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11 extremist organizations to be banned

DILSHAN THARAKA

Attorney General (AG) Dappula De Livera had yesterday granted permission to the Inspector General of Police (IGP) to ban 11 extremist Muslim organizations in response to a request made by the IGP, AG's Coordinating Officer State Counsel Nishara Jayaratne said. **TO PAGE 02**

NATIONAL ELECTION COMMISSION INFORMED

RANJAN'S SEAT FALLS VACANT

SPEAKER MAKES ANNOUNCEMENT IN HOUSE

SANDASEN MARASINGHE,
CAMELIA NATHANIEL and
AMALI MALLAWARACHCHI

The Election Commission was informed that the Parliamentary Seat of MP Ranjan Ramanayake has been rendered vacant, Speaker Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena informed the House yesterday (07).

The Secretary General of Parliament had informed the Chairman of the National Election Commission

that Ranjan Ramanayake had ceased to be a Member of Parliament and accordingly there is a vacant Seat in Parliament with respect to the electoral district of Gampaha in terms of the Article 66 (d) of the Constitution, the Speaker announced.

This notice has been issued by the Secretary General of Parliament in terms of Section 64 (01) of the Parliamentary Elections Act No.

01 of 1981. Following the announcement, a heated argument broke out between the Opposition and the Ruling party regarding the decision given on MP Ranjan Ramanayake who is presently imprisoned on a charge of Contempt of Court. **TO PAGE 02**



MANNAPPERUMA TO REPLACE RANJAN

Former State Minister Ajith Mannapperuma is the next in line in the Gampaha District preferential vote list of the Samagi Jana Balawegaya (SJB).

He came in fifth among the SJB contestants from the Gampaha District obtaining 47,212 preferential votes in the General Election 2020. His name is expected to be gazetted to fill Ranjan Ramanayake's Parliamentary Seat after the District Returning Officer submits his name to the National Election Commission.



Easter blasts cases: Special Panel of Judges mooted

SANDASEN MARASINGHE, CAMELIA NATHANIEL and AMALI MALLAWARACHCHI



The Government will soon discuss with the Chief Justice on the Presidential Commission of Inquiry (PCoI) recommendation to appoint a special Panel of Judges to hear the cases related to the Easter attacks to avoid any delays, said Education Minister Prof.G.L.Peiris. **TO PAGE 02**



President Gotabaya Rajapaksa paid homage to the Sacred Tooth Relic at the Sri Dalada Maligawa, Kandy yesterday. Afterwards, President Rajapaksa called on Most Ven. Thibbatuwawe Sri Sumangala Maha Nayake Thera of the Malwatte Chapter and Most Ven. Warakagoda Sri Gnanaratana Maha Nayake Thera of the Asgiriya Chapter at the respective Viharas. The President mingled with the devotees who had visited the Sri Dalada Maligawa. Here the President in conversation with a little child who was among the devotees. (Picture courtesy President's Media Division)

Tax concessions for electric vehicles soon

AMODA JAYAMAHA

A Cabinet proposal to import environment friendly electric vehicles and solar powered vehicles is being formulated, Environment Minister Mahinda Amaraweera said.

He said the Cabinet paper proposes tax concessions to import those vehicles. **TO PAGE 02**



Lake House yesterday organized an event to distribute saplings among its staff members to plant at the auspicious time of the Sinhala and Tamil New Year on April 14. Environment Minister Mahinda Amaraweera, Lake House Chairman W. Dayaratne, PC, and members of the Lake House Director Board joined in planting a sapling on the pavement near the Lake House building. Picture by Saliya Rupasinghe

Mattala Airport generates Rs. 445.3 m - Tourism Minister



Since its commencement until November 2020, the Mattala Rajapaksa International Airport has generated Rs. 445.3 million in revenue, said Tourism Minister Prasadana Ranatunga. Responding to a question raised by SJB-MP Heshu Withanage during the question round for oral answers in Parliament yesterday, he said that US\$ 247.7 million had been spent on the construction of the Mattala Airport. **TO PAGE 02**

Local coconut oil industry will be developed - Trade Minister

SANDASEN MARASINGHE, CAMELIA NATHANIEL and AMALI MALLAWARACHCHI



Measures will be taken to uplift local oil production and the coconut industry, minimizing the expenses for imports of

palm oil, Trade Minister Dr. Bandula Gunawardena said in Parliament yesterday (07). An appeal should be made, stating the specific requirements, to the Secretary to the Finance Ministry to import palm oil as needed, Dr. Gunawardena also

said. The Trade Minister made these observations in reply to a question raised by the government MP M. Muzzammil concerning the recent controversy related to coconut oil unsuitable for human consumption. **TO PAGE 02**

CEB workers get 25% pay hike

CHAMEERA ELLADENIYA

A Collective Agreement has been signed to raise the salaries of Ceylon Electricity Board (CEB) employees by 25 percent, CEB Chair-

man Eng. Vijitha Herath said. This proposal has been sent to the cabinet for approval and all other rights of the workers will also be granted, Herath said. **TO PAGE 02**

Rohitha queries why previous Govt did not probe extremist activity

SANDASEN MARASINGHE, CAMELIA NATHANIEL and AMALI MALLAWARACHCHI

What should be investigated is who prevented the investigations being carried out and prevented the arrest of Easter bomber Zaharan Hashim and his group, said Minister of Ports & Shipping Rohitha Abeygunawardena. **TO PAGE 02**

Opposition doubts 'Naufer as mastermind' theory - Kiriella

SANDASEN MARASINGHE, CAMELIA NATHANIEL and AMALI MALLAWARACHCHI

The Opposition has doubts over the authorities' declaration that Naufer Maulavi is the mastermind behind the Easter Sunday Terror Attacks, said Samagi Jana Balawegaya Parliamentarian Lakshman Kiriella yesterday. **TO PAGE 02**

Petition seeks order preventing hotel from disposing sewage into sea

LAKMAL SOORIYAGODA

The Centre for Environmental Justice (CEJ) has filed a Writ Petition in the Court of Appeal seeking an order restraining the Marine Environment

Protection Authority from granting permission to the newly built Araliya Unawatuna Beach Hotel, disposing sewage into the sea. **TO PAGE 02**

'Hotel not being built inside Sinharaja Forest'

SHAVINI MADHARA

The Department of Forest Conservation yesterday refuted media reports that a hotel is being built in the Sinharaja Forest.

Issuing a media release, the Department of Forest Conservation stated that the reported land is

located at a distance of 3.5 km from the Sinharaja Forest and 5 km away from the boundary line of the Sinharaja World Heritage site.

It is further stated that this private land is located outside the Sinharaja Forest Reserve which was declared in 2019. **TO PAGE 02**

SUN DIRECTLY OVER SRI LANKA
The Sun will be directly over the latitudes of Sri Lanka from April 5-14 due to the apparent northward relative motion of the Sun, the Meteorology Department stated. The Public have been advised to take necessary precautions in view of extreme heat during this period. The Department said this is a usual biannual phenomenon. The nearest areas of Sri Lanka over which the sun is overhead today are Bolawatta, Wedeniya, Wattarama, Ambagamuwa, Digana, Mahawala, Galgamuwa, Ampara and Oluvil at 12:12. **TO PAGE 02**

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Mattala Airport... From page 01

“From the date of commencing operations until now, 10,206 aircraft have landed at the Mattala Airport, while from the date of commencement until the end of November 2020 the airport has recorded 58,651 passenger arrivals and 73,513 passenger departures. However, due to the previous Government using the Mattala Airport for storing paddy, its operations were hindered and some of the equipment installed at the Mattala Airport was taken to Katunayake,” Minister Prasanna Ranatunga said.



Responding to MP Withanage, the Minister outlined the government’s plans in order to upgrade the facilities at the cargo terminal and improve cargo handling activities, recommence the operations of the Duty Free shopping complex and provide all required infrastructure facilities in order to attract commercial flights etc.

The Minister also noted that currently discussions are underway with potential investors for the commencement of a Maintenance and Repair Yard at the Mattala Airport.

Local coconut... From page 01

Dr. Gunawardena pointed out that from 2010 to 2014, 360 MN kilograms of milk powder have been imported and in 2015-2019, the amount of milk powder imported has increased to 460 MN Kg. Accordingly, Rs. 179,718 MN has been spent during 2010-2014 to import milk powder while Rs. 213,008 MN has been spent for the same during 2015-2019.

Minister Gunawardena observed that any global level research or testing can be done at the laboratory of Veterinary Medicine Department, Faculty of Medicine in the University of Peradeniya. Any testing on milk powder or other food items can be carried out at this laboratory.

Minister Gunawardena also said that numerous measures have been taken to enhance local milk production.



Three career diplomats designated as Ambassadors

MOHAMMED RASOOLDEEN

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has designated three career diplomats as Ambassadors to Saudi Arabia, Brazil and Iran.

Additional Secretary to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, P.M. Amsa has been nominated as Ambassador to Saudi Arabia. Amsa’s nomination has been forwarded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs along with the names of two other

career diplomats designated to Brazil and Iran to the High Post Committee of the Parliament.

The Ambassadors designated to Brazil is D.M.S.B. Dassanayaka and G.M.V. Wishwanatha Aponu is to be posted to Iran.

Aponu is the Director-General of Consular Affairs, while Dassanayaka is the Director-General of Human Resources and Mission Management at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The Sri Lankan Mission in Saudi Arabia is without an Ambassador for more than a year ever since former Ambassador Azmi Thassim completed his tour of duty in the Kingdom.

Amsa has been in the Foreign Service for more than two decades with a record of serving as his country’s Ambassador in Turkey and Brussels and as deputy High Commissioner in Chennai.

CEB workers get...

From page 01

The CEB workers’ unions had demanded a 36 percent pay hike, but the management has decided on a compromise of 25 percent.

“It is a great victory for the CEB that we could do this even amidst the present COVID-19 situation,” he added. Nevertheless, any trade union that does not agree with the above pay hike can launch TU action,” he noted.

SLITHM students to be trained on COVID-19 health guidelines

IRANGIKA RANGE

Tourism Minister Prasanna Ranatunga said that students enrolled for new courses conducted by the Sri Lanka Institute of Tourism and Hotel Management (SLITHM) will be trained in dealing with tourists in keep-

ing with the health guidelines to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

He said that attention has been paid to update the subjects in the courses and introducing new courses in keeping with the current requirements in the world. Accordingly, new students

enrolling for SLITHM courses will be trained on how to deal with tourists in the wake of pandemic.

The Institute expects to enroll around 5275 new students for this year which is a three fold increase compared to last year.

11 extremist... From page 01

Accordingly, the AG had given permission to ban “United Thowheed Jamaath (UTJ), Ceylon Thowheed Jamaath (CTJ), Sri Lanka Thowheed Jamaath (SLTJ), All Ceylon Thowheed Jamaath (ACTJ), Jamiyyathul Ansaari Sunnaththul

Mohomadiya (JASM), Dharul Adhar @ Jamiul Adhar, Sri Lanka Islamic Student Movement (SLISM), Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS), Al-Qaeda, Save the Pearls and Super Muslim”, she said.

Previously in the aftermath of the Easter Sunday

attacks, three organizations namely “National Thowheed Jama’ath (NTJ), Jama’athe Milla’athe Ibrahim (JMI) and Willayath As Seylani” were banned in 2019 under the Prevention of Terrorism Act.

The ban on them will continue.

Easter blasts... From page 01

He observed that the Government has made great strides in bringing to justice those who are responsible for the Easter Sunday terror attacks.

Prof. Peiris noted that the commitment of the Government to bring the culprits of the terrorist carnage to justice.

Minister Peiris made these observations moving the Adjournment Debate in Parliament yesterday (7) on the Final Report of the Presidential Commission of Inquiry (PCoI) into the Easter Sunday Terror Attacks on April 21, 2019.

Prof. Peiris noted that the Easter Sunday Terror Attacks took place within just eight hours and the Government has a responsi-

bility to ensure that such a situation does not recur in the country.

Regarding the Cabinet Sub Committee appointed on the terror attacks, Minister Peiris said that this Sub Committee was not appointed to conduct further investigations and make recommendations to the Government. He said the Report of the Presidential Commission of Inquiry into the Easter Sunday Terror Attacks had a large number of pages and the Committee intends to study the report and identify issues that should be given more priority.

Prof. Peiris observed that, “If the law had been properly



enforced after the Mawanela incident then, this tragedy would not have taken place. The arrested persons were released. There is a possibility of taking stern action against those Police officers”. Minister Peiris requested the Attorney General to see if action could be taken against the said parties.

Commenting on Madrasa schools, Minister Peiris said that there are about 365 Madrasa schools registered in the country. Professor Peiris emphasised the importance of establishing a proper mechanism to monitor these educational institutions. Minister Peiris pointed out that

children below the age of 16 could not be sent to such schools as they could not receive a proper education through these institutes.

“Due to this, the children will not be able to find employment also,” the Minister said.

Prof. Peiris noted that Government intervention was essential in determining the curriculum taught in these schools. “This Commission report contains a number of practical recommendations in this regard,” he pointed out.

“The current laws are not sufficient to combat terrorism and further strengthening the existing laws is compulsory,” the Minister said.

Sun directly... From page 01

The Department also said misty conditions could be expected at some places in Central, Sabaragamuwa and Western provinces during the morning.

“Showers or thundershowers will occur at several places in Western, Sabaragamuwa, Central, Southern and Uva provinces in the evening or night. Fairly heavy falls about 75 mm can be expected at some places in the above areas. Mainly fair weather will prevail elsewhere over the island. The public is kindly requested to



take adequate precautions to minimize damage caused by temporary localized strong winds and lightning during thunder showers,” the Weather bulletin said.

‘Hotel not being... From page 01

It is an abandoned private tea land and this land is adjacent to the Pothupitiya - Rakwana road. It is reported that there are three constructions in this area and the approval of the Pradeshiya Sabha has

been obtained for the construction of those houses. It also clarified a number of issues, including the destruction of the upper canal areas and the deforestation of the Hiniduma forest reserve.

Opposition doubts... From page 01

He queried as to why not even a single piece of evidence was given at the President’s Commission on the Easter Sunday attack in this regard.

He made these observations joining the Adjournment Motion on the report of the Presidential Commission on the Easter Sunday attack in Parliament for the fourth day.

MP Kiriella said that the Commission could only deliver a verdict based on the evidence placed before it. The responsibility of giving evidence is in the hands of the intelligence, Police and the CID. They have not submitted relevant and detailed evidence.

Certain persons said that international forces

were behind the scene and a mastermind was also there. It was not revealed at the Commission. However after two years, the mastermind has been revealed. “We have doubts, as to whether this is part of a concocted story due to the pressure on the Government to reveal the mastermind of the attack,” he said.

Petition seeks... From page 01

The CEJ and its Executive Director Director Hemantha Withanage filed this petition naming the Central Environmental Authority, Urban Development Authority, Director General of Wild Life, Chairman of Araliya Group W. Sirisena, Habaraduwa Divisional Secretary, Marine Environment Protection Authority and several others as respondents.

The Petitioners state that a massive hotel project which includes over 250 rooms covering an extent of 10 acres and 6.1 perches at Yaddehimulla in Unawatuna in the Galle district was constructed recently. The hotel project belongs to the Araliya Hotel Beach Private Limited.

The Petitioners state that this edifice of a hotel has posed devastating consequences on the globally renowned Rumassala sanctuary, Unawatuna beach and exotic coral reef of Rumassala-Beuna Vista with the hotel being

built no less than 15 metres away from the Unawatuna beach and situated right next to the famous “Walle Devalaya” (shrine on the beach) and the Rumassala conservation site.

It has been declared as a sacred area and it is cited as “Historical Welledelawaya in Unawatuna Sacred area” by the Extraordinary Gazette Notification No.1877/80 dated 29.08.2014.

The Petitioners stated that the mega Araliya hotel project if not regulated appropriately and objectively by the said Respondents will eliminate the ecological appeal of Rumassala and Unawatuna where people have lived peacefully since time immemorial.

The Petitioners stated that they are reliably informed that permissions had not yet been granted by the respondents to discharge treated water into the sea.

The Petitioners state that at present all the waste water from the said hotel is being discharged to a waterway situated adjacent to the hotel, which ultimately flows into the sea.

The Petitioners state that the portion adjacent to the Unawatuna Bay, namely Rumassala, has been declared as a Sanctuary under Section 2(2) of the Flora and Fauna Protection Ordinance No. 2 of 1937 as amended and published in Gazette Extra Ordinary No. 1269/25 dated 03.01.2003.

The Petitioners further state that the Unawatuna beach is recognised as one of the most charming seashores of the world. The tourists who visited Unawatuna in large numbers since its transformation into a prominent tourist destination of Southern Sri Lanka preferred homestead tourism.

The Petitioners state that an Initial Environmental Assess-

ment had been prepared in September 2016 for the construction of a 14 storey hotel consisting of 250 rooms and other ancillary buildings. Although, public comments were made with regard to the said EIA Report, none of it has been taken into consideration.

The Petitioners state that it is reported that plans are underway to construct a 20-40 foot wide carpeted road from Yaddehimulla to the Rumassala Peella Junction via the boundary of the Rumassala Mountain. If the access road is constructed, there will be considerable destruction to the ecosystem of the peripheral borders of the Rumassala Sanctuary.

They said road is to be constructed in order to provide an access road to the said hotel, with the permission of the Habaraduwa Pradeshiya Sabha. This Petition had been filed through Counsel Ravindranath Dabare.

Rohitha queries... From page 01

Joining the fourth day of the debate on the report of the Presidential Commission of Inquiry into the Easter Sunday attacks in Parliament yesterday, he said former Cabinet Minister Wijeyadasa Rajapakse had made a statement in 2016 in Parliament that there were reports of several persons having links with the ISIS organization. “The Cabinet is a very small group and when a member makes such a statement in Parliament, as a responsible Government the previous Government should have deployed the law enforcement units to investigate this claim. Hence, now those same members of the previous regime are questioning the present Government whereas I would like to ask them why they failed to take action at the time where they could have prevented this terrible attack.”

Abeygunawardena is a member of the Special Committee appointed to study the recommendations of the report,

under the leadership of Minister Chamal Rajapaksa.

“The aim of Zaharan and his group was to spread Wahabism and ISIS ideology within the country by destroying other races and creating a Muslim state. Further, the Kattankudy Police and other police divisions in the area were informed about Zaharan Hashim and their activities. But, the previous Government’s failure to take action is definitely a reason that led to this attack,” he noted.

He further questioned as to under whose instructions was the law not enforced against Zaharan Hashim? “This is what needs to be investigated. Today the same Members of the previous Government are asking why action is not taken against the masterminds behind the Easter bombers. What did they do to prevent this incident?”

He noted that not all Muslims are terrorists or support such extremism, but

the Muslim leaders had given a warning to the then government that they had assisted in bringing them into power and therefore action could not be taken against these groups.

Referring to the 2017 the Ginthota Sinhala-Muslim clashes, he said Zaharan had posted a message on his FB account that it was time to set up an Islamic State.

“Why was this not investigated by the intelligence units? Now they are blaming the intelligence units, but it was the previous government that broke the back of the intelligence units and made them inactive,” he said, adding that the entire responsibility for the Easter attacks should be taken by the members of the previous Government.

Minister Rohitha Abeygunawardena said that the current Government has taken all measures to ensure a peaceful country for all races and religions to live in peace.

Tax concessions... From page 01

He pointed out that air pollution caused by vehicles on roads is very high in Sri Lanka. “We have paid attention in this regard as it has become a serious problem. The proposal to import electric vehicles and solar powered vehicles is to protect the environment,” he noted.

The Minister added that proposals to minimize traffic congestion have been proposed in the same Cabinet Paper.

Minister Amaraweera was participating at an event in Lake House yesterday to distribute 1,000 saplings among its staff members to plant them at the auspicious time of the Sinhala and Tamil New Year. This event was organised parallel to the “Husma

Dena Thuru” (Trees Giving Life) National Programme of the Environment Ministry. The auspicious time for planting a tree is at 6.40 a.m. on April 16.

The Minister commended Lake House for performing its media duties with responsibility, adding that it has come a long way since its inception despite temporary setbacks from time to time.

“It is true that the felling of trees damages the environment, but it is wrong to interpret that protecting trees alone would be sufficient to protect the environment. Planting trees is not the only thing that we can do to protect the environment. Environment pollution from plastic and polythene is gradually

increasing in the country, but public attention to this matter is not enough. We have introduced steps to control this problem and those will be strictly implemented in the days to come,” he said.

Lake House Chairman W. Dayaratne, PC thanked the Minister for providing saplings to the Lake House staff members under the “Husma Dena Thuru” programme. “Under this programme 107,000 plants have been planted so far and it is a commendable service for the future,” he said.

Lake House Editorial Director Dharma Sri Kariyawasam also addressed the gathering. The Director Board members, editors and managers participated.

Ranjan’s Seat... From page 01

Opposition Leader Sajith Premadasa pointed out that the Speaker should have first made the announcement to the House before sending the letter to the Election Commission. Premadasa questioned as to why the letter was sent in a hurry, and why the House was informed about it only later. At this juncture, State Minister Nimal Lanza said the Opposition Leader should not be wasting time trying to argue about the ruling given by the Speaker of the House regarding Ramanayake.

“Both announcements regarding this case were done by the Speaker in accordance with the Constitution. What is the point of arguing about it once again? Why waste the time of this House,” Lanza said.

Following State Minister Lanza’s Point of Order, Opposition MP Nalin Bandara questioned the Speaker if the ruling on Ramanayake was given based on his absence in the Chamber. However, the Speaker denied the allegation. “There was no such thing. The ruling is already given and now there is no use of bringing it up again,” Speaker Abeywardena told MP Bandara.

The Opposition MPs kept protesting against the announcement made by the Speaker and throwing verbal punches at the Government MPs who expressed their displeasure against the Opposition’s conduct.

Leader of the House Minister Dinesh Gunawardena then stood up to request the Speaker to continue with the affairs of the House. However, several Opposition MPs kept interrupting the House affairs while standing in the middle of the Chamber.

Speaker Abeywardena instructed the said MPs to go back to their seats while pointing out that causing a commotion is only a waste of time.

Speaker Abeywardena then requested State Minister Arundika Fernando to make a statement as the agenda permits. However, Fernando was not able to carry on his speech due to the interruptions made by the

Opposition MPs. At this point, the microphone was given to the Opposition MP Nalin Bandara and he requested the House to give the due time allotted to the Opposition Leader to talk about Ramanayake’s matter.

“As you all know, the role of an Opposition Leader is very important. The time allotted to him should be used. If you can allow Lanza to speak, why can’t you allow the Opposition Leader to speak? You cannot give him five minutes to talk and give us only a minute. We would like to request the Speaker to discontinue his ruling on MP Ramanayake. We believe it to be incorrect. You did not allow us to request leave of absence for MP Ramanayake and you take a

decision like this,” MP Nalin Bandara said.

The Speaker then requested the State Minister Arundika Fernando to continue with his statement.

Meanwhile Speaker of the House, issuing a statement, denied all the allegations leveled against him by the Opposition concerning his decision on MP Ranjan Ramanayake.

The statement said that the Opposition is trying to create a wrong opinion among the people regarding the decision taken on Ramanayake’s Parliamentary Seat.

The statement said: “The Opposition alleges that under Article 66 (e) of the Constitution, MP Ramanayake’s seat has been revoked. According to that article, a Member of Par-

liament is suspended for failing to attend sittings of Parliament for three consecutive months without the prior permission of Parliament. However, Speaker Abeywardena pointed out that Ranjan Ramanayake’s Parliamentary Seat was revoked in accordance with Article 66 (d) of the Constitution. According to that Article, a Member of Parliament shall be disqualified if he becomes disqualified in any way referred to in Article 89 or Article 91.”

The Speaker pointed out that hence the opinion that the Opposition is trying to popularize is completely wrong and such false impressions are completely rejected by him.



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Easter Sunday Terror Attacks

Culprits will be severely punished - Johnston

Unmasking of real culprits responsible for the Easter Sunday Terror Attacks will take place gradually once the judicial process gets underway, Chief Government Whip and Highways Minister Johnston Fernando said yesterday.

Addressing the media after a meeting held at his Ministry, Minister Fernando said that the judicial process would help identify the persons who aided and abetted the terror attacks and also those who had shirked their duties putting National Security in jeopardy.

"The Presidential Commission Report into the Easter Sunday Terror Attacks has made recommendations and suggested that legal action be taken. Once that process commences the culpability of those who committed offences as well as those who deliberately failed in their duties in acting to prevent the disaster will be made known," he said.

"If some of those in the Opposition think that criticising the Presidential Commission or trying to find loopholes in the Report would exonerate them from their crimes, they are mis-

taken," Minister Fernando said. The Minister said that he was also a member of the Cabinet Sub Committee appointed to study in depth the facts and recommendations on the course of action contained in the Final Report of the PCoI into the Easter Sunday Terror Attacks.

The Minister said that the main task of the Cabinet Sub Committee headed by former Speaker and Minister Chamal Rajapaksa was to study in-depth the findings and recommendations contained in the PCoI report and to advise on the next course of action. The Committee also comprised Ministers Udaya Gammanpila, Prasanna Ranatunga and Rohitha Abeygunawardena.

"We studied the report on the Easter Sunday Terror Attacks at length and have identified 78 recommendations. We thereafter submitted a report to the President outlining how those recommendations are to be implemented and which agencies are implementing them," he added.

"Since the day the Presidential Commission of Inquiry completed its investigations, Opposition



members shouted and demanded that the report be released. Since the day it was released, the Opposition again demanded that it be tabled in Parliament. Since the day that has been done, they are making various allegations about the process of the PCoI and about the contents of the Report. Yet it seems that they have forgotten who is responsible for the incident that needed to be investigated by the PCoI. In the first place, it was the mistakes and wrongdoings of the then Government of which the present Opposition Leader was a mem-

ber that gave way for the Easter Sunday Terror Attacks.

"These vociferous leaders now in the Opposition were not seen when the country was facing anarchy soon after the Easter Sunday Terror Attacks. While there was no leader, it was Archbishop His Eminence Malcolm Cardinal Ranjith who came forward and appealed to the people to desist from possible violence and prevent another bloodbath in this country. The nation must be thankful to him for his brave action on that day. I do not think that they could just escape from their wrongdoing by changing their name from the UNP to SJB and shifting from the 'Elephant' symbol to the 'Telephone' symbol. They placed the country's National Security in jeopardy by making structural changes in the Police to form special units and divisions such as the FCID to suppress their political opponents," Minister Fernando added.

"There had been Five Secretaries to the Ministry of Defence within a period of four years. Such was the time before the Easter Sunday Terror Attacks took place. The Yahapalana Gov-

ernment had the chance to investigate the April 21 terror attacks. They too appointed Committees including a Parliamentary Select Committee. What were their results? Instead of finding those responsible for this heinous crime, the PSC summoned the intelligence officials before it further compromising the country's National Security.

"Those now accusing the PCoI of failing to identify the masterminds of the attacks were in that PSC then. Why could they not make such identifications? Did the Yahapalana Government implement at least a single recommendation made by that PSC?" he asked.

"Soon after receipt of this PCoI report, the President presented it to the Cabinet and then to Parliament. A Cabinet Sub Committee was appointed to make further suggestions on the implementation of the PCoI recommendations. We have completed those tasks and now all is set for the judicial process which will unmask the wrongdoers and offenders responsible for the Easter Sunday Terror Attacks," the Minister said.

Five foreigners arrested for illegal gambling

The Police arrested five foreign nationals on Tuesday in connection at an illegal gambling site at Lauries Road in Bambalapitiya during a special raid, Police Spokesperson DIG Ajith Rohana said.

The raid was jointly conducted by Bambalapitiya and Kollupitiya Police. A sum of Rs. 1,088,500 and foreign currency were seized at the gambling site. The suspects and the cash were produced before the Magistrate's Court.

Police are conducting further investigations.

The Police Spokesman said gambling is prohibited as per the Sri Lankan law and permission must be obtained prior to operating a gambling site.

He added that the Police have also received information of illegal gambling sites to be operated at village level during the Sinhala and Tamil New Year period.

He added that such places would be raided as gambling also poses a health risk as it can contribute to the spread of COVID-19.

Two arrested for extortion

DINULI FRANCISCO

The Colombo Organised Crime Division had arrested two suspects for extorting Rs. 2.5 million from a Buddhist monk at a temple in Moratuwa, Police Spokesman DIG Ajith Rohana said.

The Colombo Organised Crimes Division has arrested the perpetrators when they had arrived at the temple demanding Rs.500,000 as the first instalment.

DIG Ajith Rohana also said a car used by the suspects was also seized. He also said that a special investigation regarding the suspects will be carried out with Intelligence Units.

The suspects were to be produced before Moratuwa Magistrate's Court yesterday.

The Colombo Organised Crime Division is conducting further investigations.

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'Revitalising the agriculture sector, our aim'

CHAMINDA PERERA

Paddy and Grains, Organic Food, Vegetables, Fruits, Chillies, Onion and Potato Cultivation Promotion, Seed Production and Advanced Technology Agriculture State Minister Shasheendra Rajapaksa is a humble and amiable politician with a strong social conscience who has been striving to revitalise the agriculture sector.

His foray into politics was not a mistake but the choice of people of the Uva Wellassa region where thousands laid down their lives during the Uva-Wellassa rebellion against the British colonials in 1818.

Rajapaksa who prefers fair justice and equity for his people, in an exclusive interview with the Daily News, says that the Government is making every possible effort to end the rice mafia in the country.

"Time has come to end the era in which the rice market is manipulated by a few mill owners," he said while asserting that the Government lacks an effective mechanism to counter false allegations against it. The State Minister also said a subtle campaign with ulterior motives is underway to embarrass the Government.

The full interview:

Q. Several development projects were in progress when you were the Chief Minister of the Uva Province. These projects were suspended by the previous Government after they came into power in 2015. Are you going to restart these projects?

A. We had a massive plan for the development of the Uva Province, particularly the Moneragala District, which is represented by me. We focused on the development of infrastructure facilities including roads and supplying of electricity, and potable water to the people of the two districts in the province. Over 92 percent of the households in the province have received electricity under the Uva Udanaya (Uva dawn) programme which began in 2010. At present over 95 percent of households in the province have electricity.

The Government led by then President Mahinda Rajapaksa succeeded in developing the road network connecting major towns with the villages and bringing dividends of development to the villages by the end of 2014.

The farmers at grassroots level had a problem in bringing their produce to the market due to lack of transport facilities. The development of the road network helped them find market avenues for their products.

A plan was in place from 2014 to 2018 for the provision of potable water to the people in the Badulla and Moneragala Districts. Thirty-four projects were identified under this plan. We managed to complete two water supply projects, namely the Kumbukkan Oya Project and the Kataragama Project. Over 45,000 families living in Buttala, Okkampitiya, Nakkala, Moneragala and Styabalanduwa are benefited by the Kumbukkan Oya Project and 42,000 acres of arable lands are under the plough.

Q. Why were these projects suspended by the previous Government in 2015?

A. I do not know why these projects meant for the benefit of the people in the Uva province were suspended by the Yahapalana Government. They may not have had an interest in implementing these projects or maybe they were not capable of implementing this type of development drives for the benefit of the people. I personally believe that the previous Government was incapable of bringing development to the village.

Q. Are development activities taking place in the Uva Province at present?

A. Yes. The present Government led by President Gotabaya Rajapaksa has focused on completing the road development drive which was begun by our Government before 2015 and almost all major construction companies in the country are presently engaged in road development projects in the district.

We are going to recommence the water supply projects which were halted by the Yahapalana Government. Water Supply Ministry Secretary Dr. Priyath Bandu Wickrama along with the other officials recently inspected all parts of the Moneragala Dis-



trict to look into the possibility of recommencing these abandoned projects.

Q. The education sector has undergone several waves of reforms during the past three decades. What is your programme for the uplift of educational standards in the province?

A. We have focused on promoting educational standards in the province for which over Rs. one billion has been allocated by the Government. A meeting was held with the Governor and other stakeholders in the province to discuss how these funds are utilised for the uplift of education as a large number of schools in the district come under the Provincial Council's purview.

When I was the Chief Minister of the Uva Province, we succeeded in introducing an early childhood development policy and a special authority was also set up for the development of this sector in the province.

A new syllabus was also formulated with the help of the experts in the field and all preschools are bound to follow this syllabus. Preschool teachers are also required to meet a certain level of educational standards as per the registration process.

Over 80 percent of preschools in the province which have met the necessary criteria are registered with the authority. President Gotabaya Rajapaksa should be given the credit for establishing a State Ministry for the Uplift of Early Childhood Education under the Education Ministry.

Q. Why do you focus more on the development of the Moneragala District than Badulla District?

A. I think the political leaders in the Moneragala District may have not properly identified what the people in the district want. Some think that the people in the district are dependent on subsidies. The Moneragala District had been receiving step-motherly treatment under UNP and Yahapalana Governments. The people in Wellassa do not want subsidies. They could make their ends meet without any issue as they have coconut, jak, and breadfruit trees in their gardens. They are not starving. What they want is to have proper education for their children.

Q. There is an allegation that farmers in the Moneragala District find it difficult to market their produce. What is your view?

A. I do not think that there is any difficulty in marketing their produce. Informal cultivation has become the root cause for farmers to undergo difficulties in marketing their produce.

The agriculture officer at the village level should actively be involved in regulating crop cultivation in the country. This will help farmers to find a better market for their produce. The tradition of raising a single crop by all farmers should be dispensed with immediately. Crop diversification should take place.

Agricultural research officers coming under the purview of the Agrarian Services Department have failed to suggest to farmers what crops should be cultivated.

A dedicated economic centre along with a processing unit will also be established in the province with the objective of providing market avenues for the agricultural produce in the Moneragala District.

This proposed economic centre will also serve farmers in the adjoining districts and the farmers' produce will also be sorted and graded at this centre to cater to customers' needs.

Q. There are serious allegations against the Agriculture Ministry for failing to keep a buffer paddy stock to regulate the rice prices in the market. What is the Agriculture Ministry's role in the control of rice prices?

A. The Agriculture Ministry does not hold any responsibility over rice prices in the market but we are responsible for the cultivation, purchasing and storing of paddy.

The country annually requires 24 metric tonnes of paddy for consumption and the monthly rice requirement in the country is only two metric tonnes which include white raw, samba and steamed rice. The harvesting of paddy has started.

The Government is purchasing paddy from farmers at Rs. 55 per kilogramme with the intention of ensuring a better price for farmers. The farmers at the grassroots level are benefited from this move. The Paddy Marketing Board (PMB) together with agricultural research officers at the village level started purchasing paddy at Rs. 55 per kilogramme from farmers and our target is to have a stock above 300,000 metric tonnes which is above the country's average requirement.

When we announced a maximum price of Rs. 55 for a kilogramme of paddy to buy from farmers, the private sector started purchasing paddy from farmers at Rs. 57-60 per kilogramme. The Government recently decided to purchase paddy at a fixed price of Rs. 57 per kilogramme from farmers.

Farmers are reluctant to sell their paddy harvest to the Government or the private sector either, expecting that their produce would receive a higher price later. If we purchase paddy at above Rs. 57 per kilogramme, the rice prices will have to be increased. The Government recently decided not to allow any force to increase rice prices above Rs. 100 per kilogramme.

There are one million paddy farmers in the country but we have to feed 22 million people in the country. If rice is not sold below the controlled price, the Government is ready to issue 25,000 metric tonnes of rice to the market every week to keep the rice prices below Rs. 100.

The PMB will process paddy stocks from time to time through small-scale mill owners and release these stocks to the market through Lak Sathosa, if rice prices do not come down.

There are more than 400 small-scale rice mill owners whose businesses are on the brink of closure as a few mill owners are dominating the market. The PMB will venture into rice processing soon with the support of small-scale rice mill owners and the Board has a plan to erect paddy silos too even though a silo cost Rs. 200 million to the Government.

The paddy purchasing drive is continuing and the Sri Lanka Army renovated more than 300 paddy stores in the country on the directive of the President with the intention of storing more stocks. We expect to fill all stores belonging to the PMB with paddy.

