

Brown sugar at reduced prices at Lak Sathosa

Trade Minister Dr Bandula Gunawardena yesterday said that locally produced brown sugar will be made available for consumers at Lak Sathosa outlets islandwide at Rs. 115 per kilogramme from next week.

Addressing a press conference, Dr. Gunawardena said **TO PAGE 02**



Daily News

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SRI LANKA'S NATIONAL NEWSPAPER | SINCE 1918

SATURDAY APRIL 3, 2021 | 16 PAGES | VOLUME - 103 - NO 80 | RS. 30.00 | REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER IN SRI LANKA | LATE CITY ★



An all night Pirith Chanting ceremony was held at the Associated Newspapers of Ceylon Limited (ANCL) to commemorate the 135th anniversary of its founder D. R. Wijewardene last night. Here ANCL Chairman W. Dayaratne, PC, inviting the Maha Sangha for the Pirith chanting by offering a tray of betel leaves. Senior members of the ANCL management were also present. (Inset) Wijeya Newspapers Ltd, Chairman Ranjith Wijewardene garlanding the portrait of his father and ANCL founder D. R. Wijewardene before the commencement of the Pirith ceremony. Mass Media Ministry Secretary Jagath P. Wijeweera was also present.

Pictures by Ruwan De Silva and Hirantha Gunathilake



"DISCUSSION WITH THE VILLAGE" GOES TO THE NORTH TODAY

The first "Discussion with the Village" programme in the Northern Province will be held in the Vedaivaithyakallu Grama Niladhari Division of the Vavuniya North Divisional Secretariat Division in the Vavuniya District today (April 3).

The Bogaswewa Maha Vidyalaya premises have been selected for the discussion. This is the 17th in the series of "Discussion with the Village" programme. The public forum which begins at 10 a.m. will be presided over by President Gotabaya Rajapaksa with

the participation of people's representatives including Ministers and MPs of the District, Secretaries to Ministries, Heads of various institutions and officials. The Vedaivaithyakallu Grama Niladhari Division is located about 38 km East **TO PAGE 02**

FOURTEEN HOTELS TO ACCOMMODATE 30,000 REPATRIATED MIGRANT WORKERS

HOTEL STAY FREE OF CHARGE
PRE-REGISTRATION WITH SLBFE A MUST

MOHAMMED RASOOLDEEN

The Sri Lanka Bureau of Foreign Employment (SLBFE) has hand-picked 14 hotels throughout the island to accommodate 30,000 migrant workers who will be repatriated under a new scheme, a senior official from the Bureau told the *Daily News* yesterday.

Last week under a revised quarantine regulations programme, the Government reduced its compulsory

quarantine period for migrant workers from 14 days to seven days.

SLBFE Media Spokesman Mangala Randeniya told the *Daily News* that his Bureau is currently drawing up a plan to bring these workers within three months and to waive their hotel charges during their mandatory quarantine stay.

Hitherto, the returning migrant workers had to pay for their respective airfares and the hotel charges

for the quarantine period. Each passenger had to pay Rs. 400,000 each for their passage as well as for quarantine accommodation.

"Now, they have to pay for their airfare only and the Government will look after their hotel expenses," Randeniya said. **TO PAGE 02**



Ministerial Committee Report on Easter PCoI out on Monday

IRANGIKA RANGE

The Ministerial Committee appointed to study the report of the Presidential Commission of Inquiry (PCoI) on the Easter Sunday Terror Attacks will hand over its report to President Gotabaya Rajapaksa on Monday, Committee Member Minister Prasanna Ranatunga said.

Addressing a meeting of SLPP party members at the Minuwangoda SLPP office yesterday, The Minister said the report will be published

after it is handed over to the President. President Gotabaya Rajapaksa recently appointed the Ministerial Committee to study in depth the findings and recommendations in the report of PCoI and to advise on the next course of action.

The Committee headed by Minister Chamal Rajapaksa comprises Ministers Johnston Fernando, Udaya Gammanpila, Dr. Ramesh Pathirana, Prasanna Ranatunga and Rohitha Abeygunawardena.

Earlier, the report was to be handed over on March 15, but the Committee sought two more weeks' time to analyze the PCoI Report extensively.

The Ministerial Committee expects to hand over their report to the President on Monday before the Cabinet meeting.

