
	at 9.00 a.m.	hydrochloride tablet 135mg 265,000 vials of Pantoprazole Injection	30.03.2021	+ Taxes
DHS/P/WW/03/22	at 9.00 a.m.	40mg vials	30.03.2021	+ Taxes
DHS/P/WW/04/22	11.05.2021 at 9.00 a.m.	2,500,000 Tablets of Leflunomide tablet 10mg	30.03.2021	Rs. 3,000/ = + Taxes
DHS/P/WW/05/22	11.05.2021	1,600,000 Tablets of Leflunomide tablet	30.03.2021	Rs. 20,000/
	at 9.00 a.m.	20mg		+ Taxes Rs. 3,000/=
DHS/P/WW/06/22	at 9.00 a.m.	2,000,000 Tablets of Meloxicam tablet 7.5mg	30.03.2021	+ Taxes
DHS/P/WW/07/22	11.05.2021 at 9.00 a.m.	17,000 Ampoules of Glycopyrrolate injection 200microgram in 1ml	30.03.2021	Rs. 3,000/ = + Taxes
DHS/P/WW/08/22	11.05.2021	125,000 Tablets of Mesalazine tablet	30.03.2021	Rs. 3,000/=
DHS/P/WW/09/22	at 9.00 a.m. 11.05.2021	400mg 600,000 Tablets of Naproxen tablet 250mg	30.03.2021	+ Taxes Rs. 3,000/=
DH3/P/WW/09/22	at 9.00 a.m.	200,000 Tablets of Loperamide	50.05.2021	+ Taxes Rs. 3,000/=
DHS/P/WW/10/22	at 9.00 a.m.	Hydrochloride tablet 2mg	30.03.2021	+ Taxes
DHS/P/WW/11/22	11.05.2021 at 9.00 a.m.	170,000 Sachets of Iso-Osmotic bowel (PEG + Elect)	30.03.2021	Rs. 12,500/ + Taxes
DHS/P/WW/12/22	11.05.2021	800,000 Tablets of Bisacodyl tablet 10mg	30.03.2021	Rs. 12,500/
	at 9.00 a.m.	100,000 Ampoules of Ephedrine Sulphate		+ Taxes Rs. 35,000/
DHS/P/WW/13/22	at 9.00 a.m.	Injection 30mg/1 ml	30.03.2021	+ Taxes
DHS/P/WW/14/22	11.05.2021 at 9.00 a.m.	100,000 Inhalers of Ipratropium Bromide Inhaler 20mcg/md, 200d	30.03.2021	Rs. 20,000/ + Taxes
DHS/P/WW/15/22	11.05.2021	16,000,000 Tablets of Diclofenac sodium	30.03.2021	Rs. 3,000/=
	at 9.00 a.m.	tablet 25mg 7,200,000 Capsules of Celecoxib capsule		+ Taxes Rs. 12,500/
DHS/P/WW/16/22	at 9.00 a.m.	200mg	30.03.2021	+ Taxes
DHS/P/WW/17/22	11.05.2021 at 9.00 a.m.	4,200,000 Tablets of Allopurinol tablet 100mg	30.03.2021	Rs. 3,000/= + Taxes
DHS/P/WW/18/22	11.05.2021	4,000 Ampoules of Methylene blue	30.03.2021	Rs. 20,000/
DUC /D /WW /10 /22	at 9.00 a.m.	injection 1% w/v 10ml ampoule 11,000 Sachets of Macrogol 3350 (6.563g	20.02.2021	+ Taxes Rs. 3,000/=
DHS/P/WW/19/22	at 9.00 a.m.	of PEG) Oral Powder sachets	30.03.2021	+ Taxes
DHS/P/WW/20/22	11.05.2021 at 9.00 a.m.	460,000 Inhalers of Fluticasone + Salmetrol Inhaler	30.03.2021	Rs. 35,000/ + Taxes
	11.05.2021	250/25md,120d 60,000 Ampoules of Neostigmine injection		Rs. 3,000/=
DHS/P/WW/21/22	at 9.00 a.m.	2.5mg/1 ml ampoule	30.03.2021	+ Taxes
DHS/P/WW/22/22	11.05.2021 at 9.00 a.m.	110,000 Tablets of Febuxostat tablet 40mg	30.03.2021	Rs. 12,500/ + Taxes
DHS/P/WW/23/22	13.05.2021	260,000 Inhalers of Beclomethasone	31.03.2021	Rs. 20,000/
	at 9.00 a.m. 13.05.2021	Inhaler 100mcg/md, 200d 270,000 Inhalers of Beclomethazone		+ Taxes Rs. 20,000/
DHS/P/WW/24/22	at 9.00 a.m.	Inhaler 250mcg/md, 200d	31.03.2021	+ Taxes
DHS/P/WW/25/22	13.05.2021 at 9.00 a.m.	550,000 Inhalers of Salbutamol MDI 200mcg/dos, 200 doses	31.03.2021	Rs. 35,000/ + Taxes
DHS/P/WW/26/22	13.05.2021	375,000 Inhalers of Salbutamol MDI	31.03.2021	Rs. 12,500/
	at 9.00 a.m. 13.05.2021	100mcg/md, 200 doses		+ Taxes Rs. 3,000/=
DHS/P/WW/27/22	at 9.00 a.m.	2,700 kg of Sodium bicarbonate powder	31.03.2021	+ Taxes
DHS/P/WW/28/22	13.05.2021 at 9.00 a.m.	500,000 Ampoules of Ranitidine HCI Injection 50mg/2ml ampoule	31.03.2021	Rs. 3,000/ = + Taxes
DHS/P/WW/29/22	13.05.2021	800,000 Vials of Omeprazole sodium	31.03.2021	Rs. 12,500/
	at 9.00 a.m.	injection 40mg 1,100,000 Ampoules of Metoclopramide		+ Taxes Rs. 3,000/=
DHS/P/WW/30/22	at 9.00 a.m.	Injection 10mg/2ml	31.03.2021	+ Taxes
DHS/P/WW/31/22	13.05.2021 at 9.00 a.m.	10,000 Ampoules of Hyoscine Butylbromide injection 20mg/1 ml	31.03.2021	Rs. 3,000/ = + Taxes
DHS/P/WW/32/22	13.05.2021	75,000 Vials of Methylprednisolone IA	31.03.2021	Rs. 12,500/
	at 9.00 a.m.	Injection 40mg/1 ml 5,300,000 Tablets of Ibuprofen tablet		+ Taxes Rs. 12,500/
DHS/P/WW/33/22	at 9.00 a.m.	400mg	31.03.2021	+ Taxes
DHS/P/WW/34/22	13.05.2021 at 9.00 a.m.	900,000 Tablets of Tiotropium Bromide DP Caps, 18mcg	31.03.2021	Rs. 3,000/ = + Taxes
DHS/P/WW/35/22	13.05.2021	180,000 Ampoules of Chlorpheniramine	31.03.2021	Rs. 3,000/=
	at 9.00 a.m.	maleate injection 10mg/1ml 1,500,000 Tablets of Montelukast Sodium		+ Taxes Rs. 3,000/=
DHS/P/WW/36/22	at 9.00 a.m.	Tablet 10mg	31.03.2021	+ Taxes
DHS/P/WW/37/22	13.05.2021 at 9.00 a.m.	2,800,000 Tablets of Betahistine tablet 8mg	31.03.2021	Rs. 3,000/= + Taxes
DHS/P/WW/38/22	13.05.2021	4,500,000 Tablets of Betahistine tablet	31.03.2021	Rs. 3,000/=
	at 9.00 a.m.	16mg 15,000 Capsules of Deferiprone Capsule		+ Taxes Rs. 3,000/=
DHS/P/WW/39/22	at 9.00 a.m.	500mg	31.03.2021	+ Taxes
DHS/P/WW/40/22	13.05.2021 at 9.00 a.m.	400,000 Ampouels of Adrenaline bitartrate injection 1mg/1ml	31.03.2021	Rs. 12,500/ + Taxes
DHS/P/WW/41/22	13.05.2021	50,000 Devices of Spacer Device for	31.03.2021	Rs. 12,500/
	at 9.00 a.m.	compatible with all metered dose inhalers 220,000 Bottles of Sodium Biphosphate		+ Taxes
DHS/P/WW/42/22	13.05.2021 at 9.00 a.m.	1.6g + Sodium phosphate 0.6g enema in	31.03.2021	Rs. 12,500/ + Taxes
DHS/P/\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\	13.05.2021	10ml,120ml 11,000,000ml of Methyl salicylate	31.03.2021	Rs. 12,500/
DHS/P/WW/43/22	at 9.00 a.m.	45,000,000 Tablets of Ibuprofen Tablet	J1.U3.ZUZI	+ Taxes Rs. 12,500/
DHS/P/WW/44/22	13.05.2021 at 9.00 a.m.	200mg	31.03.2021	+ Taxes

working days between 0930 hours and 1500 hours at the Head Office of the State Pharmaceuticals Corporation of Sri Lanka, No.75, Sir Baron Jayatillake Mawatha, Colombo 1. These could be purchased on cash payment of a nonrefundable Bid Fee per set as mentioned above. Offers received without enclosing original payment receipt are liable to be rejected.

Wherever applicable potential bidder/bidders should get registered in terms of the Public Contracts Act NO.3 of 1987 before collecting the Bidding Documents and also should get the contract registered after the tender is awarded.

All Bids should be accompanied by a Bid Bond as specified in the Bidding Documents.

Sealed Bids may be sent by post under registered cover or may be personally deposited in the box available for this purpose at Internal Audit Department in the mezzanine floor of the State Pharmaceuticals Corporation at No. 75, Sir Baron Jayatillake Mawatha, Colombo 1, Sri Lanka.

Bids will be closed at the Head office of the State Pharmaceuticals Corporation on the dates and time mentioned above and will be opened immediately thereafter.

Bidders or their authorised representatives will be permitted to be present at the time of opening of Bids.

Bidding Documents are being sent to Sri Lanka missions abroad and foreign missions in Sri Lanka. **CHAIRMAN**

DEPARTMENTAL PROCUREMENT COMMITTEE STATE PHARMACEUTICALS CORPORATION OF SRI LANKA 75, SIR BARON JAYATILLAKE MAWATHA,

COLOMBO 1, SRI LANKA.

FAX : 00 94-11- 2344082 : 0094-11-2326227/94-11-2335374 TELEPHONE

E-MAIL : pharma.manager@spc.lk

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

DESIGN, SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF PROPRIETARY MOVEMENT JOINTS SYSTEM OF BLOCK 03 (EXCLUDING PVC WATER PROOFED AREA AT GROUND FLOOR) OF **DEFENCE HEADQUARTERS COMPLEX AT AKUREGODA**

CONTRACT NO: DHQC/MOV JOINT 3 EX PVC WP/2021

1. The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee (PPC) on behalf of the Ministry of Defence now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the Design, Supply and Installation of Proprietary Movement Joints System of Block 03 (excluding PVC Water Proofed Area at Ground Floor) of **Defence Headquarters Complex at Akuregoda** as described below and approximate estimated to cost LKR 20.5 million (excluding VAT).