Small-scale mills are located around PMB stores in almost all parts of the country and we will issue paddy stocks to these mills to be supplied to Lak Sathosa.

For the first time in history, 24 institutions have been brought under the Agriculture Ministry to provide streamlined service to the public, particularly the farmers, and institutions related to agriculture, trade and consumers are also interlinked.

Q. You are the State Minister in charge of potatoes. How are you going to tackle the shortage of potato seeds every season?

A. The shortage of potato seeds is not a new issue. When farmers are faced with financial issues, they are in the habit of selling their seeds.

We are going to set up a seed bank at the agrarian division level to help the farmers who fail to keep seed stocks.

The capacity of the Potato Research Centre in Seetha Eliya has been augmented by three-fold for the production of Generation I potato seeds by investing Rs. 300 million. There may be less progress this year. But the programme will bear fruits from next year. We expect to fulfil 60 percent of the potato requirement of the country within a very short time.

Q. The fertilizer subsidy introduced by your Government benefitted thousands of farmers and that subsidy helped make the country self-sufficient in rice. But, some politicians alleged at the 2015 Presidential Election that fertilizer subsidy had caused chronic kidney diseases. What is your plan for the promotion of organic farming in the country?

A. The organic farming project is underway in 50 agrarian services divisions and paddy, vegetables and fruits are grown under this project. The Agriculture Ministry is purchasing the crops produced using organic fertilizer by these farmers.

There are two Government entities that are responsible for importing chemical fertilizers to the country. We will turn one of such institutions for the production and import of organic fertilizer to the country.

A laboratory will be set up in Makandura for testing of organic foods and fertilizer for



State Minister Shasheendra Rajapaksa
(Picture by Upali Jayaratne - Panadura Group Corr.)

"All institutions related to agriculture, trade, and irrigation are making a concerted effort to ensure that there is no shortage of agricultural produce in the market. Farmers should adopt a timetable in terms of ploughing and harvesting and the Irrigation Department should also have a proper mechanism to release water to farming lands. Stability in price can be maintained and the shortage of agricultural crops can be avoided when crops are cultivated according to a timetable"

We will not allow the Opposition to build political platforms against the Government. The President has allowed the constituent party members in our fold to air their views, grievances and concerns. The President is giving a patient ear to their concerns.

The ruling alliance comprises many political parties and they have different views. Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa can endure hurtful and intense criticism with patience as a politician.

President Gotabaya Rajapaksa is not a politician and his decisions may sometimes be not popular. But he is making the right decision for the benefit of the country. When the ban on many agri produce including turmeric was imposed, he came under heavy criticism by many parties. But the country has benefitted from this move as farmers started growing them locally.

Q. Various quarters blame the Government for the alleged surge in deforestation and they say effective measures are not in place to arrest the situation. What is your view?

A. The Government refutes factually inaccurate and false allegations. There is a subtle move to embarrass the Government by making false allegations that the Government is involved in clearing forestlands.

A girl who participated in a TV programme had claimed that lands belonging to the Sinharaja Forest Reserve are being destroyed. But the officials confirmed that the land in question does not belong to the Forest Conservation Reserve and it is located 11 Km away from the Sinharaja forest boundary. The Government has never allowed any person to clear lands belonging to the Forest Conservation Department and engage in Chena cultivation.

A person can complain to the Environment Police if any sort of destruction is caused to the environment. But the complainant should be able to give full details of the incident and the area where it is taking place.

There was an era in our country in which massive destruction was done to the environment due to the acceleration of the Mahaweli Development Project by the UNP Government but no one raised such issues at that time. The Mahaweli Authority is presently involved in a massive reforestation drive.

Q. The Government has been faced with several allegations which included deforestation, reduction of sugar tax benefiting a trading company and soaring rice prices in the market. Why does not the Government have an effective mechanism to counter these allegations?

A. That is true. We do not have an effective mechanism to counter these allegations. But concerns raised by the public in some instances are correct. If people have money in their hands, over 60 percent of problems faced by them are over.

No one is asking why a ban has been imposed on imports. We have obtained massive loans for the development projects implemented by the Government and we have to save foreign exchange to repay these loans. The Government has already planned the repayment of another loan instalment by the end of this year.

A colossal amount of money is spent a day for the prevention of COVID-19 and nobody is thinking about this. All income-generating sectors have been affected due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The tourism industry collapsed and the employees in the sector do not have an income.

which Rs. 200 million has been allocated by the Government. The private sector is far more ahead of us in terms of producing organic foods.

The Agriculture Ministry has drawn less attention towards the production of organic fertilizer and some officials are also responsible for this situation.

When we imposed a ban on the import of several items that can easily be grown in the country, there was a hue and cry in the society. Prices of turmeric and undu went up. But now the situation has changed and the farmers find it difficult to market their turmeric harvest.

A number of companies producing value-added products out of turmeric have decided to grow their turmeric requirement within the country.

Q. How are you going to ensure a constant supply of agricultural produce while maintaining a stable price for them in the market?

A. All institutions related to agriculture, trade, and irrigation are making a concerted effort to ensure that there is no shortage of agricultural produce in the market.

Farmers should adopt a timetable in terms of ploughing and harvesting and the Irrigation Department should also have a proper mechanism to release water to farming lands. Stability in price can be maintained and the shortage of agricultural crops can be avoided when crops are cultivated according to a timetable.

The Agriculture Department is obtaining international assistance including from the World Bank for the modernisation of the agriculture sector aiming at increasing our production. Seven processing units are also to be set up covering all parts of the country. We are getting expertise from many countries including Israel to develop modern farming technology.

Q. Some political parties within the Government fold are criticising the Government's policies and these parties seem to be forming a faction within the Government. Does this mean that cracks are developing within the ruling alliance?

A. No, not at all. There may be lapses on our part and no one is perfect. It is better if our lapses are pinpointed by our own family members rather than outsiders. Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa's politics are very different from others in the game. We are always in the regular process of rectifying our shortcomings and marching forward. Although we are treading on different paths, we will be together at last. It may sometimes be the day prior to the election.

Complaints by the children of a family do not imply that these children are against the father. The father is listening to the demands made by the children. Even if a child thinks he wants to leave the family, that never happens. Even if he leaves, it will not make much difference.



THE INSTITUTION OF ENGINEERS, SRI LANKA (IESL)

(Established 1906, Incorporated by Act. No.17 of 1968)

114TH ANNUAL SESSIONS

120/15, Wijerama Mawatha,
Colombo 7.



Message from Chief Guest

It is a pleasure to send this congratulatory message to the members of Institute of Engineers, Sri Lanka, on the occasion of its 114th Annual Sessions. The IESL is one of the oldest of professional bodies in our country and we know that its members have made outstanding contributions to many national endeavors through the long years of its existence.

A well-known fact about the Institute is that it is the successor to The Engineering Association of Ceylon established in 1906. As deemed necessary under those current circumstances, the professionals in the Association would have been serving a colonial society under terms and conditions laid down by the colonial administration. Furthermore, most if not all professionals of the early days would have been expatriates. But this situation has changed and today we have Sri Lankan engineers serving national needs as determined by national aspirations.

As a professional in an altogether different field, I am happy to note that the IESL continues to upgrade the professionalism of its membership by conducting various development programmes. As we live in a world where knowledge advances in rapid strides, it is of vital importance that professionals in all areas continue to keep pace with the latest developments in their respective areas of knowledge. In that respect, I believe that your Institute has set an example which other professional bodies in the country could emulate.

I mention this in particular because we have a proliferation of higher education institutions in our country and there has been criticism regarding the maintaining of proper standards therein. This weakness in turn affects the quality of education and training being imparted with consequent ill-effects on the "products" of these institutions. It is high time that our educational institutions became conscious of this problem and took remedial measures. Another problem facing local professionals is the proclivity witnessed in recent times, to seek "foreign" expertise in the management of local projects. This should not happen, because we have well-qualified, highly trained professionals like you engineers, with wide exposure to modern knowledge and experience gained both here and abroad, available in our country. Often, these foreign experts are employed with massive emoluments that we can ill afford and one wonders whether importing such expertise is necessary at all. Perhaps this phenomenon is part and parcel of the processes of globalization that has impacted on all areas of activity.

Globalization has created yet another problem in the so called third world societies - the hiring of foreign companies to carry our developmental projects. It is unfortunate that decision making often ignores the proven capabilities and achievements of our local professionals. Leaving aside the questionable factors that underlie this, civil society should take note and take suitable action to give our professional bodies, like the IESL, due recognition.

It is my sincerest hope that the IESL will continue to render its much-valued services to national wellbeing and national development as it has been doing for many decades.

Emeritus Prof. K N O Dharmadasa,
Former Dean of the Faculty of Arts at the University of Peradeniya

Message from the President of the Institution of Engineers Sri Lanka for the Session 2019/2020

It is with pride and enthusiasm that I write this message for the inauguration of the 114th Annual Sessions of the Institution of Engineers, Sri Lanka (IESL).

As the premier body for professional engineers in the country, the IESL has a major role to play within and outside Sri Lanka. As the world in 21st century is driven by the latest and rapid advances of the science and technology, the contribution of engineers has never been more important and needed. Today engineers are involved in wider areas ranging from medicine and agriculture to space engineering. Also these involvements are no longer restrained to economic growth but with new developments the boundaries have expanded to socio-cultural growth of a country as well.

Sri Lanka is a nation with a long history in engineering wonders, primarily in irrigation engineering and use of earth's resources to the maximum benefit. The harmony between engineering and economic growth the society in ancient times is evident with the what we can observe in ancient capitals such as Anuradhapura and Polonnaruwa. Expertise of engineering in those days prompted the country to be referred to as the "Granary of the East".

By definition, engineering is advancing the living conditions of humankind in an affordable manner. Engineering has now made several inroads to many different disciplines with the same basic philosophy. Advances in the field of medicine with design and manufacture of sophisticated equipment, new and improved innovative solutions in agriculture in terms of efficient use of land and water, use of latest engineering solutions in finance and accountancy fields etc. are some examples.

As IESL is celebrating the commencement of a new session, it is important to highlight the contribution of engineers to the society and to the sustainable development of the country. Ability of members of the IESL to respond to emergency situations was, once again, demonstrated by the reaction of our engineers in state's efforts in combatting COVID pandemic. As IESL keep stressing over last many years, bound by the code of ethics, engineers should continue to demonstrate their expertise and professionalism in solving new and old problems faced on the path to the development.

IESL through their various activities such as Continuing Professional Development, Member services, Techno Exhibition, Seminars, Workshops etc. always support the advancement of its members to face the challenges presented in the society. Throughout the 114 years of IESL journey, the institution has contributed significantly to the development of the country and I have no doubt that it will continue in the years to come.

I wish the IESL success in all its endeavors in the new session.

Eng. (Prof.) S.B.S. Abeykoon

President - The Institution of Engineers, Sri Lanka for the session 2019/2020



Message from Guest of Honour

It is with great pleasure that I pen this message of felicitation for the inauguration of the 114th annual sessions of the Institution of Engineers Sri Lanka.

You are the heirs to a great tradition of engineering known to this country. Ruwanwelseya built during the reign of King Dutugemuna in 140 BC, the Parakrama Samudra constructed during the reign of King Parakramabahu I (1153-1186 AD) and Jaya Ganga constructed during the rule of King Dathusena (438-473 AD) are only three of the many great engineering feats accomplished by your predecessors.

It was therefore fitting that the Engineering Association was established in 1906 at Anuradhapura. That Association was incorporated as the present Institution of Engineers Sri Lanka, by an Act of Parliament in 1968.

The Institution of Engineers has been at the forefront of infrastructure development of this country. The contributions made by the legendary Engineer A.N.S Kulasinghe in harnessing hydro power and the transformation of the railways by the introduction of diesel locomotives by Engineer S.D.Rampala are remembered by the people with gratitude. Both were distinguished Past Presidents of your Institution in the years 1969 and 1958 respectively. Their contributions are only two of the multitude of projects accomplished by your members to improve the lives of the people of this country.

Of late, great stress has been laid on sustainable development. As a body of professional engineers, you have a vital role to play in balancing infrastructure development with preservation of the environment, which belongs not only to human beings but all living beings.

As Arahat Mahinda preached to King Devanampiyatissa (247-207 BC) "O great king, the birds and the beasts have an equal right to live and move about in any part of the land as thou. The land belongs to the people and all living beings. Thou art only the guardian of it"

I wish the IESL all success in its deliberations at the Annual Sessions.

Dr. Ranjit Ranaraja
Former Appeal Court Judge



Message from Keynote Speaker

I am deeply honoured and pleased to send this message of felicitation to the 114th Annual Sessions of the Institution of Engineers, Sri Lanka which is the premier professional engineers institution in Sri Lanka. These Annual Sessions are held at a time when we are just coming out of the Covid - 19 pandemic.

We also have to be mindful that the construction industry underwent a contraction of 13.2% during 2020 much more than the contraction of 3.6% in the GDP, for the first time after the independence. This will have repercussions on many professionals engaged in construction industry which used to contribute between 7 - 10% to the GDP.

The silver lining is that the Government has embarked on many development projects as a means to counter the impacts of recession. This is an economic principle tried and tested in many other countries during times of recession. The total value of development projects planned during next 5 years direct by the Government is Rs. 5000 Billion, which is a substantial investment. The responsibility to implement these projects in a manner most beneficial to our country will rest largely on we, engineers. Here we are reminded of the definition on engineering, which is the application of science to the optimum conversion of the resources of nature to the (sustainable) uses of human kind.

The achievements of the Institution in raising and maintaining the professional standards of engineers is commendable. However, it is felt that especially in the present challenging environment there is a need for the Institution to team up with other such organizations to ensure professional training of your engineers, gainful employment and to ensure a fair share of construction works to local consultants and construction companies. At the highest policy making level there is an urgent need for more engineers to be engaged.

While I thank the President and Committee members for the invitation let me wish that the 114th Annual Sessions will be a grand success.

Eng. Col. (Rtd) Nissanka N Wijeratne
Secretary General/CEO of Chamber of Construction Industry of Sri Lanka

Message from the President of the Institution of Engineers, Sri Lanka for the Session 2020/2021

It is with great pleasure I pen this message for the inauguration of the 114th Session of the Institution of Engineers, Sri Lanka (IESL). As the apex body of engineers in Sri Lanka the IESL an important contribution to the field of engineering in our country. Established in 1906, with a handful of engineers, IESL today has over 20,000 membership with around 5000 of them being Chartered Engineers, served through Provincial Chapters, District Centers, Overseas Chapters and so on. As the premier body responsible for the advancement of Engineering science, practicing of engineering and engineering education for professional engineers in the country it falls upon the shoulder of IESL to look after the engineering profession.

Engineering is a nation building profession and engineers play a vital role in the rapid development processes taking place in all sectors all over the country. The rapid transition that Sri Lanka is in today calls for the utilization of funds and other resources and the professionalism and ingenuity of our engineers, should ensure sustainability in development works undertaken to improve the living standards of the people in the country.

IESL facilitates the professional development of engineers through various activities organized such as continuing Professional Development Courses, Public Lectures, seminars, conferences and so on. Also the institutions quarterly journal "Engineer" and the annual conference proceedings provides a medium for sharing local engineering research and professional insight among engineers in Sri Lanka.

The role of engineers in today's world has become more valuable than ever before. As a developing country the contribution of engineers to the economic growth is essential. Development in infrastructure, transportation, communication, IT technologies are the fundamentals of a developing country where the contribution of engineers is looked-for.

With the commencement of a new session I believe that the IESL will take a leading role in the national development.

Eng. K P I U Dharmapala

President - The Institution of Engineers, Sri Lanka for the session 2020/2021



Message from the CEO / Executive Secretary of The Institution of Engineers, Sri Lanka

It is with great pleasure that I send this message to the 114th Annual Sessions of the Institution of Engineers, Sri Lanka (IESL).

A simple gathering of engineers working in Anuradhapura in 1906, laid the stepping stone for the Engineering Association of Ceylon that later evolved into the Institution of Engineers, Sri Lanka. Having its current membership strength exceeding over 24,000, IESL has well established Provincial Chapters in all provinces of the country and Overseas Chapters in several countries, serving the engineering needs for the greater good of the community.

One of the key functions of the IESL is to ensure that, the quality standards of engineering profession in Sri Lanka is maintained. In order to meet the needs of today's engineers, IESL conducts Continuous Professional Development Programs and public lectures etc in various engineering-related subjects and provides opportunities for members to publish their academic work in the prestigious Journal "Engineer" and IESL Annual Transactions which have been continuing for a significantly long period of time.

IESL also accredits and recognizes engineering degree programs offered by universities in accordance with Washington and Sydney Accords to ensure that they are on par with international standards.

With the establishment of the Engineering Council Sri Lanka, the role of IESL has expanded and the registering of members of the Institution in the Engineering Council has become a mandatory requirement to legally practise engineering. With this new development we expect a better future for engineering profession in the country.

In light of this, IESL Secretariat looks forward to becoming the role model of professional bodies in the country by catering to the current aspirations of the membership with the establishment of a user interactive Management Information System while maintaining the professional standards of the engineering fraternity.

Eng. Neil Abeysekera

CEO / Executive Secretary - The Institution of Engineers, Sri Lanka



THE INSTITUTION OF ENGINEERS, SRI LANKA - COUNCIL FOR THE SESSION 2019/2020



Left to Right :

Seated - Eng. Mangala Silva, Eng. J A G R Jayalath, Eng.(Dr.) Kamal Laksiri, Eng.(Prof.) T M Pallewatta, Eng.(Prof.) S B S Abayakoon - President, Eng.(Dr.) Ananda Ranasinghe, Eng. K P I U Dharmapala, Eng. Kosala Kamburadeniya, Eng. M G Hemachandra, Eng. Neil Abeysekera - CEO/ Executive Secretary

Standing (1st Row) - Eng. (Mrs.) Shyama Gunawardana, Eng. Malith Mendis, Eng. Dhammika Dharmaratne, Eng. P C Jinasena, Eng. P W Sarath, Eng. N A Wijeyewickrema, Eng.(Prof.) Ranjith Dissanayake, Eng. W A N R Wickramasinghe, Eng. Suran Fernando, Eng. Iasanth Ekanayaka, Eng. M P D Lathsara, Eng. H C J Thilakarathne,

(2nd Row) - Eng. Navodana Kanakamge, Eng. Dharaka Vitharana, Eng. Kusum Piyaranda, Eng. Dayan Herath, Eng. Manjula Samarasinghe, Eng.(Prof.) Udayanga Hemapala, Eng.(Prof.) J P Karunadasa, Eng. Dimuthu Lakmal, Eng. P C C Perera

Absent - Eng. Chamil Edirimuni, Eng. I N Pallegama

Proposal to absorb provincial scribes to Wages Board for Journalism

Minister of Labour Nimal Siripala de Silva has proposed to absorb provincial correspondents and journalists who play a major role in the field of journalism in the country to the Wages Board for Journalism.

The Minister recently informed the Commissioner General of Labour Prabath Chandrakerthi to take the necessary steps in this regard.

The Minister also told Chandrakerthi to change the structure of the Wages Board

related to Journalism to include television, radio and web journalists in addition to the print media journalists, a Ministry Spokesman said.

The Wages Board related to the journalism sector has so far only included journalists from the print media.

Minister de Silva was speaking with a group of representatives from the Media Trade Union Federation at the Ministry recently.

The journalists had requested the Minister to intervene to give them some kind of professional status and also to initiate a social security programme for their professional and future economic security.

The media representatives had pointed out that there was no specific social security plan for the future security of local journalists as well as corporate staff, especially those working in private media institutions.

Minister Nimal Siripala de Silva had

said that already discussions had been initiated to absorb provincial journalists to the EPE/ETF Fund.

He also said that a special discussion with the heads of media institutions in this regard will be held soon with the participation of the Minister of Mass Media and Information.



Death of Consultant Obstetrician Dr. S. Ranjith Ratnapala

Consultant Obstetrician and Gynaecologist Dr. S. Ranjith Ratnapala, who was the Past President of the Independent Medical Practitioners Association from 1993-1995 died on Tuesday. He is the husband of Ranjini Ratnapala and the father of Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon Dr. Dewaka Ratnapala. His remains lie at his residence at 231, Kirula Road, Colombo 5 and the funeral will take place at the General Cemetery, Borella today. Cottage leaves residence at 4 p.m.



He needs your help

Twenty eight-year-old Wathukarage Ashoka Thilakaathne of No 72, Pusatotha, Pallededa in the Weligepola Divisional Secreariat Division says he has lost vision in both eyes following a motor accident which occurred 13 years ago.



While seeking treatment, he suffered a debility in both legs and he is now receiving treatment for Lebers Optic Neuropathy under the care of a Consultant Neurologist specializing in Dementia and Neuropsychiatry. Thilakarathne says his treatment cost over Rs.10,000 per month which is beyond his means. His father is feeble and unable to support him while his mother has passed away.

His sister is also suffering from a hearing deficiency. Therefore, he requests philanthropists and the generous public to come to his assistance by sending whatever financial contributions possible to enable him to seek continuous medical treatment. All Contributions should be remitted to Account Number 245-2001-2005-6034 at the People's Bank Godakawela branch. His contact numbers are 0719966935 and 0775574253.

World Health Day 2021: "Building a fairer, healthier world"

This year's 'World Health Day' marked the launch of a Health Equity Campaign that will run throughout 2021 up to Universal Health Coverage (UHC) Day, December 12, the World Health Organisation Sri Lanka said in a press statement yesterday.

WHO Sri Lanka's planned activities for World Health Day 2021 include a collaboration with the Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya, who have amplified the World Health Day theme through a photographic competition and exhibition that highlights five key themes of health equity: (1) cultural diversity, (2) disability, (3) our environment, (4) living with COVID-19, and (5) caring for the vulnerable. The Medical Faculty has also initiated homegrown solutions to address

inequities in vulnerable communities by conducting community-based projects led by students focusing on the social determinants of health.

"Every year, on the anniversary of the founding of WHO, April 7, World Health Day is celebrated; events and campaigns draw attention to a health topic that is relevant to people globally. The theme for 2021 is 'building a fairer, healthier world'.

"Our world is an unequal one, and the COVID-19 pandemic has compounded disparities. The harsh impact of the pandemic was felt by people already experiencing inequities as a result of socio-economic status, gender, ethnicity, education, occupation, migrant status, disability, discrimination, and other factors.

"These individuals are disproportionately vulnerable to exposure to the disease, less able to access the health services they need, and more likely to experience adverse consequences as a result of measures implemented to contain the pandemic.

"Therefore, some people are able to live healthier lives and have better access to health services than others - entirely due to the conditions in which they are born, grow, live, work, play and age.

"These elements, often referred to as the social determinants of health, are non-medical factors that influence health outcomes. Inequities undermine our efforts to protect, promote and improve health for all. They also threaten social and economic

development worldwide. COVID-19 has instilled a sense of urgency for state and non-state actors and communities to act together to address health inequities, and improve the social, economic and environmental determinants of health.

"As we celebrate World Health Day 2021, we call on policymakers to strengthen collaboration across sectors, embed health in all policies, raise awareness, and catalyze public advocacy to address health inequities. We also advocate for sustaining the momentum in implementing a primary health care reorganisation to bring services closer to communities," the WHO Sri Lanka said in the press release.

Justice would be done to land recipients - Hambantota Mayor

RAJA WAIDYASEKERA Tissamaharama Special Corr

Government servants who were awarded plots of land in extent of 20 perches 34 years ago have been compelled to pay Rs. 1 million to obtain ownership deeds, said Hambantota Urban Councilor and Sri Lanka Podu Jana Peramuna (SLPP) Member Ajantha Rohana.

She was addressing the monthly meeting of the Hambantota Urban Council presided over by Mayor Eraj Ravindra Fernando. She said that these plots of land were distributed in 1987.

The Hambantota District Secretariat has informed the recipients of these land plots to pay Rs.1 million each for the issuing of the deeds. When queried from Mayor Fernando about the plight of the land recipients, he said that this injustice would be brought to the notice of the relevant Minister and State Departments.

German support for N/E small scale organic farmers



German Ambassador Holger Seubert and Co-Founders of Suvadi Ltd. Achuthan Thiruketheswaram and Prabu Nadaraja after signing the agreement for this project.

Under the Micro Project funding scheme of the German Embassy, a grant of over LKR 2 million was allocated to a project proposed by Comduit, a German organisation of volunteers, which aims to build climate resilience among farming communities in the North and East of Sri Lanka by establishing "NEOrganics" to foster widespread adoption of organic farming systems.

The local implementing partner of the project is Suvadi Limited. The project intends to upskill small scale organic farmers and home gardeners and provides an enabling environment and organisational structure to incubate innovative ideas for improving organic farming systems.

This will be achieved by providing training to organic farmers on working with organic

equipment and ways to optimize their craftsmanship. The outcome of upskilling organic farmers increases the quality of organic farming products that can be marketed.

A main outcome after 6 months (duration of the project) is the foundation of a new organisation named "NEOrganics" to represent the interest of organic farmers. The Embassy is delighted to support organic farming and crop production in Sri Lanka as it yields such vital benefits to the environment we live in as well as to the communities and is without a doubt the way forward.

The agreement for this project was signed on March 15 between German Ambassador Holger Seubert and Co-Founders of Suvadi Ltd. Achuthan Thiruketheswaram and Prabu Nadaraja at the German Embassy.

Elephant carcass found



The carcass of the wild elephant.

Text and Pic. by A.A.L. DIAS Matale District Group Corr.

Wildlife Officials attached to Sigiriya Wildlife Conservation Unit found an elephant carcass in the Idigam Wewa Tank Reserve on Tuesday morning. Officials said that the elephant was about 40-years-old and around 9 feet tall.

"Several gunshot wounds were visible on the carcass," officials said. The postmortem examination is to be conducted by the Girithale veterinary surgeon.

Liquor outlets closed on April 13, 14

The Excise Department said that all retail liquor sales outlets would be closed on April 13 and 14 in view of the Sinhala and Tamil New Year. However licensed hotels and tourist boutiques are exempted from this order.

DEATH ACKNOWLEDGEMENT



USHAN WICKREMASINGHE

The family of the late Ushan Wickremasinghe wishes to convey their deep appreciation to all friends, relations and his colleagues who extended their support and sympathy at the sad passing away of Ushan.

A very special thanks to the Commander of the Airforce for all the arrangements towards a funeral with Military honours.

Please accept this acknowledgement as an expression of our sincere gratitude.

Obituary Notice



GNANADEVI NADARAJAH

17.09.1939 - 06.04.2021

It is with deep regret and sadness that we inform you that Mrs. Gnanadevi Nadarajah, a wonderful and loving mother, grandmother and sister, passed away peacefully on 6th April 2021. She was a retired teacher of Holy Family Convent, Bambalapitiya. She was born in Karainagar and was residing in Colombo.

Gnanadevi was the loving daughter of late Sathasivam and Parasakthi, daughter-in-law of late Somasundaram and Sundaramma, devoted and cherished wife of late Nadarajah, adored sister of Sivaparamanatham, Manohari, Arulnathan, late Padmanathan, late Sarojinidevi, and late Kamaladevi. She is the dearest mother of Janani (Canada), Jayanthi (Colombo), Niranjana (Sydney) and mother-in-law of Arulmoly (Colombo), Dayaparan (Sydney), kind and loving grandmother of Branavan, Danushan and Danavinda.

For further information regarding the viewing, please contact:

Arulmoly : +94 77 209 0500
Jayanthi : +94 77 860 6634

CAA conducts 147 raids in SP

P.P.G. SUGATHADASA Thihagoda group corr

Consumer Affairs Authority (CAA) officials have collected a revenue of nearly Rs.1 million by way of court fines through sudden raids and mobile inspections conducted in the Southern Province (SP) during March this year.

CAA Southern Regional Director S. Nandasiri said 147 raids covering all Divisional Secretariat Divisions in the Southern Province last month.

"Hoarding of essential food items, sale of rice above control rates, display and sale of food items unfit for human consumption, selling consumer items above the stipulated prices, sale of electrical appliances without issuing warranty cards, selling expired food items, altering set prices on labels of consumer items and selling them at exorbitant rates, non display of price tags and violating Consumer Affairs Authority orders, rules and regulations were offences committed by errant traders," Nandasiri said.

"These traders were prosecuted in the Matale, Galle and Hambantota District Magistrate's Courts," he added.

"More sudden raids and mobile inspections are being conducted during the festive season to apprehend errant traders," CAA officials added.

Mrs. Sri Lanka melee: Statements to be recorded

DINULI FRANCISCO

All parties involved in the Mrs. Sri Lanka imbroglio will be summoned to the Cinnamon Gardens Police today (8) to give their statements. Mrs. Sri Lanka contest organisers said.

Addressing a media briefing at the Shangri-La hotel on Tuesday (6), Mrs. Pushpika De Silva said that due to her head injuries she was also unable to record a statement with the Police earlier.

Mrs. Sri Lanka National Director, Chandimal Jayasinghe stated that the Mrs World Inc has requested Jayasinghe and the judging panel to take decisions without involving any other third parties.

Jayasinghe added that as the organizers, they will extend their fullest support to Pushpika at this instance.

Responding to a question raised by a journalist Jayasinghe said that if the divorce of Mrs. Sri Lanka 2021 Pushpika De Silva is given before the Mrs. World 2021 contest is held, the first runner up will be sent to represent Sri Lanka. Pushpika said that she has not decided to take the divorce, since it is a two-party agreement and it is still being heard at the court.

Mrs. World Inc has also expressed its disappointment at reigning Mrs. World Caroline Jurie for creating havoc by uncrowning Pushpika De Silva after the final decision was announced. Mrs. World Inc statement further requested to Jurie to deliver an apology, but she has yet to do so. "Her actions go against the Mrs. Sri Lanka code of conduct and the predetermined regu-

lations she is obliged to follow during her reign" the statement read. It further read that the delegate sent by Mrs. Sri Lanka - World to compete in the international competition is legally married will be accepted. They also praised De Silva's behaviour of leaving the stage without firing up the incident.

Moreover the Mrs. World international pageant will be conducted as scheduled in December and Jurie's scrimmage will not have any impact on that, Jayasinghe said.

De Silva breaking down in tears said that she dedicates her crown to all single mothers who struggle in life. She also said that she will raise concerns internationally that even a divorcee should be given a chance to take part in this competition.

Obituaries

GAUDER EDWARD NEVILLE At rest. Dearly beloved husband of late Gwendolene (nee Brohier), brother of late Basil and Aubrey and of Annesley, Trevor and Penny Fernando. Cortege leaves **Jayaratne Funeral Parlour Kalubowila** at 2.30 p.m. on 8th April for burial at General Cemetery Mt.Lavinia - R.C. Section. 027239

JUENNE BARBARA DE JONG (nee MORTIER) - It is with deep sorrow that the family announces the passing away of JUVENNE DE JONG, daughter of Renee De Jong (Dec) and Joseph Mortier (Dec.), beloved wife of the late Joseph De Jong, precious mother of Ransford, Joanne (Dec.), Roxann, Robert, Ronald, Rina, Renato and Roze, mother-in-law of Sue, Donna, Austin and Karen (Australia). Treasured grandma to many grandchildren and great-grandchildren, sister of Karen Mortier (SL), Ralph Mortier (Dec.), (Aus) Danny Mortier (Dec.) (SL) and Veronica Hermon (Aus), sister-in-law to Cynthia Mortier, (Aus) Yvonne Mortier (SL) and Stewart Hermon (Aus). The funeral will take place in **Bundaberg (Australia)**. 027191

RATNAPALA, DR. SANATH RANJIT - Beloved husband of Ranjini, father of Devaka, father-in-law of Chathuri, grandfather of Sadeesha, passed away peacefully. The Cremation will be held at 5.00 p.m. on Thursday the 8th of April at Borella Kanatte. **231, Kirula Road, Colombo 05.** 026865

We deeply regret to announce the death of **GEORGE CHELVANAYAGAM SELVARAJAH** - (retired Central Bank Officer), beloved husband of Sarojini (retired Central Bank Officer), precious father of Krishanthi and Hiran George, father-in-law of Gladstone Worthington, adored grandfather of Helena and Luc, loving son of late Alfred Vaithilingam Chelvanayagam and late Sophia Manonmani, brother of Pushpam, late Yogarajah, late Vijayarajah, late Vimala, Chandra, late Suguna, Shanthi and Lalitha, brother-in-law of late Hector Hitchcock, late Mabel, Pathmarani, late Selvanathan, Dasarath Samarasinghe (retired Agriculture Dept.), late Rosairo, late Sriskandarajah and Brem Kanagaratnam, late Deva Sanmuganathan, Mercy, Rathy and late Roy Selvadurai, Dorothy and Oswin Peiris. Funeral takes place on 10th April 2021 at 12 noon at the Church of the Good Shepherd Hounslow and Burial Cemetery, Hounslow. **44, Ivanhoe Road, Hounslow, TW4 7JJ, UK.** 027320

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'Commission Report suggests rift in Former Government jeopardised National Security'

Members of the former government that did nothing to find the culprits of the Easter Sunday attacks are alleging today that the government used it in their favour to come to power, Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna Parliamentarian Susil Premajayantha said in Parliament yesterday. He said so during the Adjournment Motion on the report of the President's Commission on the Easter Sunday attacks.

Refuting Opposition allegations, the MP said that as the report of the President's Commission on the Easter Sunday attacks pointed out that the conflict within the

Good Governance Government weakened national security, paving the way for the attacks.

He said the public had understood that the economy, development, and the security of the country had collapsed under the Good Governance Government long before the Easter Sunday attacks and expressed their confidence on the victory of the SLPP. Premajayantha added that at the time of the attacks, there was no intention to hold elections in the country under the previous regime.

He said that the Presidential Commission was appointed seven months



after the attacks. Even at the Parliament, the affiliated members were appointed to a committee and engaged in discussions, rather than taking the necessary measures to bring the culprits to book. The MP said that

delays in investigating and prosecuting would affect a case against culprits even in an ordinary crime as evidence could be concealed, witnesses could die, or related persons might hide or go abroad.

Premajayantha added that the same lackadaisical nature exhibited by Good Governance Government with the setting up of the Financial Crimes Investigation Division (FCID) through gazettes to arrest and file cases was not exhibited in taking action against the Easter Sunday suspects. He assured that the current government is taking the necessary measures

in that regard. He asked as to how those members could make allegations against the government.

The MP said that the Presidential Commission is not a body that could go after suspects, but to hear the evidence brought before it. He added the evidence and the report of the Commission should be directed to the Attorney-General, police, and other institutions to take action following detailed investigations.

He added that in this endeavour, everyone should get together as the attack affected the faith between the communities, the economy, and the tourism industry.

'2,360 families to be evacuated from Kelani Valley Railway construction site'

Two thousand three hundred and sixty families residing near one of the Kelani Valley Railway construction sites are scheduled to be evacuated, Transport Minister Gamini Lokuge said in Parliament yesterday.

He was responding to a question raised by Samagi Jana Balawegaya Parliamentarian Buddhika Pathirana.

The minister said that the Government has decided to grant housing units to all of them at

different housing schemes. He added that they are to be settled at the Laksirisevana Housing Scheme in Maligawatta, Siyapathsevana Housing Scheme in Dematagoda, the Kolambage Mawatha Housing

Scheme, and Kalinga Mawatha Housing Scheme.

Furthermore, Lokuge said that another housing scheme is to be constructed on a land in Malapalla owned by the Railway Department.



UNP launches 'Green Declaration' for Environmental Protection

The United National Party (UNP) yesterday launched a 'Green Declaration' for the protection of the environment. The ceremony was held at the UNP Headquarters, with the participation of UNP Deputy Leader Ruwan Wijewardena. He said the declaration was based on a consensus obtained from all relevant stakeholders.

"The UNP will undertake efforts to safeguard Sri Lanka's environment and natural resources, thereby ensuring a sustainable future for our citizens. Our priority is the protection of the Sinharaja Rainforest, which is facing a threat from the unchecked actions of the Government," the declaration said.

"The existing laws in the country must be enforced, and through them further deforestation and destruction to the environment will be halted. The campaign should not end here. We must go on to build a consensus on a new framework to give effect to the Paris Climate Agreement. These should include protecting the Carbon Sink," the UNP added. The existing Forest Ordinance in the country would be strengthened under this declaration, the UNP said.