The Minister further said the government wants to bring Easter attack culprits to book and prevent such incidents in the future.

SL Army to take part in 4-nation military exercise

From April 4 to 12, the Army will take part in a four-nation military exercise in Bangladesh to commemorate Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman's birth centenary and the 50th anniversary of the country's liberation war.

The exercise "Shantir Ogroshena" (front runner of peace) will feature the Royal Bhutan Army and the Sri Lankan Army, in addition to the armies of Bangladesh and India. Indian Army in its official statement said, "Indian Army contingent comprising of 30 personnel will participate in military exercise Shantir Ogroshena 2021 (Front Runner of the Peace) in Bangladesh, along with Royal Bhutan Army, Sri Lankan Army & Bangladesh Army from April 4 to April 12."

"The theme of the exercise is 'Robust Peace Keeping Operations'. Military observers from the US, UK, Turkey, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Singapore will also be in attendance throughout the exercise," it added. Bangladesh is celebrating its 50th anniversary of independence in 2021, as well as the centenary of Rahman's birth. In recognition of their close relations, India is hosting a range of events to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the war that liberated Bangladesh in 1971. *(Republic World)*



Christians around the world participated in Good Friday services yesterday commemorating the Crucifixion of Jesus Christ at Calvary. Today, Christians will celebrate the Holy Saturday Service while Easter Sunday Mass will be celebrated tomorrow to commemorate the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. Picture shows the Good Friday Service at St. Anthony's Church, Kochchikade. *Picture by Dushmantha Mayadunne*

Random PCR, Antigen Tests on those leaving WP during festive season

SANDHYA KARUNARATNE

The Health Ministry had decided to conduct random PCR tests and antigen tests on those who are leaving Western Province during the festive season.

According to Chief Epidemiologist Dr. Sudath Samaraweera, these tests would be conducted on those leaving for their villages during the festive season to identify COVID-19 positive cases.

"A Special programme will be implemented at Investment Processing Zones focusing on employees leaving for their villages during the festive season," he said.

"The objective of this programme is to prevent the possible spread of COVID-19 from the Western Province to other regions," he said.

He said that thousands of employees are expected to leave for their villages within the next two weeks for the New Year. A new set of guidelines will be issued to prevent the spread of the pandemic during the festive season.



Contaminated stock of coconut oil to be re-exported

SUBASHINI SENANAYAKE

Customs Director General retired Major General Vijitha Ravipriya yesterday said that a stock of coconut oil with Aflatoxin will be re-exported within the next few days.

He said that three companies are involved in import-

ing crude coconut oil with Aflatoxin contaminants and a stock of coconut oil imported by one company will be re-exported shortly.

"The other coconut oil stocks imported by two other companies will be re-exported after the auditing process

of the stocks by the Custom officials is completed," he said.

He said that the Customs has already informed the companies involved in importing contaminated coconut oil to make arrangements to re-export them soon. **TO PAGE 02**

Ranil calls for Opposition unity

SHIROMI ABEYSINGHE

A group of Samagi Jana Balawegaya (SJB) Parliamentarians has informed UNP leader Ranil Wickremesinghe that a formidable force against the Government cannot be formed without the latter.

UNP Leader Ranil Wickremesinghe - Colombo. **TO PAGE 02**



Wickremesinghe has told the SJB Parliamentarians that all Opposition forces should unite against the Government as everyone has fallen into its trap.

Wickremesinghe was addressing a group of SJB Parliamentarians in

Ven. Rathana Thera seeks Commission to protect forest cover

ASELA KURULUWANSA

Parliamentarian Ven. Athuraliye Rathana Thera yesterday said that he would make a request to the President to appoint a Commission aiming at protecting the country's

forest cover. MP Athuraliye Rathana Thera speaking at a tree planting programme held at Sri Dalada Maligawa yesterday said the country should have a national policy on how housing and development pro-

jects are implemented while protecting the forest cover. He said that the programme, which will be launched in Sri Lanka will be expanded to other countries in collaboration with 100 international

organisations to plant 80 million saplings worldwide.

The people living in all parts of the world have to face floods, drought and earthslips due to the damage caused to the environment.

Ven. Rathana Thera said further that it was more important to protect the environment of the village and meet its basic needs than turning the village into a city and making the country a concrete city.