The Time for Completion for the whole of the Works shall be 119 Days.

The Works consist of Design, Supply and Installation of Proprietary Movement Joints System of Block 03, excluding the PVC water proofed area at ground floor.

Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding Procedure.

- 2. To be eligible for contract award, the successful bidder shall not have been blacklisted and shall have a valid business registration in Sri Lanka for at least five (05) years.
- Qualification requirements to qualify for contract award include:
 - Average annual turnover value in last five years shall be at least LKR 30 million.
 - Experience in successful completion of one similar project of design, supply and installation of proprietary movement joint systems of value not less than LKR 10 million, completed within last five
 - The minimum amount of liquid assets (after setting apart for other contractual commitments) and exclusive of any advance payment which may be made under this Contract, shall be not less than
- 4. Interested bidders may obtain further information from The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee (PPC), Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla and inspect the bidding documents free of charge at the same address from 29th March 2021 until 29th April 2021 from 0900 hrs to 1500 hrs during working days.
- 5. A complete set of Bidding Documents (Except Volume 1) in English language may be purchased by interested bidders on submission of a written application to The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee (PPC), Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla from 29th March 2021 until 29th April 2021 from 0900 hrs to 1500 hrs during working days upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Sri Lankan Rupees Five Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty (LKR **5,750.00).** The method of payment will be by cash or Bank draft drawn in favour of **The Chairman**, Project Procurement Committee (PPC), Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla.
- 6. A pre bid meeting will be held at 1100 hrs on 07th April 2021 and a Site visit will be held after the pre-bid meeting on same day at the Project Management Unit of Defence Headquarters Complex site at Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla.
- 7. Bids shall be delivered in duplicate to the address below or shall be deposited in the Tender box placed at the address below at or before 1000 hrs on 30th April 2021. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened soon after closing in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend.
- 8. Bids shall be valid up to 16th July 2021 (77 Days after the date of Bid opening).
- All bids shall be accompanied by a "Bid-Security", of Sri Lankan Rupees Two Hundred Five Thousand (LKR 205,000.00) obtained from a commercial bank operating in Sri Lanka approved by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka in the form of an unconditional and on demand guarantee and shall be valid up to 13th August 2021 (105 days after the date of Bid opening).
- 10. If any bidder wishes to submit bids for several packages of the same block or any other blocks of this project, the bidder shall establish the qualification / eligibility criteria required under each Contract separately, if not the bidder will not be qualified for the award of more than one bid.
- 11. In addition to Item 10 of above, if any bidder was already being selected/is working as a Contractor in any of the packages of the block/s of this project, the bidder shall establish his financial and technical requirements under specification / eligibility criteria exclusively for this bidding package. If not, the bidder will not be qualified for the award of this bid.
- 12. Bidders are strongly advised to present the registration certificate under the Public Contracts Act No.3 of 1987 when relevant, before purchasing the Bidding Document from Project Procurement Committee (PPC).
- 13. Bidders are advised to inform in writing, to The Director Project Management Unit, Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla the name and the NIC / Passport Number of the individual who is participating at the bid opening at least prior to three (03) working days of the bid

The address(es) referred to above is (are):

The Chairman, **Project Procurement Committee (PPC), Defence Headquarters Complex Project,** Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla.

0094-011-4209885 Tel: 0094-011-4209885 Fax: E-mail: pmudhqc@gmail.com





Ministry of Tourism



Civil Aviation Authority of Sri Lanka

Calling proposals for Acoustic control and sound proofing of Boardroom of the **Civil Aviation Authority of Sri Lanka**

Chairman, Departmental Procurement Committee (DPC), CAASL invites sealed proposals for Acoustic control and sound proofing of Board room(74Sqm) from eligible qualified bidders. Interested bidders may provide proposals with design and price proposal.

Interested bidders may obtain further information from Chief Procurement Officer CAASL on 112358824 and via email: mgrrdp@caa.lk

The proposal should be forwarded to Chairman, Departmental Procurement Committee (DPC), Civil Aviation Authority of Sri Lanka, No. 152/1, Minuwangoda Road, Katunayake on or before 2.30 pm on 28th April 2021 with the marking envelope "Proposals for Acoustic Control and **Sound Proofing Boardroom**" on the top left-hand corner of the envelope. Documents received thereafter will not be accepted.

A site visit will be arranged on 5th April 2021 at 10.00 a.m. and all proposal providers should participate at the site visit.

Chairman

Departmental Procurement Committee (DPC) Civil Aviation Authority of Sri Lanka



News you can trust now free on your mobile phone.











STATE PHARMACEUTICALS CORPORATION **OF SRI LANKA**

TENDER NOTICE

The State Pharmaceuticals Corporation of Sri Lanka, Colombo 01 invites quotations from registered and previous sources for following items for open market sales and tenders will be closed at 1.15 p.m. on the dates given below. (E-mail/Fax offers as well as FOR offers are not accentable)

offers as well as FOB offers are not acceptable).			,
<u>Item</u>	Quantity	<u>Tender No.</u>	Closing on
Item Code No : 210111B99 Tetracycline Hydrochloride Ophthalmic Ointment USP 1% w/w in 5g. Packed in a Carton.	60,000 Packs	RES/23/04/A/2021	23.04.2021
Item Code No : 120101D99 Diltiazem Hydrochloride Extended Release Capsules/Tablets USP 90mg In 10x10 Capsules/Tablets (Blister)	42,000 Packs	RES/23/04/B/2021	23.04.2021
Item Code No : 311510X99 Intravenous Administration Set, Sterile Single use.	108,000 Nos.	RES/23/04/C/2021	23.04.2021
Item Code No: 170502C14 Hyoscine Butylbromide Tablets BP/USP 10mg in 10x10 Tablets (Blister)	21,000 Packs	RES/27/04/A/2021	27.04.2021
Item Code No: 120104C18 Isosorbide Mononitrate Sustained Release Tablets 30mg BP/USP In 12 x 10 Tablets (Blister)	36,000 Packs	RES/27/04/B/2021	27.04.2021
Item Code No : 130328J99 Methyl Salicylate Compound Cream, Gel, Ointment in 30g tube. Packed in a carton	160,000 Packs	RES/27/04/C/2021	27.04.2021
Item Code No: 130112J99 Miconazole Cream BP/Miconazole Nitrate Cream USP 2% w/v in 15g tube. Packed in a carton	210,000 Tubes	RES/27/04/D/2021	27.04 .2021
Item Code No : 050102C34 Levetiracetam Tablets 500mg In 10x6 Tablets (Blister)	3,600 Packs	RES/27/04/E/2021	27.04.2021
Item Code No : 020102C24 Prolonged-Release Diclofenac Tablets BP 100mg OR Diclofenac Sodium Delayed Release Tablets USP 100mg In 10x10's Tablets (Blister)	30,000 Packs	RES/28/04/A/2021	28.04.2021
Item Code No : 180502C06 Glimepiride Tablets 1mg In 10x10 Tablets (Blister)	10,800 Packs	RES/28/04/B/2021	28.04.2021
Item Code No : 020101 C21 Etoricoxib Tablets 60 mg In 3x10's Tablets (Blister)	30,000 Packs	RES/28/04/C/2021	28.04.2021
Item Code No: 120101C21 Diltiazem Hydrochloride Tablets USP 60mg (F/C). In 10x10 Tablets (Blister)	36,000 Packs	RES/28/04/D/2021	28.04.2021
Item Code No : 020110C99 Glucosamine Sulphate Potassium Chloride Tablets 1500mg. In 3 x 10 Tablets (Blister)	20,000 Packs	RES/28/04/E/2021	28.04.2021
Item Code No : 310283X99 Hypodermic Needles, Size 26G x 12mm or	100,000 Nos.	RES/29/04/A/2021	29.04.2021

These tenders are administered by the provisions of the "Public Contracts Act No. 3 of 1987" and therefore, in the event bidder is to retain an Agent, Sub-Agent, Representative, Nominee for and on behalf of tenderer shall register himself and such Public Contract in accordance with Section 10 of the Public Contracts Act and produce such valid certificate of registration in the course of any transaction relating to the tender or Act at any stage in the duration of the tender.

Tenders will be closed at the office of the State Pharmaceuticals Corporation at 1.15 p.m. on the dates indicated against each tender and will be opened immediately thereafter. Tenderers or their authorized representatives will be permitted to be present at the time of opening of Tender.

Chairman - Procurement Committee State Pharmaceuticals Corporation of Sri Lanka 75, Sir Baron Jayathilake Mawatha, Colombo 01.

Phone: 00 94 11 2320356-9

13mm length in 100 needles per box



SUNDAY OBSERVER

Proposals

your Future Dreams The convenient way to make your payment

Best way to fulfil

BOC - Acc.No. 00000377

Green light for Online Transfer

Marriage

SUNDAY OBSERVER Marriage **Proposals**

E-mail your advertisements to,

classified@lakehouse.lk

FOR INQUIRIES: Ramani - 011 2 429 347 Piyumi -0112429383 Gayani -0112429342/343



seas qualified well mannered Catholic son willing to relocate in Aus-G/B family. Able tralia eventually, is 1989 September born, sought by Catholic father Lawyer is seekfamily ing for a smart, tan West for professional in complexion, professionally qualified, healthy son with a respectable family background for graduated BA and our pleasant young MA overseas profesdaughter who had her sionally well accomeducation in a reputplished. She inherits ed Buddhist School substantial in Colombo 07, obtained BBM from Please respond with Bangalore, MBA from family details contact Colombo University telephone Numbers and employed as an to: ausslmp21@gmail Executive in a private OB160928 company. She inherits substantial assets Academically including a bungalow and vehicles. Rahu at 7th house, non-malefic horoscope. Horo-

About Kandy Bodu Bathgama Deva 5'3" fair and slim beauty doctor government 1990 substantial assets. Looking for Australia qualified groom. Email: 123dewmi.sa ndunika@gmail.com

scope and religion are

not much considered.