"It is proposed that stronger laws be introduced to safeguard and increase forest cover, as well as tree cover. This can be accomplished by amending the Forest

Ordinance, based on the Forest Law Act of 1991 (Switzerland), the Karnataka Preservation of Trees Act of 1976 (India), the Town and Country Planning (Tree Preservation Regulation) Act of England, and the Tree protection laws adopted by the State Parliaments of Australia. A programme to promote mini-forests (1/2 acre to 25 acres) will also be supported by the necessary legislation as well as financed by the Government," the declaration added.

"There will be a limit on non-agricultural practices and a prohibition of the commercial fragmentation of agricultural land. A national policy will be introduced to protect the rivers and streams around the country, with an emphasis on those in the hill country and the Sinharaja Rainforest," statement read.

"The National Environment Act will be updated and the Central Environment Authority will be in charge of implementing Climate Change legislation. A consultative body will be established consisting of representatives from the environmental and conservation organisations, which will enable a dialogue between the Government, Provincial Council and the relevant stakeholders. We call all interested parties to commence a dialogue on the necessary laws to be implemented to ensure a green economy," it added.

'Steps underway to make all State institutions present annual reports on time'



Chief Government Whip Johnston Fernando said that the government would take measures to make all its institutions present their annual reports on time. He said so in Parliament yesterday when SJB Parliamentarian Buddhika Pathirana said that the Sri Lanka Standard Institute (SLSI) had failed to

present its annual reports since 2016. Fernando said that most public institutions have not submitted their annual reports since 2015. He added that it was the duty of the government to get those institutions to present their annual reports in the Parliament, which the former government failed to accomplish.

Benefits of AstraZeneca COVID-19 Vaccine still 'largely positive': WHO

The benefits of the AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine are still "largely positive" and outweigh risk of rare but serious blood clots, according to an official with the World Health Organisation (WHO), speaking on Tuesday during the agency's regular press briefing from Geneva.

Dr. Rogério Pinto de Sá Gaspar, Director for Regulation and Prequalification, was responding to a journalist's question regarding links between the vaccine and cerebral venous sinus thrombosis, a rare blood clotting syndrome.

The European Medicines Agency (EMA) on Tuesday denied that it had established any link, following reports that one of its experts stated there was a

connection. Meanwhile, an EMA committee that monitors the safety of medicines has been meeting to assess the data, which is also being reviewed by a regulatory body in the United Kingdom. WHO is following both proceedings.

"What we can say is that the appraisal that we have for the moment, and this is under consideration by the experts, is that the benefit risk assessment for the vaccine is still largely positive," said Dr Pinto de Sá Gaspar. He reported that "thrombotic events" are rare, and are now being categorised in terms of their distribution within the population.

"For the time being, there is no evi-

dence that the benefit risk assessment for the vaccine needs to be changed," he said. "We know from the data coming from countries like the UK and others that the benefits are really important in terms of reduction of the mortality of populations that are being vaccinated," he added.

WHO's Global Advisory Committee on Vaccine Safety was due to meet on Wednesday, which also will look at the data, with a conclusion expected later in the week. WHO continues to work with a group of scientists worldwide to develop nomenclature for variants of the new coronavirus.

Many people, including health experts, have been referring to the variants by the

countries in which they were first detected—something the UN agency wants to change.

"We need to make sure that any of the names that are used do not further stigmatise a person, or a last name, or a location, inadvertently," said Dr Maria Van Kerkhove, WHO's Technical Lead on COVID-19, responding to a question from a South African journalist. "There should be no stigma associated with these viruses being detected, and unfortunately we still see that happening," she added.

Currently, there are three variants: B117, first identified in the UK; B.1.351, which was first identified in South Africa; and P1, a variant first detected in Japan, but is circulating in Brazil. (UN News)

COPE instructs Sports Ministry to take legal action against former SLC ExCo if irregularities are found

The Committee on Public Enterprises (COPE) yesterday instructed Sports Ministry Secretary Anuradha Wijekoon to take legal action if any of the former members of the Sri Lanka Cricket (SLC) Executive Committee are found guilty of fraud. Committee Chairman Prof. Charitha Herath stated that the assistance of the Attorney-General could be obtained for the purpose.

The COPE Chairman said so at the COPE meeting convened to examine the Auditor-General's report and its current performance for the financial years 2017 and 2018 of the SLC. The committee pointed out that 123 of the 162 approved cadre are contract positions, which is a serious question. The committee also pointed out that the posts of Head of Finance, Legal Officer, Information Technology Officer, and Internal Auditor should be permanent positions.

The committee recommended that the procurement process of the SLC be streamlined

and that a proper system be introduced to streamline it. It was also discussed at the committee meeting that the intervention of the Director-General of Sports should be at a higher level than the current one.

The committee also recommended that Sri Lanka Cricket should develop a proper format for disbursing funds to sports associations. They directed the Ministry of Sports and the SLC to take immediate action to amend the Sports Act.

Prof. Herath said that the reason for the massive collapse of cricket in the country was not the fault of the players, but the weaknesses of the cricket administration. The committee questioned the non-recovery of Rs.29 million in revenue due for sponsorship of the South Africa-Sri Lanka Cricket tour in 2018.

SLC Executive Officer Ashley de Silva informed the Committee that the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) has commenced an investigation

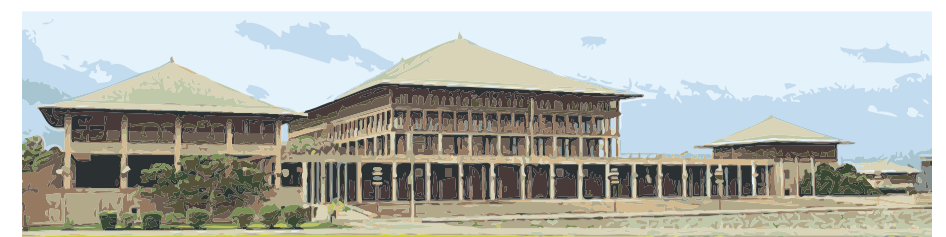
into the matter. It was revealed at the meeting that the money had been deposited in an American bank account named 'Diamond Channel', and that investigations were focused on how it happened.

Prof. Herath instructed Wijekoon to conduct an inquiry and submit its report to the committee within three months.

It was also revealed at the meeting that Rs.30 million has been spent to take legal action against former SLC Head Coach Chandika Hathurusinghe due to the shortcomings of his agreement.

Although Rs.132 million has been spent for the construction of a National Cricket Stadium and a Multi-Sports Complex in Hingurakgoda, Polonnaruwa, the committee paid special attention to the fact that a title deed has not yet been obtained for the relevant land.

The committee directed the Ministry of Sports to take immediate action to resolve the issue.



PARLIAMENT

Sandasen Marasinghe, Camelia Nathaniel and Amali Mallawarachchi

Easter Sunday attacks:

Sabry says all culprits directly or indirectly involved should face justice

Justice Minister Ali Sabry PC, joining the debate on the Report on the Easter Sunday attacks in Parliament yesterday, said it is clear that the attacks could have been prevented, but the previous regime had failed to take the necessary measures.

He said the tragedy has led to disharmony between communities, adding that certain persons are also using minor incidents of disagreement and exaggerating them to incite racial tension among the public.

"To my best knowledge, the Muslim community have condemned the 2019 Easter Sunday attacks.



While we condemn the acts of these terrorists, I firmly believe that all those directly and indirectly involved in this heinous attack should be brought to book," he said, expressing his sympathy to all those who were affected by the attack. Sabry also condemned

social media attacks labeling the Muslim community as extremists, adding that all Muslims are not extremists. He said that the Sainthamaruthu incident was a clear indication of that fact. Sabry said it was the Muslim residents of that area that had initially informed the authorities regarding the extremist activities taking place there.

Hence, he said that while it's about 50 years overdue where all Sri Lankans should have cast aside all religious and racial differences and lived in harmony as citizens of one country, it is never too late to do so, even now.

PMB bought no rice from local farmers in 2018/19

- Aluthgamage

The Paddy Marketing Board (PMB) had not bought a single grain of rice from local paddy farmers in 2018 and 2019, Agriculture Minister Mahindananda Aluthgamage said in Parliament yesterday. He added that the certified rice price, which was Rs.30 under the former government, has been increased to Rs.50 by the current government.

The PMB was established to ensure that paddy is bought at a proper certified price to enhance the living of the farmers, see to consumer needs, and maintain a secure flow of paddy stock



to the market, the minister said. He added that the PMB, at a competitive rate, buys the harvests of paddy farmers who get fertiliser at the concessionary rate from the government. Aluthgamage said that

'samba' rice could be bought at PMB centres at a rate of Rs.56.50. He added that the Good Governance Government let private mill owners control paddy prices.

"The Paddy Marketing Board had not bought a single grain of rice in 2018 and 2019 during the Good Governance Government's rule. Paddy stores had been handed over to two former ministers to set up garment factories. Moreover, the former Minister P. Harison sold quality rice as cattle food and incurred a loss of Rs.20 billion in 2015.

50 police personnel dead in road accidents in 15 months

S.M. WIJAYARATNE,
Kurunegala Daily News Corr.

During the past 15 months, about 50 police officers had died in road accidents, Police Media Spokesman DIG Ajith Rohana told the media recently.

About 367 police officers had been injured during that period as well, he said. In 2020, about 30 police officers died in road accidents, while 297 were injured, he added.

During the past three months of this year, 20 police officers died in road accidents, while 70 were injured, the Police Media Spokesman said.

Nineteen injured in bus accident

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

A private bus plying from Galkiriyagama to Dambulla veered off the road near the Anakatawa Mahaweli Canal and overturned, injuring 19 persons on Tuesday. Among the injured

were 14 women and a 7-year-old boy. Onlookers rushed to the scene and helped transport the injured to the hospital.

Police said the accident had occurred due to a defect in the engine. Investigations are continuing.



A new computer laboratory was opened at the Muslim Ladies' College in Colombo 4 on Monday. The construction of the laboratory was funded by the school's Past Pupils' Association (PPA) and well-wishers. Picture by Ashraff A. Samad.

SL's G7 partners to support Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment for COVID-19 recovery

The year 2020 marked 20 years since the adoption of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 on 'Women, Peace, and Security'—a groundbreaking resolution that enshrined the essential role of women in securing and maintaining peace, UN Women stated in a press release.

In Sri Lanka, women's role in society altered significantly, as more women became heads of households during the 30-year conflict, and women's role and inclusion in peace-building efforts became more vital than ever as they worked against tremendous odds for sustainable development and peace in their communities.

The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, however, has hindered these efforts and intensified inequalities, reversing the limited gains on gender equality and women's empowerment in Sri Lanka and around the world. To address the challenges particularly posed by COVID-19 for women, the G7+ Working Group on 'Women, Peace, and Security' was recently co-convened by the Women and Child Develop-

ment State Ministry, the Embassy of Japan in Sri Lanka, and UN Women.

At the meeting, K.M.S.D. Jayasekara, Secretary to the State Ministry of Women and Child Development, in a pre-recorded video statement, said: "The State Ministry is committed to formulate and execute programmes to enhance legal, institutional, and human resource services to strengthen mechanisms for economic, social and educational empowerment of women by aligning national priorities—particularly the National Policy Framework Vistas of Prosperity and Splendor—in line with international standards of gender equality and women's empowerment. In doing so, promoting the Women, Peace, and Security Agenda in Sri Lanka is a key priority."

The G7+ Working Group was established to take forward the 'Women, Peace, and Security' Agenda in the country, through the development and implementation of a National Action Plan to respond to the needs and priorities of women affected by conflict.

Reiterating their commitment, Kitamura Toshihiro, Minister and Deputy Head of Mission at the Embassy of Japan in Sri Lanka, stated, "Japan has been supporting peace and development in Sri Lanka for many years, and become a partner country of Sri Lanka under the G7 Initiatives on 'Women, Peace, and Security' in 2018, to contribute to the achievement of gender equality and women's empowerment, as well as to strengthen women's rights in Sri Lanka."

"As the partner and lead country for Sri Lanka, Japan has granted USD 6 million so far to advance the 'Women, Peace, and Security' Agenda through UN agencies, in addition to the support provided by Japan International Technical Cooperation," he added.

The Working Group comprises representatives from G7 countries, the Government of Sri Lanka, UN agencies, and development actors. It acts as a knowledge-sharing platform for best practices on gender equality, and the first of its kind multilateral coordination

effort with the Government of Sri Lanka to promote women's empowerment in the country, particularly amidst the ongoing pandemic.

Speaking on the fundamental need for women's rights and women's leadership to be at the centre of recovery efforts, Prashani Dias, Country Focal Point a.i at UN Women Sri Lanka, said, "Women's economic empowerment is central to realising women's rights and gender equality. Through our collective efforts, we offer a gender perspective for policymakers when making important decisions during and after crisis situations such as the COVID-19 pandemic".

With less than a decade left to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, making a conscious effort to put women front and centre of both immediate and long-term responses, and implementing the 'Women, Peace, and Security' agenda in Sri Lanka will contribute to recovering better from the pandemic by accelerating progress towards gender equality and women's empowerment.



A free three-day training programme on dental implant technology for dentists and nurses was held at the East Lagoon Hotel in Batticaloa, recently. The event was sponsored by Oram, a leading pharmaceutical company. Dental Analyst and Surgeon Dr. Vijayanayham Tudiharana participated as the main resource person.

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Clarity still needed on effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccine passports: WHO

Being vaccinated against COVID-19 may not prevent its transmission, and vaccination passports may not be an "effective strategy" for restarting travel, the World Health Organization (WHO) cautioned on Tuesday.

"At this stage, we would not like to see vaccination passports as a requirement for entry or exit because we are not sure at this stage that the vaccine prevents transmissions," said WHO Spokesperson Dr. Margaret Harris ahead of World Health Day on April 7.

Dr. Harris added that vaccine passports may not be an effective strategy as "not everyone has access to vaccines and there are groups in society who are excluded... We are still waiting on adequate supplies to provide the vaccines to all the countries that need them."

Highlighting how COVID-19 has impacted some people more than others, Dr. Harris said that the virus "has really exposed the stark inequities in access to and coverage of health services... Groups who already faced discrimination, poverty, social exclusion, difficult living, and working conditions were the hardest-hit by the pandemic".

For this year's World Health Day, the UN agency has urged countries to build a fairer, healthier world post-COVID-19. Dr. Harris called for action to "put in place policies and allocate resources so the most vulnerable groups can see their condition improve faster".

This means "improving living conditions for all", tackling "poverty and health inequities", building sustainable societies and strong economies, and promoting "a more equitable sharing of resources, ensuring food security and nutrition" and turning "the tide on climate change". There is so much work to do, she said.

The latest WHO data from April 6, at the time of posting, indicates that there have been 131,309,792 confirmed cases of COVID-19, including 2,854,276 deaths globally, reported to WHO. By the end of April 5, a total of 604,032,357 vaccine doses had been administered.

Regionally, infections and deaths remain highest in the Americas, with 56,880,123 confirmed cases, followed by Europe (46,085,310), South-East Asia (15,438,907), Eastern Mediterranean (7,785,717), Africa (3,126,037), and Western Pacific (1,992,953). - UN News

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Lorry driver transporting illegal timber arrested

MAHINDA P. LIYANAGE, Galle Central Special Corr.

A lorry driver transporting mahogany logs without a license was arrested near the Nakiyadeniya Bridge on Tuesday, Yakkalamulla Police said.

The suspect had been transporting the contraband from a private land in Udumalagala to the Nakiyadeniya area. Police said that nine logs were seized from the lorry.

Two motorcyclists following the lorry had fled the scene when the police arrived. Investigations are continuing.

DATES TO REMEMBER	SCHOLARSHIPS	APTITUDE TEST	TEST CENTRES
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Thursday, April 8, 2021

A prudent move

The latest move by the Police to arrest the alarming trend of road accidents, it is hoped, would put an end to the mayhem on our roads. According to Police Spokesman DIG Ajith Rohana, beginning on April 10 they would be checking vehicles to detect those driving under the influence of liquor in round-the-clock operations. He said so far this was being done in the evenings and nights since it is reasonable to assume that alcohol is consumed mostly in the late hours of the day. However, now it has been decided to extend this to the daytime as well considering that during the New Year season drinking bouts could take place even in the early hours. It has also been decided to check drivers for drug use. The DIG said a law has been in place since 1979 to arrest those driving vehicles under the influence of alcohol as well as drugs, but the lack of expertise and equipment for the detection of drivers who are after drugs has stymied this effort. Now special teams have been trained to look for signs of drug use by those at the wheel, which would go a long way in arresting the rising incidents of road mishaps. Perhaps, the Police could start with drivers of private buses and they are sure to net in a rich harvest of drug addicts at the wheel. The president of the country's main private bus operators union himself has confessed that as many as 60 percent of the private bus crew in the Western Province were drug addicts. It is also more likely that bus drivers on long distance services are deeply into drugs. Fatigue and drudgery may well induce these men to seek solace in the oblivion of drugs to keep them going. Taking drugs could also induce sleep while at the wheel and the police who are now equipped to identify drug users among vehicle operators should look for such signs. It is not known if the truck driver who knocked down a Traffic OIC in Pannipitiya was into drugs. But he has confessed to Police that long hours on the road transporting fruits and vegetables from the hill country on a daily basis without a break left him over-fatigued which made his head slump over the wheel moments before the mishap. Here lies another recipe for disaster. A majority of road accidents involve heavy vehicles such as tipper and monster trucks on long haul non-stop journeys. The drivers of these vehicles perhaps are forced by the owners to make the maximum number trips per day to earn more profits like the Pannipitiya truck driver. A law should be introduced to make it compulsory for drivers of all long haul vehicles to break journey for a rest and recommence only after being fully awake and refreshed. The Odometer should tell the Police checking such a vehicle the number of Kms travelled and if the time taken for the journey fits with the mileage indicated. Business owners deploying such vehicles too should be compelled to maintain regular hours and stiff penalties levied for any breaches. There is no knowing how many lives were lost and the numbers maimed due to drivers falling asleep during long journeys. Equally there is no knowing how many road accidents resulting in fatalities have occurred as a result of driving under the influence of drugs with the police only now acquiring the expertise to detect such offenders. Now that the Police have taken another positive step in their quest to arrest the steep rise in road accidents they should go the whole hog and look for other aspects that contribute to the mayhem on our roads. For instance, the road worthiness of vehicles too should be looked into. Needless to say, faulty mechanisms too are responsible for accidents and vehicles losing control and going down ravines. All rickety jalopies should be removed from our roads and put to pasture. An age limit too should be imposed for driving, for poor reflexes too lead to drivers losing control of their vehicles ending in disaster. This is not to say that the young are safe drivers. Recent incidents where youth barely out of their teens being responsible for countless deaths by their reckless driving tell a tale. This brings us to the whole business of driving schools. Some of these so-called driving schools are hastily put up affairs one could encounter at almost all street corners in the cities and suburbs. Their competence has been called into question countless times. They are known to send their students for the driving exam after a few cursory lessons. This is seen mostly in cases where youth are in a hurry to leave for foreign jobs as drivers. All such driving schools should be brought under scrutiny and made to fall in line. It is hoped that the latest drive by the Police to check the rising spate of road accidents in all earnestness would bear fruition and our roads will be made safer for the public – both motorists and pedestrians.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Accidents happen but it's how we pick ourselves up from the accidents that matters. - Aquaria

THE JVP from insurrection to democracy

Hindsight

LAKDEV LIYANAGAMA

The 50th anniversary of the failed first insurrection staged by the Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna (JVP) passed almost unannounced this week but provides an opportune moment for reflection on the role of the party in Sri Lanka's political landscape, its past attempts at gaining power and its future prospects.

The JVP was founded by its first leader and ideologue, Rohana Wijeweera in 1965. Its objective was to stage a socialist revolution in Sri Lanka. Wijeweera had returned to Sri Lanka from Russia, where he was a medical undergraduate at the Lumumba University in Moscow.

Wijeweera began his political life affiliated to the Communist Party (CP) which, along with the Lanka Samasamaja Party (LSSP), constituted the major leftist parties in Sri Lanka at the time. The LSSP and the CP joined forces with the Sri Lanka Freedom Party (SLFP) to form the United Front (UF) in 1970.

In the lead up to the 1970 general election, Wijeweera supported the UF but on the condition that Ms. Sirimavo Bandaranaike should address the issues raised by them. As a result of this, the United National Party (UNP) government had Wijeweera arrested prior to the poll which was held in May that year.

The UF was returned to power with a resounding majority at the general election in 1970 with Sirimavo Bandaranaike as Prime Minister. Magnanimous in victory, Bandaranaike facilitated Wijeweera's release from custody. It was then that the JVP leader began preparations for the 'revolution'.

Socio-political issues

Wijeweera began by recruiting youth. This he did through a series of lectures which he conducted which became known as the 'five classes'. It comprised of a succinct analysis of the socio-political issues at the time, explaining why the 'Old Left' had failed and arguing the need for a 'revolution'.

The classes were conducted clandestinely and Wijeweera succeeded in convincing significant numbers of youth to join the JVP. By 1971, Wijeweera believed he had sufficient cadres after about an estimated 10,000 youth were recruited. Several bank robberies reportedly funded these operations.

The attack on the Wellawaya Police station on the morning of April 5, 1971 heralded the launch of the insurrection. Later that day, dozens of other Police stations throughout the country were attacked. The worst affected were the Southern districts of the country, where the JVP had its strongest presence.

The Government called in the armed forces to regain control of the Police stations but it took about three weeks to restore law and order. Casualty figures vary and range from about 1,200 to about 5,000 JVP cadres having lost their



JVP Founder Leader Rohana Wijeweera

lives. Most JVP leaders, including Wijeweera were captured.

The Government, on the recommendation of Justice Minister Felix R. Dias Bandaranaike appointed a Criminal Justice Commission to try JVP leaders for their abortive bid to seize power. Following a trial, Wijeweera was sentenced to life imprisonment, later reduced to twenty years on appeal.

Wijeweera was not imprisoned for that long, however. The United National Party (UNP) led by J.R. Jayewardene recorded a landslide victory at the 1977 General Election and Jayewardene ordered Wijeweera's release. There was then a brief period when the JVP entered the democratic mainstream.

The JVP contested the District Development Council (DDC) held in 1982 when the SLFP and other major parties boycotted those polls. In the same year, when Jayewardene was contesting the country's first Presidential Election in a bid to win a second term of office, Wijeweera too entered the fray.

Wijeweera came in at a decent third at the election which Jayewardene won, polling 275,000 votes or four per cent of the vote and ahead of established veteran politician Colvin R. De Silva, contesting from the LSSP. However, this dalliance with democratic politics was short lived for the JVP.

A year later, following the Black July ethnic riots of 1983, Jayewardene proscribed the JVP along with several other parties which were accused of conspiring against the government. Following the proscription, the JVP and its leaders went underground, surfacing years later in a brutal insurrection.

Second insurrection

This second insurrection began towards the end of Jayewardene's second term. The main impetus came after Jayewardene signed the Indo-Lanka Accord creating Provincial Councils to devolve powers to minority communities. The Accord, unpopular with the public, became a rallying cry for the JVP.

The JVP staged an attack on the UNP Parliamentary Group when it first met in August 1987 following the signing of the Accord. The Minister of National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali was severely wounded in this attack in which Parliamentarian Keerthi Abeywickrema died.

By this time, the JVP had reinvented itself as the Deshapremi Janatha Viya-



Former President J. R. Jayewardene



Former Prime Minister Sirimavo Bandaranaike



NPP Leader Anura Kumara Dissanayake



Somawansa Amarasinghe

paraya (DJV) which was effectively the military wing of the party. It staged a series of attacks on military camps aimed at seizing weapons. This time around, its campaign for the 'revolution' was decidedly more brutal.

The JVP targeted those connected to the then ruling UNP. Among those assassinated were Minister Lionel Jayatilake and Secretaries General of the UNP Harsha Abeywardena and Nandalal Fernando. Actor politician Vijaya Kumaratunga and artiste Premakeerthi de Alwis were also killed by the JVP.

The party also launched a series of strikes and 'curfews' throughout the country and began killing members of the Armed Forces. It is believed that the latter strategy alienated the party from the people even though the UNP Government had been in power for over a decade and was not very popular.

The JVP actively sabotaged the 1988 Presidential Election but the UNP candidate Ranasinghe Premadasa emerged victorious. Following his victory, Premadasa ordered a ruthless crackdown on JVP activities. Spearheading this was the then State Minister of Defence, Ranjan Wijeratne.

The insurrection effectively ended with the capture of JVP leader Rohana Wijeweera. He was arrested at an estate in Ulapane where he was masquerading as 'Attanayake', a planter. Wijeweera was brought to Colombo and made a speech on television before the Government announced his death.

Wijeweera's death

The exact circumstances regarding Wijeweera's death remain controversial to this day. Minister Wijeratne announced at a media briefing that Wijeweera was taken to a JVP hideout and was shot dead by a colleague. However, many other theories about his death have circulated in the media.

There was a lull in JVP activity thereafter until the advent of Chandrika Kumaratunga as President in 1994. The person responsible for resurrecting the JVP was Somawansa Amarasinghe, the only member of the JVP's Politburo to survive the events of 1989. He then assumed leadership of the JVP.

Under Amarasinghe, the JVP re-entered the democratic mainstream and eschewed violence. The JVP's candidate at the 1994 presidential election, Nihal Galappaththi withdrew his candidature from the poll after extracting a promise from Kumaratunga that she would abolish the Executive Presidency, though this turned out to be a broken promise.

Since then, the JVP has contested Presidential and General Elections and has had mixed results. While it has been able to maintain its status as the third largest political party in the country after the then major parties, the UNP and the SLFP, it has never had a real prospect of forming its own Government.

In late 2001, faced with a Vote of No Confidence, Kumaratunga formed a 'Probationary' Government, offering the JVP four portfolios. Kumaratunga famously said that she would do a 'deal with the devil' to ensure that her Government remained in power. This arrangement was however very short-lived.

The JVP's best performance in terms of Parliamentary representation was in 2004, when it contested in coalition with the SLFP-led alliance. Using the tactic of nominating only a few candidates in each electoral list, it secured 39 Seats in Parliament and became a crucial partner in the government.

Since then, however, the JVP has shown promise of becoming the 'third force' in Sri Lankan politics from time to time but has not lived up to that promise. This is despite its members subscribing to the principles of being free of allegations of corruption or involvement in other scandals.

Somawansa Amarasinghe retired as JVP leader in 2014, following a series of internal disputes in the party and Anura Kumara Dissanayake has since led the party. A forceful orator with a reputation as an honest and hardworking politician, Dissanayake has however failed to elevate the JVP's standing.

After not offering a candidate at the 2015 presidential election in a strategic move that enabled Maithripala Sirisena to win the poll, Dissanayake contested the 2019 election. He polled over 400,000 votes or over 3 per cent of the vote, a percentage that was less than what Wijeweera polled in 1982.

In analysing the JVP's role in Sri Lankan democratic politics after two failed attempts at gaining power through armed struggles, it is noted that the JVP has not realised its potential as a third party despite disaffection with the major political parties - and is unlikely to do so in the near future as well.

This is because the party has stuck to its leftist ideologies at a time when the world is moving away from them. It may also be because the JVP has never really acknowledged that its actions in 1971 and 1989 were flawed and apologised to the nation. It would do well to reflect on these issues, even now.

Wijeweera came in at a decent third at the election which Jayewardene won, polling 275,000 votes or four per cent of the vote and ahead of established veteran politician Colvin R. De Silva, contesting from the LSSP. However, this dalliance with democratic politics was short lived for the JVP.



A JVP Rally.

World Bank: Impunity for disability discrimination

THALIF DEEN

The 15,900-strong World Bank, which has funded over 12,000 development projects worldwide since 1947, is an international institution with a superlative reputation for its sustained efforts to end poverty in the developing world—with loans, interest-free credit and outright grants.

But it has come under heavy fire for its blatant violations of disability rights—an area where no US labour laws are applicable because the Washington-based institution enjoys diplomatic immunity.

Speaking on condition of anonymity, a spokesperson for the Disability Support Group at the World Bank told IPS the Bank has been hiding behind its diplomatic immunity for decades to cover up abuse of staff ranging from sexual harassment to institutional discrimination against its most vulnerable disabled staff.

“There is absolutely no national or international accountability framework that the World Bank can be held accountable to – neither the UN Convention on the Rights of the Persons with Disabilities nor the American with Disabilities Act (ADA).”

Lack of transparency and accountability

“We have cases and irrefutable evidence of serious and consistent disability abuse and harassment of staff, conflict of interest, lack of transparency and accountability – the very values and conditionality for World Bank projects.”

Andre Hovaguimian, a former Director of the International Finance Corporation, Middle East & North Africa, a sister organisation of the World Bank, told IPS: “The World Bank’s treatment of staff injured in the line of duty has been and continues to be deplorable.”

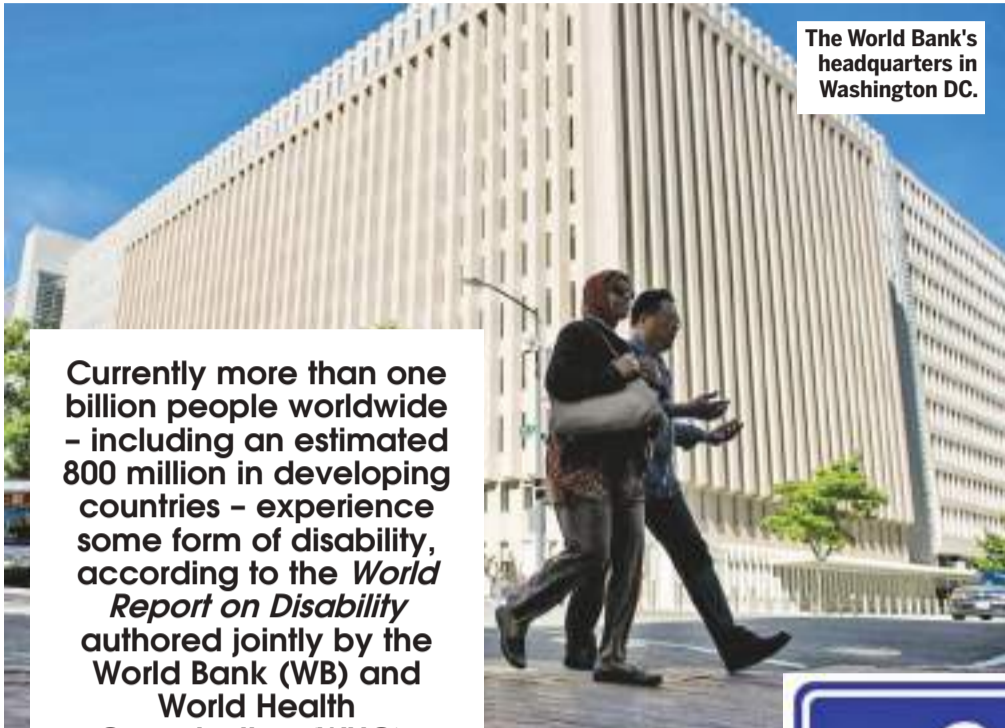
“Staff injured in the line of duty, taking risks to do the Bank’s business, should be treated with care and respect. The Bank’s diplomatic immunity should no longer be used to abuse the disabled,” said Hovaguimian.

Currently more than one billion people worldwide – including an estimated 800 million in developing countries – experience some form of disability, according to the *World Report on Disability* authored jointly by the World Bank (WB) and World Health Organisation (WHO).

“Persons with disabilities face stigma, discrimination, and exclusion from accessing jobs and services, such as education and health care, and they consistently fare less well than their non-disabled peers in development gains,” said the study.

The charges of discrimination have come up at a time when the World Bank is holding its annual 2021 Spring Meetings in Washington DC. The meetings, which began on April 5 will continue through April 11.

Two disabled former staff members told IPS they could speak only on condition of



The World Bank's headquarters in Washington DC.

Currently more than one billion people worldwide – including an estimated 800 million in developing countries – experience some form of disability, according to the *World Report on Disability* authored jointly by the World Bank (WB) and World Health Organisation (WHO). “Persons with disabilities face stigma, discrimination, and exclusion from accessing jobs and services, such as education and health care, and they consistently fare less well than their non-disabled peers in development gains,” said the study.

anonymity due to fears of retaliation and losing their medical coverage as disabled persons.

“When I was denied worker’s compensation against the findings from five reputable doctors, I was told that “As an international organisation established under its Articles of Agreement, the World Bank Group has been granted certain privileges and immunities under U.S. laws.”

“I feel discouraged, bullied and abused. It is a case of David against Goliath, with the most vulnerable and handicapped having to fight a disability programme that has no proper Governance, Accountability or Transparency. There is no justice for the disabled at the World Bank”, he complained.

“The World Bank is evading accountability and oversight of its disability programme by saying it is not subject of either UN Conventions or US disability laws while keeping its own Executive Board in the dark”.

The other former staff member who has previously been disabled confirmed: “I was harassed to the point of breakdown. The disability programme is managed completely

arbitrarily with secret procedures not shared with staff but used against them”.

“I am really sick of this hypocrisy where the World Bank lectures developing countries on disability inclusion while it discriminates shamelessly against its own disabled. While an independent grievance mechanism is mandatory for all projects, the WB refuses to allow its disabled staff the same opportunity,” he declared.

Health and safety

Asked for an official reaction, a World Bank spokesperson told IPS: “The World Bank Group is committed to ensuring the health and safety of our staff and their families. Our benefits, policies and track record over the years demonstrate this commitment”.

“Our self-insured insurance programmes include disability and worker’s compensation programmes, which provide comprehensive benefits to staff injured in the line of duty, or those that are unable to work due to a disabling condition occurring outside of the work environment”.

“Given the global footprint of the organisation, as well as its presence in a number of high-risk environments, the Bank Group made the decision many years ago to self-insure these benefits. This was necessary to ensure all staff are covered, regardless of duty station, as some carriers may not sup-

port or be present in many of the markets in which the Bank Group operates, which are amongst the poorest nations in the world.”

“We regularly review our benefits and processes to ensure we meet the needs of staff and their families, taking input from plan beneficiaries and stakeholders,” the spokesperson added.

“The World Bank integrates disability issues into its operations around the world across a wide range of sectors, including promoting access to infrastructure facilities and social services, rehabilitation, skills development, creating economic opportunities, and working with Organisations of Persons with Disabilities. This is at the core of the World Bank’s work to build sustainable, inclusive communities, aligned with the institution’s goals to end extreme poverty and promote shared prosperity,” the Bank’s spokesperson declared.

Providing more specifics, S. Gonzalez Flavell, a former Special Assistant (retired) to the Director General of Evaluation and Senior Counsel WBG Legal Department told IPS:

“I was a disabled staff member under the World Bank’s self-funded disability programme for over eighteen months. The experience was significantly demeaning and disturbing, my status carried stigma and it was made clear to me by numerous Bank Senior Management staff that my career and professional reputation would be adversely affected.

The programme lacks clarity in requirements and transparency in application, and I repeatedly had to require procedures to be correctly followed, actions were taken by the Disability Administrator that would have been unlawful had any of the US protective laws for disabled persons applied and a copy of the operating guidelines applying to the programme was denied to me despite reasonable request.

The disability administrator did not act in accordance with known disclosed programme requirements and instead made arbitrary decisions capriciously without respect for my health or concern for me, my treating physicians treatment plan or my recovery and return to work.

The Bank’s HR team, which should have overseen the Disability Administrator’s actions, acted throughout as if my health and disability could be ignored, intrusively asking me to attend work meetings, attempting to have me present for interviews (at a time I could not work) incorrectly applied its own benefits rules (erroneously denying me 30%

benefits which I had to fight through the justice system before they corrected) and leave rules and even allowed my job to be affected and declared my position redundant while I was on disability (again disallowed under US law). Despite my health issues I had to take on HR to prevent financial benefits and career and leave abuse significantly affecting my health wellness and recovery.