At least 51 dead as Taiwan train derailed in tunnel

At least 51 people were killed in Taiwan on Friday when a packed train collided with a vehicle on the tracks and then derailed inside a tunnel, in the island's worst railway accident in decades. Officials said the devastating collision was caused by a railway maintenance vehicle which slipped down an embankment above the tracks near the eastern coastal city of Hualien. "The driver" was suspected of not pulling the parking brake tight enough so the vehicle slid 20 metres. **TO PAGE 02**



The scene of where a train derailed inside a tunnel in the mountains of Hualien, eastern Taiwan. -AFP

Two killed in motorcycle-car collision at Pannipitiya

RAKSHANA SRIYANTHA and SAMEERA ABEYSINGHE

Nugegoda group Corr



Two youths were killed and another was injured when their motorcycles crashed into a car at the Polwatte Junction

on the Kottawa - Borella Road yesterday morning. According to Police this accident had taken place at around 1 a.m. yesterday.

These motorcycles plying from Pannipitiya to Thalawathugoda had crashed into the car when it started to take a turn at the Polwatte junction.

The victims have been identified as Kasun Bandara 26, of Malalgoda, Yatiyanthota and Praboda Madushan, 25, of Meegoda.

Police said 12 persons were killed in last 24 hours ended at 6 am yesterday in road accidents and five pedestrians are also among the victims.

Welikanda PS Chairman removed from post

BHAKTHI DHARMAPRIYA MENDIS

North Central Governor Maheepala Herath has issued a Gazette notification removing the Chairman of Welikanda Pradeshiya Sabha from his post.

The Governor had issued the Gazette notification after an investigation revealed

he was responsible for a number of alleged irregularities.

An investigation conducted by retired High Court Judge Saman Wickremarachi confirmed that Welikanda PS Chairman Kavindu Abeyseriya should be held responsible for these irregularities.

UNDP Sri Lanka spearheads efforts to support youth empowerment

Colombo, Sri Lanka, 1 April, 2021: The National Youth Dialogue (NYD) on Leadership, Innovation and Entrepreneurship is an annual national youth engagement exercise led by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Sri Lanka. This year too in adapting to the new normal, the National Youth Dialogue for 2020/2021 presented a fully virtual participant experience via Zoom, spanning over 5 weeks from 16 February to 18 March 2021 and included 28 sessions under 10 themes with over 100 speakers and facilitators joining in to share their stories, expertise and experiences with over 2000 participants.

Together with Youth Co:Lab, the UNDP Asia Pacific programme on youth co-led by UNDP and Citi Foundation, NYD Sri Lanka is part of a family of National Youth Dialogues held each year in more than 20 countries across Asia and the Pacific region.

Speaking at the virtual closing ceremony, Mr. Robert Juhkam, Resident Representative, UNDP in Sri Lanka

stated, "Through existing and scaled up platforms for youth, such as the NYD and the HackaDev programme, UNDP Sri Lanka remains steadfast in our support to GoSL and other sectors to continue to build an alliance around youth development - create new partnerships and collaborations, and strengthen existing ones which will be the foundation upon which we can collectively invest our efforts and resources to provide an improved service offering. Empowering youth is both a human right based imperative and a needed investment to build forward better."

The annual event serves as a national platform to foster meaningful youth participation and learning and engages a diverse group of young people across the island to set the agenda for youth policy action on



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the part of UNDP and its partners. The event also showcases the impact of UNDP Sri Lanka's umbrella youth programme- HackaDev.

Speaking on her experiences as a participant this year, Ms. Zahra Taha noted, "This platform helped me identify the access points around me to new knowledge, resources, professional expertise support systems, new technologies and also awareness on crucial topics. I wish to highlight that the online experience that we gained through NYD was extraordinary. The interactive nature of the sessions using many online tools, kept the programme lively and interesting."

The event comprised of thought and action provoking mini dialogues and innovative learning and development offerings, carefully curated for the benefit of youth.

Highlighting the Government's

role in engaging with youth, Mr. Theshara Jayasinghe, Chairman - National Youth Services Council stated, "It is important to focus on how young people can come forward and lead, challenge existing notions and the status quo, and take risks in being innovative and entrepreneurial. This is why I am pleased that UNDP's National Youth Dialogue, not just in Sri Lanka, but across Asia and the Pacific region, through the Youth Co:Lab programme, has a heavy and consistent focus on these three key elements - leadership, innovation and entrepreneurship".