Email: amara6868@g

mail.com OB160678

OB161104 About our search, $_{
m slim}$ and pretty (MBBS) Doctor GP daughter, Australian born in 1988 and 5'8" Kandy / G Christian, parents look for Sri Lankan values professional son (prefer Doctor, Civil Engineer, prefer Australian or NZ born citizen. Email: propo salgw2021@gmail.co OB160934

About Pre-Intern Doctor daughter. Parents seek a suitable educated partner for early marriage. Pretty, 5'4", born 1990 Janu-Parents Bodu Govi educated business. Caste religion immate-Widowers diconsidered. Migration possible after one year. prop1 1012021@gmail.com OB161028

Absoulutely pretty fair slim educated daughter sought by S/ B/G parents for their only son environment nature lover cricketer 39 +, 5'11" Hons graduated Swinburn Australian Bermigham England Universities Senior position Architectural Design Company Colombo studied leading school Colombo own assets luxury houses. wijayasirij8@gmail.c OB160768

Academically Academically professionally professionally overcaring businessman family in Colombo daughter 5'5" slim and pretty January born including assets.

professionally qualified businessman son sought by Bodu Govi mom, father daughter born in 1982. She is legally separated with one 033-2230728. OB160926

Academically

professionally qualified caring son from a respectable family sought by Christian respectable mother living in Aus-Galle tralia for her daughtheir ter born in 1977, 5'3" fair pretty slim MSc. qualified working in Europe and willing to relocate. She has currently been brought up with practicing Christian. Reply with family details and contact information. au sivera18@gmail.com

and

Academically and professionally qualified caring son is sought by B/G parents for their daughter born 1987 May. She is 5'2", fair and well-mannered. Presently workng as a Chartered Architect in a private company Colombo. Please reply with full family details, horoscope to: mrp.wa500@gmail.c OB161085

Academically and professionally qualified caring son is sought by teacher (B/S) for her pretty well mannered only daughter Graduate in Psychology employed as Counsellor and Executive in private sector, owns assets, Kuja 7, but as Kataka in power others match. Reply to 1 alithadona0@gmai 0112411172. 1.com

and qualified caring well-manprofessional/ son from a respectable background sought by Govigama Buddhist mother from Colombo suburbs for well accomplished daughter 1979, slim and smart, brought up with Buddhist values, MBA qualified, holding a top management position in a leading organization. Inherits substantial wealth property. Please reply with full family details, horoscope to: mprop osal_c@hotmail.com

fied

G

Academically and professionally qualified caring, handsome son is sought by Buddhist Durawe parents from Colombo for their fair, pretty daughter born in 1994, 5'7", BSc. Mgt. Degree, employed at a leading organisation. Reply with horoscope & family details. prop osal.nna@gmail.com OB161018

Academically

and

OB160773

professionally qualified caring, well-mannered son is sought by retired Bodu Deva parents suburbs pleasant pretty youngest daughter born in 1989 Sep, 5'4" height. BSc (Hons) in Information Technology employed at a government institute. Inherits properties. Please reply with family details and horoscope. Email: pr Colombo as the Acoposalgalle59@gmail. OB161108

Academically and OB160256 professionally qualified employed well mannered caring son is sought by Bodu Salagama parents from Colombo for pretty well accomplished daughter. She is IT graduate working in an international IT Company in Colombo, born in 1989 December, height 5'2". Please send full family details and the TP number to: w arnasr52@gmail.com

OB160038

Academically and professionally qualified kind hearted similar caste son is sought by B/G retired parents from Colombo, for their 33 yrs 5'2" very fair extremely pretty slim young looking daughpostgraduate qualified, working as an Assistant Director at Central Bank of Sri Lanka having attractive remuneration, fringe benefits owns substantial assets. as hokakumariik@gmai

Academically Academically and Academically professionally qualiprofessionally qualipartner, preferfied son is sought by Buddhist Durawe living in USA mother for her only is sought by respectdaughter born able professional B/ 1985 September, fair, parents for their pretty, 5'3", well-edslim, pretty and virucated assistant Dituous daughter born rector in a bank with 1985 who had family assets. Please reply with family deeducation in a tails and horoscope. Buddhist reputed Email: vchsam1985@ School in Colombo, gmail.com OB161058 obtained MBBS from

Lankan Medical

Academically

professionally quali-

daughter born 1990/

11 4'11" employed as

a beauty adviser at a

multinational com-

with family details,

horoscope and con-

tact number to: keb

professionally quali-

fied son is sought by

Bodu Karawa parents

living in Ambalango-

da for their daughter

a Chartered Accoun-

tant and a Graduate

working in a Govern-

ment Department in

countant. Respond

with horoscope. mpr

oposal0721@gmail.co

 \mathbf{m}

OB160754

years old, 4'10",

o6274@gmail.com

Academically

Please reply

OB160907

and

son from a re-

College and employed professionally qualia Medical Docfied son is sought by G/B parents from tor in USA. Please Colombo suburbs for reply family details their pretty fair slim and horoscope. Email daughter 38, 5'4" only: propdk2021@g studied in a leadmail.com OB160826 ing Colombo Girls School, BSc Graduate well employed in a reputed company in Colombo. Inherits subfamily stantial assets. Email: proposalsk25@gmail. sought by father from OB161091 Colombo suburbs for

Academically

professionally quali-

Academically

and

fied son who is in family business or owns business, below 32 is sought by business parents for daughter age 25, 5'4", very pretty, slim, healthy well mannered. She her primary education in London and obtained Business Management and Public Policy Degree in Aston University Berminham in England. At present she is working in a reputed Company in London as a Business Promotion Executor We are well respected business family. Con-

tact for more details.

OB160820

donauk123@gmai

professionally qualiwell mannered handsome son is sought by Buddhist Durawe parents from Colombo for their pretty daughter born in 1990, 5'3", completed J'pura Mgt. Degree and top CIMA. She worked in a leading bank. Reply with horoscope and family details. suru.abey@g mail.com OB161019 Academically

professionally quali-

well-mannered

Decades of Trusted Service

with a pleasing personality with the similar caste is sought retired professional B/G parents Colombo for their only child 1994 born pretty daughter. She is 5'2" in height studied in a leading Buddhist School in Colombo and Graduated in Information Technology (IT) & now reading for her MSc in Data Science. She is currently employed in the same field at a blue-chip conglomerate in Colombo. Kindly reply with family details, horoscope and a contact number to: propo saldp1994@gmail.co

Academically professionally qualified 1989 Australian dual citizen 5'3" fair Architect daughter currently residing in Perth Buddhist Kandyan parents seek professionally quali-2369040. Email aapro 0312258803. posal2020@gmail.co

OB161087

Academically Academically professionally professionally qualified, handsome son is sought by Kalutara, Roman Catholic parents for their youngest daughter born in 1991, 5', very pretty, fair and kind hearted, BSc (USJ) graduate, final stages of her MSc and presently working as an Environmentalist at a reputed organization in Colombo. Both elder sisters are lawyers, married and working abroad. Please reply with family details to: wedpropo2018@gma degree from Univer-OB161080 il.com

Academically and professionally qualified, kind and caring son is sought by Govi Buddhist parents for their daughter 28 years, 5'6'', pleasant, fair, slim, educated in a leading school in Colombo, brought up with Buddhist Sinhala values. Holds a BSc, MSc and currently reading for a PhD in UK. Reply with family details, contact no. & horosocpe. Email: d ayaproposal26@gmai OB160878 l.com

Academically and professionally qualified, solvent, divorced or widow partner (below 60) is sought by mother for her daughter. She is 53 years, 5'3", 2 children (both adults) professionally quailfied, fied well mannered dual citizen UK/Sri ing company in Washpartner, please call Lanka, willing to mi- ington DC. Please between 7-9 p.m. 081- grate Sri Lanka. TP: reply with horoscope 0342238146, Email: mproposal720@gmai OB160944 OB160761 l.com

proposalgy12@gmail. OB160727 Academically and professionally qulaified son from a respectable family is sought by Buddhist mother for her daughter. She is 1995 born, 5'8", currently working in a reputed private company. She is in the final stages of her Masters. She inherits valuable assets. Please reply with family details and horoscope. 1 011proposal@gmail.c

ing Buddhist Girls'

School in Colombo

07. She has a younger

brother working at an

International Organi-

zation and She inher-

its substantial assets.

Reply with full fam-

ily details and a copy

of the horoscope. Tel.

033-2226308 or arun

ajithjaya@yahoo.com

professionally quali-

fied, well mannered

son from a respectable

family living in USA

or Canada sought by

B/G parents for their

pretty, fair daugh-

ter 1983 born 5'6".

She studied in USA

qualified with Inter-

Degree from a leading

USA University. She

is working as an Ad-

ministrator in a lead-

and family details to:

Business

Academically

OB160909

and

OB160919 Academically professionally qualified well mannered partner is sought by B/G/R parents living in Kandy for their MBBS Doctor daughter 86/01, 5'2" employed in a government hospital. Inherits substantial wealth including vehicle and house in Kandy Town. Please reply with family details and horoscope m 0812233637 (after umar63@gmail.com 7 p.m.). OB160810

Maximum number of words 65 Academically profesqualified, qualisionally fied, well mannered educated employed partner from a reor business partner is spectable family is sought by Colombo G/ sought by Bodu Govi B respectable parents parents in Gampaha for their daughter their daughter pretty, fair, 37 years. who is 26 years old slim, 5'5" tall done (1994 / 08). She is BSc Business Admin-5'7" tall, father is a istration and other retired bank manager, professional courses. currently, She works Getting business ina Programs and come, having upstair Communications Ofhouse property and ficer at a leading orgaother assets. Divorced nization in Colombo. She is a graduate of after a short marriage BSc in International registration. No en-Relations from the cumbrances. University of London. with full details. tree She also has a B.A. in 987@yahoo.com 011-Honors of English 7608855. OB160986 of Peradeniya. Academically qualified son sought by She studied at a lead-

For 15 Words

Rs. 560/-

fied son with good qualities from a respectable B/G family is sought by B/G parents for their only child daughter with MBA (UK) Degree with managerial experience (1991, October born, fair, pretty, slim, earns Six figure salary as an academic and with inherited assets including our buildings in town). She is brought up with Buddhist values. Please reply with family details, and horoscope to: propo sal836@gmail.com

OB160880

parents for their

pretty daughter born

1983 5'2" tall 011-

5768795. OB161093

Academically quali-

Academically & professionally qualified handsome son sought by B/G mother from Gampaha for her pleasant and pretty only daughter born in 1982 Oct., An Australian citizen Lecturer (Ph.D) in Australian University. Prefer 38-44 age range, 5'6" + height she inherits substantial assets in both countries. Please reply with famil details & horoscope. w kalu2021@gmail.com OB160816

Affluent Buddhist respectable parents seek a well-mannered academically and professionally qualified son from a very respectable family with a similar background between 28-32 for their 1993 born 5'4" tall pretty, well accomplished and cultured daughter. Employed as a Doctor in a Government Hospital in Sri Lanka. Caste immaterial. Reply with family details to: tissawa@gmail.co and horoscope. prek OB161009

A Doctor or an Engineer son here or abroad is sought by retired parents residing in Colombo suburbs for their fair pretty daughter 5'4" 1991 born, Dental Surgeon working in a Government Hospital. Reply with details and horoscope. futurepartner 888@g mail.com OB161040 A qualified well em-

ployed son sought by Bodu respectable retired father from Colombo suburb for his 39 well mannered professional daughter well employed willing to migrate owns assets. Divorced as innocent party withkids. Respond with horoscope. ckc wasam@gmail.com