On return to work I, as I knew had happened to many other returning disabled staff, faced hostility and retaliation every effort was made to exclude me and deny any right to reintegration with the work force.

Disability programmes

Having discussed and now researched several disability programmes, including those of other international organisations, including with disabled persons, the World Bank’s disability programme remains the most lacking in integrity, compassion or equitable treatment and that it continues to exist in its current form is a failure to care adequately for staff from whom it demands so much, a failure to understand sound management and the hard realities faced by disabled staff and, without recourse to an independent grievance redress system, is an abuse of human rights,” he declared.

Meanwhile, the World Bank Group has raised USD 82 billion for IDA19 (International Development Association, member of the WBG) to support the world’s poorest and most vulnerable countries with a particular focus on disability.

The Disability Support Group said IDA19 will do more to expand equitable opportunities for people with disabilities.” Disability is therefore a major focus of this IDA19 replenishment, with World Bank seeking funding from donor countries because “investing in people, and especially in people with disabilities who are often poor, is also critical to (sustainable development goals) progress”. (<https://ida.worldbank.org/replenishments/ida19>)

“Yet what the World Bank fails to disclose to donors who are asked to dish out USD 82 billion, is that the World Bank itself has a very poor track record with its own disabled staff”, says the Group.

In the past three years, there have been a record number of complaints and problems with the World Bank’s Disability and Workers Compensation programmes, which the World Bank has conveniently ignored, it says.

“The number of complaints has risen exponentially, both to the World Bank’s Ombudsman and to the World Bank’s Staff Association, leading the latter to retain additional outside counsel to address the flood of complaints.”

“The rights of World Bank’s disabled staff are being trampled, as they are bullied and harassed as the World Bank seeks to cut its own costs related to the disabilities of its employees,” the Group declared.

-/PS

A road to reconciliation in Sri Lanka

CELINA CRAMER

Sri Lanka’s bitter, 30-year war continues to cast shadows of grief, loss, and sectarian tension over an ethnically diverse population of Sinhalese Buddhists, Tamil Hindus, Muslims, and Catholics. As the country attempts to navigate the post-conflict period, there is no more urgent task than restoring inclusiveness and social cohesion to public life. The schools are a key to meeting this challenge, and it has been a mandate of governments past and present to reform the education system to foster greater tolerance and ensure that inter-communal conflict and violence do not recur.

The introduction of classroom subjects on civic education in 2008 seemed promising, but it has not resulted in any meaningful improvement in inter-communal relations, and values education generally has been perceived as a matter of spiritual well-being related to religious affiliation. The absence of a values-based approach, and the need for a secular space in which to engage it, inspired The Asia Foundation to launch Promoting Shared Values in

Sri Lanka, a project to improve inter-communal relations in the country. The project has introduced its own values curriculum to youth leaders and activists in the districts of Kalutara, Kurunegala, Ampara, Trincomalee, Mannar, and Vavuniya, as well as more broadly via social media.

The values curriculum was developed by the Foundation in 2012, and is also available as an Android mobile application and through its own website. It seeks to cultivate values in children and youth that support a pluralist and tolerant approach to issues and problems that arise with other communities and within their own. These include core humanistic values such as active listening, peace, respect, tolerance, compassion, honesty and sincerity, and cooperation.

Inter-communal, ethno-religious relations

Two important studies conducted by the project underscore the need to institutionalize values-based education, and they provide

some interesting insights into how to pursue the endeavour. One, a survey conducted from May to August last year, was a follow-up to 2018 research into youth perceptions of inter-communal, ethno-religious relations. The second, from May to September last year, was a qualitative assessment of the impact of values curriculum training on participating youth.

Key findings from the follow-up survey include some hopeful trends since 2018 in perceptions of peace and of ethnic and religious groups in the country, and insights into how youth perceptions continue to be shaped by the internet and social media, by their level of activism, and by the communities they live in.

Almost all respondents (94 percent) continued to believe that peace education should be embedded in the school curriculum. Respondents were equally likely in 2018 and 2020 to identify honesty (72 percent), peace (68 percent) and respect (64 percent) as the most important values to foster in children, but the proportion mentioning open-mindedness and coexistence increased. Eighty-five percent of the young people polled felt that children from diverse ethnic and religious backgrounds had opportunities to interact in school. Of those, 70 percent mentioned the classroom, 40 percent cited sports activities, and others mentioned extracurricular activities, clubs, and associations as places where these interactions could occur. However, the survey also captured a significant level of acceptance of verbal aggression (53 percent) and physical violence (51 percent),

More than a decade after the end of the war, Sri Lanka is at a turning point where it must begin to address issues of national reconciliation. The findings show that values education, based on a values curriculum, can be one of the steppingstones to a more tolerant, inclusive, and cohesive society in Sri Lanka.

especially when defending one’s religion.

Youth Clubs and Associations

Youth activism is attracting growing interest across the country and is considered an avenue for greater interaction among ethno-religious communities. Eighty-one percent in 2018 and 78 percent in 2020 said that youth clubs and associations have improved their views of people from other ethno-religious backgrounds. Interestingly, there was no change in perceptions of parents and teachers as key influences, while the media was surpassed in influence by religious leaders between 2018 and 2020.

The influence of local television



has increased in parallel to internet usage, and social media is perceived as contributing to an increase in online hate speech. The study also shows that youth are more responsible and circumspect in their use of social media. Seventy-three percent of respondents agreed that making offensive statements about other religions and ethnicities is not acceptable on social media, and 68 percent called such posts unreliable. However, more respondents in 2020 experienced offensive online responses (27 percent), cyber-violence (17 percent) and hate speech (31 percent) due to their religious and ethnic backgrounds than in the 2018 baseline survey.

The qualitative assessment was based on a series of focus-group discussions with 165 participants, 90 of them trained youth facilitators and the rest one-day participants. These discussions sought to determine how the rollout of the curriculum, from August 2019 to May 2020, contributed to shared values among youth. A key indicator was the improvement in attitudes and behaviour toward peers from other ethno-religious communities. Case studies collected through this assessment show that

the experiences of facilitators over the year significantly affected their personal growth, in particular by improving their ability to resolve conflicts among peers and by increasing their empathy for other communities. However, while the one-day participants shared similar experiences of personal growth and improved relationships with peers and family, they were unable, unlike their peer facilitators, to identify any significant long-term benefit from the programme, due to their limited exposure to the project.

More than a decade after the end of the war, Sri Lanka is at a turning point where it must begin to address issues of national reconciliation. Current efforts to renew the nation’s social cohesion are commendable, but they lack foundational support from a reformed education system. These findings show that values education, based on a values curriculum, can be one of the steppingstones to a more tolerant, inclusive, and cohesive society in Sri Lanka.

(Celina Cramer is a programme officer in The Asia Foundation’s Peacebuilding and Community Dialogue programme in Sri Lanka. She can be reached at celina.cramer@asiafoundation.org)



Values curriculum youth facilitators during a joint workshop in Kurunegala in 2019.

Culturally Responsive Online Teaching: The Best to make the Best



DR. NAMALI SURAWEEERA

The COVID-19 pandemic has changed the teaching and learning environment forever, not only in Sri Lanka, but also in the whole world. As we all are aware, the COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in the closure of schools and universities across the world.

Accordingly, education has changed significantly with the distinctive rise in online learning, through which teaching is undertaken remotely and on digital platforms. Even before the outbreak of COVID-19, there was already high growth and adoption of online learning globally with the use of language apps, virtual tutoring, video conferencing tools, and online learning software. Online learning has power to move towards a more effective and efficient teaching and learning process in any situation, if we use it correctly with clear understanding. However, this fully online teaching and learning culture has popularly been put into practice in schools, universities, and all other teaching organisations of Sri Lanka from this interim crisis period.

This unplanned and rapid move to online teaching and learning with lack of understanding, no training, insufficient bandwidth, and little preparation has caused poor user experience in online learning in Sri Lanka.

Commonly, one family of our society consists of primary and secondary schoolchildren and university students, as well as there are adults who work from home. Zoom has become a very popular online video conferencing platform by now, and people are now used to say that they are going to 'Zoom School'. They wake up to begin Zoom lessons or meetings, and until late evening, they live with Zoom or other social media apps such as WhatsApp, continuing their education or work. This exhausting nature has been created due to less experience in online educational practices. Primary and

secondary level schools have somehow started online teaching to ensure uninterrupted education during this crisis which should be highly appreciated. However, they are used to conduct online sessions according to their normal school timetables which has resulted in students staying online the whole day. Moreover, they assign too much homework as well. Hence, children find it difficult to manage their time and they also lose their leisure time. Many children are struggling, and parents are unsure how to help them. Hence, we have to be careful and understand how big and difficult this change has been for kids and their families. Some children tend to skip assignments or play online games during online studies as many of them are not used to learn in isolation. Like what was practised in physical classrooms, the teacher should provide guidance allowing students to feel connected to each other, and this sense of belonging influences students' engagement in online classes.

In order to reap the best results through online teaching and learning, teachers should know the best practices in online teaching. For example, using new technology for online learning/e-learning require teachers to take on new roles such as facilitator and mediator. Teachers need to prepare for changing roles, from being an instructor who dispenses knowledge to a facilitator who guides and supports learning. Also, learners need to be reassured by teachers as they confront technological challenges. As an Asian country, introducing online teaching and learning methods into existing educational systems could be a challenge for Sri Lanka because of the behavioural patterns and attitudes such as cultural respect for the teacher, textbook dependency, and the test/exam-focused style of learning. Therefore, innovations or pedagogical methods and learning environments should be placed at the intersection of teachers' and students' educational philosophies, institutional systems and national cultural context. These requirements highlight the importance of having a culturally responsive online teaching and learning environment in Sri Lanka.



Culturally responsive online teaching and learning is the idea of being responsive to students' academic and social-emotional needs. Therefore, primary, secondary, and tertiary level or higher education providers and their teaching or academic staff should offer "Culturally Responsive Online Teaching and Learning" procedures to make a new, more safe, enjoyable, and supportive learning environment. Giving considerable attention, care and planning, any educator who teaches online can create a culturally responsive virtual classroom, one that can provide a space where students feel welcomed and valued every day.

Following four elements of the "Motivational Framework of Culturally Responsive

Teaching" serve as an effective guide for educators who teach online.

1. ESTABLISHING INCLUSION

- Planning for the culturally responsive online classroom starts with course development.

2. DEVELOPING ATTITUDE

- Helping learners to feel positive about the content and the learning process is facilitated by building on students' personal experiences and knowledge.

3. ENHANCING MEANING

- Making the learning process meaningful and engaging students in reflection and critical inquiry.

4. ENGENDERING COMPETENCE

- Use of effective assessment tools that relate to the students' backgrounds and allow them to demonstrate mastery in a variety of ways i.e. performance-based or portfolio assessments, student-invented dialogues, focused reflections, and journals.

Teachers, academics, or educators who teach online can examine their teaching practices using the following questions to see whether they have implemented a culturally responsive online teaching and learning environment or not (adapted from Christy M. Rhodes and Steven W. Schmidt):

1. To establish inclusion, how do I acknowledge the cultural identities, such as racial, ethnic, religious, sexual, and gender identities of my students?

● How do I learn about my students and what they feel about the learning experience?

● How do I encourage my students to connect with their classmates?

● How do I ensure that students feel free to point out class policies that they feel are discriminatory or biased?

2. To develop attitude, how do I help learners to feel positive about the content and the learning process, in addition to the incorporation of learner autonomy into curricular planning?

● How do I encourage students to communicate with each other and with me on a deep and meaningful level?

● How do I incorporate materials and resources that represent the diverse backgrounds of my students?

3. To enhance the meaning, how do I help students to connect to the material in ways that are based on critical reflection and critical inquiry?

● How do I incorporate a variety of learning activities and instructional practices?

● How do I integrate practical applications into learning activities?



● How do I require students to examine the curriculum from multiple perspectives?

4. To engender competence, how do I use an authentic and effective assessment that allows them to demonstrate mastery in a variety of ways?

● How do I encourage students to take ownership of the learning process?

● How do I create space for students to assess their own learning?

Constructing trust in learning relationships is the foundation of culturally responsive instruction. So that high-trust, low-stress environments can help even marginalised students effectively and retain learned information. When students feel safe and trustworthy, we will have true learning partnerships with them; they will be more likely to take the necessary risks needed to learn.

Therefore, teachers should realise the importance of the social aspect of students for conducting online sessions. They can look for more ways to incorporate a collaborative online learning environment, including the Zoom breakout feature for smaller groups. Apart from that, teachers can use new engaging gamified options.

The use of the Quizizz platform to create free gamified quizzes and interactive lessons to engage any learner, use of annotation and whiteboard features for students to express their responses in real-time are a few such options. Furthermore, educators can use online systems such as GoSoapBox or Mentimeter to collect student responses. They can also use the chat function as a relay race where students take turns answering questions.

There is no argument that online teaching and learning is the best solution to face the prevailing situation in the world due to COVID-19 or beyond. Therefore, any educator who teaches online should take the necessary steps to introduce a culturally responsive online teaching and learning environment to make this new learning environment more safe, enjoyable, and supportive for our learners.

(The writer is a Digital Teaching and Learning Technologist and the Head/Senior Lecturer of the Library and Information Science Department, Social Sciences Faculty, Kelaniya University B.A. (Kelaniya), MSc (Kelaniya), Ph.D. (VUW, New Zealand))

English Letter & Winning Numbers

Draw No: 712 Colour: PINK

Date: 06.04.2021 Tuesday

D 11 16 26 33

Total Value of Prizes Rs. 3,267,120/-

Next Super Jackpot Rs. 79,486,305/-

Yellow, Pink and Green coloured tickets are valid on Sundays, Tuesdays and Fridays respectively. Winning tickets are valid for 6 months.

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Tel: 0112 333 546-47
Hotline: 0114 824 824, 0112 333 778 or 1919
SMS: DLB-space-LOT-space-HK & send to 999
For Interactive Voice Response Service - Call 0114 825 825

ADA KOTIPATHI - Thursday

Draw No: 1247 Colour: Dark Blue

Date: 06.04.2021

Today's Jackpot Rs. 126,257,090/-

Winning tickets are valid for 6 months.

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SUPER BALL

Draw Number: 1419 Colour: Light Blue

Draw Date: 06.04.2021 Date: Tuesday

Winning English Letter and Numbers K 25 27 55 75

Total Value of Prizes Rs. 4,746,880/-

The winning tickets will be valid for 6 months.

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ශනිදා Shanida

TUESDAY Draw No.: 3575

Date: 06.04.2021 Colour: LIGHT BLUE

Total Value of Prizes Rs. 5,676,760/-

Winning Numbers 22 28 35 47

English Letter U

Winning tickets are valid only for six months

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ලග්නා Lagna

Date: 06-04-2021 Draw Number: 3126

SUPER JACKPOT Rs. 2,445,074.20

Colour: Red

Winning Numbers 18 29 36 57

Leo

TOTAL VALUE OF PRIZES Rs. 12,220,980/-

Development Lotteries Board
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Tel: 0112 333 546-47 Hotline: 0114 824 824
Result Hotline: 0112 333 778
Interactive Voice Response Number: 011 4 825 825

ADA KOTIPATHI

TUESDAY Date: 06.04.2021

Draw No.: 1245 Colour: LIGHT BLUE

Total Value of Prizes Rs. 6,745,060/-

Winning Numbers 11 44 68 71

English Letter K

Winning tickets are valid only for six months

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DRAW NUMBER : 4449
Prizes won in this draw
Rs. 14,582,140.00
The super prize of next draw
Rs. 14,213,326.00
WINNING LETTER **F** WINNING NUMBERS **9 4 1 5 1 4**

Govisetha
DRAW NUMBER : 2744
TOTAL PRIZE WON IN THIS DRAW
Rs. 7,160,540.00
WINNING LETTER **U** WINNING NUMBERS **02 41 69 73**
THE SUPER PRIZE OF THE NEXT DRAW
Rs. 63,367,133.20

Mega POWER 10
DRAW NUMBER : 809
TOTAL PRIZES WON IN THIS DRAW
Rs. 3,499,920.00
NEXT MEGA SUPER PRIZE
Rs. 127,603,960.40
NEXT POWER SUPER PRIZE
Rs. 10,000,000.00
NEXT GRAND SUPER
Rs. 10,000,000.00
ENGLISH LETTER **M** SUPER NUMBER **06** WINNING NUMBERS **10 58 64 72**

Dhana Nidhanaya
DRAW NUMBER : 486
TOTAL PRIZE WON IN THIS DRAW
Rs. 4,265,920.00
THE SUPER PRIZE OF THE NEXT DRAW
Rs. 91,712,730.80
ENGLISH LETTER **J** WINNING NUMBERS **13 23 46 72**

SUPIRI VASANA
DRAW NUMBER : 1589
TOTAL PRIZE WON IN THIS DRAW
Rs. 3,012,440.00
THE SUPER PRIZE OF THE NEXT DRAW
Rs. 3,187,666.80
SUPER NUMBER **10** WINNING NUMBERS **02 08 30 34**

06.04.2021 - TOTAL PRIZE WINNERS PRODUCED BY NATIONAL LOTTERIES BOARD **795,852**
TOTAL PRIZE MONEY DISTRIBUTED AMONG WINNERS **Rs. 32,520,960.00**
Rs. 2,000,000 PRIZES **02** Rs. 100,000 PRIZES **31**
• All Winning Prizes above Rs. 500,000 are subject to government taxes
• Winner has to submit National ID when receiving Prizes
• All Winning lotteries are valid only for 06 months from Draw Date

ජාතික ලොතරයි මණ්ඩලය
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WITH
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And
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.
2. Full Membership of a recognized professional Chartered Institute, which is relevant to the subject area of the post
AND
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/=)

Nature of appointment: Contract Basic

The ideal Candidates should also:

- Have experience working in a modern trade retail chain operation;
- Have excellent analytical, problem solving and organizing skills with the ability to evaluate, renew, interpret data and should be highly self-motivated individual;
- Possess strong leadership qualities, interpersonal communication skills;
- Be able to demonstrate good IT skills.
- Possess experience developing and implementing a procurement function
- A proven ability to lead and direct multi-disciplinary teams. Experience in proper deployment and efficient management of human and other resources.

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- Should be a citizen of Sri Lanka.
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MASSIVE DEVELOPMENT DRIVE IN PROGRESS

- STATE MINISTER THARAKA BALASURIYA

JAYASIRI MUNASINGHE

Regional Co-operation State Minister Tharaka Balasuriya said that during the period of four years which has passed since the Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna (SLPP) was established, a massive development drive has taken place in the country.

The State Minister made these comments at the Kegalle District Representatives Conference affiliated to the Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna Progressive Trade Union National Centre held at the Kegalle Municipal Hall recently under the theme, *Sinudesa Suraki Siwu Wasara* or the 'four years that secured all four directions.'

This conference was organized by two powerful activist unions of the Commercial Industries and Services Progressive Employees Union affiliated to the Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna, which are the Lake House and Broadcasting Corporation Progressive Employees Unions.

Expressing his views further on this occasion, State Minister Tharaka Balasuriya said: "The most powerful strength of the SLPP is the network of branch associations at village level. In addition to our branch associations, we have organized ourselves with people power which other parties do not possess. Arrangements have been made to set up a large number of organizations affiliated to our party. The founder of our party former Minister Basil Rajapaksa has told us to set up affiliated organizations in a people-friendly manner. Accordingly, trade union representatives' organizations affiliated to various professions have been built up."

"According to advice and guidance provided by former Minister Basil Rohana Rajapaksa we carry out party organization work very well. We work with immense commitment to help realize President Gotabaya Rajapaksa's 'Vistas of Prosperity and splendour policy' framework. The contribution of fearless leader, present Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa who brought an end to the 30-year war, towards making the Government's programmes a success is impossible to describe. Our party which obtained power was able to take the country forward under such great leadership, within such a short period of time. Today certain people are criticizing the Government," he said.

"They are questioning about the environment. However, this country escaped the dangerous situation which prevailed four years ago due to the actions of our party leadership. It was from December 2019 that the country began to move forward with a budget of our own Government under the leadership of President Gotabaya Rajapaksa who won the Presidential Election. We had to face the Covid-19 pandemic which affect-



Political authorities who participated in the Kegalle District Representatives' Conference affiliated to the Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna Progressive Trade Unions National Centre being welcomed. (Pictures by Ranjith Asanka)



State Minister Tharaka Balasuriya and President of the Kegalle District Representatives' Union of Commercial Industries and Services Progressive Trade Unions Federation and President of the Lake House branch, journalist Chandana Bandara addressing the gathering.

ed the entire world. At the same time, various sections collapsed due to the Easter Sunday attacks. Steps are being taken to raise the state of the country and its economy which was in a collapsed state. What happened subsequent to a new Government being established by our party leadership or the biggest achievement obtained was that a federal country, if not a country segregated based on races and religions being established was halted. Also, massive development has taken place in the country. We are working towards winning the challenges posed against our Government by the international community. The leadership of our party had the strength to reject totally, all 11 agreements which were disadvantageous to our country, and not only that, but the allegations targeting our War Heroes, made by the Human Rights Council. Although people are trying to criticize the Government even now, those criticisms are not justified. There is no party in history which achieved power subsequent to much suffering, as this Government. Therefore, I have to say that we are a party which puts the country at number one," the State Minister said.

Kegalle District Parliamentarian and District Development Committee Chairman Rajjika Wickramasinghe said: "People requested our party leadership to provide a secure country.

Accordingly, as soon as President Gotabaya Rajapaksa came to power he secured national security completely. He made plans to make the collapsed economy strong and rebuild it. He explained very well how those things will be done. Under the programme, *Gama Samaga Pilisandarak* (Dialogue with the Village), all people's problems are brought to one place and the solutions to resolve them are planned. That programme is now being implemented. The trust that 6.9 million people placed in President Gotabaya Rajapaksa will not be allowed to be damaged even in a minor way. Even powerful countries of the world became destitute due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The President used in an excellent manner the Tri-Forces, health sectors and all others to minimize the suffering from the Covid-19 hazard. Certain people do not appreciate these things. At the same time, they attempt to mislead the people. With our defeat in 2015, the country moved backwards. But now we have proper, correct leadership. Fallow fields are being cultivated. One hundred thousand kilometres of rural roads are being carpeted. Also, infrastructure facilities are being developed in anticipation of development in every sector. Empty criticism made by some people who do not talk about those things should be ignored. The strength being provided by trade

unions to our Government has to be appreciated," he said.

Chief Organizer for the Mawanela Electorate of the Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna, former Provincial Councillor Indunil Shantha Gunasena said: "If there is a party which showed success within a brief period, it is our party. Establishing this party was not an easy task. Our party was created amidst many obstacles. This was due to the organizational strength of former Minister Basil Rajapaksa. Similarly, we should be stronger under the leadership of the President and the PM."

Amarapala Gamage of the Banks Trade Union Federation affiliated to the Commercial Industries and Services Progressive Trade Unions Federation said: "Prior to establishing the Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna as a party, there was no method for engaging in trade union work. We recall how we went to former President Mahinda Rajapaksa's home in Medamulana in an effort to establish a party under his leadership and set up a Government. The first election our party faced was the Local Government elections. We achieved an excellent victory. We implemented a process with immense commitment to obtain more and more postal votes. It proved successful. Accordingly, we worked through a successful empowerment of trade unions targeting postal votes at the Presidential Election too. Accordingly, the presidential candidate from our party won. We worked day and night with great commitment not considering how much of an effort we put in. Now, just because our Government is in power there is no way we can spend time idling. Our trade union sector should work with further commitment to defeat international forces and local conspiracies. With that objective in mind, under the guidance of former minister Basil Rajapaksa we arranged to hold trade union representatives' conferences at district level. When President Mahinda Rajapaksa was defeated and was at the Medamulana house all forces gathered together and worked to establish a Government

under his leadership. Steps were taken to hold the 'Mahinda Sulanga' massive rally which commenced from Nugegoda to the huge walk from Kandy to Colombo."

Commercial Industries and Services Progressive Federation Trade Unions affairs Secretary of the, Sudath Abeywardena said: "We did not take into consideration the various pressures from the 2015 Government and made arrangements to establish a new party. Then they harassed us in many ways. They obstructed us. They deprived us of our jobs. We suffered all those hardships and created a new party. That was with the objective of setting up a Government that cared about the country. Today a Government of ours has been set up. Our ministers and heads of institutions have been appointed. The trade union sector is contributing towards protecting the Government."

President of the Kegalle District Representatives' Union of Commercial Industries and Services Progressive Trade Unions Federation and President of the Lake House branch, journalist Chandana Bandara said: "It is next to impossible to describe the assistance we received from the political leadership when organizing this Kegalle District Trade Union Representatives' Conference. At the same time, we have to appreciate the encouragement we received from our representatives. At this moment, we appreciate the assistance provided by Kegalle District Political Leader State Minister Kanaka Herath and State Minister Tharaka Balasuriya as well as Member of Parliament Rajjika Wickramasinghe and the organizers of our party from every electorate in the Kegalle District. It is my responsibility to welcome everyone who has joined on this occasion. Our party is a party which came forward amidst much distress and trouble. We have to engage in a massive struggle in winning the country and its people while protecting our party. During this instance, as Trade Union representatives, we have to move forward amid all challenges while overcoming them. Our respect goes out to everyone who is gathered here today."

Representative of the Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation Employees Union of the Commercial Industries and Services Progressive Trade Unions Federation and representative of the Mass Media Ministry Susantha Karunasinghe delivered the vote of thanks.

Former Provincial Councillor Ajith Shaminda, Kegalle Pradeshiya Sabha (PS) Chairman Jagath Jayasinghe, Warakapola PS Chairman Sarath Sumanasuriya, Aranayake PS Opposition Leader W. Jayaratne and many other people's representatives participated.

EU on track for late summer 'community immunity'

BELGIUM: The European Commission believes Europe is on track to achieve "community immunity" to COVID-19 by late summer thanks to speeded-up vaccination dose deliveries, a spokesman said Tuesday.

The EU should meet its mid-September target of fully inoculating most of its adult population, given that deliveries over the next three months should be more than triple those of the first quarter, Stefan de Keersmaecker told journalists.

"We believe that, on the basis of this, we will have enough doses of the vaccine to reach our very important target of about 70 percent of the adult population," he said.

"That would leave us in a situation where we have sufficient community immunity to fight the virus."

He confirmed commission figures showing that first quarter vaccine deliveries to the 27-nation bloc amounted to 107 million doses - far below what was expected.

But there should be "about 300 to 360 million doses" supplied between now and the end of June. The EU has a total population of 450 million, of which 365 million are adults.

To reach the 70 percent adult population target, 255 million people would need to be fully vaccinated - meaning two jabs in most cases, or just one jab with the Janssen vaccine produced by Johnson & Johnson.

According to a confidential document used by EU diplomats to monitor vaccine deliveries, seen by AFP, 23 of the 27 member states should have vaccinated more than half of their populations based on total deliveries in the first half of this year. - AFP

DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA

ISSUE OF RS. 40,000 MILLION TREASURY BONDS

Rs. 25,000 million Treasury Bonds under the series of 09.00% 2023 'A' and Rs. 15,000 million Treasury Bonds under the series of 09.00% 2028 'A' are to be issued through an auction on April 09, 2021.

The details of these Treasury Bonds are as follows:

Series	09.00% 2023 'A'	09.00% 2028 'A'
ISIN*	LKB011231017	LKB01628G019
Amount offered	Rs. 25,000 million	Rs. 15,000 million
Maximum yield rate for acceptance(%)**	6.30	7.70
Coupon rate	09.00% per annum	09.00% per annum
Date of issue	01 September 2012	01 July 2012
Date of maturity	01 September 2023	01 July 2028
Dates of coupon payment	01 March & 01 September	01 January & 01 July
Accrued Interest amount	Rs. 1,1005 per Rs. 100.00	Rs. 2,5856 per Rs. 100.00
Date of Auction	Friday, 09 April 2021	
Closing date and time of bid submission	Friday, 09 April 2021 at 11.00 a.m.	
Date of settlement	15 April 2021	
Minimum amount of bid	Rupees five million (Rs. 5,000,000/-) and multiples of Rupees one million (Rs. 1,000,000/-) there onwards.	

Bids are invited from the Primary Dealers in Treasury Bonds on the basis of clean prices (exclusive of accrued interest from the date of last coupon payment to the date of settlement). Bids should be made only through the electronic bidding facility provided by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka (CBSL).

With respect to each Series/ ISIN, CBSL may accept any amount not exceeding the amount offered depending on the market conditions.

The general public is invited to purchase Treasury Bonds from the following Primary Dealers and any other Licensed Commercial Banks

Acuity Securities Ltd.	2206297	NSB Fund Management Co. Ltd.	2425010
Bank of Ceylon	2541938	People's Bank	2206783
Capital Alliance Ltd.	2317777	Sampath Bank PLC	2305842
Commercial Bank of Ceylon PLC	2332319	Seylan Bank PLC	2456340
First Capital Treasuries Ltd	2639883	Wealth Trust Securities Ltd	2675096

*International Securities Identification Number
 **The rates specified may be subject to adjustment in the event of policy decisions and publicized accordingly in the CBSL web advertisement.

M.Z.M. Aazim
 Superintendent / Registrar of Public Debt
 Public Debt Department
 Central Bank of Sri Lanka
 30, Janadhipathi Mawatha, Colombo 1.
 Telephone: 2477011 Fax: 2477687
 Web: www.cbsl.gov.lk



NAMAL UYANA MARKS 30TH ANNIVERSARY

Naa saplings were planted at the National Namal Uyana recently, based on the theme, 'husmak hitawamu' or 'let us plant a breath,' to mark the 30th anniversary of the National Namal Uyana.

Only children from Dhamma schools and preschools were

allowed to participate in this event together with devotees from various parts of the island due to prevailing health restrictions.

This event was held under the

patronage of Ven. Wanawasi Rahu-la Thera and Dambulla Anakatawa Vivekarama Chief Incumbent Panditha Agobowe Aggadhamma Thera also participated.



Jayasuriya Chief Guest at 42nd Observer School Cricketers of the Year Awards Show

DINESH WEERAWANSA

Former top award winner and the highest scorer for Sri Lanka in the recent veterans World Cup final, Sanath Jayasuriya will be the Chief Guest at the 42nd Observer School Cricketers of the Year awards show to be held at the BMICH, Colombo 7 on April 20 commencing at 5.30 p.m.

The long postponed event on a couple of occasions due to the Covid-19 pandemic will finally be a reality. But this time, the health authorities have given a firm guarantee to host the event, in keeping with strict guidelines.

It is with those fresh memories that the 42nd edition of the Observer School Cricketers of the Year will be held giving new hopes for the Sri Lanka sports community.

Fresh memories of Sri Lanka's World Cup 1996 triumph - exactly after 25 years, came to surface at the recently concluded World Cup Legends final. Jayasuriya, who was adjudged the Most Valuable Player of the Tournament in 1996 World Cup, once again showed that he still had some talent left cracking a blistering 43 off 35 balls in the Legends World Cup final.

Sri Lanka lost by a mere 14 runs. But if Jayasuriya or Tillakaratne Dilshan had faced less than one more over, the Lankans would have painted a different picture.

Batting first, India Legends, led by Sachin Tendulkar made 181 for 4 in their allotted 20 overs with Yusuf Pathan (62 not out) and Yuvaraj Singh (60) scoring half centuries in the final played at Shaheed Veer Narayan Singh International Stadium, Raipur.

In reply, Sri Lanka went down gallantly, scoring 167 for 7 in 20 overs with Jayasuriya top scoring with 43. Despite undergoing three operations including two knee surgeries and putting a stent for his heart element, Jayasuriya showed that he still has his old magical touch.

It is with this most recent form that Jayasuriya will grace the Observer Mobitel School Cricketers of the Year on April 20.

The only schools cricket awards show until the last couple of decades, the Observer-Mobitel School Cricketers of the Year mega show is now considered the Mother of all school cricket award shows in its 43rd years.

What is unique in the show is that it had developed a new culture by recognizing the raw talent, at a time when there had not been any organized tournament for First XI cricket.

When none of the other competitive school cricket awards shows which had begun lately had failed to commend the performance of schools last season, only the Sunday Observer is able to host its 42nd awards show. This proves the commitment and dedication of the Sunday Observer and Sri Lanka Telecom Mobitel to honour the school cricketers when it matters the most.

When all other sponsors of rival school



Sanath Jayasuriya

cricket shows failed to honour their commitments due to the Covid-19 pandemic last year, SLT Mobitel is standing tall to host the Observer SLT Mobitel School Cricketers of the Year uninterrupted, thereby supporting the country's sporty young generation. A big thank you is owed to Sri Lanka Telecom Chairman Rohan Fernando, who is also the Chairman of SLT Mobitel.

Former Sri Lanka captain Jayasuriya last graced the Observer SLT Mobitel School Cricketers of the Year show eight years ago in 2013 as the chief guest. Prior to blossoming as an aggressive all-rounder, he began his cricketing career as a schoolboy at St. Servatius' College, Matara and won the Observer Schoolboy Cricketer of the Year Outstation in 1988.

Jayasuriya who later went on to captain Sri Lanka with distinction, says that the inspiration and encouragement he got after receiving the top award was immense. Recalling the most cherished moment as a schoolboy cricketer, Jayasuriya said it gave him a great feeling, being rewarded at the conclusion of a strenuous inter-school cricket season. "Unlike today, there were hardly any such shows to reward the outstanding schoolboy cricketers," Jayasuriya said.

He recalled his proud moment and thanked the Principal of his school, G. L. Galappathy and coach Lionel Munasinghe who had been instrumental in nurturing his school career as a youngster.

Jayasuriya's outstanding contribution for St. Servatius with the willow earned that top award - a dream of any schoolboy cricketer.

In the very next year after winning the Observer Schoolboy Cricketer of the Year crown, Jayasuriya made his ODI debut for Sri

Lanka against Australia in Melbourne - on December 26, 1989.

Ever since then, he became a vital ingredient in the Sri Lanka team's successful recipe until he retired from ODIs on June 28, 2011. By then, he had aggregated 13,480 runs in 445 ODI matches, cracking 28 centuries and 68 fifties. He had also captured 323 wickets in ODIs.

Jayasuriya's contribution was not only confined to ODIs. Though he was branded a limited over cricketer during the early part of his career, he has proved his credentials in the established game beyond reasonable doubts. Jayasuriya's career best 340 against India became the highest individual innings by a Sri Lanka batsman in Tests at the time.

He has a rich aggregate of 6,973 runs in 110 Tests inclusive of 14 centuries and 31 fifties at an attractive average of 40.07. His all-round qualities as a Test player include 98 wickets and 78 catches.

Jayasuriya said the young schoolboy cricketers should be focused on the game so that success would come their way if they play their heart out. Jayasuriya who had later become the Chairman of Selectors, feels that a good cricketer must devote a lot of time to become a successful player.

Jayasuriya said he never thought he would go this far and achieve such success for Sri Lanka cricket when he began his career. Apart from the loads of trophies that had been added to his rich collection after the Observer Schoolboy Cricketer of the Year trophy, Jayasuriya was adjudged the Most Valuable Player of the Series when Sri Lanka won the World Cup in 1996 under another proud recipient of the Observer Schoolboy Cricketer of the Year title, Arjuna Ranatunga.

Jayasuriya said that the Sunday Observer and its publisher Lake House has done yeoman service to the young cricketers and promotion of the game in conducting the mega awards show since 1979. "It is a fine gesture on the part of Lake House and the Sunday Observer to host the show uninterrupted so that the young boys across the country will have something to look forward to when they end their school career," he observed.

He said the Observer SLT Mobitel School Cricketers of the Year would take outstanding young players closer to the Sri Lanka 'cap'.

"When I won the Observer Schoolboy Cricketer of the Year outstation title, I thought I should stand a greater chance of playing for Sri Lanka, if I continue to focus on the game with dedication and devotion. It inspired me to go places. Once you win this coveted title,



Flashback: Observer Schoolboy Cricketer of the Year (Outstation) 1988, Sanath Jayasuriya of St. Servatius' College, Matara receives the prestigious Award from the late Mrs Malini Bodinagoda, wife of then ANCL Chairman Ranapala Bodinagoda. Looking on at centre is the late compere Laddie Hettiarachchi

all you need is commitment and dedication to find a place in the Sri Lanka team," Jayasuriya recalled.