The National Youth Dialogue tackled two main issues for young people; the post pandemic new normal and the decade of action towards realizing the sustainable development goals by the year 2030. Under this, a wide range of thematic areas covered during the dialogue included climate change, peace, gender, community engagement, personal development, arts and sports, digital citizenship, education, skills and employment opportunities.

Speaking of their role as an implementing partner of the project, Mr. Ravin Basnayake, Country Officer, Citi Sri Lanka Sri Lanka noted, "We believe youth engagements such as the National Youth Dialogue helps in fostering learning and the development of future leaders, who can face the development challenges of today. This is why Citi Foundation together with UNDP created the Youth Co:Lab programme in the Asia and the Pacific Region and we are very happy about the impact of the programme thus far".

Facilitators comprised of resource personnel from diverse fields including international athletes, global tech giants, private sector leaders, public officials, education reformists, media influencers and peace-builders. The sessions were made possible through the efforts of over 25 partner and collaborator organizations, including 6 UN agencies.

Addressing the gathering Mr. Eric Falt, Director and UNESCO Representative to Bhutan, India, Maldives and Sri Lanka stated, "As

countries around the world consider their post COVID-19 policy options, through your leadership, innovative ideas, and entrepreneurial spirit, we need you to step up and re-engineer the post COVID world to make it more peaceful, just and where no one hopefully is left behind."

The National Dialogue in Sri Lanka was convened in partnership with Biodiversity Sri Lanka, Information and Communication Technology Agency of Sri Lanka (ICTA), Asia-Pacific Centre of Education for International Understanding (APCEIU), Vocational Training Authority (VTA) of Sri Lanka, Citi, Cisco, Centre for Communication Training, WHO Sri Lanka, UNESCO New Delhi Cluster Office, UNICEF Sri Lanka, UNFPA Sri Lanka, UNV Sri Lanka, HackaDev, Hashtag Generation, neOOne Associates, Sri Lanka Association for Software Services Companies (SLASSCOM), Citra Social Innovation Lab and Facebook.

SLAF NO 8 Light Transport Squadron marks Silver Jubilee

It was during the height of the LTTE conflict in which the No 8 Tactical Transport Squadron was established on April 2, 1996 with Y-12 transport and B200 surveillance aircraft. The squadron was an offspring of No2 Squadron which was previously known as 201 Squadron. Prior to the establishment in 1996, the Squadron aircraft actively engaged in multifaceted combat support operations since 1987 and has been providing its yeoman service throughout the LTTE conflict and continues to provide its dedicated service to the nation.

The 15 seater Y-12 aircraft was utilized for many multitudes of air operations during the local theater of war with minimum number of air and ground crew working relentlessly during day and night. Apart from troop and logistic transportation, the Y-12 aircraft was utilized in Surveillance, Casualty evacuation, Medical evacuation, VVIP/VIP transport, search and rescue, food drops and to convert pilots in to the multi-engine platform. Further, it was used in offensive air operations by dropping improvised bombs to the heart of the enemy land during the initial stage of the con-

flict due to the impaired number of attack aircraft.

Although initially a VIP transport aircraft, the King Air B200 aircraft was converted to a surveillance aircraft with sophisticated communication intelligence and Day/Night Cameras in the year 1996. Armed with another B200 aircraft in year 2004, the aircraft were used as a forced multipliers in the field of Communication jamming and live imagery. The live imagery gained from the B200 aircraft were utilized through all levels of the conflict from the political strategic level to tactical level of the war.

Since the end of Humanitarian Operations in 2009, the squadron was entrusted with dynamic roles in the peace time application of air power by providing valuable services to the nation development in the following areas;

a. Supporting law enforcement authorities to ensure the national security by gathering information regarding unlawful and unwarranted activities over land and sea.

b. Human Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) Operations in the time of natural calamities.

c. Collecting updates of development projects.

d. Conducting domestic flying operations for civilian passengers.

e. Cloud seeding experimental projects.

The squadron inventory was expanded in the year 2011 with the induction of two MA60 passenger aircraft under the flag of 'Helitours', the domestic air arm of the Air Force. The aircraft is flown to enhance and boost the domestic aviation of Sri Lanka and conducts scheduled and chartered flights to several destinations in the Island.