OB161073

A qualified well employed son sought by B/G respectable parents for pretty daughter 1979, born, 5'3", BSc Computing Special, CIMA, educated at a leading Colombo school, owns asssets including house, vehicles, divorced, no kids. No encumbrances. Reply with family details: mproposalpa nadura@gmail.com

OB160989

suitable partner below 43 is sought by a Catholic family for educated daughter born in 1984. Reply with contact details. propom2021@gmail. OB160783

Bodu Deva parents seek academically and professionally qualified son for their pretty fair young looking 40 yrs. daughter, 5'1" working as a BSc/ MSc. qualified Executive. gamageab140@g mail.com OB160777

Bodu Govi family with simple life style seeking a caring, virtuous, teetotaller and educated son with Buddhist values for their eldest daughter (1993 Sep) 5'3" (1.6m) who is living in France with her parents. She is currently working as a "Systems Engineer" in a reputed company in France. (Those who are residing in France are preferred). uromara64@yahoo.c OB160917

> Continued on page 70

Decades of Trusted Service

Marriage Proposals

CHARGES

DOMESTIC MARRIAGE PROPOSALS

1st 15 words Each Additional Word

Rs. 560.00 \ \(\text{Inclusive} \) of \(\text{VAT} \) DISPLAY MARRIAGE PROPOSALS

Rs. 475.00

Rs. 200.00

One Column Centimeter

Care of Paper Charges

INTERNET EDITION Domestic - Rs. 400.00 Cost of the

Rs. 400.00 Sunday Observer Deposit exact amount in

Account NO.000 000 377 of **BOC Lake House Branch** ind forward the slip via email or fax Green light for ONLINE TRANSFER imail: classified@lakehouse.lk on 011 2429 3757 2 429 380

REPLIES DOMESTIC MARRIAGE PROPOSALS OB OR OG

P.o. Box 2226, Sunday Observer, Lake House Colombo DISPLAY MARRIAGE PROPOSALS

C/o Sunday Observer, Lake House Colombo 10

Hotline Inquiries

2 429 342, 2 445 343, 2 429 347, 2 429 383

Best way to fulfil your Future Dreams SUNDAY OBSERVER

E-mail your advertisements to,

classified@lakehouse.lk

Piyumi- 0112 429 383 Ramani - 0112 429 347 | Gayani - 0112 429 343 / 342

E-mail your advertisements to,

classified@lakehouse.lk

FOR INQUIRIES: Ramani - 011 2 429 347 Piyumi -0112429383 Gayani -0112429342/343

Continued from Born in 1977 Nov. page 69



Bodu Govi parents from Colombo seek a suitable partner for their thirty three year daughter only child studied at leading private Buddhist School in Colombo Graduate in Chemical Engineering from a University in USA and an MBA presently working as a Quality Control Engineer in USA and reading for her PhD. and plans to return to Sri Lanka thereafter, please reply with horoscope and family details. t crr2212@gmail.com OB161012

Bodu Govi parents from Gampaha seek an academically qualified well-mannered partner for their daughter born in 1976 August, 5'5", slim and fair. She is young looking and working as a Nursing Officer in Government. Reply with family details and horoscope. Email: 4 channa@gmail.com

OB161002 Bodu Govi professional parents from Colombo suburbs seek a well-mannered qualified kind-hearted son for a stable relationship leading to marriage for their daughter 24, 5'4" slim fair. Presently continuing her Civil Engineering Final years in Sri Lanka due to Covid issue. Please respond with family details and horoscope. anb9608@gm ail.com 0112890994. OB160775 m

Space is Available for Your BRIDE ad.

Box Size - 6cm x 6.3cm

0777 27 00 67 Contacts ·

0777 27 08 45

Buddhist Govi Kan-5'4" well educated dyan mother seeks studied at Museaus College, medium fair sober habits same pleascaste son daughter daughter. G/B Kanfair, complexion 5' tall graduate works at reputed company in with horoscope. msl proposal@gmail.com Colombo Kuja 1 Rahu OB160915 8 0112845157 Reply Born 1971, unmarwith HC and family ried, 5'4" height, fair, details. k.bandarana yake57@gmail.com

good looking establisehd daughter, parents seek a well established kind hearted son. Please reply with full details including contact number. prop osalmarryme@gmail.

OB160882

Brother seeks a suitacademically professionally qualified partner for his only sister, 1991 born, Kandyan B/ Govi + Radala, 5'4", fair, pretty, well mannered, educated in a leading girls school in Kandy, Lawyer/Assistant Director (Law) in a reputed government body, PhD Researcher, Reply with family details & horoscope, Contact: jayas hreerat02@gmail.co m TP: 0374503904. OB161089

Buddhist Govigama parents looking for a professionally qualified partner for their daughter born in 1986 5'1" educated leading school in Colombo. She is qualified in CIMA, MBA (University of Colombo). Employed as an Accountant in a leading private company. She owns a house from Colombo and other valuable assets. Reply with family details and copy of horoscope and contact number. Email: s am24wije@gmail.co

fied, well-mannered son to build a relationship leading to marriage for their OB160856 well broughtup 23 year old 5'4" daugh-**BRIDE** This Prominent

ter, currently studying medicine. Those living in Australia preferred. Please reply with a copy of the horoscope and family details. Email: propm arriage010@gmail.co OB160781

parents from Colombo suburbs seek to introduce a suitable partner from a similar background born in 1989 June, to their daughter, 24 yrs, 5'5" tall, bright & personable Health Sciences professional, well employed in Australia. Must be professionally well qualified with a good personality, of excellent character, 5'7" or taller, aged 27 yrs or lower, a non-smoker and at most social drinker only. Profes-

Buddhist

OB161075 sionals working in the Medical, Heath Buddhist Karawa re-Science, Engineering, tired parents from Architecture or Environmental Science a respectable family fields will be highly from Nugegoda seek regarded. If not already resident in Ausan educated, decent tralia, must be will-& kind-hearted son ing to migrate longer term. View friendship their daughter leading to marriage if born in 1993, 5'3". all goes well. Caste, horoscope etc are not She is fair, thin & considered essential. pretty, educated in a Please respond to: ma il97sam@yahoo.com leading girls school in with all details and an Colombo and graduimage or social media links in the first reply. ated from a State OB161128 university. Currently

Buddhist / Vishwa teaching languages well-employed pretty daughter born 1990 in a leading private June height 5'5" setschool in Colombo. tled abroad with par-Please reply with full ents. Aunt seeks wellmannered partner. family details and a OB160988 copy of horoscope to s B/G Kandyan, reilvadelal@yahoo.com

spectable parents seek academically OB160722 quaified partner below 30 years with Buddhist parents living in Australia seek daughter height 5'3", age 26, studied at a a professionally qualireputed girls school in Colombo, reading for PhD 2nd year in Melbourne. Please reply with family details (preferable Kuja Mula Nekatha, lives in Melbourne). OB161092

B/G mother is look ing for a well brought up son for a 32 yrs 5' well educated daughter working in USA. Please contact with family details a copy of horoscope to: n. wsiri60@gmail.com A son currently living/willing to settle in USA preferred. OB161046

suitable partner from Australia for her daughter born in 1985, 5'5" fair, university educated, Australian working and living in Melbourne. Kuja Rahu 1, Mesha Lagna. Divorcess please do not reply. Email: s v_gunaratne@outloo k.com OB160974

B/G mother seeks well brought up son for an Engineer daughter 29 yrs 5'3" working in a Construction Company USA. Please contact with family details a copy of horoscope to: propose8891@gmail. com A son currently living/willing to settle in USA/Canada preferred. OB161050

B/G parents in Colombo District seek a suitable partner above 5'10" height for their pretty, slim, fair, educated daughter born in September 1992, height 5'6" employed as an Assistant Manager in an International Company. Only elder sister married and lives in USA. She owns assets. Consider malefic horoscope as same caste for their well. Email: proposa

> 1199209@gmail.com B/G parents seek an academically qualified well mannered son in Sri Lanka or overseas for their only daughter fair and pretty 1985 5'3" studied at leading Buddhist Girls' School in Colombo graduated from University of Colombo with BSc, willing to migrate. Reply with family details horoscope. T/N: pro

OB160990

posal20@gmail.com

family in Negombo a well-manhandsome (Businessman, Doctor or USA / Canada / Australia residents only) for their truly beautiful & educated daughter, born in 1992, 5'5" tall and obtained a BSc. Degree in Management and currently studying to be a Lawyer. She is the only child in the family and owns a luxury house in Negombo. sity. Caste, religion, age terial. Please reply with horoscope or birth time and location. Email: marri age.prpsl.28@gmai

0312277136.

1.com

Decades of Trusted Service

OB161020 B/G respectable parents seek an unmar-

ried suitable partner their 1977/10, 5'5" daughter pretty, fair, Visakhian. MSc IT Asst. Lecturer at a government institute. Religious unblemished character. Uttarasala Nekatha, Rahu 7. proposalvj96@gma

OB161100 il.com B/G retired parents seek suitable educated higher employed or businessman son for marriage of our daughter 1989 5'4" very pretty educated at a leading girls school in Colombo. Divorced from the 1st horoscope. marriage as plaintiff, she has a small son. p roposal3127@gmail.c OB161007

B/G simple parents living in USA looking for a USA living partner tall good looking kind and caring for their daughter (only child) 26, 5'2" BA Degree, while working in a school reading for her Masters in Education (Third Semester) she was born in USA and holds dual citizenship, speaks both Sinhala and English. Religion immaterial. Horoscope (Shani Mangala). Please reply to Email: lakn ari95@gmail.com

OB160817

Sinhalese B/G mother seeks B/G Roman Catholic B/K parents from Co- Colombo spectable lombo suburbs seek a suitable partner for daughter 31 yrs 5'6" demically fair pleasant. She had her education in a leading Colombo Buddhist School. She is currently employed educated in Australia Government after completing her university education with Masters from a prestigious family Australian Univerhoroscope. Please reply family details horoscope of suburb the proposed son. ne Bodu Vishva/Salagawsuvisal@gmail.com

> OB160852 B/K, 5'3", employee in Senior Executive grade, owns house, vehicle, legally separated, looking for below 48, decent, educated partner. Apply with horoscope. mdes igner123@gmail.com OB160984

Closer Colombo respectable B/G/K parents seek professionally qulaified son for fair pretty daughter 1980, 5'4" educated Colombo leading school employed private bank as Executive family details, propos al12b@gmail.com

Colombo Bodu Govi respectable business

parents seek profesqualified, sionally kind and caring son with sober habits from a respectable family for their elder daughter born in 1993/12, 5'4", pretty, fair, slim, kind and caring, with an excellent character. She is an MBBS doctor working at a Govt Hospital in Colombo District. Completed PLAB exams and planning on moving to the UK. Malefic horoscope. Reply with full family details, horoscope to: p roposalfinder3@gmai OB161083

business parents seek profesand acaqualified well mannered son with sober habits for their daughter 1989 born 5'5" pretty UK Graduate CIMA qualified with charming personality. Currently employed overseas. Substantial assets. Reply with details and kmarria geprop@gmail.com OB161015

ma professional parents mother seeks a partner for daughter 34 years academically professionally qualified pretty and smart working for a leading private bank in Colombo. She owns a modern vehicle and block of land. Caste immaterial. Reply with horoscope and family details. Email: eranga.hk@gmail.co OB160858

Colombo suburb Govi Bodu educated parents seek an academically & professionally qualified partner for their daughter who is MBBS doctor educated leading girls' school Colombo 89/ Dec. 5'2" height pretty and smart. Write with full details with horoscope (Caste not material). email. c.r uba58@gmail.com Phone: 0112652533. OB160297

Colombo suburb Roman Catholic Sinhala parents seek an educated son for their professionally and academically qulaified pretty fair pleasant only daughter born in March, 1985 studied in a leading Convent in Colombo employed in a reputed company. She will inherit a house. Reply with full details to: marriagepr oposals5102@gmail.c OB161000

Colombo suburb Senior Executive Pub-Sector parents professionally qualified partner for their MBBS Doctor daughter educated at Colombo leading school. 31 yrs, 5'2" pretty & smart respond with family details and horoscope. parents caste Bodu Govi/Vishwa mail: c hnna89@gmail.co m Tel: 0113607082 Mobile: 0764760414.