He said the country's school cricket structure, once considered to be the best in the world, needs a complete overhaul to meet today's challenges.

Jayasuriya said the Sri Lanka Schools Cricket Association (SLSCA) and Sri Lanka Cricket (SLC) should make a joint effort to uplift the standard of local school cricket while adding that the Under-19 tournament structure of the SLSCA should be reviewed to focus more on producing quality cricketers to the national pool.

"We only had 12 First XI inter-school matches at that time. But some schools play over 20 inter-school matches in each season, including their third term matches. That's too much. Scoring 1,000 runs in 20 to 24 matches is not a big deal, compared to the 10 to 12 matches most schools played in the past," he said.

"The present schools tournament structure has a good and bad mixture. It has given an opportunity to some top school teams in the outstations to play against the leading Colombo schools. That's a positive sign. But at the same time, I have some concern about the competitiveness and standard of cricket that is dished out in some matches," he said.

"We see too much school cricket now. There are too many matches for a team to honour during a season. That does not sound good for the game. The SLSCA has a big responsibility and a bigger role to play to further improve our school cricket standards," Jayasuriya said.

"The standard of our school cricket has dropped. But it has not improved from the level it was, compared to other teams in the

world. It has stagnated, instead of going further up from the point we were. We must pay serious attention to that," he added.

"About two to three decades back, our country's school cricket structure was considered to be the best in the world. For example, India was far below us then. But now, India has a good under-19 structure which is capable of feeding the youth and Indian national team. A couple of other Test nations have made vast improvements in their youth teams. We must also change our strategies and restructure our tournament to meet the future challenges," Jayasuriya said.

Paying a glowing tribute to the Sunday Observer and Lake House for conducting the country's first-ever school cricket awards show for four decades, Jayasuriya said every schoolboy who wins the prestigious Schoolboy Cricketer of the Year award stands a good chance of representing the country, if they continue the game with dedication.

The 51-year-old dashing opener, who introduced the art of pinch-hitting during the 1996 World Cup tournament and underlined his supremacy as one of the best batsmen in world cricket, has proved his class in both the Tests and ODIs.

Sri Lanka's national mobile service provider, Sri Lanka Telecom Mobitel continues to provide that 'smart connection' to the Observer Schoolboy Cricketer of the Year contest for the 14th successive year.

Thanks to the longstanding association of the Sri Lanka Schools Cricket Association (SLSCA), the Sri Lanka Cricket Umpires and Scorers Association and Sri Lanka Cricket (SLC), headed by Shammie Silva, the Observer-Mobitel School Cricketers of the Year contest has gone from strength to strength.

Tom Ossen led Sri Lanka in first ever football tour of Far East

Tom Ossen, a product of Dharmaraja College, led the Sri Lanka Football Team in the first ever tour of the Far East in 1958.

During that period, Ossen was attached to the Kandy Municipal Council as Playgrounds Instructor and played football for Young Stars SC and Kandy League.

Though he is no more, his service for football is remembered. In 1958 when the Sri Lanka Football Team toured the Far East, Ossen was invited to lead the country.

Later, he was the coach of the Peradeniya University, Kandy Association Football League and a top grade FIFA referee. He handled the whistle in many games at club and international level.

The first ever tour took place in 1958, where a 20-member team left on a six-week tour of China via Rangoon.



HAFIZ MARIKAR

This tour was organised by the Chinese Embassy in Sri Lanka. Ossen who had been playing for the country from 1952, was a top class player.

Before this tour, Ossen led the Sri Lanka Team against Madras. At that time football matches were played against Indian Teams like Madras, Mysore, Hyderabad, Delhi etc.

On this tour of Far East, Ossen's Deputy was Andrew Fernando, who was just a year junior to Ossen at National level.

In the previous year, in 1957 Fernando had helped the Lankan team to beat Burma together with another Kandy product T. O. M. Deen.

These two players netted

a goal each to give the country a 2-0 victory.

M. M. Hashimdeen of Victory FC and Ben Ferreira of Southern SC, Galle were the two goal-keepers.

Hashimdeen, then known as the 'Prince of goal keepers' had thrilled the spectators, at home and overseas with his superb job between the post.

The full backs were Christopher Ranasinghe, Bagoos Saldin and E. P. Solomon. In fact, Ransinghe, played for Sandhurst and the Army Southern Command.

He was a fine fullback with powerful kicks. Saldin, who played for Old Joes SC was a crack full back and Solomon who played for Saunders FC, was the best left-back at that time.

Besides Ossen, the other halves were M. P. B. Dissanayake, K. A. Premadasa, Eric Perera and M. A. Karunarthne.

The latter was known as the most scientific and stylish half-back in Sri Lanka and in Asia. Dissanayake played for All-In-One SC and then Perera of Saunders FC was another fine player.

The forwards were right-extreme T. S. Jaymon, the third product of Kandy in the team, came from Kingwood College Kandy, who played for CR and FC.

The left-extreme was B. Ariyadasa of Saunders FC, who was also well known for his hard work. K. D. Soapal of Kotehena was tight inside and T. O. M. Deen was the centre forward.

Left-inside place was occupied by Policeman L. Bernadus (Jr) from St. Benedict's College and he also played for Rowland's SC. The team was under the watchful eyes of D. S. Abraham and this was the 20 which was on the historic tour.

Stadium SC clinch Oxford Challenge Trophy

B. M. MUKTHAR, Beruwela Special Corr

Chinafort, Stadium SC won the four overs cricket tournament played for the Oxford Challenge Trophy at the Chinafort Naleem Hajiyar Stadium recently.

In the final, Titans SC scored 25 runs while Stadium SC scored 26 for no loss in two overs.

M. Ihsaan of Stadium SC was selected Man-of-the-Match while Mohamed Bilal of the same team was selected Man-of-the-Series.



Stadium SC celebrate with the trophy. Pic by Beruwela Special Corr

Olympic Solidarity Advanced Sport Management Course concludes successfully



The award winners of the Olympic Solidarity Advanced Sport Management Course with officials

Nineteen young Men and Women were feted at the awards ceremony of the Olympic Solidarity Advanced Sport Management Course 2019/20 held at the National Olympic Committee (NOC) Auditorium on Tuesday.

All those participants who successfully completed the course received their awards at this function. NOC Programme Director B. L. H. Perera explaining the concept of the course said: "The Advanced Sport Management Programme was conducted by the NOC could be seen in different perspectives."

"First you could put it as the responsibility of the NOC, because their mission clearly explains that we are bound to protect and develop Olympism."

"In that context, the Advanced Sport Management Programme is a very timely developed and conducted by the International Olympic Solidarity Movement where the NOCs could benefit out of this course to train senior level managers to conduct sports organizations."

Meanwhile, Secretary General of the NOC Maxwell de Silva delved into the importance of the course and said: "I am extremely happy for being able to conduct and successfully complete this programme in spite of the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic and actually by doing so we in reality were able to raise the bar of the importance of Olympism."

Chief Guest of the ceremony was Professor R. M. U. S. K. Rathnay-

ake, Vice Chancellor of Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka and Anuradha Wijekoon, Secretary to the Ministry of Youth and Sports graced the occasion as the Guest of honour.

The recipients of the awards: Lieutenant Commander D. M. J. N. Pithu, Abdellah Yusuf, H. Gehan M. Dias, Reshmin Amarasinghe, Senaka Ranasingha, Irangani Rupasinghe, D. S. Vitharana, Devni Madurapperuma, Iroshika Namasingha, J. A. S. D. Bandara, Lakna Hewawaravita, M. G. G. H. Laksara, M. T. P. L. Perera, Udeshika Dantaratana, V. N. Rajapaksa, Sqn. Ldr. Lilangi Randeni, Wing Commander M. R. M. Hamza, P. M. K. Jayawardena and Hithaishi Jayawardena (AN)

Gaja Sports to back Track Masters netball

Gaja Sports made another magnanimous sporting gesture by sponsoring the playing kits of the Track Masters Netball Team which is competing in the Super League Netball Tournament which began in Ratnapura yesterday.

Gaja one of the prominent sports promoting establishment in the country has made several key contributions in developing the sports locally and internationally.

This current sponsorship was another venture, by stepping on board to support the game of netball.



Lakmini Gunsekere, Secretary Track Masters Netball Team (third from left), receiving the official jersey from Gayath Jaysinghe, CEO, Gaja Sports. Also in the picture are (from left): Naramada Wijeratne (Captain), Oneli Bambaranda, Yasmin Dharmaratne (President Track Masters Netball Club) Basil Silva and Utpali Balalle (Gaja Sports)

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WORLD OF SPORTS

(APRIL 8) LOCAL EVENTS NETBALL:

Super League Tournament in Ratnapura

CRICKET

(Inter-Schools U-19 Tournament): St. Joseph's vs St. Benedict's at Darley Road Mahinda vs St. Peter's at Galle

TENNIS

Clay Court Nationals at SLTA Courts, Green Path

FOREIGN EVENTS CRICKET

(County Championship): Essex vs Worcestershire at Chelmsford Nottinghamshire vs Durham at Nottingham Warwickshire vs Derbyshire at Birmingham Gloucestershire vs Surrey at Bristol Leicestershire vs Hampshire at Leicester Middlesex vs Somerset at Lord's Lancashire vs Sussex at Manchester Northamptonshire vs Kent at Northampton Yorkshire vs Glamorgan at Leeds (Australian One-Day Cup): Victoria vs South Australia at Melbourne Western Australia vs Tasmania at Perth

TENNIS

(WTA, Outdoor, Clay): Volvo Car Open at Volvo Tennis Centre, USA

CYCLING

(UCI World Tour): Itzulia Basque Country in Spain

FOOTBALL

(Europa League quarter-finals): Ajax vs Roma Arsenal vs Slavia Prague Dinamo Zagreb vs Villarreal Granada vs Manchester United (Women's International Friendly): Japan vs Paraguay India vs Belarus Belgium vs Norway Republic of Ireland vs Denmark

GOLF

(Majors, Stroke Play): The Masters at the Augusta National Golf Club

SLC Management Committee to focus on accounts, legal matters - Arjuna de Silva

DHAMMIKA RATNAWEERA

Newly appointed Chairman of Sri Lanka Cricket (SLC) Management Committee Professor Arjuna de Silva said that they would focus on SLC accounts and legal matters during their term of office.

“We have to work for nearly six weeks as the Management Committee of SLC and we will especially focus on SLC accounts and legal matters, especially the signing of

contracts and other matters with transparency,” he said.

“During this short period, the signing of the player contract is a very important area to look at and the next assignment is the Bangladesh Test series in Pallekele which will be conducted in a biological-bubble similar to the Lanka Premier League and the England Test series.”

“The Ministry of Health and Sri Lanka Army will assist to maintain this bubble as earlier, and the Sports Medical Doctor will always be with the team as in the earlier tours,” he

stressed. Professor de Silva further said that for the first time a permanent doctor from the Health Ministry, Dr. Dhanushka Devapriya will be appointed to work with the team for a two-year period.

He also said the match between the Sri Lanka Legends Team and the current Sri Lanka Team will most probably be played on May 4 at the Pallekele Stadium.

“We are hoping to invite more players from the 1996 World Cup winning team and few more National players and

youngsters to get involved in this game,” he added.

Meanwhile, SLC Technical Advisory Committee Chairman Aravinda de Silva explained how they would organise the new domestic cricket structure.

“We are keen to reorganise the First-Class cricket structure in the country. We need to really focus on a couple of areas with this matter,” he explained.

“We are looking at the infrastructure and especially the human resources of the posts and we have to use the right person for the right areas,” added de Silva.



Chairman SLC Management Committee Prof Arjuna de Silva (third from left), stressing a point to the media. Also in the picture are (from left): Uchitha Wickramasinghe (Secretary), Ashley de Silva (CEO, SLC) and Aravinda de Silva (Chairman SLC Technical Advisory Committee) Pic courtesy SLC

Army edge past SSC to reach SLC L/O SEMI-FINALS

CHRIS DHAMBARAGE

Army CC continued their outstanding form with another splendid performance as they edged out the favourites SSC by 17 runs in the SLC Major Club Limited Over Cricket Tournament quarter-final encounter worked off at the P. Sara Oval in Colombo yesterday.

After they were restricted to 198 runs in 48.2 overs, Army CC fought back mag-

nificantly to dismiss their opponents for 181 with Suminda Lakshan (3/30), Asela Gunaratna (3/46) and Seekkuge Prasanna (2/38) causing the damage.

Meanwhile, Ragama CC upset Tamil Union by six wickets while Badureliya CC beat Moors SC by seven wickets and NCC outplayed Navy SC by 167 runs in the other quarter-finals.

Chief scores

● **At Colts Grounds** (NCC won by 167 runs) NCC: 337/9 in 50 overs (Kamil Mishara 107, Angelo Perera 94, Kaveen Bandara 46, Dineth Jayakody 35, Chathuranga de Silva 25, Poorna Charuka 4/47, Dilanka AWARD 2/53)

● **Navy SC:** 170 in 46 overs (Johanne De Zilva 44, Aravinda Akurugoda 29, Chamika Karunaratna 2/23).

● **At De Soysa Stadium**

um (Badureliya CC won by seven wickets)

Moors SC: 154 in 41.3 overs (Jeevan Mendis 38, Mohammed Shamaaz 31, Dinuka Dilshan 24, Kavindu Kulasekara 21, Thilakarathna Sampath 4/26, Nimanda Madushanka 2/20, Alankara Asanka 2/30)

Badureliya CC: 157/3

in 25.5 overs (Sandun Weerakkody 70, Milinda Siriwardena 34 n.o., Dunith Jayathunga 20, Sachithra Serasingha 3/57).

● **At P. Sara Oval** (Army CC won by 17 runs)

Army CC: 198 in 48.2 overs (Dushan Vimukthi 55 n.o., Suminda Lakshan 41, Thisara Perera 32, Asela Gunaratna 22, Prabhath Jayasuriya 3/32, Lakshitha Manasingha 2/20)

SSC: 181 in 47.1 overs (Himesh Ramanayake 54, Krishan Sanjula 33, Avishka Fernando 32, Suminda

Lakshan 3/30, Asela Gunaratna 3/46, Seekkuge Prasanna 2/38).

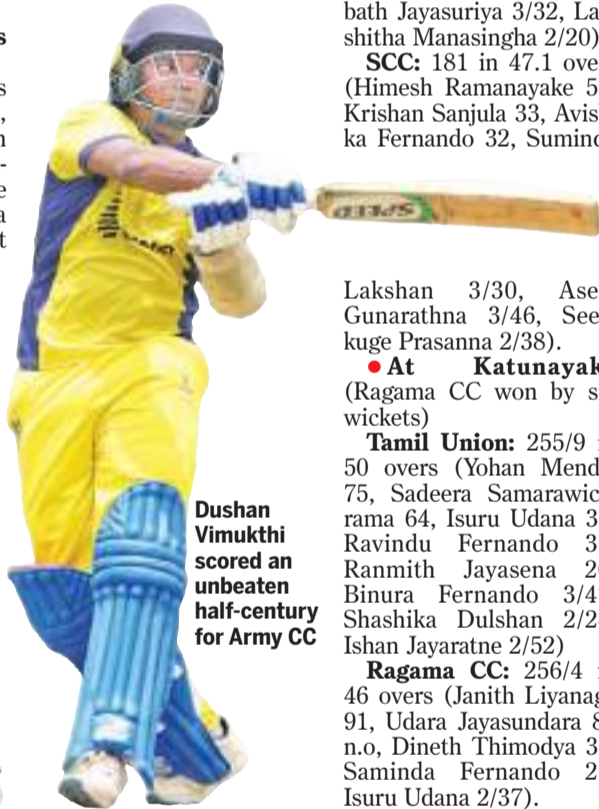
● **At Katunayake** (Ragama CC won by six wickets)

Tamil Union: 255/9 in 50 overs (Yohan Mendis 75, Sadeera Samarawickrama 64, Isuru Udara 33, Ravindu Fernando 31, Ramnith Jayasena 20, Binura Fernando 3/47, Shashika Dulshan 2/24, Ishan Jayaratne 2/52)

Ragama CC: 256/4 in 46 overs (Janith Liyanage 91, Udara Jayasundara 86 n.o., Dineth Thimodya 33, Saminda Fernando 21, Isuru Udara 2/37).



Kamil Mishara scored 107 for NCC Pic courtesy SLC



Dushan Vimukthi scored an unbeaten half-century for Army CC

TRINITY down Gurukula at Asgiriya

HAFIZ MARIKAR

Trinity College defeated Gurukula College, Kelaniya by 59 runs in their Inter-Schools Under-19 Limited Over Cricket Tournament match played at the Asgiriya Stadium in Kandy yesterday.

Trinity amassed 243

runs in 49.2 overs and then dismissed their opponents for 184 runs in 40 overs with Shenuka Illukkumbura (3/33) and Umair Raizan (2/31) sharing the wickets.

Chief scores

Trinity: 243 in 49.2 overs (Umair Raizan 71,

Ranuda Somarathne 52, Vibhawith Ehelepolra 27, Abhishek Anandakumar 24, Pawan Pathiraja 22, Kemira Nayanatharu 2/32)

Gurukula: 184 in 40 overs (Sithija Chamod 82, Kemira Nayanatharu 38, Shenuka Illukkumbura 3/33, Umair Raizan 2/31).

AUSTRALIA claim ODI series win over NZ

Australia extended their One-Day International (ODI) winning streak to 23 matches with a 71-run win over New Zealand to clinch the three-match series with a game to spare.

Set 272 for victory, New Zealand were bowled out for 200, left-arm spinner Jess Jonassen taking three for 29.

Amelia Kerr top scored for the hosts with 47 in Tauranga but they lost seven for 80 after Kerr fell to Jonassen.

Australia had posted 271 for seven from their 50 overs, built on Rachael Haynes' 87. It is an 18th consecutive bilateral ODI series victory for Australia's women.

They have not lost a one-day series since they were beaten by England in 2013 and they have not



Rachael Haynes plays a shot

lost a series to New Zealand since 1999.

Australia underperformed with the bat, despite 87 from Haynes, as off-spinner Leigh Kasper took a career-best six for 46.

However, the White Ferns were reduced to seven for two after just nine balls and struggled

against Australia's accurate bowling. The final match of the series takes place in Tauranga on Saturday.

Chief scores Australia: 271/7 in 50 overs (Haynes 87, Laning 49, Kasper 6/46)

New Zealand: 200 in 45 overs (A. Kerr 47, Jonassen 3/29). (BBC)

ISIPATHANA thrash Ananda to reach U-19 quarters

DHAMMIKA RATNAWEERA

Leg-spinner Sithuka Gunawardena had fine figures of five for 15 as Isipathana College defeated Ananda College by 10 wickets in their Inter-Schools Under-19 Limited Over Cricket Tournament match played at the BRC Grounds yesterday.

The Anandinas were bowled out for 66 in 31.4 overs and Isipathana reached the target in 9/1 overs. This was Isipathana's fifth successive victory and they qualified for the quarter-finals with an unbeaten record.

Chief scores

● **At BRC Grounds** (Isipathana won by 10 wickets) Ananda: 66 in 31.4 overs (Sithuka Gunawardena 5/15)

Isipathana: 68/0 in 9.1 overs (Tharush Netsara 38 n.o.)

● **At Gampaha** (Sri Dharmaloka won by six wickets) Vidyarthi: 78 in 23.1 overs (Kavindu Malshan 4/17, Pahan Shanuka 3/7)

Sri Dharmaloka: 80/4 in 17.5 overs.

● **At Galle** (St. Peter's, Bambalapitiya won by six wickets)

Mahinda: 230 in 48 overs (Navod Paranavithana 91, Jeruran Benjamin 4/41)

St. Peter's: 236/4 in 45.1 overs (Shanuka Galagoda 63, Shenal Botheju 41, Lahiru Chetaka 36 n.o., Wanjula Kumara 57 n.o.)

● **At Reid Avenue** (Royal won by 64 runs)

Royal: 319/7 in 50 overs (Sineth Jayawardena 49, Ahan Wickramasinghe 70, Resandu Thillekaratne 42 n.o., Kavindu Pathirathne 30, Imesh Adeesha 3/62)

D. S. Senanayake: 255 in 48.4 overs (Abhishek Liyanarachchi 107, Maneendra Jayathilleka 68, Dan Poddiewela 4/37).

● **At Galle** (Thurstan won by parabola method)

Thurstan: 237/6 in 50 overs (Dananja Silva 100, Ruvintha Dilshan 34, Bawantha Jayasinghe 64)

St. Aloysius', Galle: 143/5 in 43 overs (target 224 in 43 overs) (Bashana de Silva 52 n.o., Ranga Rasanka 3/43).



Sithuka Gunawardena (Isipathana)

● **At Kandana** (De Mazenod won by 29 runs) De Mazenod: 269/9 in 50 overs (Lester Jayaweera 100, Salinda Pathirana 44, Denuwan Mendis 3/47)

Wesley: 232 in 45.5 overs (Rakith Fernando 39 n.o.)

● **At Wattala** (St. Anthony's, Wattala won by two wickets)

St. Sylvester's: 261/9 in 50 overs (Nimsa Deshan 67 n.o., Maleesha Silva 56, Romesh Suranga 4/39)

St. Anthony's: 262/8 in 50 overs (Gihan Sathmika 64).

Nilani Ratnayake shines at Athletic Trials

Nilani Ratnayake won the Women's 3000m steeplechase event at the National Athletic Trials, which commenced at the Sugathadasa Stadium in Colombo yesterday.

Ratnayake representing Sri Lanka Army won this event in nine minutes 57.81s while A. N. L. Ariyadasa of Air Force was second with 11 minutes and 4.52s and the third place was won by W. N. H. Kumari of Navy with a time of 11 minutes 15.99s.

Meanwhile, Gayanthika

Abeyratne won the Women's 1,500m in four minutes 24.06s.

K. Shanmugeswaran of Army won the Men's 10,000m event with a time of 31 minutes 29.31s while R. M. S. Pushpakumara of Army won the Men's 3,000m steeplechase event in eight minutes 59.51s.

Hirusha Eshan of Sri Lanka Schools performed well to win the junior Men's long jump event with a distance of 7.51m.

Anjani Pulwansa once again won the Women's long jump

event with a distance of 6.26m while E. M. S. Upeksha was second with 5.8m and the third place was won by Nethmi Meghawarna with 5.74m.

Sri Lanka sprinter Himasha Eshan won the Men's 100m with 10.58s while Amasha de Silva won the Women's 100m final with a time of 11.79s.

Dilshi Kumarasinghe won the Women's 400m final with a time of 53.43s while the Men's 400m final was won by Kalin-ga Kumarage with a time of 45.99s. (D.R)



Nilani Ratnayake

Fakhar Zaman hits second successive century



Fakhar Zaman plays a shot

CENTURION, Fakhar Zaman

hit his second successive century and Captain Babar Azam scored 94 as Pakistan made 320 for seven in the series-deciding third and final One-Day International (ODI) against South Africa at SuperSport Park in Centurion yesterday.

Fakhar again scored rapidly, although he fell short of repeating the carnage he inflicted on the South African bowlers in the second match in Johannesburg on Sunday, falling for 101 off 104 balls.

It took a late assault by Babar and tailender Hasan Ali to take Pakistan's total beyond Babar's pre-match target of 300. The pair added 63 off the last four overs before Babar was caught on the deep point boundary to fall six runs short of his second century of the series.

Babar faced 82 balls, while Hasan thrashed an unbeaten 32 off 11 balls, hitting four sixes off left-arm spinner Jon-Jon Smuts in the 49th over.

Fakhar and Imam-ul-Haq (57) laid a solid foundation

with an opening partnership of 112 after Pakistan were sent in on a cloudy day.

Fakhar's 99-ball century was his effort in a losing cause in Johannesburg, where he unleashed a furious assault, needing only another 48 balls to take his score to 193.

Chief scores Pakistan: 320/7 in 50 overs (Imam-ul Haq 57, Fakhar Zaman 101, Babar Azam 94, Hasan Ali 32 n.o., A. Markram 2/48, K. Maharaj 3/45) vs South Africa.

Daily News Business

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South Asia's first Disneyland to come up in Bopita Leisure Park

USD 400 mn to be raised for project

SHIRAJIV SIRIMANE

Sri Lanka will build South Asia's first Disneyland in the proposed Bopitiya leisure Park which will be created by Korea Cavitation Co. a company with Investments from Malaysia and Korea. President of Korea Cavitation Co. Baekgeum Kim and the representative of Sri Lanka Dr. Parimala Rajo Isa Michael said that they are negotiating with the government to obtain a 150 acre land on a lease basis for this project.



Chairman, KCI Metrolink (SL) Dr. P. R. I. Michael

"We hope to raise around USD 400 million to construct this project through international funding mainly

from Korea and Malaysia and we had successes in obtaining around 30% from this prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. With the Sri Lankan improving of C-19 health management, decreasing number of patients and the vaccinating process happening we see bigger opportunities to attract more investors to this project even from other countries like India.

He said the proposed park will be similar to Genting Highlands in Malaysia and

they also hope to have a special rail link to it. "In addition we will have several other leisure attractions attached to it.

When the C-19 pandemic settles we see demand especially from India and other neighboring countries since this will be the only Disneyland operating in the region.

In a bid to accommodate travelers we will also have a 300 room hotel which we will lease out to an international operator to manage. "Our company, based in



Disneyland

Sri Lanka, is a firm that specializes in structuring Turn-Key projects and mega projects including a range of PPP models in emerging countries with focus on Asia Pacific. We

will use the technical know-how and equipment from our well-established South Korean and Malaysian companies with the most cutting edge technologies for the park."



CBL GROUP NAMED SRI LANKA'S BEST CORPORATE CITIZEN

PAGE 19

Kimbulapitiya fireworks sales up by 75 percent

ANANDA KANNANGARA

The demand for locally manufactured fireworks which fell to zero percent due to the Easter Sunday attack and island-wide pandemic situation during the past two years has now recorded a 75 per cent increase in sales, the All Island Fireworks Association (AIFA) said.

It is said during the past two years almost all fireworks manufacturers faced immense hardships due to the uncertain situation in the country.

Speaking to Daily News Business AIFA, Chairman Dinesh Fernando said nearly 200 fireworks manufacturers and over 75,000 people and their families at Kimbulapitiya and few other fireworks manufacturing areas in the country depend on fireworks manufacturing especially during the main festival seasons including the Sinhala and Tamil New Year, Christmas, Vesak, Posen, Deepavali and Thai pongal.

The AIFA further says that in addition people use fireworks at weddings and other religious and cultural festivals. The crackers are also used by villagers in agricultural areas to protect their cultivations from birds and animals.

He also thanked authorities for taking measures to stop importing fireworks following requests made by manufacturers.



Dinesh Fernando

The legend says that manufacturing fireworks commenced in ancient Ceylon at Kimbulapitiya during Portuguese period and it later extended to few other main cities including Kandy, Galle, Kurunegala and Ratnapura.

The AIFA Chairman said as a result of the Easter Sunday attack and the pandemic situation people did not use fireworks and manufacturers had to abandon the idea of manufacturing fireworks.

He said manufacturers have already obtained large sums of money from banks and individual money lenders on high interest rates to purchase chemicals such as aluminium, potassium and other main raw materials which are imported from countries such as Israel, China, Spain and India.

He also requested authorities to pay attention towards introducing an insurance scheme as a welfare measure for the protection of fireworks manufacturers in the country.

Ceylon National Chamber of Industries 58th AGM



Ceylon National Chamber of Industries (CNCI) held its 58th Annual General Meeting in Colombo on Tuesday. Here outgoing CNCI President Ruwan Edirisinghe presents the official memento to newly appointed Chairman Canisius Fernando. Picture by Roshan Pitipana

AMF merges with Arpico Finance Company

Two of Sri Lanka's oldest and most respected financial companies, Associated Motor Finance Company PLC (AMF) and Arpico Finance Company PLC (AFC) joined strengths officially at the Colombo Stock Exchange (CSE) on April 1, 2021. Months-long process for this landmark merger was officially completed in full compliance with the protocols. The merged entity will forge ahead as AMF, with the combined strengths of the two companies and a clear vision to rise high in Sri Lanka's financial services industry.

Speaking of this groundbreaking merger TMA Sallay, Director/CEO, AMF had this to say. "We mark this historic occasion with great pride. The merger of capabilities, strengths

and expertise of two esteemed finance institutes into one as AMF, gives us tremendous potential for the future. This also marks the opening of a new grand chapter for the valued stakeholders of both organizations whose best interest is always at our heart. Together, working as one passionate and dedicated team, we intend to revolutionize the finance industry through a progressive mix of products and services that always puts the interest of the customer first."

Both AMF and Arpico Finance being among the few oldest financial institutions in the country, each organization brings a unique portfolio of strengths, expertise and professionals to the table, allowing the new entity to shape a truly

diverse organization. "This gives AMF an edge over the competition and places the company in an advantageous position with a wider product portfolio, serving a wider clientele" TMA Sallay, Director/CEO, AMF further stated.

With a clear vision and definite plans, AMF has also invested in advanced IT systems among other things to empower the field force and to infuse greater efficiency. The company has made a concerted effort to partner fin-tech companies and technologies that design disruptive and path-breaking technologies that truly enhance convenience of customers. With everything in place, AMF is now ready to emerge as the new force in the finance sector of Sri Lanka.

Minister impressed with SME Task Force's Equity Fund

A delegation of the CA Sri Lanka SME Task Force met Ajith Nivard Cabraal, State Minister of Money and Capital Markets and State Enterprise Reforms at the ministry recently.

The meeting was organized by Sunil Wanigabadu, the Vice President of AAT Sri Lanka. The Minister was impressed with the innovative initiatives by finance professionals towards national development through development of SME sector where 52% of the GDP contribution and more than 45% of the employment is generated.

The CA Sri Lanka SME Task Force was established by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka (CA Sri Lanka) to develop the business acumen of the SMEs and to enhance their ability to better access to finance and contribute to national development in partnership with AAT

Sri Lanka. The Task Force conducts a unique mentoring program to develop SMEs selected by SDB Bank which works as a partner to this programme facilitated by regular visits to the business establishments of those entrepreneurs by the members of CA Sri Lanka and AAT Sri Lanka which also joined the programme. These finance professionals work with the entrepreneurs for a period of one year on voluntary basis. This is the first time in the history that the finance professionals came forward voluntarily to contribute to the national development through the development of SME sector. This unique development concept could be expanded in the Asia Pacific region and other parts of the world.

Manil Jayasinghe, and Sanjaya Bandara, President and Vice Presi-

dent of CA Sri Lanka respectively and the Governing Council have the vision in developing SME sector in Sri Lanka especially the rural agriculture based communities which is shared by AAT Sri Lanka as well.

SME Task Force is promoting cash-flow-based lending to SME sector against collateral-based lending. The Mentoring program would establish a governance framework for SMEs and create social capital for entrepreneurs to be eligible for capital both loans and equity.

The delegation further raised the point that there is no institution or effective system to support the SME Sector who have very attractive business plans and who do not have adequate seed capital. Minister who always promote the right balance of debt equity ratio and advocates bring-

ing equity capital to Sri Lankan businesses rather than debt, assured finance professionals his commitment for this national need. He invited CA Sri Lanka SME Task Force, financial professionals and CA Sri Lanka and AAT Sri Lanka to develop an institutional framework in this direction.

The Minister further said that he will take steps to establish suitable Equity Funds to support these entrepreneurs in providing seed capital and the professionals assigned by CA Sri Lanka SME Task Force who work with these entrepreneurs. The fund would be managed by a group of independent prominent innovative professionals. The Minister requested the delegation to develop a concept paper and assured an early implementation of this needy proposal. The delegation was headed by Lakshman



Abeysekera, Chairman, CA Sri Lanka SME Task Force. The other participants were Sunil Wanigabadu, Vice President AAT Sri Lanka, Anoji De Silva, Council Member of CA Sri Lanka and Alternate Chair of the CA Sri Lanka SME Task Force, Harsha Gunasena and Ajith Alahakoon, Senior Chartered Accountants and the members of the CA Sri Lanka SME Task Force.

Minister Cabraal is a past President of CA Sri Lanka, South Asian Federation of Accountants and served as a pioneer member and vice president of AAT Sri Lanka at the inception of the organization.

Invest Money Market Fund rated [SL] A mfs by ICRA

Softlogic Invest Money Market Fund has been assigned a rating of "[SL] A mfs" (Sri Lanka A rated mutual fund scheme) by ICRA Lanka Limited.

The fund that commenced operations in July 2020 has performed well despite the obstacles of the pandemic and as of March 25, 2021, the Softlogic Money Market Fund has surpassed Rs. 1.5 billion in Assets under Management with over 1,300 unit holders, delivering an annualized current yield of 7.40%. These returns are delivered while maintaining over 80% in category A investments, which include A, A-, AA+ instruments. "We are delighted that

as a brand new entrant to the Unit Trust Mutual Fund business, the Softlogic Money Market Fund received an exceptional rating of ICRA SL A. When managing external funds we felt that showing return against risk is imperative to prospective investors as pure-play yield comparison is simply not informative enough to our investor base. We are keen on educating our investors on the value, transparency and significance of this external rating by ICRA through all our client communications," stated Softlogic Invest Chief Executive Officer and Director Niloo Jayatilake.

Therefore, our investors enjoy optimum yield compared to traditional NBFIs fixed deposit rates whilst enjoying the flexibility of withdrawal at any time they want without any charges.

"We believe that customer convenience and access to funds is paramount to grow Industry volumes." ICRA Lanka's mutual fund rating methodology is based on evaluating the inherent credit quality of the fund's portfolio. Schemes with this rating are considered to have adequate degree of safety regarding timely receipt of payments from the investments that they have made.

Korean Ambassador holds discussions with Sri Lanka-Korea business Council

Ambassador Santhush Woonjin JEONG met with the Sri Lanka-Korea Business Council members at the Embassy to discuss expanding business opportunities in the Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) sector between Korea and Sri Lanka on April 5. They had a fruitful exchange regarding multiple spheres including promotion of trade relations, agriculture, export development and expansion of the Information Technology (IT) sector.

Ambassador Santhush emphasized the importance of boosting trade between Korea and Sri Lanka. He stated, "the volume of exports from Sri Lanka to Korea increased from USD 100 million



President Priyantha Mendis, Former President of the Sri Lanka-Korea Business Council, Prof. Lakshman R. Watawala and Vice President John Shiran Dissanayake, Mahen Kariyawan, K. Kunendran, Asitha Martis, Godwin Perera and Dinithi Dias with First Secretary Lim Miyeon and others from the Korean Embassy.

in 2019 to USD 110 million 2020 amid the COVID-19 pandemic throughout the world. This is indeed a favorable outcome to Sri Lanka. However the trade volume between the two countries is not satisfactory and more should

be done to improve our trade relations. It is the right time for Korean companies to invest in Sri Lanka." At this juncture, a constructive dialogue between Korean investors and the Business

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SHARES - COLOMBO STOCK EXCHANGE

COCONUTS

Market Statistics on 07.04.2021

Table with columns: Security, Volume, V.W.A. Previous Close, Open, High, Low, V.W.A. Yesterday's Close, Change (Rs.). Lists various stocks under Main Board and Second Board.

Table with columns: Security, Volume, V.W.A. Previous Close, Open, High, Low, V.W.A. Yesterday's Close, Change (Rs.). Lists various stocks under DIRI SAVA BOARD and WATCH LIST.

COCONUTS

Table showing coconut products and prices as of 2021.04.07. Includes categories like Fresh Coconut, Copra, and Dehydrated Coconut.

COLOMBO STOCKEXCHANGE - STOCK MARKET STATISTICS

Table with columns: EQUITY DETAILS, GOVT. SECURITIES, CORPORATE DEBT, EQUITY INDICES. Includes metrics like Turnover, Volume of Trade, and Price Indices.