The squadron aircraft have been flown by many former Commanders and in which notably the present Commander Air Marshal Sudarshana Pathirana had contributed magnanimously in flying the Y-12 aircraft as a young pilot.

The squadron, with its proud and silent history has provided a herculean task to the nation during the past 25 years and celebrates its glory today under the present Commanding Officer Group Captain Poojana Gunathilake with the ambition to serve the nation for future challenges with dedication and commitment.



The SLAF's NO 8 Light Transport Squadron.

Ranil calls for...



The SJB Parliamentarians have said that forming an anti-Government force would not be possible without Ranil Wickremesinghe.

Wickremesinghe have told the SJB Parliamentarians how he stressed the importance of unity during the last election, recollecting a Jathaka story in the Buddhist literature where quails under the grip of

a fowler managed to escape with the net that cast upon them through unity.

Another group has joined the discussion with these MPs and the two sides have had lengthy discussions on the situation in the country due to the disappointment of the people by the actions of the Government.

He has said that a formidable force can be formed against the Government if the young leaders from both parties work together.

Fourteen hotels...

Randeniya further said the SLBFE has identified 14 three-star hotels to accommodate these returnees who would be coming in batches of 800 passengers. "We may accommodate them at Army camps also when the designated hotels are full."

Stranded workers are found mostly in Qatar, Kuwait and Jordan, Oman, Bahrain, Lebanon and Saudi Arabia.

"This is being done due to the intervention of Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa who had received several complaints from migrant workers who could not pay for the seven day mandatory quarantine period," Randeniya said.

State Minister of Foreign Employment Promotion and Market Diversification Piyankara

Jayaratne also took a keen interest in making this project a reality.

Spelling out the requirements for availing of these new services, Randeniya said primarily, the beneficiaries should have been registered with the SLBFE before their departure to their overseas workplaces." They will also be required to sign a declaration at the Lankan missions in the respective countries that they cannot afford to pay for the hotel charges during the seven-day quarantine period in Sri Lanka."

So far during the pandemic, around 110,000 migrant workers have been repatriated home from all parts of the world, which included around 70,000 from the Middle East.

others unconscious. "There were many people pressed under the seats and others on top of those seats too," she said.

President Tsai Ing-wen visited an emergency response centre in the capital Taipei, and said investigators would get to the bottom of how such a deadly crash could have occurred.

"We will definitely clarify the cause of the incident that has caused major casualties," she told reporters.

Pictures published by local newspaper UDN showed the front of the train inside the tunnel had been pulverised into a twisted mesh of metal.

Rescuers worked for hours to reach those trapped inside the tunnel and haul them out, using buzzsaws to slice through warped sheets of metal.

Footage released by the Taiwan Red Cross showed specialists with

"Discussion with..."

and South of Vavuniya town bordering the Padaviya and Kebithigollewa Divisional Secretariats and Nandimithra village, West of the Anuradhapura District. Bogaswewa 1, Bogaswewa 2, Kambiliwewa, Wedi-waithyakullu, Kovilpuliyanakulama and Veheratenna villages belong to the Grama Niladhari Division. The village has a total population of 1,520 comprising 478 families. Paddy and Chena farming are the main livelihood of the people.

People in Vediwaithyakullu and the surrounding villages have long been suffering from a number of common grievances. Lack of Education and Health-Care facilities are at the core of the issues. In addition, people have been facing problems such as lack of infrastructure facilities including byroads which have not been renovated since 2010, lack of proper housing, non-availability of electricity, shortage of drinking and cultivating water, agricultural issues

as well as the threat of wild elephant intrusions. Villagers are also anticipating to find permanent solutions to the land ownership problem, to develop tanks and canals, to upgrade the Bogaswewa Hospital and to set up a fertilizer depot.

The ultimate goal of the "Discussion with the Village" programme is for the President to go the grassroots, with the officials, to witness for himself the difficulties suffered by fellow citizens first hand, in order to uplift the rural sector. Building a strong national economy based on agriculture is one of the key pledges made to the people by the manifesto "Vistas of Prosperity and Splendour" National Police Framework.

The rural folk, which constitute about 75% of Sri Lanka's population are still suffering from a number of problems

including economic and social issues. Landlessness, absence of proper title deeds, shortage of water for drinking and cultivation purposes, underdeveloped status of roads and transport issues, health and education issues, the

human-elephant conflict, bureaucratic lethargy are a few of the major issues affecting them. The objective of the programme is to reach out to the people of the villages, understand their problems and find solutions through their own suggestions. Problems that can be solved on the spot are instantly addressed. The rest which take time to deal with are noted down to find solutions later.