For 15 Words

Rs. 560/-

For each additional word Rs. 23

SUNDAY OBSERVER

Proposals

your Future Dreams

The convenient way to make your payment

Best way to fulfil

BOC - Acc. No. 00000377

Green light for

Online Transfer

Marriage

OB160892 Dehiwala, 1922.11, Buddhist, Govi, QS

Degree Holder, height 5', fair, owns house, likes music, daughter, parents seek educated, virtuous, Executive Grade employed son. Kumbha Uthraputupa. 0112728172. OB160711 Educated caring son is

sought for our daugh-

ter pleasant, 34 years, 5'2" height, postgraduate, English I.C.T. divorced Teacher, signed marriage innocent party father Senior Government Staff Officer. Western Province. OB161027 Father retired professional seeks a suitable

marriage partner for only child in the fam-Bodu parents seek ily MBBS lady Doctor dual citizen qualified in Australia and working in a Hospital in Australia. 25 years old. Fair pretty Sinhalese Buddhist. Govi owns several properties including a coconut estate in Sri Lanka & a house in Australia. Has Bud- parents seek for MSc dhist Sinhalese val- graduate pleasant fair ues. Seeks a Doctor teacher only daugher below 30 years & has 1989, 5'4" an educat-Buddhist Sinhalese ed kind & well manvalues. Must be a tee- nered suitable son. m totaller with a good arriage201930@gmai character & from a 1.com good family. Must be willing to work & live in North Queensland of Australia, must be handsome & have OB161115 means.

Galle Buddhist Durawa retired Banker mother seeks well mannered partner employed in Government or private sector NS, TT for only daughter of family 1988, height 5', IT Graduate of NSBM presently working in private firm. Horoand family details in first letter please. gr2019@gmai OB160930

Gampaha B/G born in 1995, 5'3", fair. decent daughter who studied at a leading school in Colombo. Has completed her foreign MBBS Degree and waiting for graduation. Seeking academically professionally qualified, handsome partner with good family background below 32 years. Contact with non-malefic family and background. marpro posal20@gmail.com

Lawyer parents from Colombo suburbs seek a professional partner for their Doctor daughter attached to a Govt. Hospital to Colombo. Proposed daughter born in 1983, is very pleasant smart and inherits assets over 50 Million. OB160709 G/B parents look-

Govi Bodu Doctor /

OB160981

ing for a professionally qualified caring matured son living overseas for 1993 born pretty employed daughter. universe 0621@yahoo.com OB161116

an educationally and professionally qualified son for our 1989 October born daughter, height 5'5" Senior S.W.Eng (QA). propo sal89gk@gmail.com Kadawatha

Kadawatha

OB160996 Kandyan Buddhist,

high caste parents seek an educated and professionally qualified partner from a similar family background for their pretty, attractive daughter 29 years & 5'3". She is presently pursuing her PhD. overseas, has one more year to complete. Reply with horoscope, all details and contact number to email: proposal.da ughter91@gmail.com OB160716

page 71

Continued on

YOUR PRECIOUS

NOW YOU CAN PLACE YOUR MATRIMONIAL AD AT THE SUNDAY OBSERVER THROUGH E-MAIL OR FAX & MAKE

STEP 1

PAY CORRECT AMOUNT IN CASH TO ANY BOC BRANCH : ANCL

Name of Account Holder Account No

: 000 000 377

Green light for Online Transfer

Write your Name Address & ID No.: X. X. Xxxxxxxx - Xxxx Xxxxxx, Xxxxx.

STEP 2

E-MAIL OR FAX YOUR ADVERTISEMENT WITH THE BANK SLIP TO

classified@lakehouse.lk E-Mail

Fax No. 011 2 429 375, 011 2 429 320, 011 2 429 330

STEP 3

For Confirmation & Rate Inquiries :-Piyumi - 011 2 429 383, 011 2 429 342, 011 2 429 343



SUNDAY OBSERVER Proposals Decades of Trusted Service Piyumi -0112429383 Gayani -0112429342/343

Western Govi Catho-

lic brother seeks a

ried sister working

Government Depart-

ment Staff Officer.

Salary 95000/- age 49

dowry recently built

house worth 80 lks.

Teachers considered.

Caste, religion prop-

erty not considered.

1984 March fair pret-

ty and charming with

long hair, looks much

younger, 5'1" Visakh-

ian, Sinhalese/Bodu

qualified in MBA,

ACMA, MBCS work-

ing as a Head of De-

partment in a leading

IT Organization, re-

sides in Colombo. Di-

vorced as complaint

from brief marriage,

Only brother (young-

er) working as a Net-

work Engineer. Caste

reply with horoscope

and fmaily details. pr

oposal4duwa1984@g

mail.com OB160938

1984 - Buddhist, Govi,

close Colombo, born

1984, height 5'6",

fair, slim, BSc, BCs -

Colombo, MSc-USA

passed, having PR in

USA and employed

there, only daughter,

parents seek suit-

able son, specially

those living in USA.

1986 April born Grad-

1949@gmail.co

0112859062.

immaterial.

encumbrances.

Please

OB161134

educated

suitable

SUNDAY OBSERVER Marriage **Proposals** Best way to fulfil your Future Dreams

For 15 Words

Management.

ter with good family

background willing to

come and live in the

UK with our son who

is handsome 6' gradu-

ated in the UK and

work permanently in

the Government sec-

tor. Please respond

with family details to:

48 Graduate

OG161122

educated and

academically

(Agriculture), doing

own business seeks

bride. Email: samks

sought by Buddhist

qualified brother, Ap-

ganisation in Austra-

lia, NZ/Sri Lanka.

Sibilings are in UK/

USA, inherits valu-

able assets. Differ-

ences immaterial. Re-

ply with full details,

horoscope. Email: po

ppygarden14@gmail.

An educated pretty

and religious daughter

is sought by well con-

nected Sinhala Bodu

Deva family for their

1988 5'7" height N/S,

Australia. Australian

details

pri123@yahoo.com

Age

and

Rs. 560/-

Maximum number of words 65

Affluent G/B busi-

The convenient way to make your payment **Green light for** For each additional word Rs. 23/

BOC - Acc.No. 00000377 **Online Transfer**

An educated slim fair

attractive daughter ness parents with below 38 years from respectable background seek an edurespectable famcated daughter for ily is sought for their their only son born Sinhalese Buddhist 1993 (27), 5'11" edu-6' tall, fair handsome cated at Royal College, Colombo and is well-mannered a honours graduate S T/T youngest son in Economics and who is in mid forties. Legally divorced, inherits valuable as-MBA qualified, worksets and properties. He is a non-smoker ing for a reputed mul-/ non-drinker Saturn tinational company 7. Please reply with at a higher position. family details to: prop Well-established. Inosal8666@gmail.com tends to work abroad OG161021 till end of this year & get a transfer to Sri 25, Buddhist Lanka. He has done Govi lives in the UK. several income gener-We are British Citiating investments in zens seeking sweet, Sri Lanka. Caste imeducated, slim Engmaterial & Catholics lish spoken daughwill be considered.

Also welcome propos-

als from the teachers.

Currently he is in Sri

Lanka on vacation &

will stay till mid of

April. Kindly reply

with family details &

horoscope to: chamir

aw2000@yahoo.com

OG161064

baywatch129@gmail. An educated OG160832 mannered. hearted, loving, pretty daughter sought by Sinhala Buddhist parents living in the USA for our 24 + years old son 5'9" tall handsome who has an excellent character. He graduated from a pleasant partner is prestigious University in the USA, Ma-Sinhalese family for jor in Finance & Informatics, currently professionally working in a reputed Global Tech Compaplication Developer ny. Preferably daughin a multinational orter living in the USA. Please reply at mpro lia, born 1966, 5'5", posalusa@gmail.com TT/NS who holds with your daughter's and family's details. residency in Austra-OG161130

> Australian temporary resident (T.R.) (Perch) an Accountant Roman Catholic, slim, 1987 born 5'4" Govi son seeks kind hearted, educated daughter preferable Australian / Canada / UK / citizen or PR. 031-2260439. Email: dishensilva@gmail.co OG161026

A partner preferably over sixty, sought for Govi Catholic respectable sional divorced withencumbrances. OG160980

A suitable partner professional with qualificatinos willing to reside in USA is sought by Sinhala Buddhist Govi/Karawa parents for their son born in 1992 December, 5'7" tall, teetotaller, holding a postgraduate degree from a US University and employed in USA, dual citizen, with assets in USA and Sri Lanka. Send details to: proposa l1103@gmail.com

OG161066

Continued on page 72

OG161005 About Son: Profesqualified, (Moratuwa), MSc (UK) Engineer born August 1983, 5'7" handsome working as an Electronics & Telecommunication Engineer in Europe. Academially qualified caring, pretty daughter from respectable family is sought by B/G/ K respectable retired teacher mother (Colombo suburb). All family members are university graduates. Please reply with details and horoscope. mpropos alr1983@gmail.com

OG160971 About 1980 Panadura Karawa 5'10" very handsome South PR Holder Translator Degree Holder, teetotaller 50 Million over assets. Shani Managala Yoga. Email: indikak umara181@gmail.co OG161102

Academically and professionally qualiup in Sinhalese culture and attended a Sinhalese School, also fluent in all three languages. He is graduated in IT field, working as an IT Engineer in a famous company in London, Ontario, Canada. He is a nonsmoker, teetotaller with excellent character. 33, 5'11" height, Please reply with details. Email: yamun afernando09@gma il.com Phone: 031-2275972 Race is inap-

posal646@gmail.com OG160978 email: propkuru@gm

Academically professionally qualified good looking and smart daughter is sought by Catholic parents for IT Engineer, born in 1981, 5'7", Australian citizen, never married son. (Preferred someone in Au/Nz or willing to migrate). No horoscope, no divorcees. Please reply to: silvaphilip42@gmail.