IIHS appoints new Director for International Marketing and Development

Sri Lanka's pioneer healthcare education provider, International Institute of Health Science (IIHS), having pioneering in Nursing education in Sri Lanka, is looking to take its model to the region and beyond.

Newly appointed board member and Director, International & Development, Carl has been with IIHS since January 2021 playing a development and advisory role in expanding student recruitment beyond Sri Lanka.

Commenting on his new appointment, Mr Jones said, "It was truly an honour to be invited to be a part IIHS organisation and its ambitious program. I have known IIHS for many years and, as an observer and partner, I've been incredibly impressed with its trajectory and culture. With its international 'multiversity' plans, and its soon to come degree awarding status, IIHS is set to become a significant regional player in a world that needs new dynamic, flexible and inter-growth models of healthcare education."



EXCHANGE RATES

Table showing exchange rates for various currencies like Australian Dollar, Canadian Dollar, Euro, Japanese Yen, Sterling Pound, and US Dollar.

Table showing approximate exchange rates of GULF Currencies based on previous days market weighted average rate for the US\$ as follows.

Table showing average weighted Prime Lending Rate (AWPR) and lowest Prime Rate (LPR) during the week ended 01-Apr-2021.

Table showing average weighted Deposit Rate (AWDR) of commercial banks for the month of March-2021.

Korean Ambassador holds...

Council is vital to facilitate trade and explore potential business opportunities in Sri Lanka. The Ambassador expressed his interest to assist all parties to strengthen the Small and Medium Enterprise sector and exports promotion.

in Sri Lanka from 2021. It will be ahead forward to elevate our bilateral relations. The members of the Sri Lanka- Korea Business Council appreciated the efforts of the Ambassador to assist the Sri Lanka-Korea Business Council in all their endeavors. They stated that the introduction of Korean language as a subject for the advanced level curriculum will benefit the youth in Sri Lanka when exploring more job opportunities

abroad. Currently there are more than 25,000 Sri Lankan migrant workers employed in Korea. Korea is a relatively good country for Sri Lankans to work in as there are better conditions for employment such as the "equal work equal pay" policy adopted by the Korean government. The Council members including the Incumbent President Priyantha Mendis and the Former President, Prof. Lakkshman R. Watawala further discussed ways

to provide entrepreneurial skills to low income households and develop the agricultural sector by organising virtual workshops to share their technical expertise in mass production from Korea. They also requested assistance in skill development and vocational training. The Ambassador also commended the anti-COVID task force in Sri Lanka for their dedication in managing the pandemic well.

HNB Assurance awarded 'Best Bancassurance Provider in Sri Lanka 2021'

By Global Banking and Finance Review

HNB Assurance PLC (HNBA) was awarded 'Best Bancassurance Provider in Sri Lanka 2021' under the 'Insurance and Takaful Awards' Category, by the Global Banking and Finance Review.

The Global Banking and Finance Awards® organised by the Global Banking and Finance Review® reflects innovation, strategy, achievement, and progressive and inspirational changes that are current throughout companies within the global financial landscape.

Speaking about this remarkable achievement by the Bancassurance Channel, Chief Executive Officer of HNBA and its fully owned subsidiary, HNB General Insurance Limited (HNBI), Prasantha Fernando stated, "We are extremely honoured to have been named 'Best Bancassurance Provider in Sri Lanka' for the year 2021, by a globally recognised research and evaluation institute, the Global Banking and Finance Review.

Maintaining stable and persistent operations over time, HNBA has been at the forefront in servicing the life insurance needs of the community, offering revolutionary solutions via a fully-fledged Bancassurance operation.

This achievement would not have been possible if not for the support that we have always received from the MD/CEO, COO and the Management and Staff of Hatton National Bank, our Parent Company. Over the years we have been able to develop and refine our Banca Operations to provide a seamless service to the Bank's clientele".

Chief Operating Officer of HNBA, Lasitha Wimalaratne stated, "This Award strongly defines the remarkable talent, strategy and action put in place by a committed team comprising of key personnel from HNB and HNBA.

The Company's Bancassurance Channel has taken a collaborative approach putting together solutions that offer comprehensive coverage much in demand amongst the Sri Lankan population. I believe such a well-thought out approach has given dividends culminating in us being the recipient of this prestigious award."

Sharing his thoughts, Head of Partnerships Business of HNBA, Sanesh Fernando stated, "This recognition is a testimony of true effort and teamwork, by the team in the Banca Channel at HNBA who have now made us the industry benchmark in the sphere of Bancassurance in Sri Lanka. I also wish to thank the team at HNB for all the support extended to us".

HNB Assurance PLC (HNBA) is one of the fastest growing Insurance Companies in Sri Lanka with a network of 63 branches.



Prasantha Fernando,
Chief Executive Officer of HNBA/HNBI



Lasitha Wimalaratne,
Chief Operating Officer of HNBA



Sanesh Fernando
Head of Partnerships Business of HNBA

SLT-MOBITEL donates books to Malwana Maha Vidyalaya

SLT-MOBITEL, embarked with a book donation program which newly initiated "Hithak Athnam Pothak Denna" programme understanding the urgency of empowering future generations through knowledge and education. Commenced the first phase, SLT-MOBITEL donated over 800 books to Malwana Maha Vidyalaya recently.

Several senior officers from SLT Head Office and Kelaniya Regional office attended the event. The principal, members of staff and some students were present to accept the books.

The objective of the book donation programme is to enhance student academic development in rural schools, improve information and communication technology (ICT) literacy skills and build a knowledgeable student community. SLT-MOBITEL firmly believes that this opportunity will inspire the students to read, expand their minds and develop a lifelong love of reading and learning.

This programme is conducting with the goal of encouraging children to explore the world of story-telling and the pleasure of reading. They are to be used for the school library and include topics on ICT, novels, children's story books, books to improve their English language and other books related to



Senior officers from SLT Head Office and Kelaniya Regional office with Principal, members of staff and some students at the event

their curriculum. These books were collected from SLT customers and employees through a book donation drive and also through personal donations from the SLT Kelaniya Regional Office staff members.

The programme understands that education is a key driver of sustainable development in Sri Lanka and is aligned to UN Sustainable Development Goals which aims to 'ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all'.

Commenting on the programme, Prabhath Dahanayake, Chief Marketing Officer/SLT said, "We are committed to driving sustainable development and making a positive impact

among communities. Our 'Hithak Athnam Pothak Denna' programme is targeted at promoting a reading culture and empowering the next generation through knowledge acquisition and retention. With education as the bedrock of any nation's development, our book donation programme invests in accessible learning."

SLT-MOBITEL aims to reach out to other schools across the country and conduct similar programmes through their Regional Telecom offices shortly. Sri Lanka Telecom PLC is the national Information and Communications Technology (ICT) solutions provider and the leading broadband and backbone infrastructure services provider in Sri Lanka for over 163 years.

CBL Group named Sri Lanka's Best Corporate Citizen in Sustainability

The CBL Group was awarded first place at the recently held 17th Annual Best Corporate Citizen Sustainability Awards 2020. Organized by the Chamber of Commerce, the award is

the highest recognition of the private sector for sustainability and good corporate citizenship.

The award recognizes CBL's contribution to creating meaningful growth across its value chain and beyond and assesses its commitment to sustainable business practices. The win reflects CBL's sustainability journey, having been in the top 10 Best Corporate Citizens in Sustainability in Sri Lanka consistently for 14 years.

"Through our food we are helping to change lives for the better in every part of Sri Lanka. This is a constantly evolving journey and not one that we can do alone and we rely on our value chain partners to support us to achieve our purpose so, ensuring that our partners and our consumers grow with us is a very important part of our business. We are very proud to have won first place the Best Corporate Citizen Sustainability Awards and grateful to our consumers for the opportunity to contribute to the growth of Sri Lanka." Says CBL's Group Managing Director Sheamalee Wickramasingha.

CBL's value chain reaches backwards to



The CBL team with the coveted Best Corporate Citizen Sustainability Award.

its network of over 13,000 conventional and organic farmers who supply the greens, grains, fruits, vegetables and spices used in its diverse product portfolio.

Ensuring the stability and security of its farmer network is crucial to maintaining secure high quality agricultural raw material inputs and the company is determined to achieve this through improving livelihoods and creating better access to growth for its farmers. In Financial Year (FY) 2019/20 alone, CBL contributed over Rs. 6 Billion to the sector through agriculture purchasing. The Group has invested in excess of Rs. 2.5 Billion to mechanize, automate and develop competencies in the agriculture sector and is actively involved in promoting good health and wellness for its farmers through the 'Govi Pavula' programme.

Despite the tremendous challenges of

a sudden lockdown at the end of a tumultuous year and a complete halt of its operations, CBL's companies were able to rally very quickly to adapt to the COVID safety requirements and resume operations.

CBL's partnership with the International Finance Cooperation to empower its retailers and distributors for a future ready retail sector, CBL's Senehasin Jayamaga, aims to build competencies for over 5,000 distributors and sales staff in the CBL network. By 2023, the project will support 40% of CBL's distributor network to shift towards digital payment methods and double the number of women in its network.

CBL's brands also carry out extensive work to uplift communities.

CBL also won an award for the manufacturing sector.

CAPITAL HEIGHTS CELEBRATES SUCCESSFUL COLLABORATION WITH SRI LANKA'S LEADING BANKS

The Chairman and Board of Directors of Access Engineering PLC together with Blue Star Realities (Pvt) Ltd the Developer of Colombo's new residential complex, which is a study in absolute luxury, hosted the senior members of five of Sri Lanka's leading banks to a gala event recently, in appreciation of the sterling services provided and the successful collaboration. Bankers from HNB, NDB, Commercial Bank, NTB and Sampath Bank were hosted to cocktails and dinner at 'Elevate' by Access, on Friday, the 19th of March 2021.

Already, nation's leading banks have partnered with Capital Heights, in order to provide exclusive loans to discerning customers, while several other banks are in discussions to do the same, providing convenient and flexible financial solutions for this lucrative investment opportunity.

Capital Heights in Rajagiriya is a luxurious, 40-storied complex, featuring tastefully designed homes that offer plush, gracious living, with sprawling views of untouched natural mangroves and water fronts, as well as the ever-changing Colombo's city skyline. The unsurpassed luxury features a fully-equipped gym and fitness centre, a function room and a roof terrace with a 360-degree view of the infinity pool and a kiddies' pool with a timber deck surrounded by nature.

Moreover, 85% of the project has been completed and 60% of the apartments are already sold; thus, Capital Heights has already obtained the COC, as completion is imminent. A compelling, lifestyle-enhancing investment option, Capital Heights is the perfect home to come home to. Replete with 5-star luxuries and built to international standards, from both a local an expatriate perspective, it is the perfect investment and the quintessential 'home away from home'.



Tracking

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Track the Spread project team

ON THE RIGHT TRACK

YOUNG ACHIEVERS



Central Colombo MOH Dr Dhammika Adhikariwattage using the admin panel of Track the Spread



Track the Spread training session held at Central Colombo MOH Office

RUWINI JAYAWARDANA

As more people across the world are encouraged to work from home, televised news, social media and online forums combined can either be an enlightening or fear-mongering source of information.

With social distancing now a thing, one can only look at their phone or laptop so many times a day for accurate updates about the spread of COVID-19. Fortunately, a few tech enthusiasts are looking to make a contribution to eradicate the spread of the virus, using an app backed by data from official health organisations and medical institutes.

"The Rotary District 3220, with the support of Rotaract District 3220, initiated a project 'Stop the Spread'. We decided to make an app that could track those who have been exposed to COVID-19. Therefore, the Rotaract Club of University of Kelaniya thought of implementing an IT based solution which can help the Government to control covid-19," Rotaract Club of Kelaniya University 2020/21 President Rtr Nipuna Rambukkanage explained.

He noted that he and his team pondered over the situation of the nation and came up with what they recognized as the 'ideal solution' - a mobile application system. "There are two mobile apps (flutter-based solutions) which is an elite system that is supported by a web application that will work as an admin panel for the Ministry of Health in Sri Lanka. Therefore there are three components in this elite software system. They are namely,

1. Mobile application for quarantined persons
2. Mobile application for public health officers
3. Web application for the Ministry of Health for data analysis.

This system can be used to support the Government to control COVID-19 by storing and analyzing details of the quarantined persons (symptoms, health status etc.), and the public health officials (PHI). PHIs can use their app to check the location of the quarantined persons and monitor their activities. Health officials who use this app will get the opportunity such as the ability to monitor quarantined people without physically visiting them, give instructions and keep in touch with them. From the quarantined persons' perspective, the app will provide them with several benefits such as online shopping, ordering medicine, online counseling, bill payments, and online health check-ups," he elaborated.

Rambukkanage adds that before they got the idea about a COVID-19 controlling and monitoring system, the systems that were being used in Sri Lanka were capturing the data of positive covid-19 patients.

Talking about the novel features of "Track the Spread" he says that users are able to can track down the locations and many other important details of the first line COVID-19 contacts, second line COVID-19 contacts, and returnees from hospitals who have recovered from COVID-19 through the system.

"Therefore, the software system which we built is very unique. It has many important features. PHIs can view a quarantine person's medical history easily by accessing their PHI app. The PHIs too can easily find whether the quarantined person's family members have any symptoms by accessing this system. Many unique features in this software system makes this an elite system to control COVID-19. We have received permission from the Sri Lankan health authorities to launch this software in Central Colombo to control the spread of the virus in the area," he said.

Besides Rambukkanage the team of developers comprises of Chinthaka Kasun, Nethmi Fonseka, Rajika Upasena, Amesh Madhubhashitha Jayaweera, Ruwin Ratnayake, Kusal Ekanayake, Sahan Silva, Nipuna Ratnayake, Isuri Sasanika Gunatilake, Sahan Amarsha, Pulsara Sandeepa, Dikmadugodage Pasindu Chinthana, Hiruni Chamodika Samaranyaka, Praneeth Vithanage, Kelum Tharaka, Anushika Samarakoon, and

Thiwanka Randeni. These members worked through many sleepless nights developing the app. Due to their efforts 'Track the Spread' has now been nominated for the Rotary International awards as well.

"I am thankful to have such a hard working team to work with. Due to their immense courage and enthusiasm, this project has reached international level," he enthused.

The main challenge the team faced in building 'Track the Spread' was in finding talented undergraduates who are reading degrees related to Computer Science. They also needed to get the green light from the Government to put this app into practice. This process demanded the team to visit the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Defence, Medical Officers for Health and Public Health Inspectors. They assessed the

need of this software system. "Finally we received the permission of Ministry of Health to conduct a pilot project at Central Colombo area," he added with a note of triumph on their well deserved victory.

With their sights focused on "Disease Prevention and Treatment", Rambukkanage notes that the team's main objective was to build an information technology-based solution for the Ministry of Health of Sri Lanka to monitor and control COVID-19 in the country.

"We wanted to make the lives of people in quarantine easier by providing them various benefits because people in quarantine have many needs and they need constant care. Therefore, we wanted to present them a mobile application to fulfill their day-to-day needs such as banking, ordering medicine, counseling, bill payments and checking their health status daily. And the second objective was to reduce the risk of Public Health Inspectors when monitoring quarantined people. To increase the effectiveness of their service, we wanted to provide them with a mobile application to effectively do their investigations. Another objective that we had was to help the government to maintain a database of COVID-19 related data with all the relevant information which can be used to eliminate COVID-19 in Sri Lanka," Rambukkanage said.

The team has applied for copyrights for the software system and are hoping to receive the copyrights soon.

"As per the discussion held on November 20, 2020 at the Ministry of Health, we conducted a training session and an introduction session for the MOH of Central Colombo, Dr. Dhammika Adhikariwattage and the PHIs of Central Colombo area to implement the pilot project in the ground level to track the first-line contacts and returnees from quarantine centers and hospitals. Since Dr. Adhikariwattage is a fellow Rotarian and our project advisor from the very beginning, he is currently piloting the project at the central Colombo area. The system is handy in tracking the vaccinations as well. After these tests have been completed, the software system will be market ready," he disclosed.

Hailing from Dehiwala, Rambukkanage is a past pupil of Ananda College, Colombo. He is currently reading a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science at Kelaniya University, specializing in Artificial Intelligence.

The team is planning to complete the user testing (beta testing). This is currently taking place at the central Colombo area.

"We want to see how the actual users will take in the app, and their response towards it. Thus, we are planning to carry out the testing on a selected wide area with at least 100 users for this. If there's anyone who'd like to volunteer as a Technical-writer, developer, content creators or anyone interested in software development, they are welcome to join hands with us," Rambukkanage said.

His advice to youths with flair for innovations is to think out of the box whenever possible.

"You can't allow tradition to get in the way of innovation. There's a need to respect the past, but it's a mistake to reverse your past," he opined.

Rotaract Club of Kelaniya University President 2020\21
Nipuna Rambukkanage



Track the Spread launching ceremony



Track the Spread - App for people in quarantine

SWADESHI
Khomba
HERBAL
Body Wash



Go Natural!
Awaken your senses with the gentle, moisturizing boost of Khomba Herbal Body Wash.

SWADESHI ESTD 1941
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80 YEARS
100% Vegetarian

RABBITS

Rabbits are small animals. They have two long ears and a short tail. They eat carrots, grass and leaves. Rabbits can jump far. A rabbit is called a bunny too. They are brown, black or white in colour.

Yenuli Lakithya,
Grade 2-B,
Narangodapaluwa
Vidyalyaya,
Ragama



A clock speaks

My face is called the dial. I have three hands. The big one shows the minutes. The small one shows the hours. I go tick tock. I am useful to all.

Anupama Herath,
Grade 5,
St. Bridget's
Convent,
Colombo



Little thoughts

Beautiful Nature

The sky is blue
The sun is true
The clouds are white
And wind is tight.
The birds sing songs
And we hear it long
The fish swim fast
But the water still last.
The flowers are blooming
And trees are glooming
People are walking
The ground is shaking.
The stars are shining
The moon gets brightening
But I still keep hearing
My nature song.

Uthpala Madushani,
Grade 6,
Leeds International School,
Panadura



Festivals of Sri Lanka

There are many communities in Sri Lanka, such as Sinhalese, Tamils and Muslims. So we have different festivals. Sinhalese celebrate the Sinhala and Tamil New Year. It comes on April 13. They make a lot of sweets. They have an auspicious time to cook, eat, apply oil on the heads etc. Sinhalese Buddhists, to celebrate Vesak Poya, erect pandols, decorate their houses with colourful lanterns, give dansals and go to the temple. Christians celebrate Christmas on December 25. They go to the church. They decorate a tree with beautiful lights and balloons. Hindus celebrate Thai Pongal and Deepavali.



Muslims celebrate Ramazan and Hajji. They pray at the mosque and enjoy good food.

Nethumini Jayasinghe,
Grade 11,
Vision International School,
Kandy

Playing cricket

Cricket is my favourite game. It is one of the most popular sports in the world today. There are many reasons why I like cricket. It is a very fascinating game. It holds the attention of the spectators from beginning to end. It is a team game and it shows team spirit. We learn other moral values too. We learn to accept both victory and defeat alike. In a game of cricket, we spend most of the time in the open air. This is good for our health. I hope I will be a world famous cricketer when I grow up.

Prageeth Harischandra,
Grade 8,
Richmond College,
Galle



Children



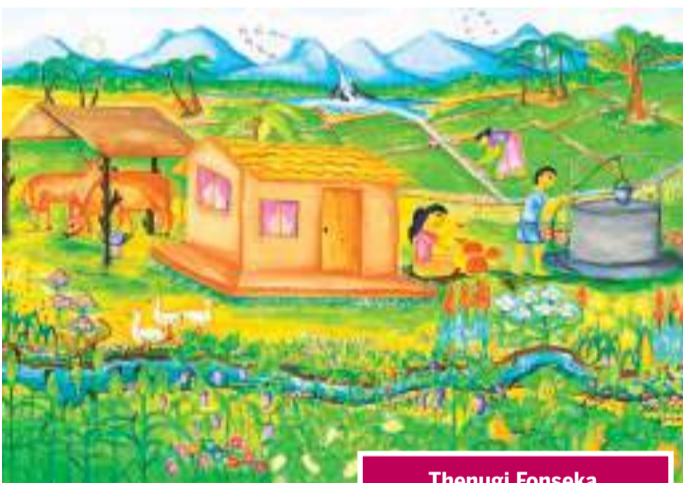
Harmonising with nature

After engaging in boring online sessions for almost one year, now students are fortunate to learn physically with their teachers. No doubt the outdoor class in the beautiful school garden and the chirping of the birds enhance the learning potential of Polymath Kids of Polymath International School, Nawinna.



Art Gallery

VILLAGE LIFE



Thenugi Fonseka,
Grade 10,
Kegalle Balika M V,
Kegalle

TWO BIRDS



Isuri Rathnayake,
Grade 9,
Mahamaya Girls' College,
Kandy

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New 'BLACK WIDOW' trailer is here

The Scarlett Johansson-starrer, 'Black Widow' is undoubtedly one of the most anticipated films of the summers considering it'll be the first film in Phase Four of the Marvel Cinematic Universe.

More than that the movie is all set to have a theatrical release for July 9 with the easing COVID-19 pandemic norms.

The two minute trailer was more than enough to make one fall in love with Marvel all over again with the background music making us reminiscing the Avengers' time. This time our benevolent superhero Black Widow confronts the darker parts of her ledger when a dangerous conspiracy with ties to her past arises. What's even more interesting is, we get to see glimpses of our favourite Iron Man too!

Pursued by a force that will stop at nothing to bring her down, Natasha must deal with her history as a spy and the broken relationships left in her wake long before she became an Avenger. Scarlett reprises her role as Natasha/Black Widow, Florence Pugh stars as Yelena, David Harbour portrays Alexei/ The Red Guardian, and Rachel Weisz is Melina.

PTI



HOLLYWOOD

Bollywood stars hit by 'second wave' of COVID-19

India is witnessing a second wave of COVID-19 cases, with the virus seeing a sudden spike since March. The state of Maharashtra, where the Hindi film industry operates from, has been a hotbed for the latest COVID-19 infections. Various Bollywood celebrities have been infected by the virus in the second wave. Here's a list of top Bollywood celebs who have recently tested COVID positive.



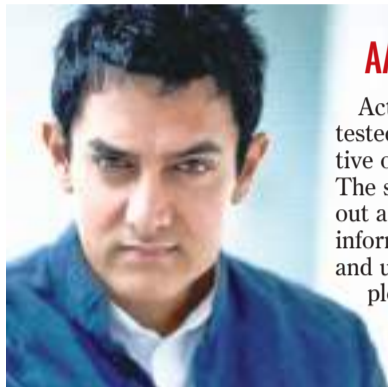
KARTIK AARYAN

Actor Kartik Aaryan tested COVID positive on March 22. The actor shared the news via his Instagram account.



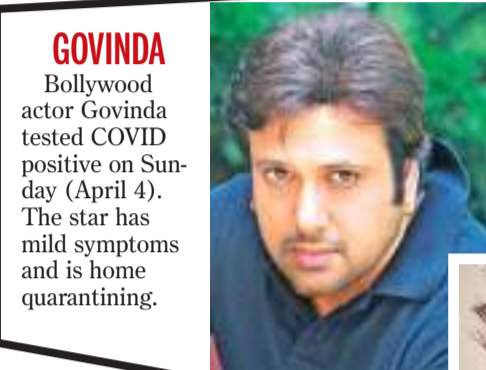
LIA BHATT

Actress Alia Bhatt who was busy shooting for her film Gangubai Kathiawadi on April 1 shared on her Instagram story that she has tested positive for COVID-19. Earlier, Alia's boyfriend, actor Ranbir Kapoor too tested COVID positive. However, the actor has fully recovered now.



AAMIR KHAN

Actor Aamir Khan tested COVID positive on March 24. The star's team put out a statement informing the same and urging the people who came in his contact to get tested.



GOVINDA

Bollywood actor Govinda tested COVID positive on Sunday (April 4). The star has mild symptoms and is home quarantining.



AAKSHAY KUMAR

Akshay Kumar is the latest celebrity to have been infected with COVID-19. The actor was busy shooting for his latest film Ram Setu when he contracted the virus. Akshay in a tweet on Sunday (April 4), shared the news.

PARESH RAWAL

After getting first jab of the COVID vaccine, actor-politician Paresh Rawal tested positive for the virus on March 26.



FATIMA SANA SHAIKH

Dangal actress Fatima Sana Shaikh tested COVID positive on March 29. The actress later shared her experience of the virus through her Instagram. "COVID sucks! Lost smell and taste...and a horrible body ache".

MARMADUKE



"The judges paid me twenty bucks not to enter."

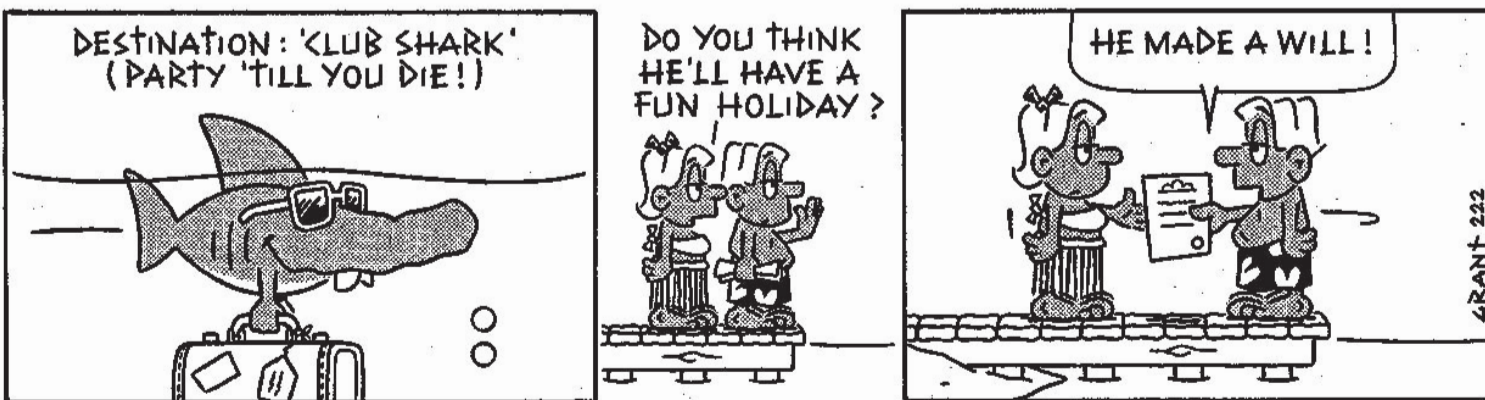
MUTT AND JEFF



ARCHIE



FISH TALES



UP & RUNNING



Invitation for Bids

Dog Sterilization Program - 2021

Department of Health Services - Central Province

- Bids are invited by the Central Provincial Director of Health Services of the Central Provincial Department of Health Services from eligible Bidders for sterilization of 4387 (Four Thousand Three Hundred and Eighty Seven) female dogs within the Central Province.
- Bidders, as an individual professional, as a team of professionals or as a Voluntary Organization could apply. Copy of the Certificate of Registration obtained from the relevant Divisional Secretariat under the Business Names Ordinance or Companies Act must be submitted to obtain the Bidding Documents and should be able to obtain the services of a minimum staff as mentioned below.
 - Two Veterinary Surgeons registered at the Veterinary Surgeons Association of Sri Lanka
 - Two Assistant Veterinary Surgeons
 - Two Labourers for Seizing female dogs

1	Starting Date and Time for Issuing Bid Documents	On Government working days from 08 April 2021 up to 29 April 2021 between 9.00 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. (Bid Documents could be inspected free of charge)
2	The Cost of a Bid Document and the place of issuing	Rs. 2500.00 (Non-Refundable) Should submit the receipt obtained after paying this amount to the Chief Accountant at the Office of the Central Provincial Director of Health Services, P.O. Box 163, Sangaraja Mawatha, Kandy.
3	Last Date and Time of accepting Bids	30 April 2021 at 10.00 a.m.
4	Value of Bid Security	Should submit a Bid Guarantee obtained from a commercial bank approved by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka, drawn in favour of "Central Provincial Director of Health Services" to the value of Rs. 160,000.00 valid up to 02 July 2021 or should submit the receipt obtained after paying a sum of Rs. 80,000.00 in cash to the Chief Accountant at the Office of the Central Provincial Director of Health Services
5	Date, Time and Place for Opening of Bids	On 30 April 2021 at 10.00 a.m. at the Office of the Central Provincial Director of Health Services, Sangaraja Mawatha, Kandy.
6	Procedure for submitting the duly completed Bids	Bids should be sent by Registered Post addressed to Central Provincial Director of Health Services, No. 163, Sangaraja Mawatha, Kandy or could be hand delivered to the Bid Box kept at this address.

Further details could be obtained by contacting the Chief Accountant at the Office of the Central Provincial Director of Health Services on Tel. No. 081-2222856.

**Chairman
Procurement Committee,
Central Provincial Department of Health Services**

P.O. Box 163, Sangaraja Mawatha,
Kandy.

05.04.2021

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE (MOJ)

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Consultancy Service for Design, Procurement, Contract Management and Construction & Post Construction Supervision

The Chairman, Ministry Consultant Procurement Committee on behalf of the Ministry of Justice invites eligible consultants to indicate their interest in providing the service described below.

The consultancy service includes Design, Procurement, Contract Management and Construction & Post Construction Supervision for following court buildings.

No.	Courts	Contract Number
01	Multi Storied Building for Kandy Court	MOJ/AC/26/15/2021
02	Multi Storied Building for Passara Court	MOJ/AC/26/16/2021
03	Multi Storied Building for Batticaloa Court	MOJ/AC/26/17/2021
04	Multi Storied Building for Anuradhapura Court	MOJ/AC/26/18/2021

Interested consultants must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the service (brochures, description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills among staff, etc.) as per the Formant titled "Consultancy Service MOJ" available in the website: www.moj.gov.lk Interested consultants may obtain Terms of Reference from same website and further information from **Accountant (Procurement), Supplies Division, Ministry of Justice. Tel 011-2438178.**

Duly completed sealed Expressions of Interest under sealed covers must be addressed to the Chairman, Ministry Consultant Procurement Committee, Ministry of Justice delivered to the address given below on or before 30th April 2021 at 11.00 a.m.

**Chairman
Ministry Consultancy Procurement Committee
Ministry of Justice
Superior Courts Complex
Colombo 12.**



Procurement Notice

National Livestock Development Board

Bid for Supplying of Machinery and Equipment required for the proposed Silage Baling Project at the Polonnaruwa Farm of the National Livestock Development Board

Bid No : 928/Machinery & Equipment / 2021

Closing Date : 28th April 2021 - 2.30 p.m.

Chairman of National Livestock Development Board, No. 40, Nawala Road, Narahenpita, Colombo 05 is inviting to submit sealed Bids from the registered Local Suppliers & their accredited Agents for Supplying, Installation, Commissioning and handing over of following Machinery and Equipment to Polonnaruwa Farm of NLDB.

The Suppliers can offer their price for one or more items.

Item No.	Machinery / Equipment	Capacity	Quantity Required	Value of the Bid Security (Rs.)
01	Round Baler cum Wrapping Machine (Silage Baling Machine)	Bale weight 40-60 Kg more than 40 bales/hr	3	300,000.00
02	Fodder Harvester	Not less than 30 T/hr	5	700,000.00
03	Heavy Duty Tractor	4 WD - 90-100Hp	2	400,000.00
04	Heavy Duty Tractor	4 WD - 80-90Hp	4	320,000.00
05	Heavy Duty Tractor	80-90Hp 4WD Tractor with Front Loader (Maximum lift height : ≥ 140 in	1	100,000.00
06	Grass Chopper (Chaff Cutter)	≥ 3000 Kg/h	1	40,000.00
07	Disc Harrows	22-24 Discs compatible for 80-90 Hp Tractors	2	20,000.00
08	Disc Ploughs	05 Discs, Compatible for 80-90 Hp 4WD Tractors	4	32,000.00
09	Tine Tiller	13 Nos. of Tines / Compatible for 80-90 Hp 4WD Tractors	2	12,000.00
10	Seeders	Row Spacing - 45-60 cm adjustable	2	20,000.00
11	Fertilizer Broadcaster	200Kg/min (application rate)	2	20,000.00
12	Rotary Inter Cultivator	1.5-2.5 Hp	6	36,000.00
13	Mini Excavators	Hydraulically controlled Crawler Excavator with Backhoe Bucket and Levelling Blade	1	160,000.00
14	Slurry Bowser	5000L	1	48,000.00
15	Hose Reel Irrigation System	40m-45m radius at 5 bar pressure	1	400,000.00
16	Tyne Ridger	Working with 3500mm, No. of Furrows : 05	1	8,000.00

Bidding documents could be obtained during the normal working hours of the week up to 2.00 p.m. on 28th April 2021 from the Supplies Division of the National Livestock Development Board at No. 40, Narahenpita, Nawala Road, Colombo 05 on producing a request letter. A non-refundable fee of Rs. 5,000.00 should be paid per set of bidding document to the Manager - Finance of NLDB.

Bids will be closed at 2.30 p.m. on 28th April 2021 and will be opened immediately thereafter at the National Livestock Development Board, No. 40, Nawala Road, Narahenpita, Colombo 05 in the presence of the Bidders or their accredited representatives who are allowed to attend by confirming their identity. Sealed Bids should be sent by registered post to the following address, or deposited in the Tender Box kept at the NLDB Head Office, enable to reach on or before the above closing date & time. The top of the left-hand corner of the envelope in which Bids enclosed should be mentioned "**Bid for Supplying of Machinery and Equipment required for the proposed Silage Baling Project at the Polonnaruwa Farm of NLDB.**"

A Pre Bid Meeting for the Suppliers will be held on 20th April 2021 at 9.30 a.m. in the NLDB Head Office.

For any clarification in this regard, please contact the Supplies Manager of National Livestock Development Board.

**Chairman,
National Livestock Development Board,
No. 40, Nawala Road, Narahenpita,
Colombo 05.
Tel : 011-2501701/2, 011-5746308**



SRI LANKA PORTS AUTHORITY

Invitation for Bids (IFB)

- The Chairman, Department Procurement Committee on behalf of the Sri Lanka Ports Authority now invites sealed Bids from eligible Bidders for the items given below.

Tender No.	Name of the Tender	Bid Security Amount (Rs.)	Document Fee (Inclusive of VAT)	Closing Date & Time
CES/FP/04/PT/6188 (EL)	Spare Modules for the Stinis Spreaders	30,000.00	1,000.00	11.05.2021 10.00 hrs
CES/FP/03/PT/6194 (EL)	Main and Guide Wheels for Duratrack Trolley of JCT	60,000.00	1,000.00	11.05.2021 10.00 hrs
CM/LP/20/PT/20/054	Marine Quality Paint & Thinner for Dredger Hansakawa	100,000.00	3,500.00	19.04.2021 13.30 hrs
CMS/LP/20/PT/07/059	5040 Litres of Transfluid Oil P-157	24,000.00	1,000.00	27.04.2021 13.30 hrs
CMS/LP/21/PT/14/015	01 No. Battery / Inverter System for JCT RTG Crane	22,000.00	1,000.00	28.04.2021 13.30 hrs
CMS/LP/21/PT/16/051	10 Nos. PVS Piston Pumps for RAM Spreaders - 4IT	20,000.00	1,000.00	28.04.2021 13.30 hrs
CMS/LP/21/PT/13/51	Cam Clutch KK8332H-22/Tsubaki - MZ 70G TK - 10 Nos.	38,000.00	1,000.00	29.04.2021 13.30 hrs
CMS/LP/21/PT/10/051	Fifth Wheel Unit P/N T27055449	50,000.00	1,000.00	29.04.2021 13.30 hrs
CMS/LP/20/PT/01/053	Cloth Polyester Brown Suiting - 7700 Meters for Year 2021	50,000.00	1,000.00	29.04.2021 13.30 hrs
CMS/LP/20/PT/08/059	Marine Quality Paint and Thinner for Tug Nandimithra	55,000.00	1,000.00	30.04.2021 13.30 hrs
CMS/LP/21/PT/01/051	Diesel Engine for ZPMC Transtainers at JCT - 01 No.	150,000.00	3,500.00	30.04.2021 13.30 hrs

- Bidders are hereby informed that the provisions of Public Contracts Act No. 3 of 1987 are applicable to Tenders total cost exceeding Rs. 5 million. Accordingly, all parties involved in each aforementioned Tender are required to strictly abide by the said Act throughout the duration of contract. Furthermore, any Bidder who wishes to act as an Agent, Sub-Agent, a Representative or a Nominee for and on behalf of any foreign Manufacturer or a Supplier is required to register himself with the Registrar of Public Contracts and submit the duly completed Registration Certificate along with his Bid Documents.
- Bidders should have been in the business of supplying similar goods given above at least during the last three (3) years.
- Interested Bidders may obtain further information from The Chief Manager (Supplies & Material Management) and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address given below during office hours.
- A complete set of Bidding Documents in English Language may be purchased by interested Bidders on submission of a written application to the address below and upon payment of a non-refundable fee indicated in Column 4 from 09th April, 2021 from 9.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. on working days, up to day prior to the closing date. The method of payment will be by cash.
- Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before closing time. Late Bids will not be accepted. Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidders' Representatives who choose to attend in person at the address below at closing time. All Bids must be accompanied by the amount of abovementioned Bid Security.