President Rajapaksa is of the view that understanding the issues that affect the rural peo-

ple from a one-sided perspective is one of the reasons for the delay in giving solutions for their issues. Officials see the problem from their own perspective and villagers according to their sentiments.

The President believes that the process of providing solutions could be expedited through correctly identifying all aspects of the problem. This approach has been used in previous "Discussion with the Village" programmes to provide immediate and long term solutions to a number of issues.

The "Discussion with the Village" programme commenced on September 25, 2020 from the Badulla District. Thereafter programmes were organized covering Matale, Ratnapura, Anuradhapura, Ampara, Polonnaruwa, Kalutara, Moneragala, Kegalle, Kandy, Puttalam, Trincomalee, Kurunegala, Galle, Nuwara Eliya and Matara Districts.

Brown sugar...

a kilo of brown sugar is priced at Rs. 150 - Rs. 165 at present at other supermarkets and retail stores.

"Brown sugar is less harmful

to the body and those who are making sweetsmeats for the upcoming Sinhala and Tamil New Year will certainly benefit by the price reduction," he said.

Contaminated stock...

The coconut oil stocks will be released to the warehouses of the relevant companies until the quality assurance certificate is issued by the relevant agency. "Legal action will be taken against such compa-

nies if there is any shortage in their stocks," he said. Tests conducted on these coconut oil containers confirmed that they are contaminated with a high level of Aflatoxin, which is carcinogenic.

At least 51 dead...

onto the train line," Feng Hui-sheng, deputy director of Taiwan Railways Authority, told reporters.

Local media images from the scene showed the back of a yellow flatbed truck on its side next to the train just a few metres from the tunnel entrance.

The eight-carriage train was packed with some 480 people heading down the east coast for the annual Tomb Sweeping Festival, a four-day public holiday.

The Taiwan Railways Agency said 146 passengers were sent to hospital in addition to the 51 confirmed dead.

A French national was among those killed while two Japanese and one Macau resident were injured.

One unnamed female survivor told TVBS news channel of trapped passengers - some crying out for help,

helmets and headlights had to use the roof of the stricken train to reach people inside the narrow single-track tunnel.

By mid-afternoon, officials said there were no people left inside the carriages but dozens of rescuers remained on site as evening set in, according to AFP reporters at the crash scene.

Due to a long history of deadly earthquakes, Taiwan has experienced rescue teams on permanent standby to deal with disasters and retrieve trapped people.

People further back in the train were able to walk away from the crash comparatively unscathed.

A live Facebook broadcast by UDN outside the tunnel showed a row of undamaged train carriages with rescuers helping passengers

escape. "It felt like there was a sudden violent jolt and I found myself falling to the floor," an unidentified female survivor told the network, saying she suffered a cut to her head.

"We broke the window to climb to the roof of the train to get out." The annual Tomb Sweeping Festival is an especially busy time of the year for Taiwan's roads and railways.

During the festival, people return to ancestral villages to tidy up the graves of their relatives and make offerings.

Taiwan's eastern railway line is usually a popular tourist draw down its dramatic and less populated eastern coastline.

With the help of multiple tunnels and bridges, it winds its way through towering mountains and dramatic

gorges before entering the picturesque Huadong Valley.

Friday's crash looks set to be one of Taiwan's worst railway accidents on record.

The last major train derailment in Taiwan was in 2018 and left 18 people dead at the southern end of the same line.

That crash was the island's worst since 1991, when 30 passengers were killed and 112 injured after two trains collided in Miaoli.

Thirty were also killed in 1981 after a truck collided with a passenger train at a level crossing and sent coaches over a bridge in Hsinchu.

The Apple Daily newspaper said the island's worst crash was in 1948 when 64 died. Another crash in 1961 killed 48, while a 1978 crash left 41 dead. - AFP



Dinesh calls for speedy implementation of BIMSTEC Transport Connectivity Master Plan

Foreign Minister Dinesh Gunawardena was elected to Chair the 17th Session of the Ministerial Meeting of the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC).

Presiding over the Conference held in Colombo on April 1, Minister Gunawardena stated that the Charter of the Association of Parliamentarians of BIMSTEC Member States should be finalised early.