Academically professionally qualified well mannered kind hearted pretty daughter with Sinhala Buddhist values (preferably Doctor or Engineer) from a decent family is sought by respectable Sinhala Buddhist Deva family residing in Colombo for their highly qualified handsome son. He is Chartered Electrical Engineer graduated from US University, works in USA, 34 years, 5'4" height NS/TT, kind Only personality. younger brother is an Engineer. Caste immaterial. Please reply with horoscope familv details and contact information to mpar tner17@yahoo.com

OG160946 Academically and professionally qualified, well mannered pretty daughter is sought by Bodu Govi Engineer parents for their BSc Engineer son born in 1992, 5'7", educated at leading boys' school in Colombo and working in a reputed company smoker and teetotaller. Please email with details and horoscope to: pmarriage569@g mail.com OG160785

Academically professionally qualified, well mannered, fair, slim, kind, very beautiful fied beautiful daugh- fleunt in English, age ter who is a per- between 24 and 29 manent resident or years from a respectcitizen in Canada is able family, willing sought by parents for to migrate to Canada, their Tamil Roman is sought by Sinhala Catholic son. He grew Buddhist Canadian parents employed by United Nations, for their very handsome, fair, charming, pleasant, well mannered caring son with an exciting personality, born in October 1989. 5'4", Aerospace Engineer (MSc.), brought up in Europe and currently working in Canada for a leading Aircraft Manufacturing Company. Please reply with family details, and a copy of the horoscope to : hema.a na.8953@gmail.com OG160732

> Academically qualified pretty fair well mannered daughter is sought by respectable B/G parents for their son born 1990 Nov. 5'8" very handsome, NS/TT kind hearted. graduated from University of Moratuwa, currently employed as an Engineer in Singapore. He inherits substantial assets. we are looking for a daughter with a horoscope that matches our son (Kuja 7). Please

ail.com

OG160798

and Academically fied daughter is sought by Buddhist Karawa respectable well to do parents in Colombo suburbs for their slim handsome well mannered son with good personality. 33, 5'8", NS/TT PhD (Austra-

slim

pretty

lia) working as a government university OG160819 lecturer in Sri Lanka. Inherits substantial and assets. Brother doctor. Caste immaterial. Email: marriage2019@ yahoo.com OG161118 Academically quali-

well mannered kind hearted pretty daughter from a respectable family is sought by B/G parfrom Kandy well broughtup only son (1993 May 5'8" height) employed as Associate Manager in a Bank. (Qualified in CIMA, CGMA & reading for MBA). Please reply with family details & horoscope. Email: pr opkdy93@gmail.com OG160738

Academically qualified, fair, slim, pretty, Buddhist daughter with an unblemished character is sought Sinhalese Budby parents for handsome, very fair, honest, MBBS Doctor son, Cardiology in Colombo. A non Speciality in London, 5'5", N/S, T/T, born 1989/5, UK Dual Citizen. Please reply with horoscope. pro pos9875@gmail.com

OG160824 Academically qualifair fied. pretty daughter daughter is sought by B/G parents from Colombo for their well educated smart son, 31 years old, 5'8" Canadian resident. Reply with family details and a recent photograph. Caste immaterial. Email: matr imonytorontoca@gm OG160796 ail.com

Academically / proyoungest son born in fessionally qualified T/T educated in New well-mannered, slim, Zealend IT field who absolutely pretty is currently working daughter willing migrate Canada remotely to an Aussought for B/G, tralian company. He 35, 5'9" BSc, MSc wishes to migrate to handsome, holder, well-mannered Soft-PR holders preferred. ware Engineer son Please mail with famemployed overseas. ily/contact (Caste immaterial). s horoscope. Email: p rop722@yahoo.com umt36826@gmail.co OG161023

BRIDEGROOM

This Prominent Space is Available for Your

BRIDEGROOM ad. Box Size - 6cm x 6.3cm

0777 27 00 67 Contacts -0777 27 08 45

Abba, Buddhist Govi professional parents living in the US seek a kind duaghter below 35 yrs academically professionally qualified for Engineer son Co-owner of an Engineering Firm with MSc, and MBA 5'7" 35 yrs born and lives in the USA reasonable wealth in the US and in Sri Lanka. Those who are living in the US or outside and willing to relocate, please reply with family details and, horoscope. aria yanilak@gmail.com

sionally cally and professionfamily

uate Scientist daughter 5'5" R/C reading for MSc. sought a suitable partner by their parents who hold Australian citizenship. 033-2215114 (6 p.m. to 9 p.m.) max ilagunawardena@gm

with-

OB161070

1987 January born convent educated 5'4" height Jayawardenapura Degree + MBA Holder working in a private bank as an Executive, mother seeks educated working kind son. Con-0112956617. OB161017

1990, Southern Province, Bodu Govi pleasant, fair complexioned, well-mannered daughter, 5'4" in height, LLB Graduated, LLM qualified, Attorney-at-Law, educated at a leading girls? school in Southern Province, employed in a Government Department as a Legal Officer. Only sister is also a Legal Officer. Father (retired government servant and businessman). Mother (Teacher) seeks an academically/pro-Sister seeks partner fessionally qualified, well mannered son preferred Doctor, Engineer, Lawyer or one who is equally qualified. Please reply with family details and a

kanchani3131@yaho copy of the horoscope OB161042 o.com (Shani/Kuja in 10th) Tamil Lady with good (Shani Mangala Yo-OB161110 gaya). pleasing personality

Sinhala Catholic professionally qualified parents from Negombo seek a professionally qualified partner for their only daughter born in May 1991, pretty, fair, 5'3" MBBS Doctor in Government Service. Only brother is an Engineer who in Australia. 0718123830. Email: p roposal238@gmail.co

Sinhala 1988/3born daughter 5'4" PHD holder wellemployed abroad seeks suitable partner. smlf9876@gma 0112082594. OB161044

OB160850

Sinhala 1990/1 born daughter 5'4" maswellholder locally employed seeks suitable partner. dmat5432@gm ail.com 0112082594. OB161048

Sinhalese Catholic parents in Western Province are looking for a professionally / academically qualified partner for their fair and pretty daughter born in 1992. She was educated in a leading Catholic School in Colombo and now professionally qualified / Graduate, employed in a leading financial Institution. She owns substantial assets. Please reply

with family details and contact numbers to email stanjoe@sltn OB161016 Sinhalese parents dogion, immaterial. Re- miciled in Australia ply with full details & seek a professionally qualified partner for their 31 years old 5

ft. 8 in height daughter. She is specialised in General Medical Practice and works in Sydney. Kindly reply giving full details and a contact number to a nura.karu7@gmail.co OB161029

Sinhalese, Christian/Buddhist well established profesparents livsional ing in UK for last 35 years seek suitable educatedd partner for their daughter UK qualified Doctor, consultant working in a leading London Hospital, Born 1985. height 5'3" medium build. Caste and religion immaterial. Prefer those who live in UK and age below 40. Please email details

to: edenmjsp@gmail.

for her divorced sis-

ter Sinhala fair and

pretty, looking young

56 years old. Foreign

replies also welcome.

OB160908

cated BSc, 5'4" fair slim pretty youngest daughter Executive (Permanent) in very famous well established leading organization Colombo drawing six figure salary plus range of fringe benefits. Inherits land and assets can stay in main house. Caste immaterial. But Govi/Karawa priority. Email: marriage prop145@gmail.com

OB160771

ily seeks an educated partner for their cousin sister whose parents deceased. She was born in June 1982 and professionally an Architect Designer. She owns a house as assets. Religion and OB160791

Continued from Professionally quali-Respectable, finanwell-mannered cially stable Roman Catholic Burgher sought parents in Colombo seek an educated, well employed caring in Colombo for their daughter born 1993 partner for their 5 ft. November. She is 2, fair complexioned 5'8" tall fair & pret- beautiful 28-year-old ty. Studied in an In- daughter with good ternational School, qualities. She studied at a leading Convent graduated from a prestigious Univer- and works as an Executive for a bluechip sity in USA and procompany. Please reply fessionally qualified with details to marria Marketer CIM - UK.

Marriage

E-mail your advertisements to,

page 70

Kandyan Govi Bud-

dhist Central Prov-

ince 37 years. Partner

is sought for Grama

Deva retired father

ecutive Grade partner

with sober habits for

daughter 1986 Au-

gust 5'4" Clerk at CEB

Mula Nekatha Shani

Moor parents from

Galle looking for a

ticing Muslim groom,

who is academically

qualified, below 36

years for their 31

years old MBBS Doc-

tor daughter. Prefer

a Medical Doctor.

Please email with full

details and contact

number to: gallefn@g

mail.com OB161126

Moor parents Kandy

father retired Chief

Inspector of Police,

seeks for their young-

est daughter, Gradu-

ate age 26 yrs., 5'7",

suitable partner a pro-

fessional for details

contact 081-2237316.

Moor parents seek

daughter, religious,

fair, pretty, 24 years.

Kindly reply with FB

details to Email: musl

immatri2021@yahoo.

child educated in

leading girls' school

in Colombo. Aca-

demically and pro-

fessionally qualified

working in a private

company as an Ex-

after short marriage

as an innocent party.

Mother looking for a

partner. Call: 011-

2647460. OB161079

Divorced

ecutive.

similarly

willingly

OB160715

qualified,

MBBS

student

OB160927

natured, prac-

professionally

035-2243268.

OB160914

mother seek

mannered Ex-

daugh-

OB160720

Buddhist

in

of

of a Group of Com-

tails, FB profile, copy

0515612637.

Niladhari

Kegalle

well

classified@lakehouse.lk

FOR INQUIRIES :-

Ramani - 011 2 429 347

Presently employed OB160821 Senior position Catholic panies, will inherit Govi respectable and substantial assets in prominent parents Colombo. Please reliving in Colombo ply giving family deseek a professional loving caring partner horoscope and for their daughter Contact No. E-mail: 43 years 5'4" never ceoapl@sltnet.lk for married. She is a professionally qualified graduate working in the private sector in managerial position.

further details please 0112169646. OB160956 Professionally qualified, financially established, honest, kind-Christian hearted partner is sought by qualified legal professionals who own Law firm and working in prestigious government position. Degree and Master's degree Christian. holder, Late forties, 5'2", material. Reply with very pretty and young full details to: shan Divorced looking. thiweera@gmail.co from a brief marriage.