**Chief Manager (Supplies & Material Management),
Supplies Division,
Sri Lanka Ports Authority,
No. 45, Leyden Bastian Road, Colombo 01.**

**Telephone Nos : 2482231, 2483338, 2482499, 2482832, 2482409, 2482652, 2483024, 2482638
Fax Nos : 2381652, 2470443**

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

INVITATION OF QUOTATIONS FOR THE SALE OF CONSUMER GROUND NUTS

Sealed bids will be received up to 2.00 p.m. on 29.04.2021, through the National Competitive Bidding procedure, by the Department Procurement Committee, for the sale of stocks of consumer Ground Nuts, as stated below, available at the Rikillagaskada Seed Beans Unit, functioning under the office of the Deputy Director of Agriculture (Seeds), belonging to the Seeds and Planting Material Development Center of the Department of Agriculture.

Crop	Qty (Kgs)	Bid Security	
		By Cash	By Bank Security
Ground Nuts	15,420	15,420.00	30,840.00

- The relevant stock of ground nuts can be inspected during working hours at the Rikillagaskada Seed Beans Unit, belonging to the office of the Deputy Director of Agriculture, Kundasale and further details can be obtained by calling on the Telephone Nos. stated below. Bid documents can be inspected free of charge.
- Interested bidders should submit bids on bid documents obtained from either the Seeds and Planting Material Development Center of the Director of Agriculture (Seeds), Kundasale, on submission of the Receipt received either from the Shroff of the Department of Agriculture or the Office of the Deputy Director of Agriculture (Seeds), Kundasale, on payment by cash, of an amount of Rs. 3000/-, which is non-refundable.

Bid forms will be issued from 08.04.2021 up to 28.04.2021, on weekly working days, between 8.30 a.m. and 3.00 p.m.

- All sealed bids prepared as per the Bid Instructions should be sent by registered post addressed to "Chairman, Procurement Committee, Seeds and Planting Material Development Center, Peradeniya". If delivered personally, they should be placed in the Bid Box kept at the above address.
- Bids, either sent by registered post or delivered personally, will be accepted up to 2.00 p.m. on 29.04.2021 and will be opened immediately thereafter. Bidder or one of his representatives with written authority, can be present at the opening.

**Chairman,
Procurement Committee,
Seeds and Planting Material Development Center,
Peradeniya.
Tel. 081-2388106/122**

BOARD OF INVESTMENT OF SRI LANKA

INVITATION FOR BID (IFB)

GENERAL UPKEEP AND MAINTENANCE AT HORANA EXPORT PROCESSING ZONE FOR A PERIOD OF TWO YEARS

CONTRACT NO. - BOI/ZM/HEPZ/MT/01/2021

- The Chairman, Department Procurement Committee on behalf of the Board of Investment of Sri Lanka invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified Bidders for **General upkeep and maintenance at Horana Export Processing Zone for a period of two years.**
- Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding Procedure.
- To be eligible to bid, Bidders should have minimum of three (03) years previous experience in similar nature of work and shall not have been blacklisted.
- Interested Bidders may obtain further information from the Senior Deputy Director, Board of Investment of Sri Lanka, Horana Export Processing Zone (Tel No. 034-2269752) and inspect the bidding documents at the Office of Horana Export Processing Zone between 0830 hrs and 1530 hrs on normal working days.

Pre-Bid Meeting is scheduled to be held on **19.04.2021 at 1000 hrs** at the office of Board of Investment of Sri Lanka at Horana Export Processing Zone.
- A complete set of Bidding Documents in English language may be purchased by interested Bidders on the submission of a written application to the Senior Deputy Director of Board of Investment of Sri Lanka, Horana Export Processing Zone **from 08.04.2021 until 28.04.2021 between 0900 hrs and 1500 hrs** upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Rs. 2000/= plus VAT in cash.
- Bids shall be delivered to the Senior Deputy Director, Board of Investment of Sri Lanka, Horana Export Processing Zone, Boralugoda, Poruwadanda to reach **on or before 29.04.2021 at 1000 hrs.** Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened soon after closing time in the presence of the Bidders' representatives who choose to attend.
- Bids shall be valid up to **28.07.2021.**
- All bids shall be accompanied by a **Bid Security of Rupees Rs. 140,000/-**. Bid security shall be **valid up to 27.08.2021.**

**DIRECTOR GENERAL
BOARD OF INVESTMENT OF SRI LANKA**

PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice under Section 9(1) of Companies Act No. 08 of No. 7 of 2007.
Name of the Company : **Veritas Autonomous (Pvt) Ltd.**
Company Reg. No. : **PV 00236599**
Company Address : **100/38, Kurunda Mawatha, Cemetery Road, Thalapatitiya, Nugegoda.**
Date of Incorporation : **16.03.2021**
Company Director

PUBLIC NOTICE
According to Section 9(1) of Companies Act No. 07 of 2007 Exim Agrology (Pvt) Ltd
Incorporated on 22.03.2019
Name of the Company - Exim Agrology (Pvt) Ltd
Registered Number - PV 00210113
Registered Address - No. 220/14, Siriniwasa Mawatha, Mulleriyawa North, Mulleriyawa New Town.
By order of Board of Directors

NOTICE UNDER SECTION 07 OF THE LAND ACQUISITION ACT (CHAPTER 460) AS AMENDED BY THE LAND ACQUISITION (AMENDMENT) ACT NO. 28 OF 1964

My No. **DHO/LAN/ACQTN/A3/2/10**
Ministry of Land Ref. No. **4-3/5/2013/HW/482(1)**

The Government intends to acquire the land/lands described in the Schedule below. For further particulars, please see the Extraordinary Gazette No. 2216/42 Dated 27.02.2021 of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.

SCHEDULE

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------|
| Province | - Sabaragamuwa |
| District | - Kegalle |
| Divisional Secretary's Division | - Dehiowita |
| Minor Division | - Atulgankoralaya West |
| Gramaniladhari Division | - No. 123 - Batangala |
| Name of Village | - Muruththettuwa |
| 03) Preliminary Plan No. | - Ke/3526 |
| Lot No. | - 01 - 116 (Lots 110) |
| Extent (Hectare) | - 0.8063 |
| U.P. Chandana Anuruddha Piyadasa | Divisional Secretary |
| Dehiowita. | |
| Dehiowita Divisional Secretary's Office | 26.03.2021 |

NOTICE UNDER SECTION 07 OF THE LAND ACQUISITION ACT (CHAPTER 460) AS AMENDED BY THE LAND ACQUISITION (AMENDMENT) ACT NO. 28 OF 1964

My No. **DHO/LAN/ACQTN/A3/2/10**
Ministry of Land Ref. No. **4-3/5/2013/HW/482(1)**

The Government intends to acquire the land/lands described in the Schedule below. For further particulars, please see the Extraordinary Gazette No. 2216/40 Dated 27.02.2021 of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.

SCHEDULE

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------|
| Province | - Sabaragamuwa |
| District | - Kegalle |
| Divisional Secretary's Division | - Dehiowita |
| Minor Division | - Atulgankoralaya West |
| Gramaniladhari Division | - No. 119 - Algoda |
| Name of Village | - Algoda |
| 03) Preliminary Plan No. | - Ke/3537 |
| Lot No. | - 01 - 03 (Lots 03) |
| Extent (Hectare) | - 0.0027 |
| U.P. Chandana Anuruddha Piyadasa | Divisional Secretary |
| Dehiowita. | |
| Dehiowita Divisional Secretary's Office | 26.03.2021 |

LAND ACQUISITION ACT (CHAPTER 460)

Notice under Section 7

My No.: **RBK/LAN/AQURE/A3/90**
Land Min's Ref No.: **4-3/7/2017/HW/287**

It has been decided to acquire the land mentioned in the schedule below for public purpose. For more details, please see the Gazette No. 2194/21 dated 22.09.2020 of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka:

SCHEDULE

- Province** : Sabaragamuwa
 - District** : Kegalle
 - Divisional Secretariat Division** : Rambukkana
 - Location** : Within No. 1 Udanwita Grama Niladhari Division
 - Village** : Udanwita
 - Preliminary Plan No.** : FVP No. 133, Supplement No. 2, Sheet No. 3
 - Name of the Land** : Galpoththemadaha
 - Total Extent** : 0.0705 Hectare
- Sgd. W.L.R. Indika Liyanage,**
Divisional Secretary,
Divisional Secretary's Division
Rambukkana.
10.03.2021

INVITATION FOR BIDS

MEDICAL EQUIPMENT - 2021

Ministry of Indigenous Medicine, Social Welfare, Probation and Childcare Services

Department of Health Services

Office of the Regional Director of Health Services
Matale

Bids are invited by the Chairman, Procurement Committee, Office of the Regional Director of Health Services, Matale, from eligible suppliers for purchase of medical equipment mentioned below for the year 2021.

No.	Description	QTY
01	Video Laryngoscope	01
02	DVT Pump	01
03	Syringe Pump	15
04	Incubators	02
05	Diathermy (Electro Surgery Unit) OT	01
06	Multi - Para monitor with IBP Capons	02
07	Multi-Para Monitor (Wards)	20
08	Multi-para monitor (PBU)	03
09	Infusion Pump	17
10	Sphygmomanometer Anaroid (Tubes compatible for 40C)	10
11	A & B Scanner Biometry	01
12	Sucker Machines	05
13	Medical Refrigerator	02
14	Combination Therapy Unit	01
15	Treadmill Machine for Exercise ECG Machine	01
16	Led Phototherapy Unit	01
17	Infant T-Piece Resuscitator	02
18	High Flow Nasal Oxygen Therapy (Neonatal)	01
19	Phototherapy Unit (Double Surface)	01
20	Multipara Monitor, ICU, Basic - with Neonatal probes	01

- Bid applications and detailed information of equipment to be supplied, prepared on behalf of the bidders will be issued during working days of the week from 08.04.2021 up to 30.04.2021 between 9.00 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. at the Office of the Regional Director of Health Services, M C Road, Matale.
- The relevant bid applications could be obtained by submitting the receipt obtained after paying a non refundable fee of Rs. 2000/= in cash to the Shroff at the Office of the Regional Director of Health Services, Matale.
- A pre-bid meeting has been scheduled for 20th April, 2021 at 10.00 a.m. in the Auditorium at the office of the Regional Director of Health Services, Matale.
- A Bid Security obtained from a commercial bank approved by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka to the value of 2% of the bid value and valid up to 30th July 2021 from the date of opening of bids should be submitted if paying through a bank or if the bid security is to be deposited in cash, an amount to the value of 1% of the bid value should be paid to the Shroff at the office of the Regional Director of Health Services, Matale and a certified copy of the receipt thus received should be submitted.
- A valid registration certificate for the relevant product issued by the National Medicines Regulatory Authority (NMRA) in the name of the institution submitting bids should be forwarded with the bids. The relevant certificate should be valid on the date of the bid opening and in case the validity period of the NMRA certificate of the successful bidder, selected from among the evaluated bids, has expired when awarding of contract, an extended revalidated NMRA certificate should be submitted when signing the agreement.
- Duly completed bids should be sent by registered post or could be hand delivered to the bid box kept in the Accounts Division at the Office of the Regional Director of Health Services to be received at or before 10.00 a.m. on 30th April, 2021. Bids received late will be rejected. Bids will be opened immediately after closing of accepting bids. The bidders or his authorized representative could be present on this occasion. You may contact on Telephone Nos. 066-2222326 / 066-2222734 for further details.

**Chairman,
Procurement Committee,
Office of the Regional Director of Health Services,
Matale.**

08th April, 2021



INVITATION FOR BIDS

Ministry of Finance

Thurusaviya Fund

Procurement for Purchasing of One Hundred and Forty Diamond Roll and Smooth Roll Pairs, Five Thousand Rubber Latex Coagulating Aluminium Pans, Four Thousand Latex Knives, One Lakh Latex Collecting Cups (Plastic) One Lakh Latex Collecting Cup Bindings (Wire)

Quotations are invited by the Departmental Procurement Committee Chairman on behalf of the Thurusaviya Fund from fully qualified eligible Bidders for the Supply of the quantity of Goods mentioned above.

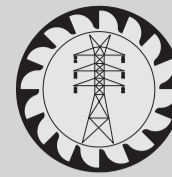
- Bid documents could be inspected free of charge at address mentioned below.
- A complete set of Bid documents prepared in English could be purchased during any working day of the week up to 30.04.2021 between 9.00 a.m. and 2.00 p.m. by submitting a written application and paying a non-refundable fee of Rs. 1000/= in cash for one set of Bidding documents to the Chairman, Thurusaviya Fund, No. 39, Sri Subuthi Mawatha, Battaramulla. Bids should be submitted only on Bid documents obtained from Thurusaviya Fund.
- A sealed set of Bid Documents prepared in two copies should be sent by Registered Post to the Chairman, Departmental Procurement Committee, Thurusaviya Fund or should be deposited in the Procurement Box kept in the Chairman's Office of the Thurusaviya Fund.
- Accepting of Bids will close at 2.00 p.m. on 30.04.2021 and they will be opened immediately thereafter. (Bids received late will be rejected). The Bidder or an authorized Nominee of the Bidder is permitted to participate on this occasion.
- You may obtain any clarification if required regarding these Bid documents upto 30.04.2021 on any working day between 9.00 a.m. and 4.00 p.m. from the undermentioned persons.

Chairman - Thurusaviya Fund - 011-2863937
Director - Thurusaviya Fund - 011-2863936
- Bid Securities obtained from an approved commercial bank should be submitted along with Bids.

Serial No.	Goods	Quantity to be Supplied	Value of Bid Security (Rs.)
1	Diamond Roll and Smooth Roll Pairs	140 Pairs	100,000.00
2	Rubber Latex Coagulating Aluminium Pans	5000	30,000.00
3	Latex Knives	4000	45,000.00
4	Latex Collecting Cups (Plastic)	100,000	20,000.00
5	Latex Collecting Cup Bindings (Wire)	100,000	20,000.00

**Chairman,
Thurusaviya Fund,
No. 39, Sri Subuthipura,
Battaramulla.**

INVITATION FOR BIDS



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இலங்கை மின்சார சபை
CEYLON ELECTRICITY BOARD

1	2	3	4	5	6
Division and Branch Province	Bid No. / Item Description & Quantity	Bid closing date & Time	Place of Purchase of Bidding Documents & Contact TP. Nos.	Price of Bid Document (LKR)	Type of Bid ICB/ NCB
MATERIALS					
Transmission (AM & CM)	TR/AM&CM/NCB/2020/28/D Disposal of unserviceable items at Transmission Division - Monaragala Grid Substation & New Chilaw Grid Substation	12/05/2021 10.00 hrs.	Office of the DGM (Transmission Asset Management and Condition Monitoring), CEB, Kent Road, Colombo 09, Sri Lanka. (For Site Visits and more Info pls contact 0112669738)	3,500.00	NCB
**DD1 (P&D)	DD1/P&D/ICB/2020/025/D Supply & Delivery of 36kV Insulator Tension Sets with Hardware for Racoon Conductors	19/05/2021 10.00 hrs.	Planning & Development Branch (DD1), Fourth Floor, CEB Headquarters, No.50, Sir Chittampalam A. Gardiner Mw, Colombo 02. T.P No. 011-2430473 / 0702309090 e-mail: clk3pd.dd1@ceb.lk	12,500.00	ICB
**DD1 (P&D)	DD1/P&D/ICB/2020/027/D Supply & Delivery of 33kV Insulator Disks	19/05/2021 10.00 hrs.	Same as above	3,500.00	ICB
** Please send the requests via e-mail to clk3pd.dd1@ceb.lk with contact details to obtain information regarding the purchasing of the Bid document in this pandemic situation due to Covid - 19.					
DD1 (NP)	DGM/NP/CE (Com)/STA/T/2021/58 Printing, supply & delivery of consumer electricity bills Qty- 5,000 Unit- Pkts	29/04/2021 14.00 hrs.	Deputy General Manager (NP) Office, Ceylon Electricity Board, Old Park Road, Jaffna. T.P No: 021 222 2496	1,000.00	NCB
DD2 (PHM)	PHM DD2/DGM/CE(SCM)/DPC/2021/04 Supply & Delivery of Transformer Oil for OLTC Maintenance	19/05/2021 14.00 hrs.	Office of DGM(Pr&HM), DD2, CEB, P.O.Box. 18, Lamagara Road, Kandy, Sri Lanka. TP:081-2222286/87 Fax:081-2222286	2,000.00	ICB
DD2 (P & D)	DD2/P&D/ICB/2020/077/D Supply and Delivery of Static Meter- kWh 10(100) A Direct Connected with remote reading facility without modem	19/05/2021 10.00 hrs.	DGM (P&D-DD2), Ground Floor, Ceylon Electricity Board, No. 205/3, Kandy Road, Pahala Biyanwila, Kadawatha. +94-11-2348470 +94-11-2433117	12,500.00	ICB
DD2 (P & D)	DD2/P&D/ICB/2020/078/D Supply & Delivery of Current Transformers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transformers - Current 200/5A Indoor • Transformer - Current 400/5A Indoor • Transformer - Current 600/5A Indoor • Transformer - Current 400/5A Outdoor 	19/05/2021 10.00 hrs.	Same as above	3,500.00	ICB
DD2 (P & D)	DD2/P&D/NCB/2020/085/D Supply and Delivery of Ungalvanized Stay Assembly Complete HT	28/04/2021 10.00 hrs.	Same as above	12,500.00	NCB
DD2 (P & D)	DD2/P&D/ICB/2021/002/D Supply & Delivery of Earth Conductors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Galvanized Steel Earth Conductors - 7/3.25mm • Galvanized Steel Earth Conductor- 7/2.00mm 	19/05/2021 10.00 hrs.	Same as above	3,500.00	ICB
DD3 (Sab)	SAB/CE(COM)/T/2021/25 Supply & Delivery of 1,000 Nos. of 8.3m/100kg Pre-Stressed Spun Concrete Poles	28/04/2021 14.00 hrs.	Office of Deputy General Manager (Sabaragamuwa), Chief Engineer (Commercial) Unit, Ceylon Electricity Board, No.09, New Town, Rathnapura Tel. No. 045-2225891-95 Fax: 045-2226084	2500.00	NCB
DD3 (Sab)	SAB/CE(COM)/T/2021/26 Supply & Delivery of 1,000 Nos. of 6m/50kg Pre-Stressed Spun Concrete Poles	28/04/2021 14.00 hrs.	Same as above	2500.00	NCB
CS (IT)	DGM/IT/2021/T/01 Supply, Delivery, Installation and Commissioning of 06 Nos of Line Printers for Provincial Billing Centers.	04/05/2021 14:00 hrs.	Office of Deputy General Manager (Information Technology), Ground Floor, Ceylon Electricity Board, No. 50, Sir Chittampalam A. Gardiner Mawatha, Colombo 02. Telephone No. 011-2466266	500/=	NCB
CONSTRUCTION					
Generation (Mahaweli Complex)	MC/RND/PT/2021/01 Refurbishment of Circuit Bungalow (3 rd Stage) at Randenigala Power Station	28/04/2021 10.00 hrs.	Chief Engineer, Randenigala Power Station, Ceylon Electricity Board, P.O. Box 05, Rantembe. T.P.: 0554929011, Fax.: 0552245755 Email: cerdm.gen@ceb.lk	1,000.00	NCB
DD2 (Central-1)	CPI/CE(COM)/PPC/2021/061 Civil works at Billing Counter - Accountant (Revenue) CPI	28/04/2021 14.00 hrs.	Chief Engineer (Commercial), CEB, No. 04, Asgiriya Road, Kandy. T.P 081-2234324	1,000.00	NCB
DD2 (Central-1)	CP/CE(COM)/PPC/2020/455 Refurbishment of Bill Counters at Accountant (Revenue) Unit-CP	28/04/2021 14.00 hrs.	Same as above	1,000.00	NCB
DD 03 (P&HM)	DD3/DGM(P&HM)/T/2021/04 Construction of 33 kV Double Circuit Lynx Tower Line from Maliboda GSS to Panakoora Gantry - Stage 2 (01 km): Erection of Foundations & Towers - 05 Tower Locations.	05/05/2021 10.00 hrs.	Office of the DGM (P&HM - DD3), 3 rd Floor, DD 3 Headquarters, Ceylon Electricity Board, 644, Sri Jayawardanapura Mawatha, Ethulkotte. T.P. 011 2880 624	1,000.00	NCB
Projects (TCP)	CEB/DGM/TCP/AKTL/2021/03 Construction of 5 Nos. of Concrete Pad & Chimney foundations for Towers of 132 kV Transmission Line from Athurugiriya GSS to Kolonnawa GSS	29/04/2021 10.00 hrs. Site visit on 20/04/2021	Office of the DGM (Transmission Construction Projects), Ceylon Electricity Board, No. 55-1/1, Thalapatthiya Rd, Embuldeniya, Nugegoda. TP: 011 -2836051/2 Fax: 011-2836053	4,000.00	NCB
SERVICES					
Generation	GCA/DGM/ADMN/JANITORIAL/2021-2022 Janitorial and Garden Maintenance Services of Generation Headquarters, CEB, New Kelani Bridge Road, Kolonnawa for the year 2021/2022	28/04/2021 10.00 hrs.	Office of the DGM (Corporate Affairs), Generation Headquarters, Ceylon Electricity Board, New Kelani Bridge Road, Kolonnawa. Tel. : 011 2392394011-2147232 Fax : 011 2327027	1,000.00	NCB
DD1 (NCP)	CW&B/DGM/NCP/03/2021 Interior Works of Proposed Area Electrical Engineer's Office at Polonnaruwa. Eligibility: CIDA Grading - SP 3 or above	29/04/2021 14.00 hrs.	Office of the Deputy General Manager (Civil Works and Buildings), Ceylon Electricity Board, 4th Floor, G.C.S.U. Building, No.90, Sir Chittampalam A. Gardiner Mawatha, Colombo 02. 011 244 7567 011 244 7568 dgmcivil@ceb.lk	4,000.00	NCB
DD1 (NCP)	CW&B/DGM/NCP/02/2021 Exterior Works of Proposed Area Electrical Engineer's Office at Polonnaruwa. Eligibility: CIDA Grading - C6 or above	29/04/2021 14.00 hrs.	Same as above	4,000.00	NCB
DD1 (NWP1)	DGM/NWP1/CEECM/T/2020/320 Sales of Unserviceable items in Provincial Stores (NWP) -1 at Thabomulla Kuliyapitiya.	28/04/2021 14.00 hrs.	Chief Engineer (Commercial) Branch, CEB, Narammala Road, Kuliyapitiya. 037 - 2281892	1,000.00	NCB
DD1 (NP)	DGM/NP/CE(Com)/BD/T/2021/59 Rent or lease a building for the use of Distribution Maintenance Engineer's office - Vavuniya for 2 Years Period.	29/04/2021 14.00 hrs.	Self-prepared application to be forwarded with expected monthly rental with details of relevant Land (Copy of the deed, building plan should be attached) Tel.: 021-222-2496	-	NCB
DD1 (NP)	DGM/NP/CE(Com)/BD/T/2021/60 Rent or lease a building for the use of ES, Mankulam ECSC Quarters for 2 years Period	29/04/2021 14.00 hrs.	Same as above	-	NCB
DD1 (NP)	DGM/NP/CE (Com)/VHT/2021/61 Hiring of A Crew Cab 2 Wheel Drive for Electrical Engineer (Distribution Maintenance) - Vavuniya On Wet Lease Basis	29/04/2021 14.00 hrs.	Deputy General Manager (NP) office, Ceylon Electricity Board, Old Park Road, Jaffna. T.P No: 021 222 2496	1,000.00	NCB
DD2 (Central-1)	CPI/CE(COM)/PPC/2021/080 Hiring of a Van for Area Office Kandy City for a Period of 02 Years.	28/04/2021 14.00 hrs.	Chief Engineer (Commercial) , CEB, No. 04, Asgiriya Road, Kandy. T.P. 081-2234324	1,000.00	NCB
DD2 (Central-1)	CPI/CE(COM)/PPC/2021/081 Hiring of a Van (with 07 Seating facilities) for HT Maintenance Sub Unit in Kandy City Area for a Period of 02 Years.	28/04/2021 14.00 hrs.	Same as above	1,000.00	NCB
DD2 (Central-1)	CPI/CE(COM)/PPC/2021/083 Hiring of a Van for Area Office Matale for a Period of 02 Years.	28/04/2021 14.00 hrs.	Same as above	1,000.00	NCB
DD2 (Central-1)	CPI/CE(COM)/PPC/2021/084 Hiring of a Single Cab for CE (Distribution & Maintenance) Unit - CP1 for a Period of 02 Years.	28/04/2021 14.00 hrs.	Same as above	1,000.00	NCB
DD2 (Central-1)	CPI/CE(COM)/PPC/2021/085 Hiring of a Motor Car for CE (Planning & Development) Unit - CP1 for a Period of 02 Years.	28/04/2021 14.00 hrs.	Chief Engineer (Commercial), CEB, No. 04, Asgiriya Road, Kandy. T.P 081-2234324.	1,000.00	NCB
DD2 (Central-1)	CPI/CE(COM)/PPC/2021/066 Rent / lease building to be used as ECSC Dambulla in Dambulla Area for a period of 02 years.	28/04/2021 14.00 hrs.	Self-prepared detailed application to be forwarded with expected monthly rental. T.P 066-2283442 / 081-2234324	-	NCB
DD2 (EP)	DGM [E]/QPPC/21/113 Hiring a van for the use of Electrical Superintendent (Commercial) at DGM (East) office for a period of 02 years.	28/04/2021 14.00 hrs.	Office of the DGM [East], Trincomalee. 026-2222666 / 026-2221030	1000.00	NCB
DD2 (EP)	DGM [E]/QPPC/20/114 Hiring a van for the use of Electrical Superintendent (Energy Management) at DGM (East) office for a period of 02 years.	28/04/2021 14.00 hrs.	Office of the DGM [East], Trincomalee. 026-2222666 / 026-2221030	1000.00	NCB
DD2 (EP)	DGM [E]/QPPC/20/115 Hiring a van for the use of Electrical Superintendent (Energy Management) at DGM (East) office for a period of 02 years.	28/04/2021 14.00 hrs.	Office of the DGM [East], Trincomalee. 026-2222666 / 026-2221030	1000.00	NCB
DD2 (EP)	DGM [E]/QPPC/20/116 Hiring a van for the use of Electrical Superintendent (Sainthamaruthu ECSC) - Kalmunai for a period of 02 years.	28/04/2021 14.00 hrs.	Office of the ACEE(Kalmunai), 067-2229276 Or Office of the DGM [East], Trincomalee. 026-2222666 / 026-2221030	1000.00	NCB
DD2 (EP)	DGM [E]/QPPC/20/117 Rent out a land for the use as pole yard for provincial sub stores Ampara for a period of 02 years.	28/04/2021 14.00 hrs.	Office of the DGM [East], Trincomalee. 026-2222666 / 026-2221030	500.00	NCB
DD2 (EP)	DGM [E]/QPPC/21/118 Hiring a crew cab for the use of Uhana ECSC at Ampara for a period of 02 years.	28/04/2021 14.00 hrs.	Office of the ACEE(Ampara), 063222387 / 063-2222078 or Office of the DGM [East], Trincomalee. 026-2222666 / 026-2221030	1000.00	NCB
DD2 (P & HM)	PHM DD2/DGM/CE(SC&M)/DPC/2021/06 Hiring a van on wet lease basis with a driver for the use of CE(SC&M) Office (Pr&HM-DD2) for a period of One (01) year	28/04/2021 14.00 hrs.	Office of Deputy General Manager (PHM-DD2), Ceylon Electricity Board, PO Box: 18, Lamagaraya Road, Kandy. TP : 081 2222286/87 Fax : 081 2222286/87	500.00	NCB

DD2 (PHM)	PHM DD2/DGM/(CE (LCM)/DPC/2021/01 Soil Investigation Works at Eleven Nos. of Towers at Kerawalapitiya Grid Substation to Nugape Gantry 33kV Tower Line	28/04/2021 14.00 hrs.	Deputy General Manager (P&HM) DD2, Ceylon Electricity Board, P.O.Box. 18, Lamagaraya Road, Kandy. 081-2222286 / 081-2204298	1000.00	NCB
DD2 (WPN)	WPN/ Kirind/EC1/ Ten/Building/2021/01 Rent out a building for a Consumer Service Centre (Pugoda) for 02 years	21/04/2021 14.30 hrs.	EE(Kirindiwela) Office, No. 74/25, Rajaweediya, Kirindiwela. T.P. No.: 0332253357 / 0332253358	500.00	NCB
DD2 (WPN)	WPN/ Kirind/GC/ Ten/Cle/2021/02 Cleaning Service for a period of 01 year for the CSC Pugoda, CSC Dompe, CSC Kirindiwela and Area Office (Kirindiwela)	21/04/2021 14.30 hrs.	Same as above	500.00	NCB
DD2 (WPN)	WPN/NCB/V-V63/2021/86 Hiring of a Crew Cab for Area Maintenance Unit – Chief Electrical Engineer (Veyangoda)	21/04/2021 14.00 hrs.	DGM(WPN)'s Office, CEB, No.280, Kandy Road, Kiribathgoda Tel. 011-2911071/72	1000.00	NCB
DD2 (WPN)	WPN/NCB/V-V64/2021/88 Hiring of a Van for Area Maintenance Unit – Chief Electrical Engineer (Veyangoda)	21/04/2021 14.00 hrs.	Same as above	1000.00	NCB
DD2 (WPN)	WPN/NCB/KE-V 32/2021/92 Hiring of a Crew Cab for Consumer Service Centre - Dompe	21/04/2021 14.00 hrs.	Same as above	1000.00	NCB
DD2 (WPN)	WPN/NCB/V-V126/2021/112 Hiring of a Van for Chief Electrical Engineer's Office (Veyangoda)	21/04/2021 14.00 hrs.	Same as above	1000.00	NCB
DD2 (WPN)	WPN/NCB/K-V38/2021/150 Hiring of a Van for Chief Electrical Engineer's Office - Kelaniya	21/04/2021 14.00 hrs.	Same as above	1000.00	NCB
DD2 (WPN)	WPN/NCB/K-V99/2021/151 Hiring of a Crew Cab for Consumer Service Centre - Delgoda	21/04/2021 14.00 hrs.	Same as above	1000.00	NCB
DD2 (WPN)	WPN/NCB/K-V31/2021/152 Hiring of a Van for Chief Electrical Engineer's Office - Kelaniya	21/04/2021 14.00 hrs.	Same as above	1000.00	NCB
DD2 (WPN)	WPN/NCB/K-V36/2021/153 Hiring of a Van for Chief Electrical Engineer's Office - Kelaniya	21/04/2021 14.00 hrs.	Same as above	1000.00	NCB
DD2 (WPN)	WPN/NCB/K-V66/2021/154 Hiring of a Van for Consumer Service Centre - Delgoda	21/04/2021 14.00 hrs.	Same as above	1000.00	NCB
DD2 (WPN)	WPN/NCB/J-V71/2021/155 Hiring of a Van for Chief Electrical Engineer's Office – Ja-ela	21/04/2021 14.00 hrs.	Same as above	1000.00	NCB
DD2 (WPN)	WPN/NCB/Con -V84/2021/156 Hiring of a Van for Chief Engineer (Construction)'s Office	21/04/2021 14.00 hrs.	Same as above	1000.00	NCB
DD2 (WPN)	WPN/NCB/D-V133/2021/157 Hiring of a Crew Cab for Consumer Service Centre - Mirigama	21/04/2021 14.00 hrs.	Same as above	1000.00	NCB
DD2 (WPN)	WPN/NCB/D-V80/2021/158 Hiring of a Van for Area Maintenance Unit – Electrical Engineer – (Divulapitiya)	21/04/2021 14.00 hrs.	Same as above	1000.00	NCB
DD2 (WPN)	WPN/NCB/KR-V93/2021/159 Hiring of a Van for Consumer Service Centre – Kirindiwela	21/04/2021 14.00 hrs.	Same as above	1000.00	NCB
DD3 (SAB)	SAB/RUW-V84/HV/2021/32 Hiring of a Crew Cab 4 Wheel Drive for Deraniyagala Consumer Service Centre	28/04/2021 14.00 hrs.	Office of the DGM,CE (Commercial) Unit, Ceylon Electricity Board, New Town, Rathnapura. T.P No. 045-2225891-5 ,Fax – 045-2226084	1,000.00	NCB
DD3 (SAB)	SAB/KAH-V30/HV/2021/33 Hiring of a Dual Purpose Van for Area Electrical Engineer's Unit - Kahawaththa	28/04/2021 14.00 hrs.	Same as above	1,000.00	NCB
DD3 (SAB)	SAB/EHE-V71/HV/2021/34 Hiring of a Double Cab 4 Wheel Drive for Kiriella Consumer Service Center	28/04/2021 14.00 hrs.	Same as above	1,000.00	NCB
DD3 (SAB)	SAB/EMB-V25/HV/2021/35 Hiring of a Dual Purpose Van for Area Electrical Engineer's Unit - Embilipitiya	28/04/2021 14.00 hrs.	Same as above	1,000.00	NCB
DD3 (SAB)	SAB/EM-V52/HV/2021/36 Hiring of a Dual Purpose Van for Chief Engineer Energy Management Unit -Sabaragamuwa	28/04/2021 14.00 hrs.	Same as above	1,000.00	NCB
DD3 (SAB)	SAB/RAT-V34/HV/2021/37 Hiring of a Double Cab 4 Wheel Drive for Area Electrical Engineer's Unit - Rathnapura	28/04/2021 14.00 hrs.	Same as above	1,000.00	NCB
Projects (PSRSP)	CEB/PR/PSRSP/PMU3/21/F01/32 Hiring of One (01) numbers of Motor Car for one-year period on wet lease basis for Office of Power System Reliability Strengthening Project (PSRSP).	29/04/2021 10:00 hrs.	Office of Project Director, Power System Reliability Strengthening Project, Ceylon Electricity Board, 759, Thalagama South, Pelawatta, Battaramulla 10120. TP: 011-2888495/96	500.00	NCB
Projects (TCP)	CEB/TCP/DGM/Security/2021/01 Provision of unarmed security service to 1)DGM Office of the Transmission Construction Projects at Embuldeniya 2)Transmission Construction Projects Stores at Kotugoda 3)Transmission Line Stores at Moneragala GSS	29/04/2021 10:00 hrs.	Office of the DGM (Transmission Construction Projects), Ceylon Electricity Board, No. 55-1/1, Thalathapitiya Rd, Embuldeniya, Nugegoda. TP: 011 -2836051/2 Fax: 011-2836053	2,500.00	NCB
Projects (TCP)	CEB/ DGM/TCP/TLCP/EMTL/2021/01 Preliminary & Profile Survey Works of Proposed 132kV Transmission Line Route from Ethimale to Moneragala.	29/04/2021 10:00 hrs. Site visit on 20/04/2021 Ethimale	Same as above	1,500.00	NCB
Projects (TCP)	CEB/ DGM/TCP/TLCP/PKTL/2021/01 Preliminary & Profile Survey Works of Proposed 220kV Transmission Line Route from Pooneryn to Kilinochchi and 132kV Transmission Line Route from Kilinochchi GSS to Kilinochchi 220kV End	29/04/2021 10:00 hrs. Site visit on 22/04/2021 Pooneryn	Same as above	1,500.00	NCB

Chairman of the above Procurement Committees, on behalf of the Ceylon Electricity Board, now invites sealed Bids from potential Suppliers for the above mentioned items on the basis of International /National competitive bidding. Bids should be submitted only on the bid documents purchased from the CEB.