“After finalising the Charter, the Parliamentarians are more likely to be committed to the democratic principles and there will be an opportunity for them to exchange views and information on the Parliamentary practice,” the Minister pointed out.

The member countries of the BIMSTEC, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal and Thailand were also connected with Sri Lanka virtually during the meeting.

The Minister also stressed the need to expedite the implementation of the BIMSTEC Transport Connectivity Master Plan prepared by the Asian Development Bank.



State Minister for Regional Cooperation Tharaka Balasuriya who led the Sri Lanka delegation at the 17th BIMSTEC Ministerial Meeting.

Jaffna potable water supply project to be expedited

NIMAL WIJESINGHE,
Anuradhapura Additional group corr.

The Government has instructed the irrigation authorities to accelerate construction work of the Potable Water Supply Project for Jaffna Peninsula (PWSPJP). The water project which costs the Irrigation Department Rs.13,300 million aims to cater to a population of 925,000 by 2028 with the water demand per day has been estimated as 17,000 acre feet.

The proposed water resource projects in and around the Northern Province are the Sea Water Desalination Project, potable water supply project for the Jaffna Peninsula (Vadamarachchi Lagoon Project) Lower Paliara Reservoir Project, proposed (Modified) river for the Jaffna Project, Upper Parangiaru Reservoir Project and Lower Parangiaru Project.

An Irrigation Department Spokesman said the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) has already been approved as well the required staff by the Management Service Department. GS&MB approval is awaited and detailed estimate has been prepared.

Hasalaka Medakele village to be developed

ASELA KURULUWANA and SHAVINI MADHARA

The Government has focused on developing the village of Hasalaka Medakele in the most difficult area in the Kandy District.

This Village Development Programme is being implemented under the guidance of Kandy District Secretary Chandana Tennakoon in line with the ‘Gama Samaga Pilisadava’ programme under the leadership of President

Gotabaya Rajapaksa. Kandy District Secretary Kandy Chandana Tennakoon recently visited the village to inquire about the development of the village in view of the difficulties prevailing in the village. Due to the extreme difficulties, many people have left the village and moved to more affluent areas. Work on a road to the village which was initiated about 10 years ago was abandoned after heavy rains washed away the road.

Coconut oil container seized at Dambulla



Public Health Inspectors sealing the coconut oil container.

Text and Pic. by **SIGIRIYA GROUP CORR.**

Dambulla Police on Thursday night seized a coconut oil container at the Dambulla Dedicated Economic Centre (DEC) on a tip off. Police said coconut oil was being unloaded from the container when the Police reached the place.

The Police in a form of a ‘B’ report informed Dambulla Acting Magistrate Niluka Wijethilake about the questionable coconut oil container yesterday morning.

The Acting Magistrate ordered the Police to refer the coconut oil samples to the Industrial Technology Institute and obtain a report.

Public Health Inspector Priyantha De Silva said that the container was sealed and samples would be taken on Monday.

He said that due to the long weekend they did not have sufficient time to send the samples to Colombo. Matale District Food and Medicine Inspector M. L. Jayaweera said that this coconut oil container has been imported from the Philippines and it contained 50,000 kilogrammes of coconut oil.

When this stock is taken out of the harbour, the importer should produce the quality assurance report.

SLMA in letter to Health Minister states

NMRA apporval needed prior to vaccine use

The Sri Lanka Medical Association (SLMA) in a letter to Health Minister Pavithra Wanniarachchi yesterday stressed the need of ensuring the approval of the National Medicinal Regulatory Authority (NMRA), prior to the use of any vaccine on Sri Lankans.

The SLMA in a letter under the hand of its President Dr. Padma Gunaratne emphasised the need to maintain the integrity and independence of the NMRA for a long term successful vaccination programme.

Excerpts from the letter: “The President and the Council of the Sri Lanka Medical Association

(SLMA) hereby wish to communicate to you the urgent need to ensure the approval of the National Medicinal Regulatory Authority (NMRA), prior to use of any vaccine on Sri Lankan Nationals.

The SLMA emphasizes the need to maintain the integrity and independence of the NMRA for a long-term successful vaccination programme in Sri Lanka.