Innocent party. No encumbrances reply with details. Mail ID: sashipro2020@gyaho o.com, dhmsdo@gma il.com OB161054 Oualified partner professionally

below 54 is sought qualified, government servant, Sinhala Buddhist unmarried sister. 48 years 5'3", pretty. Please reply with details and copy of horoscope. Call after 7.00 Moratuwa Christian born 1986, 5'3" only p.m. to 0112141179.

Respectable Christian parents searching a groom for their fair pretty daughter born 1988, 5' 5 1/ 2" working as senior executive. Reply with full details. well educated suitable email: marriageprop osal728@gmail.com OB160921

Respectable Karawa Mother is looking for caste Buddhist para well educated partents living close to ner for her Ameri-Nugegoda (caste can citizen, 44 years immaterial) old younger looking seek daughter educated decent son for their 1977 born who is working as a Nurse. She is a di- 5'3" height very fair vorcee, no children. younger looking Please reply with the daughter with a Mashoroscope. OB160910 ters Degree. Please send family details Parents living in the along with a copy USA seek an academof son's horoscope. ically and profession-Email: midran22@ya

ally qualified partner OB160766 hoo.com grew up in the USA, UK or Canada, with Respectable Roman a similar background, Catholic Colombo Tamil parents seek for their daughter, 36 years, 5'3", slim, fair, a well employed re-PhD qualified with ligious son, for their a sociable charm- pretty well mannered ing personality, grew accomplished daughup in the USA with ter, employed as an caste is immaterial. Sinhalese Buddhist Executive in a lead- She is a foreign graduvalues. Caste immate- ing firm born in 1984, ate and she is willing rial. Please reply with 5'4", educated in a to migrate too. Please family details and convent in the Sin- reply with full details horoscope. Email: pm hala medium. Email: by first letter. Email: s aproposal2020@gmai mproporc84@gmail.c unplastglaze@gmail.c 1.com OB161136 om OB160747 om

geprop7777@gmail.c

Willing to migrate. The partner should be of similar family background age between 43-48 with similar professional lifestyle. He should be kind, honest, modern and a well established person finanially. Self replies only. Religion, Caste, horoscope im-

m Call: 0112410179. OB161096

Seeking caring person for a lady 50 plus looking younger, working her own business. Caste, reliphone number, partn erm2021@gmail.com

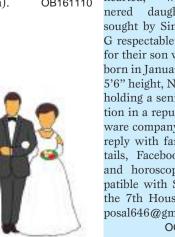
OB161112 Seeking for an academically & profesqualified sionally partner from a respectable family for the graduate daughter OB161077 born in 1990 from Colombo. Kindly reply details with horoscope. Email: shzus a.2021@gmail.com

OB161038 Sinhala Buddhist retired parents seek partner for 1987 Call 0112625226 or born Colombo edu-

Sinhala Govi fam-

aged 40 years with height of 5 feet 6 inches a sincere loving kind heared companion with no encumbrances for a mutual relationship in view of marriage (not with bad intention) caste and creed immaterial. Persons not adhering to the said requirements need not respond. Pls email to: ye llowsafai@gmail.com

OB160846



Academically professionally qualisought by Sinhala B/

fied fair, slim, kindhearted, well-mannered daughter is G respectable parents for their son who was born in January 1989, 5'6" height, N/S, T/T, holding a senior position in a reputed software company. Please reply with family details, Facebook link, and horoscope compatible with Shani at the 7th House. mpro

propriate. OG160814

E-mail your advertisements to,

classified@lakehouse.lk

FOR INQUIRIES :-Ramani - 011 2 429 347 Piyumi -0112429383 Gayani -0112429342/343

Continued from page 71



A warm, lively, attractive, educated, daughter sought by well connected for handsome son, B/ G, 5'11", 37 + possessing assets. He is a Manager of a leading Company, divorced prior to the wedding function. Wurshika, Rahu-7, Sivawasa. Reply with all details including horoscope. Caste immaterial. A divorcee without children could be considered. 011-2917777 m eththa1983@yahoo.c OG161068

Bodu Govi father Govi Anglican mother from a respectable family from the South seek a kind hearted educated daughter for UK BA (Hons) in Business Administration, MBA, holding a Senior Financial position in a leading multinational organization. Born in 1985, fair and handsome 5'11" owns house and property in Colombo, divorced (innocent party) from a short incompatible marriage without children or entailencumbrances. Only sister married and employed, living in their own home in Colombo. Please contact: mproposal s1947@gmail.com

Bodu Govi parents seek a pleasant and willing to settle overseas for their son born in 1991 (6'1") currently working as a Systems Engineer in Australia, Email with family details contact details and horoscope to propau1991@gmai 1.com

OG160725 Bodu Govi 1986 born Colombo suburbs 5'7", MBA (USQ), AIB(SL), MCIM (UK) passed owns a two storey house a jeep and other financial wealth. Parents seek a suitable daughter to fair handsome teetotaler Bank Manager son who earns a six figure salary, Kuja - Shani 4, nonmalefic horoscope. sa chproposal@gmail.co OG160891



Bodu/Karawe spectable parents from Southern Province seek a fair, slim kind hearted daughter for their MBA qualified smart only family business. He is religious minded. Non smoker/teetotaller 31 yrs - 5ft 11inch in height. Looks music younger. Fluent in English. Loves much and travelling. Owns a brand new vehicle. Inherits valuable as-Please send horoscope without Kuja Dosa including a recent photo or FB link of the daughter. Email: humbleb ride61@gmail.com OG160940

Born in 1988 in Colombo, Aviation Engineering BScGraduate, only son in business family, father seeks educated pretty partner. Reply with horoscope. ranj akaroval@gmail.com OG160870

their only son CIMA- Buddhist Govi mother looking for a pretty and caring daughter for her son who is currently working at an International Bank in Canada. PR Holder of Canada Higher Education completed in the UK (BSc & MBA) 5'3" 33 years old. Please respond with the family details, horoscope. piy umaleehand@gmail.c OG160872

Buddhist Govi re-

spectable parents from Colombo suburbs seek a suitable daughter for their 1990 born 5'8", son sober habits. educated at a reput-OG161113 ed Colombo School. Completed an Engineering Degree from a State University in well mannered girl USA, and currently employed in USA. Please reply with family details. Email: cpr oposal190@gmail.co OG160822

> Buddhist medium level parents residing in Ganemulla seeking a beautiful, educated daughter with positive and honest attitude. The proposed son is 32 years (born 12/1988), 5'7", truly handsome, fair, well mannered and has an excellent personality. He is qualified Master holder in Australia and working. Daughter who lives in Australia preferred. Horoscope is immaterial. Please reply with details & photograph to proposalson1988@ gmail.com OG160800

parents Buddhist from Colombo seek pretty well-mannered daughter for their son 29 years. 5'8" very handsome. Inherits very large amount of assets. MSc. from Moratuwa University. Holds a responsible post. Educated immaterial. Write horoscope to email ghbandara70@ ahabandu60@gmail.c yahoo.com OG160758 om

re- Buddhist Salagama parents seek an educated academically and professionally fully or partly qualified, pretty and well mannered daughter son who is engaged in for their second son born in 1992 July handsome, N/S, T/T, 5'8" holding a Business Administration Degree and CIMA (UK) and a finalist (only one subject to complete) in Chartered Accountancy in Sri Lanka and employed as a manager in a professional company with prospects to be a partner and he was educated in a leading Buddhist School in Colombo. Only elder brother who is also a Degree Holder, CIMA (UK) and well employed and married to a Lawyer. Non malefic horoscope with Pusha Nekatha. Willing to migrate. Differences are immaterial. Reply with horoscope and family details. Email: lifeproposal24@gmai

> OG161094 1.com B/G parents in Colombo seek an educated well mannered daughter studying in Australia or New Zealand for their son born in 1993. 5'1" in height willing to go abroad. Working as an Executive in a leading company studying for his Degree in Business Management. Please respond with family details and a copy of horoscope to: jagath.pathirana@gm OG160847 ail.com

B/S/G parents from Colombo suburbs seek a pleasant fair slim well-mannered employed daughter below 34 years for their 36 years, 5'8", fair, slim, very handsome, caring youngest son IT Manager in a multi-national company. Fluent in English and Spanish, foreign Nationals also considered. Please reply with the horoscope and full family details. Caste religion immaterial son is divorced from very short incompatible marriage no encumbrances. E-mail: mpr op4579@gmail.com

OG157665 Catholic Govi respectable mother seeks partner for handsome fair son, Former Bank Manager, steady income, forties sober habits. divorced.

OG160983 Christian Govi Sinhala parents seek an educated daughter, for son born in 1989 Dec. 31 yrs. a Graduate in BA and majored in Marketing and MM and MBA qualified working as a Manager in a five star hotel chain. Educated in a Colombo leading Anglican School. high ranking parents. TT/non smoker. Weil Caste differences are mannered brought up with all Christian values. email. sunethra.s

Bodu Govi 5'8", devoid of all vices, graduated in business management in Colombo University. CIM, CIMA & MBA qualified working as a Marketing Manager in private sector owns property, luxury vehicle and assets. Respectable parents seek a Bodu, Govi, fair educated daughter. Only brother married and living in UK. (Kuja 4 horoscope). Email: w

and FB. OG161030 Colombo 5 1986.7.4th Birthday Project (MBA) Manager Holder, Royal College Colombo (School) inherits Colombo, properties, from two sons, elder in the family suitable partner who ownes a house. Father & mother seek a partner. 0112501603.

OG160936

ajiradp@gmail.com

Educated and kindhearted daughter with good family values is sought by the mother for professionally and academically qualified Electrical Engineer son residing in the US. He was born in 1978 to a respectable B/G family, 6'2", and studied in a leading school in Colombo. He is divorced without any encumbrances. Differences immaterial. Please reply with details, horoscope and contact information. susjay2021@gmail.co

OG161052 Educated professional partner is sought for an academically and professionally qualified graduate with postgraduate qualifications, BSc (Hons) P.G. Dip, CFA, PRM. 5'8", G/B, TT & NS. 41 assets over 50 million including a 2 storey house in Colombo suburbs and a new SUV. proppro@outlo OG160833 ok.com

Engineer 53 Buddhist Sinhalese divorced from a European marriage without fault looking for a professional lady close to OG161011

Father a Senior Professor, mother executive seek a bride for their son, a MBBS Doctor, 31 years, only brother does higher studies abroad.