Bidding Documents will be issued only to the prospective Bidders or their accredited Agents. Wherever necessary they should get registered in terms of the Public Contracts Act No.3 of 1987.

Bidding Documents could be purchased by any prospective bidder or their accredited Agents on submission of a written request to the respective Deputy General Manager/Chief Engineer of the CEB upon payment of the amount indicated in Column 6 of the above table for each set of Bid Documents, between 0900 hrs. and 1500 hrs. on any working day till the day prior to the bid closing date. Payment shall be made in cash or bank draft drawn in favour of the General Manager, CEB.

Foreign Diplomatic Missions / Trade Commissions may obtain information copies of the Bidding Documents, free of charge on submission of a written request. The Bidding Documents may be inspected by the prospective bidders or their Agents at the office of the respective DGM/CE free of charge.

Bids will be opened immediately after the closing time of the bidding in the presence of Bidders and their authorized representatives at the locations indicated in Column 9. Late Bids shall be rejected.

All clarifications shall be sought two weeks before the Bid closing date, from the respective DGM/CE of the CEB who issued the bidding Documents.

* ICB – International Competitive Bidding, NCB – National Competitive Bidding.

General Manager

Enrich Life through Power



The Information copy of the Bid document may be downloaded from the CEB Corporate website www.ceb.lk



TENDER NOTICE

Sealed tenders are invited from reputable companies who are capable of Upgrading Firewall & Core Switch for Colombo International Container Terminals Limited ("CICT").

Tender No.	Description of Work
RFQ/03/04/21	Upgrading Firewall & Core Switch for Colombo International Container Terminals Ltd

Prospective Vendors are requested to obtain Tender Documents (In Electronic Format Only) by email (Email: ranidu.laksiri@cict.lk) of Procurement Department of CICT (Mob/ Tel: 0766-666803, 0112-666803)

Please submit your sealed tenders to be received to below address not later than **3.00 p.m. (local time), on 28th April 2021**, & mention "Upgrading Firewall & Core Switch for Colombo International Container Terminals Ltd on the top left-hand corner of the envelope.

Procurement Department,
Colombo International Container Terminals Limited,
Port of Colombo,
120/20, Marine Drive Road,
Colombo 01,
Sri Lanka.

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AMENDMENT TO INVITATION FOR BIDS

SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF GRANITE FLOORING, WALL CLADDING AND PANTRY TOPS FOR BLOCK 01 OF DEFENCE HEADQUARTERS COMPLEX AT AKUREGODA

CONTRACT NO: DHQC/GRANITE 1/2021

- This refers to the Invitation for Bids, published on 21.03.2021 in Silumina, Sunday Observer, Thinakaran varamanjari in respect of the above mentioned Contract.
- Following amendments are made to the above referred Invitation for Bids.

- The estimated cost LKR 409 Million (excluding VAT).
- Time for Completion for whole of works shall be 291 Days.
- 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 120 million.
- The Bid opening/closing time has been extended up to 1000 hrs on 20th April 2021
- Bids shall valid up to 17th August 2021
- Bid Security Shall be valid up to 14th September 2021

- All other terms and conditions of the previous Invitation for Bids remain unchanged.

- Interested bidders may obtain further information from, The Director, Project Management Unit, Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla and inspect the bidding documents free of charge at the same address until 19th April 2021 from 0900 hrs to 1500 hrs during a working day.

The Chairman,
Ministry Procurement Committee (MPC),
Ministry of Defence,
No. 15/5, Baladksha Mawatha,
Colombo 03.

Tel : 0094-11-2439381/ 0094-11-2390719
Fax : 0094-11-2390720
E-mail : procurement@defence.lk



Calling for Expression of Interest (EOI)

Human Resource Management System

Sri Lanka Cricket (SLC), being the Governing Body of Cricket in Sri Lanka hereby invites and seeks "Expression of Interest" from reputed companies who are interested in providing a suitable Human Resource Management System (HRMS) for SLC.

The system should:

- Be web-based and responsive
- Easily integrate with third party solutions
- Ability to store all key particulars of employees
- Ability to maintain multiple employee categories
- Provide built-in security to protect sensitive information
- Maintain role-based access and user privileges
- Integrated time management solution
- Maintain multiple leave policies, workflow and reporting
- Processing payroll by Group, Category or Organisation-wide
- Provide a standardised and online Recruitment facility
- Employees self-service portal

EOI Submission Procedure:

The EOI must be submitted with a brief description of your organization and details of systems develop by your organization on or before 1500 hrs on 19th April 2021 in writing to "The Manager Human Resources", Sri Lanka Cricket, No 35, Maitland Place Colombo 07, Sri Lanka or via our email - hr@srlankacricket.lk

SLC reserves the right to cancel, amend or vary this EOI at any time at its sole discretion, without assigning reasons whatsoever.

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



INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

Ministry of Education

Procurement of Computers & Accessories for National Schools, Teacher Centers, Non Formal Education, NCOEs and Foreign Languages Units under GEMP (Supply, Delivery & Installation)

Contract No : ED/07/101/02/2021/GEMP/G-01

The Chairman, Ministry Procurement Committee on behalf of the Secretary, Ministry of Education invites sealed Bids for **Procurement of Computers & Accessories for National Schools, Teacher Centers, Non-Formal Education, NCOEs and Foreign Languages Units under GEMP (Supply, Delivery & Installation)** mentioned in the table below, from eligible and qualified Bidders possessing a minimum laid down experience. Complete details are included in the bidding document. Expected delivery period is 12 to 16 weeks from the date of letter of acceptance. Bidders must quote for the total Package and all Bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security as indicated in the table below,

Item No.	Description of the Item	Qty.	Amount of Bid Security (Rs.)
1	All in One Computers with UPs	73	126,000.00
2	Laptop Computers	47	
3	Laser Printers	58	
4	Pen Drive	36	
5	Colour Inject Printer	36	

Bidders should provide Bid Securities along with the Bid.

- Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding (NCB) procedure.
- Interested eligible Bidders may obtain further information from the Procurement Division, 5th Floor, "Isurupaya", Ministry of Education. (Telephone **011-2785573** or **0112785141-50 Extn. 1530**) and inspect the bidding documents free of charge from 09.00 a.m. to 03.00 p.m. on working days until **28th April 2021**.
- A complete set of bidding documents in English Language may be purchased by interested Bidders from the Procurement Division upon submission of a written application on or before 3.00 p.m. on 28th April 2021 and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Rs. 8,000/= for document. (The payment method will be cash).
- Bids must be delivered to the Procurement Division, 05h Floor, Ministry of Education, "Isurupaya", Battaramulla on or before **29th April 2021 at 02.30 p.m.** Late Bids will be returned unopened. Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidders' representatives who choose to attend in person at the address given above after closing of Bids.
- Duly filled and sealed Bids marked "**Procurement of Computers & Accessories for National Schools, Teacher Centers, Non Formal Education, NCOEs and Foreign Language Units under GEMP (Supply, Delivery & Installation)**". IFB No : **ED/07/101/02/2021/GEMP-G-01** on top left-hand corner of the envelope should be submitted.

**Secretary
Ministry of Education
"Isurupaya",
Battaramulla.**

Invitation for Expressions of Interest



MILCO (PRIVATE) LIMITED
(State owned Enterprise)



MILCO (PRIVATE) LIMITED is a State owned premier Milk Processing and Marketing Organization, manufacturing dairy products under the brand name of 'HIGHLAND' in Sri Lanka. Tenders are hereby invited by the Chairman - Tender Committee of MILCO (PRIVATE) LIMITED from Manufacturers/Suppliers or their accredited Agents for Supply, Delivery, Installation, Commissioning and Testing of the following items.

Item / Description	Tender No:	Closing Date & Time	Document fee (Non-refundable) Rs:	Bid Bond Rs:
1 SUPPLY, INSTALLATION, TESTING AND COMMISSIONING OF SEMI AUTOMATIC YOGHURT CUP FILLERS 03 Nos (CAPACITY 11,500 – 14,000 CUPS (95g) / HOUR) TO COLOMBO, DIGANA AND POLONNARUWA MILK FACTORIES IN SRI LANKA	M/PUR/TEN/2021/24	21 / 05 / 2021 at 15:00	10,000.00	100,000.00

Non-refundable document fee should be deposited at any branch of People's Bank by cash as per the following Bank details. (Cash won't be accepted under any circumstances.)

Name of the Account : MILCO (PVT) LTD **Account No :** 004100180210331
Bank & Branch : People's Bank Corporate Banking Division
Purpose : Non-refundable document fee for M/PUR/TEN/2021/24

GENERAL CONDITIONS :

- Tender documents with full specifications/details could be collected from Purchasing Division of MILCO (PRIVATE) LIMITED, Fifth Floor, No: 345, Galle Road, Colombo-03 **between 9.30 a.m. and 4.00 p.m. on normal working days up to 03/05/2021**, on cash payment of a non-refundable documents fee as mentioned above. Tender document or any document will not be issued without a request letter.
- Pre-Bid meeting will be held on **05/05/2021 at 2.00 p.m.** via ZOOM platform and Bidders are requested to provide necessary contact details along with your request letter for the ZOOM meeting invitation.
- Bid Bond to the above value should be furnished with the offer obtained from a recognized commercial Bank in Sri Lanka, for a validity period of 90 days.
- Tender will be **closed and opened at 3.00 p.m. on 21/05/2021** at Purchasing Division of MILCO (PRIVATE) LIMITED. Bidders or their representatives could be present at the time of opening Bids.
- Tender documents could be inspected free of charge at the Purchasing Division.
- The Tender Committee reserves the right to accept or reject any or all Bids without giving reasons.
- MILCO employees and their close relatives cannot participate in this Sealed Quotation.

Any further details, information or clarification required on Tender Notice can be obtained from Manager - Projects & Engineering; Mobile No. 076-6097201 or Manager - Purchasing, Telephone Nos. 011-4500530-4.

**CHAIRMAN - TENDER COMMITTEE
MILCO (PRIVATE) LIMITED
Fifth Floor,
No. 345, Galle Road,
COLOMBO 03.**



DISTRICT SECRETARIAT - RATNAPURA
INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

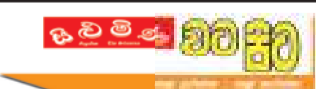
SUPPLYING, INSTALLATION, TESTING & COMMISSIONING AND MAINTENANCE OF PRIME RATED 200kVA, 230/400V, 50Hz & 300kVA, 230/400V, 50Hz SOUND PROOF DIESEL GENERATOR SET

The District Secretary - Ratnapura in the capacity of the Chairman, Department Procurement Committee invites sealed bids from eligible & qualified bidders for the project described below.

Description of Work	District Supply and Installation Cost (Including Profit) (Rs.)	Bid Security (Rs.)	CIDA Registration Grade required	Non-refundable Bid fee (Rs.)	Contract Period
Supply, Installation, Testing, Commissioning and Maintenance of Prime Rated 200kVA, 230/400V, 50Hz & 300kVA, 230/400V, 50Hz Sound Proof Diesel Generator Set at District Secretariat Office Building Ratnapura	27,150,000.00	400,000.00	EM-02 or above (sub specialty field - Generator only)	5000	180 Days

- Executing agency will be the District Secretary (Ratnapura) & the Implementing agency will be Central Engineering Consultancy Bureau.
- Bidding documents will be issued between 9.00 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. on working days from 08.04.2021 to 04.05.2021 at the Accounts Section, District Secretariat Complex, New Town, Ratnapura on the payment of a non-refundable tender fee of Rupees 5000.00 Bidding documents may be inspected free of charge at the place of issuing documents during office hours from 8.30 a.m. to 3.00 p.m.
- Eligible bidders shall be registered Contractors under **Construction Industry Development Authority (CIDA)** for Grades mentioned above at the time of bid submission.
- Bids shall be valid up to 91 calendar days from the time of closing of the Bid.
- Sealed Bids, addressed to Chairman, Department Procurement Committee, District Secretariat, New Town, Ratnapura may be dispatched with duplicate either be by registered post or be deposited in the tender box kept at the office of Chief Accountant at District Secretariat- Ratnapura on or before 04.05.2021 at 2.00 p.m.
- Bids will be opened immediately after the closing of the Bids at the office of Chief Accountant, District Secretariat, New Town, Ratnapura. Bidders or their authorized representatives are requested to be present at the opening of the tender.
- The late delivered Bids will not be accepted & returned to the bidder unopened.
- The sealed bidding envelope should be marked "Quotation for Generator" on the top left hand corner.
- Any further particulars may be obtained from District Engineer, District Secretariat, New Town, Ratnapura. Telephone No. 045-2226033, Fax No: 045-2222140, E-mail: **disratnapura@yahoo.com**

**Chairman,
Department Procurement Committee, District Secretariat,
New Town, Ratnapura.
08th April 2021**



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lk**DISTRICT SECRETARIAT - RATNAPURA**
INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)**SUPPLYING, INSTALLATION, TESTING & COMMISSIONING & MAINTENANCE OF MACHINE ROOM LESS PASSENGER LIFT**

The District Secretary - Ratnapura in the capacity of the Chairman, Department Procurement Committee invites sealed bids from eligible & qualified bidders for the project described below.

Description of Work	District Supply and Installation Cost (Including Profit) (Rs.)	Bid Security (Rs.)	CIDA Registration Grade required	Non-refundable Bid fee (Rs.)	Contract Period
Supply, Installation, Testing, Commissioning and Maintenance of Machine Room Less Passenger Lift at District Secretariat Office Building, Ratnapura.	6,336,000.00	95,000.00	EM-04	3,000.00	180 Days

1. Executing agency will be the District Secretary (Ratnapura) & the Implementing agency will be Central Engineering Consultancy Bureau.
2. Bidding documents will be issued between 9.00 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. on working days from 08.04.2021 to 04.05.2021 at the Accounts Section, District Secretariat Complex, New Town, Ratnapura on the payment of a non-refundable tender fee of Rupees 3,000.00. Bidding documents may be inspected free of charge at the place of issuing documents during office hours from 8.30 a.m. to 3.00 p.m.
3. Eligible bidders shall be registered Contractors with **Construction Industry Development Authority (CIDA)** for Grades mentioned above at the time of bid submission.
4. Bids shall be valid up to 91 calendar days from the time of closing of the Bid.
5. Sealed Bids, addressed to Chairman, Department Procurement Committee, District Secretariat, New Town, Ratnapura may be dispatched with duplicate either by registered post or be deposited in the tender box kept in the office of Chief Accountant at District Secretariat- Ratnapura on or before 04.05.2021 at 2.00 p.m.
6. Bids will be opened immediately after the closing of the Bids at the office of Chief Accountant, District Secretariat, New Town, Ratnapura. Bidders or their authorized representatives are requested to be present at the opening of the tender.
7. The late delivered Bids will not be accepted & returned to the bidder unopened.
8. The sealed bidding envelope should be marked "Quotation for Lift" on the top left hand corner.
9. Any further particulars may be obtained from District Engineer, District Secretariat, New Town, Ratnapura. Telephone No. 045-2226033, Fax No.: 045-2222140, E-mail: disratnapura@yahoo.com

Chairman,
Department Procurement Committee,
District Secretariat,
New Town, Ratnapura.
08th April 2021

**DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA**
ISSUE OF TREASURY BILLS

Rs. 45,000 million Treasury Bills are to be issued through an auction on 12th April 2021

The Details of Treasury Bill issues are as follows :

Maturity Period	91 Days	182 Days	364 Days	Total
ISIN*	LKA09121G166	LKA18221J159	LKA36422D154 ***	
Amount Offered (Rs. Mn.)	8,000	15,000	22,000	45,000
Maximum yield rate for acceptance (%)**			5.15	

Date of Auction : 12th April 2021
Date of Settlement : 16th April 2021
Date of Issue : 16th April 2021
Closing date and time of bid submission : **Monday 12th April 2021, at 11.00 a.m.**
Minimum amount of a bid : Rupees five million (Rs. 5,000,000/=) and multiples of Rupees one million (Rs. 1,000,000/=) there onwards.

Bids are invited from the Primary Dealers in Government Securities.

Bids should be made only through the electronic bidding facility provided by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka (CBSL).

The CBSL may accept a higher or lower amount than the offered amounts for each maturity by reallocating amounts between the maturities, depending on the market conditions, but without exceeding the total amount on offer at this auction.

The general public is invited to purchase Treasury Bills from the following Primary Dealers or any other Licensed Commercial Banks

Acuity Securities Ltd.	2206297	NSB Fund Management Co. Ltd.	2425010
Bank of Ceylon	2541938	People's Bank	2206783
Capital Alliance Ltd.	2317777	Sampath Bank PLC	2305842
Commercial Bank of Ceylon PLC	2332319	Seylan Bank PLC	2456340
First Capital Treasuries PLC	2639883	WealthTrust Securities Ltd	2675096

* International Securities Identification Number

** The yield rates of 91 day and 182 day maturities will be decided below the level of 364 day maturity at the auction.

*** New holiday treatment for Treasury Bill maturities applies, i.e. effective from 2022, in the event the maturity falls on a bank holiday, payments will be made on the immediate following business day.

W.G. Prabhath
Actg. Superintendent / Registrar of Public Debt

Issuing Office

Public Debt Department

CENTRAL BANK OF SRI LANKA

30, Janadhipathi Mawatha, Colombo 1.

Telephone: +94 112477011 Fax: +94 112477687

Web: www.cbsl.gov.lk

Employment Opportunities

BOARD OF INVESTMENT OF SRI LANKA



VACANCIES

The Board of Investment of Sri Lanka (BOI) is the apex agency of the government promoting and facilitating foreign direct and local investment in priority sectors of the economy. The BOI plays a pivotal role in transforming Sri Lanka to become a globally competitive manufacturing and services export hub. In order to enable it to achieve ambitious FDI targets over the next few years the BOI wishes to strengthen the organization by recruiting dynamic professionals with specialized skills, experience and expertise.

Applications are invited from suitably qualified Sri Lankans to be recruited to the following posts on contract basis.

1. HEAD OF LARGE SCALE PROJECTS AND PPT**Job Profile**

The ideal candidate should possess the ability to oversee the structuring and speedy implementation of important infrastructure and marquee projects. The role includes liaising with key government agencies to ensure proper structuring and positioning of all national infrastructure and other marquee development projects to be carried out on PPP and BOT basis and supporting the development of multi-party structured projects to attract joint ventures (JVs) or private investments.

Qualifications and Experience

A Bachelor's Degree in a relevant field. A Postgraduate Degree (Master's Level) or any other relevant academic or professional qualifications would be an added advantage.

The candidate would need to have 08-12 years of experience, of which, 03 years should be in managerial positions. The ideal candidate would have gained experience working at or supporting large global financial institutions in credit and risk analysis, project/trade financing, commercial/corporate lending, PPP project structuring, investor relationship management, risk management, restructuring of distressed project portfolios, produce research-based benchmark thematic studies on global peer projects, and channel structured content for all investment promotion activity.

2. HEAD OF STRUCTURED PROJECTS**Job Profile**

The ideal candidate should possess the ability to provide strategic direction and leadership required for effective project management and delivery. The role further requires developing and overseeing appropriate quality systems covering all aspects of unit operations, project planning and execution. In addition, establishing benchmarks and appropriate KPIs for demonstrating the quality of project delivery is required.

Qualifications and Experience

A Bachelor's Degree in a relevant field. A Postgraduate Degree (Master's Level) or any other relevant academic or professional qualifications would be an added advantage.

The candidate would need to have 08-12 years of experience, of which, 03 years should be in managerial positions. The ideal candidate would have gained experience working at or supporting large global financial institutions in credit and risk analysis, project/trade financing, commercial/corporate lending, investor relationship management, risk management, restructuring of stressed project portfolios, produce research-based benchmark thematic studies on global peer projects, and channel structured content for all investment promotion activity.

3. HEAD OF TARGET RESEARCH**Job Profile**

The ideal candidate should possess the ability to oversee qualitative and quantitative research and provide consultation on relative markets. The role further requires keeping up-to-date knowledge of the industries and related markets, comprehending the needs of the organization and target research to the benefit of the organization. In addition, liaising with entities that could provide useful data and creating clear and useful reports and recommendations for organizational use is required.

Qualifications and Experience:

A Bachelor's Degree in a relevant field. A Postgraduate Degree (Master's Level) or any other relevant academic or professional qualifications would be an added advantage.

The candidate would need to have 08-12 years of experience, of which, 03 years should be in managerial positions. The ideal candidate would have gained experience working at or supporting large global financial institutions such as tier-1 global banks, asset managers, hedge funds, pension funds etc. including international experience. He/she would have also gained deep knowledge of various industry verticals and sectoral knowledge through extensive research, leveraging IT and research solutions to build various analytical tools, produced insightful research-based reports, including thematic, to support business development teams to carry out roadshows to convince Investors to invest in Sri Lanka.

4. HEAD OF ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT**Job Profile**

The ideal candidate should possess the ability to ensure that potential FDI generating target companies are validated so that focused investment promotion campaigns may be carried out and consequently a realistic and healthy FDI pipeline could be developed. The role further requires ensuring consistent country branding and messaging by acting as the focal point/coordinator between multiple government and private bodies, foreign missions and foreign agencies.

Qualifications and Experience:

A Bachelor's Degree in a relevant field. A Postgraduate Degree (Master's Level) or any other relevant academic or professional qualifications would be an added advantage.

The candidate would need to have 08-12 years of experience, of which, 03 years should be in managerial positions. The ideal candidate would have gained experience working with multi-stakeholders gaining reasonable sectoral knowledge, and supported business development teams to carry out business development initiatives that drive top-line growth. He/she would need to have exceptional flair for written communication, both over traditional and non-traditional media and should play the central coordination role among private industry bodies/associations and foreign missions.

5. HEAD OF BRANDING AND INTERNATIONAL PR**Job Profile**

The ideal candidate should possess the ability to oversee the designing and implementation of world-class country branding/PR and investment promotion campaigns to support the investment promotion strategies. Further, the role requires Create world-class promotional content, both physical and digital, to support the investment promotion strategies

Qualifications and Experience:

A Bachelor's Degree in a relevant field. A Postgraduate Degree (Master's Level) or any other relevant academic or professional qualifications would be an added advantage.

The candidate would need to have 08-12 years of experience, of which, 03 years should be in managerial positions. He/She would have gained core experience in corporate and brand communications, brand building including target facing collateral and online material, PR campaigns focused on international clients or at multinational corporates including social media and digital campaigns, engaging marketing/advertising/PR agencies for relevant activities and campaigns, working with various stakeholder groups, both internal and external, to influence and manage the overall brand, positioning and communications. He/she would need to have exceptional flair for written communication, both over traditional and non-traditional media.

GENERAL CONDITIONS**Preferred Age:**

Preferably between 30 - 45 years

Remuneration:

Remuneration will be negotiable and on par with market rates

Every Applicant,

- Should be a citizen of Sri Lanka
- Should be physically and mentally fit to discharge the duties of the post well

HOW TO APPLY:

Applications providing necessary information including the details of personal information, academic/professional qualifications (with awarding dates), work experience (with title and duration) and two non-related referees should be sent to recruitment@boi.lk to reach on or before **22nd April 2021**.

Applications which do not conform to the above requirements, incomplete applications and applications received after the closing date will be rejected without notice.

Any form of canvassing will lead to disqualification.

The BOI reserves the right to decide the shortlisting process of candidates, number of positions to be filled or to postpone/cancel the recruitment.



Director General, Board of Investment of Sri Lanka, 24th Floor, West Tower,
World Trade Centre, Echelon Square, Colombo 01

Employment Opportunities



UNIVERSITY OF JAFFNA, SRI LANKA

University of Jaffna will entertain applications from the qualified persons for the under mentioned posts.

- Programmer cum Systems Analyst Grade II
- Assistant Network Manager Grade II

Qualifications:

Refer University website www.jfn.ac.lk for required qualifications
 *Prior experience in Software design, development and maintenance in the field of computing would be preferable.

Remuneration:

Post	Salary Code	Salary scale
Programmer cum Systems Analyst Grade II	U-AS-2(II)	Rs.50, 625 - 3x1,335 - 54,630(EB) 55,965-14 x 1,335-74,655/-p.m
Assistant Network Manager Grade II	U-AS-2(II)	Rs.50, 625 - 3x1,335 - 54,630(EB) 55,965-14 x 1,335-74,655/-p.m

In addition to the above salary, the following allowances will be paid.

1. Additional monthly allowance - 20% of the basic salary
2. Cost of living allowance - Rs.7,800/-p.m.
3. Monthly Compensatory Allowance (MCA) - 45 % of the basic salary

Statutory Benefits:

- I. Membership in Universities Provident Fund and Pension Scheme in the University system
- II. Gratuity payment
- III. Employees' Trust Fund benefits
- IV. Free Medical Services

Selection: By Aptitude Test & Interview

Closing date:

Applications should reach us on or before **12.05.2021**

Application forms and other details will be available in the University website www.jfn.ac.lk. Applicants are requested to send the prescribed application form downloaded from the University website with the paid Bank Slip for the deposit of a sum of Rs.100/- credited to any branch of the People's Bank in favour of **University of Jaffna Collection Account Number: 97000090000387** of Bursar, University of Jaffna.

The candidates who apply for more than one post should submit separate application along with separate Bank slip. The post applied for should be marked on the top left hand corner of the envelope.

Perfect applications for the above posts shall be sent to the Deputy Registrar/Academic Establishments, University of Jaffna, Sri Lanka under registered post with the photocopies of statement of the Degrees and Service certificates. Submission of Applications will not be entertained in person.

Applicants from the University System/Government Departments /Corporations and Statutory Board should channel their applications through the Head of respective Institutions, but may send an advance copy in the first instance. However, no such applicant will be considered for interview, if the application channeled through the Head of the Department is not received.

Application and referees reports should be in the relevant format. Illegible and Incomplete applications and applications received after the closing date will be rejected without intimation. Only short-listed applicants will be called for an aptitude test.

**REGISTRAR
UNIVERSITY OF JAFFNA,
SRI LANKA.**

07.04.2021

NOTIFICATION UNDER SECTION 16 SUB-SECTIONS (2D) OF THE COAST CONSERVATION AND COASTAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACT NO. 57 OF 1981

Proposed Project on 106 Units of Apartment Project - No. 160, Pelana Road, Weligama, Matara.

Environmental Impact Assessment Report

It is hereby notified that the Report of Environmental Impact Assessment study on proposed 106 Units of Apartment Project has been submitted by the South Beach Weligama Properties (Pvt.) Ltd., No. 34, Galle Face Court 2, Colombo 03, as required by Section 16 (1) of the Coast Conservation and Coastal Resource Management Act No. 57 of 1981 as amended by the Act No. 64 of 1988 and No. 49 of 2011 will be available for inspection by the public at the following institutions from 8.30 a.m. to 4.15 p.m. for a period of 30 days from 06.04.2021 (Except weekends and public holidays).

In addition, this report with 03 languages can be used in the official web site (www.coastal.gov.lk) of the Department of Coast Conservation & Coastal Resource Management

- (1) Coast Conservation & Coastal Resource Management Department, New Secretariat Building, 4th Floor, Maligawatte, Colombo 10.
- (2) Central Environmental Authority, No. 104, "Parisara Piyasa" Denzil Kobbekaduwa Mawatha, Battaramulla.
- (3) District Secretariat, Matara
- (4) Divisional Secretariat, Weligama
- (5) Pradeshiya Sabha, Weligama
- (6) Central Environmental Authority, District Office, Matara
- (7) Department of Fisheries & Aquatic Resources, District Office, Matara
- (8) Coast Conservation & Coastal Resource Management Department, Area Office, Devinuwara

Any member of the public may within 30 days from 06.04.2021 submit their comments in writing on the above Environmental Impact Assessment Report to the Director General, Coast Conservation & Coastal Resource Management Department.

Dr. M.M.S.S.B. Yalgama
 Director General (Cover up duties)
 Coast Conservation & Coastal Resource Management Department,
 New Secretariat, 4th Floor, Maligawatte, Colombo 10.
 Telephone - 011-2449754, 011-2449197, 011-2387922
 Fax - 011-2438005, 011-2472623

MINISTRY OF FINANCE

Registration of Suppliers for the Repairs and Services of the Vehicles of the Ministry of Finance - 2021/2022

Applications are hereby entertained from the suppliers who wish to register themselves with the Ministry of Finance, for the Repairs and Services to the Vehicles of the Ministry of Finance, for the year 2021/2022 from 08.04.2021 up to 2.00 p.m. on 29.04.2021. Application forms will be issued from 08.04.2021 up to 3.00 p.m. on 28.04.2021 only.

All the details regarding the Registration of Suppliers, could be obtained from the Accounts Division of the Ministry of Finance, during office hours. Telephone: 0112-484539 and 0112-484538.

Services Items to be registered:

1. Mechanical work, repairs and services of Diesel Pumps.
2. Repairs and services of vehicle air-conditioners
3. Vehicle tinkering and painting works
4. Vehicle cushioning and upholstery works
5. Vehicles servicing and washing
6. Supply of tyres / batteries
7. Fixing and repairs of cassette recorders and reverse cameras
8. Vehicle electro-technical works including vehicle EFI Systems, air bag systems and vehicle security systems, etc.

Qualifications and Eligibility apply - conditions for the registration of suppliers

1. Should be a business registered in Sri Lanka for the supply of the above service (a certified photocopy of the Business Registration Certificate, should be attached to the application)
2. After considering the applications submitted for registration and verifying the eligibility of the applications they will be registered as suppliers of the Ministry.
3. Stern legal action will be taken against the applicants who submit Bogus Documents and apply and get registered as suppliers
4. Although normally quotations are called from the suppliers registered with the Ministry, the Ministry of Finance reserves the right to call quotations from the suppliers not registered with the Ministry as and when required and necessary.
5. In case the services of suppliers are in a weaker condition and if it so deemed that a fraud dishonest or fraudulent act being engaged by any supplier the Ministry of Finance has the full authority to blacklist such suppliers and strike off their names from the register of list of the names of suppliers.

Applicants could obtain application forms on the dates given herein on submission of a written request on a business letter head of the applicant with the receipt received from the Shroff for the payment of a non-refundable fee of Rs. 1,500/- as Registration Fee in favour of the Secretary, Ministry of Finance.

Applications marked with the caption "Registration of Suppliers for repairs and services of vehicles of the Ministry of Finance 2021/2022" should either be sent by registered post or hand delivered to the address of Chief Finance Officer, Accounts Division, Upper Ground Floor, Treasury New Building, Ministry of Finance, Colombo 01. Late deliveries of the applications will be rejected, and letters lost / or misplaced while in post will not be considered.

**Chairman,
Ministry Procurement Committee,
Ministry of Finance**

NOTICE

Open / Limited Competitive Examination for Recruitment to the Post of Technological Service (Civil / Mechanical / Electrical / Draughtsman) to Central Provincial Public Service - 2021

Applications are called for abovementioned Competitive Examination for recruitment to the posts in Grade III of Technological Service (Civil / Mechanical / Electrical / Draughtsman) and Training Grade of Technological Service (Civil / Mechanical / Electrical / Draughtsman) in the Gazette No. 2,222 dated 01.04.2021 of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka at Provincial Council Section. Closing date of the application is 03.05.2021.

Further details on this recruitment could be obtained on the official website (www.psc.cp.gov.lk) of the Central Provincial Public Service Commission, and can also download the application form

**T.A.D.W. Dayananda,
Secretary,
Public Service Commission,
Central Provincial Council**

**Central Provincial Public Service Commission
No. 244, Katugastota Road,
Kandy.**

05th of April 2021

Hettiarachchige Chandrani,
No. 187/T/12,
Caritas Village,
Walpola,
Ragama.

REVOCATION OF POWER OF ATTORNEY

I, Hettiarachchige Chandrani, (NIC No. 518513761V), of No. 187/T/12, 'Caritas Village', Walpola, Ragama of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka do hereby notify that,

I am the present owner of the property on the transfer title, No. 682, of 14.11.1990, attested by Mr. W.G.A. Fernando, Notary Public, Colombo District.

I have granted the Special Power of Attorney to Kankanamage Don Priyankara Sanjeewa Kumaratunga (NIC No. 197212900743) of No. 39/A/1, Vidyala Mawatha, Opanayaka, No. 1078, dated 01.11.2020, attested by Mrs. Dilani Chandrika Priyadarshani, Notary Public, Ratnapura District, to act as my attorney, and I have revoked and cancelled the aforesaid Special Power of Attorney, with effect from 07.04.2021, and henceforth he should not be my attorney, on all the matters.

This Special Power of Attorney has been registered under Day Book 1109, of folio 141, of Volume 27 of the Registrar of Power of Attorney of the Ratnapura office, of Uva Sabaragamuwa Zonal Office of the Assistant Registrar General.

**Hettiarachchige Chandrani,
Grantor of Power of Attorney.**

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PRADESHIYA SANWARDANA BANK

INVITATION FOR BIDS

SUPPLY, DELIVERY & MAINTENANCE OF DESKTOP COMPUTERS

The Pradeshiya Sanwardana Bank of Sri Lanka (RDB) invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified Bidders for the following:

Item Name	BID No	Quantity	Bid Security LKR
Desktop Computers	DGM/HR/RDB/2021/043	200	250,000.00

1. Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding (NCB) procedure.
2. Bids may be submitted by Manufacturers/Agents who satisfy the following conditions/ Eligibility Criteria,
 1. Manufacturers/Agents/Companies who have previous experience of at least Five (5) years in supplying, Deliver & Maintenance of Computers in Sri Lanka
 2. Bidder shall have supplied at least 2000 units of Desktop Computers out of which minimum 1000 nos. of the offered Brand in Sri Lanka within the last three (03) years (2018/2019/2020).
 3. Bidder's Average annual turnover should not be less than One Hundred Million during last 03 years- (2018/2019/2020)
 4. Availability of Island wide support & Service Centers (At least 12 Districts)
(The bidder shall furnish documentary evidence for all these).
3. A complete set of Bidding Documents in English language may be purchased by interested Bidders on the submission of a written application, which accompany the receipt of payment of a non-refundable Deposit of Rupees 3,000.00. The Bid Documents will be issued on working days from 9.00 am to 3.00 pm commencing from 09th April 2021 up to 03rd May 2021.
4. Interested eligible Bidders may request in writing further information if any, from Assistant General Manager (Administration) on or before 03rd May 2021.
5. All Bids should be accompanied by a Bid-Security (which is en-cashable unconditionally on demand) of Rupees Two Hundred Fifty Thousand (Rs.250,000.00) should be obtained from a reputed Commercial Bank operating in Sri Lanka which should be valid up to 31st August 2021.
6. Fully filled Bidding Documents, in sealed envelopes marked "Bid for Supplying, Delivery & Maintenance of Desktop Computers : DGM/HR/RDB/2021/043" on the top left-hand corner of the envelope should either be sent by Registered Post to the following addresses or deposit in the Tender Box kept at Pradeshiya Sanwardana Bank, Head Office, Ground Floor before 02.00 pm on 04th May 2021. Late bid submissions are not accepted.
7. Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidders' Representatives who choose to attend in person immediately after the bid closing at 02.00 pm, on 04th May 2021.

Chief Human Resource Officer,
Pradeshiya Sanwardana Bank, Head Office,
No.933, Kandy Road, Wedamulla, Kelaniya.
T.P.011 2035454/011 2035455/011 2035456
Fax:011 2906883
www.rdb.lk - 2021.04.08