OG160925 Father seeks a bride. below 30 years, only with unblemished character, with a good economic background, for his 5'7", yrs, teetotaller, music loving sporty Dr. Son, Consultant Training in the UK. (Emails only) virgin proposal@yahoo.com OG161132

Colombo 1990 April Govi Buddhist par- Moor parents from Seeking a suitable ents Colombo subkind hearted partner for son dual citizen of Australia now living in Sri Lanka with parents. He is 41 yrs 5'10" fair Network Engineer engaged in Business work here. Caste religion immaterial. Reply with horoscope. alanka ra879@gmail.com

OG161003 G/B respectable parents from Colombo kind pretty eduated daughter full details with H/C for professionally & academically qualified handsome son brought up with good qualities and Buddhist values studying for Masters in IT. Born in May 1994 5'11" TT/NS employed as Business Analyst at a Multinational Software Company. Please reply with family details and horoscope, dam ith2120@gmail.com

> Hambantota born 1992 BSc graduate teacher son, parents seek well-mannered daughter. OG160876

OG160945

Homagama mother (retired Bank Officer) seeks a pretty, educated daugher for her son, 5'6", born in 1990 June, graduated from CINEC Campus, working as Third Officer in a foreign ship. (Sha) Ra 8 horoscope. OG160812

Invitation is for a pretty, fair educated young lady 30 year or less with a good family background for a 1986 born 5'7" fair, handsome, Buddhist, British quali-NS/TT employed as Head of Finance in an organization in Colombo. He inherits valuable & substantial assets. Please reply with copy of horoscope. Email Address, Contact Number & Family Details. Email: th arprop2021@gmail.c om Tel: 0913136851. OG161106

Jaffna Hindu Vellalar parents seeking a suitable vegetarian bride for their vegetarian son Accountant working in Colombo 33 years 5'11" height (University BBMof Jaffna) & CIMA partly qualified please reply with your family details, horoscope, and contact number. Email:" sriskandaroy alcrown2021@gmail. OG160787

Moor parents from a well connected family in Sri Lanka seek a pretty, kind hearted and moderately religious, working bride preferably from Colombo for 1988 born 5'11" in height handsome, CIM qualified practicing marketer currently working as a Business Consultant lic College in the Sin-(own business) in Co- hala medium. Race lombo. Email: propos al1988srilanka@gma il.com OG160804

urbs seek pretty slim a partner for their son 31/slim/height qualified ACCA/Accountant/ Gemmologist + Business PR Holder living Overseas. Email: whit

Decades of Trasted Service

eriver786@hotmail.c om All details in first OG160874 Parents living in Australia seek a pretty,

slim, well mannered, and educated partner living in Australia or willing to migrate to Australia for their son. He is 29 years old 171cm tall. He is an Australian citizen, brought up with Sri Lankan Buddhist values (non drinker and non smoker). He graduated from leading Australian University and currently works for Global Engineering Consultancy as a Structural Engineer. Please send family details and horoscope to: proposalaust@gm ail.com OG161123

Professionally qualified clerk looking good charactered female partner between 52-57 for marriage. Prefer someone who is healthy unselfish sensitive to other peoples feelings with good life values and without anger or depression issues. Reply family details including horoscope. E-mail: rajgunawarde ne@gmail.com rajgu nawardene@gmail.co OG161140

Professionally qualified, employed as a Manager/citizen in Austrlaia, B/G 39 yrs is looking for a kindhearted qualified caring, pretty daughter from a respectable legally separated from an incompatible marriage with no encumbrances, preference will be given to daughter, already in Australia (or prepared to live in Australia). If you wish to contact please respond with full famhoroscope. Email: m proposal2323@aol.co

OG160884 Respectable B/G family from Colombo with well-mannered son NS/TT 5'8" (brought up overseas parents seek well-mannered kind caring educated daughter below 28 yrs from B/G family with Sinhala Buddhist values, kindly email with family details & horoscope and the contact number. rftp roposal@gmail.com OG160950

Respectable Roman Catholic Colombo Tamil parents seek a well mannered pretty religious daughter for smart, handsome (NS/TT) son, academically / professionally qualified, well employed, born in 1982, 5'5", educated in a leading Cathoimmaterial. Email: m propos2021@gmail.c OG160750

Colombo looking for and caring partner never married son 1978 born, 5'7", BK affluent business family. Working as a director of own group of companies. Partner's caste and religion immaterial. Please respond with family and horoscope details to; mproplan ka2021@gmail.com

> OG160323 Sinhala Bodu Govi parents in Colombo seek a pleasant and loving daughter for their son living in Melbourne. Preferably who lives in Australia. 5'9", 1993 September. Completed BSc / MSc in Information Technology. Currently employed as an ICT Business Analyst. Please respond with full details to: mp1993aus@ gmail.com OG161056

Sinhala Buddhist Govi father and mother living in Melbourne seek a pretty kind hearted and caring daughter for their handsome only son 20 years to get to know from a similar married. Son is studying for Engineering Degree in University Australia and caring oriented person in Australia citizen. The daughter we seek should be fair culutered and educated fluent speaker in English, student doing higher education in Australia or Sri Lanka may be considered. Contact with details. R/C business family family. He is current- Email: khdjd@yahoo (father Doctor) from

Sinhala B/G, respectable affluent family from Colombo seeks an educated good looking kind-hearted daughter below 35 years with a similar family background ily details, copy of from Sri Lanka or USA for their younger son N/S, T/T 38 years - 6 feet - PhD-USA and MSc Engineering-Moratuwa Uni. working as an Executive at Losangeles, planning to settle in USA, Kuja 1 Shani 1st house. Please refamily details ply

with horoscope copy. nakuluwa Email: 1984@gmail.com OG160924

Sinhala parents seek a kind partner living in UK preferably not far from London for their son born in 1985, graduate, working as a Manager in an International Company based in London while running his private venture. He is a British citizen and 5'10" in height, handsome, honest, dynamic and caring. Reply by email: pro powabe@gmail.com OG160830

Sinhalese Catholic parents seek a well brought up daughter for their son 28 years 5'6" Chemical Engineer (USA) with execellent qualification, presently, he is working and studying for his Masters in USA. Preferred a daughter studying or living in USA kindly reply with daughter's and family details email: u sad8393@gmail.com

OG160912 Tamil Christian parents residing in Colombo seek a pretty well mannered Christian daughter for their son from any western country as he prefers to migrate. He is 29 years, 5'8" working as an Executive in a leading foreign bank in Colombo. Email - d ayanid171@gmail.co OG160807

Tamil Christian (AoG) parents seek an educated daughter for their eldest son born in 1981, 5'6", non smoker, non drinker, currently employed as a General Manager in a reputprivate company. CIMA qualified (only prefer Tamil Christians between 30 - 38 family before getting yrs.). sjnlabs@gmail. OG160802

Tamil Roman Catholic parents from Colombo seek a bride for their son aged 31, 5'10" tall working for a leading private organization, if interested please send your details to: carmalfer nando@gmail.com with contact number.

OG160932 Well connected G/

Gampaha son 37 y., 5'11" tall educated in a leading Catholic School in Colombo, CIMA graduated, Director in a leading Company and has his own family business, divorced from a brief marriage encumbrances, inherits commercial properties, estate, looking for a pretty, slim, kind hearted daughter from a respectable family. Reply details to, 777pr oposals@gmail.com

OG161022 Well-established spectable Sinhalese G/B parents living in USA seeking a pretty well mannered daughter academically qualified or studying towards a degree between the ages of 23-28 preferably living in USA, for their very handsome son just turned 30, 5'9" to build up a decent

relationship leading to marriage. He has a Bachelor's Degree in IT (Network Security) and working at a leading Cyber Security Firm as an IT Security Manager. Religion immaterial. Please reply with full family details. sama

npaya2@yahoo.com

OG160994

Maximum number of words 65 We Sinhala Catholic Australian citizen parents seek an academically and professionally qualified daughter between 27 33 years living in Australia for our Engineer son. Religion and caste immaterial. Please reply with family details to marriage proposal2019g@yaho o.com OG160794

For 15 Words

Rs. 560/-

SUNDAY OBSERVER

Proposals

your Future Dreams

The convenient way to make your payment

Best way to fulfil

BOC - Acc. No. 00000377

Green light for

Online Transfer

Marriage

B/G parents seek employed pretty partner below 37 for 40, 5'9", slim, handsome, educated never married NS/TT son Senior Cashier in reputed company. Owns house land. pr oposalm22@gmail.co OG161114

W.P./S.B.G. retired

parents seek educated, kind-hearted daughter who's willing to migrate for their youngest son 1994 born, 5'8" in height. He is handsome, well-mannered non-smoker, teetotaller with an excellent character. He is presently working as a Business System Analyst at a well reputed Multinational Company in Japan. Please reply to mazzre c22@gmail.com with horoscope and family details. OG160779

1986 B/G parents seek an academically qualified slim fair pleasant kind hearted daughter for their only son BSc (Hon.) MSc (Australia) CIM passed finalist (MCIM) 5'7" NS/TT working in (Pvt) Company, Colombo as a Manager. Shani 7, Kuja 8. pro posalg86@gmail.com seek permanently em-

1988 born Diploma Holder R/C 6' son who has involved in business sought a suitable marriage partner by their (Australian citizenship) parents. 033-2215114 (6 p.m. to 9 p.m.) max ilagunawardena@gm OG160952 ail.com

1989/11. Western Province, B/G/K, 6'1" height, BSc., MBA, Senior Executive of a leading Telecom Company, possesses house / vehicle retired Bank Executive parents seek professionally qualified daughter with permanent employment. Height should be more than 5'4" within age group 25-28. Email : mpr op2511@gmail.com

OG160813

1992/8 Kurunegala Govi Buddhist Sri Lanka Navy Commissioned Officer son, parents seek graduate employed daughter. 011-2053999 (after 7.30 p.m.). OG160906

1994 Western B/G. 5'6" tall, BCom, MBA graduated good looking son from respectable business family. Inherits substantial wealth. We seek a well mannered, fair & pretty, truly kind daughter up with good qualities under Buddhist values. Reply with a horoscope & detailed family background. a rpropo94@gmail.com

OG160845

1994-Gampaha Bodu

Govi 5'9" Senior Software Engineer, currently working at a reputed company in Colombo, financially very secure, earning good income. Only son, kind hearted and well mannered, educated at a reputed school in Colombo and graduated from UK based leading university, inherits substantial assets with modern upstair house, two cars, lands, feilds and other valuable properties. Parents OG161120 ployed, pretty virtuous daughter who inherits properties and assets. Reply with horoscope copy and all the details from the first letter. Kuja in 1,2,4,8,10,12 houses preferred. Email: pat hmak2020@gmail.co

> 38 year old Doctor working in Western Europe looking for a Bride. Never married, 5ft 10inch with sober habits from a respectable middle class family from Colombo. Please reply to: proposal10 10118@yahoo.com

OG161060

OG160999

BRIDEGROOM

Sinhala Buddhist Govi professional leading business family in Colombo is looking to introduce an educated beautiful daughter with a good family background and essential qualities to our elderst son 26 years, 5'9", CEO in our family company studied in a leading international school in Colombo and higher education (MSc in UK). Having a younger brother and a sister. Kindly send all particulars to mproposal730@gmail.com Information will be treated with utmost confidentiality

> 160992. C/O Sunday Observer - Lake House, Colombo 10

OG160789 Grab Matrimonial Display Ad Space to Promote Your Business...



Umanga - 0777 270 845 classified@lakehouse.lk