The NMRA was established in 2015 through an Act of Parliament, and plays an important role in protecting public health by ensuring medical products available in the country meet accepted standards of

safety, quality and efficacy. In the context of COVID-19, the NMRA appointed an independent panel of experts to study all documents submitted in relation to candidate vaccines for COVID-19 and provide scientific advice for emergency use approval in Sri Lanka.

“We understand that the recently imported Sinopharm Vaccine to date does not have the NMRA approval for use on Sri Lankan Nationals or the approval of the World Health Organisation. We are aware that the NMRA appointed committee of independent panel of experts were of the opin-

ion that the data provided so far are inadequate to arrive at a decision on the safety, efficacy and the immunogenicity of the Sinopharm Vaccine. We have been reliably informed that attempts are being made to overturn that decision and register the said vaccine for emergency use. The fact that a large consignment of the questionable vaccine has already landed in the country does support this information. We believe that it is irregular for our health authorities to administer a vaccine not approved by the NMRA even to foreign nationals based in Sri Lanka”.

Drugs in towel

BUDDHIKA IMBULANA

The Prison Intelligence Unit has succeeded in apprehending a woman who attempted to smuggle drugs to the Welikada prison.

This woman in question had come to the prison guards post opposite the

Welikada Prison with a towel to be given to the remand prisoner.

When the towel was checked by the prison officials, they have found drugs concealed in the towel. Further investigations are conducted by the Borella Police.

Suspicious youth arrested at church

RASULA DILHARA GAMAGE,
Northern Provincial Corr.

Vavuniya Police yesterday arrested a youth who entered a Catholic church in the heart of Vavuniya town and behaved in a suspicious way while a Mass was in progress.

This youth when ques-

tioned by the Police had said that he is a resident of Akurana in Kandy and he has not told the police why he visited Vavuniya.

Security in and around churches in all parts of the country has been beefed up during these days.

Korea, Sri Lanka to strengthen people-to-people ties

The Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Sri Lanka Santhush Woonjin Jeong who called on Northern Province Governor P.S.M. Charles on March 31 at her office in Colombo discussed ways to promote economic and cultural ties between Korea and Sri Lanka.

Both sides discussed opportunities to explore potentials in trade, infrastructure development and tourism in the Northern Province. The significance of ways to strengthen people-to-people ties between Korea and Sri Lanka is of utmost importance once COVID-19 subsides in the region.

The Ambassador stated that “Korea is eager to assist development projects in Sri Lanka including the Northern Province. The Korean Development Assistance (ODA) agencies such as Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) and Korea Exim bank have greatly contributed to the expansion of development in the Northern region. KOICA and Exim bank have funded projects in education, transportation, water resources, sanitation and regional development in Sri Lanka. These fruitful endeavours benefitted around 40 schools in the Northern region. Recently, the Education Environment Improvement Project funded by KOICA was a product of the successive projects held in collaboration with UNICEF to improve infrastructure facilities and human capacity building in

the Northern region.” Ambassador Santhush Woonjin Jeong reiterated that there is more potential to increase trade relations between Korea and Sri Lanka. The trade volume should be expanded for both countries to enjoy the favourable outcomes of investment and economic growth.

Under the vision of President Gotabaya Rajapaksa, the Ambassador is keen to assist Sri Lanka in achieving the fruits of development in all regions including the Northern Province. Education has been one of the most significant pillars behind the national development of Korea. The main objective of providing infrastructure development and increasing the capacity building of schools is to promote education and ensure that the future generations of Sri Lanka reach vistas of prosperity under the national policy.

Northern Province Governor P.S.M. Charles appreciated the assistance extended by the Government of Korea for education, infrastructure development and capacity building in the Northern Province.

The Governor said “Korea and Sri Lanka share a sentimental attachment.

The common historical experiences shared by Korea and Sri Lanka have further brought our nations together.

Korea’s economic success story is indeed an inspiration to Sri Lanka as there are many les-



The Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Sri Lanka Santhush Woonjin Jeong called on Northern Province Governor P.S.M. Charles at her office in Colombo on March 31.

sions to be learnt in overcoming hardships”.

Governor Charles further discussed ways to boost tourism in Jaffna and uplift the livelihoods of the populace.

Furthermore, the Ambassador stated that Korea has also been providing assistance to Sri Lanka to cope with COVID-19 by strengthening its cooperation to uplift public health in Sri Lanka. In December 2020, the Government of the Republic of Korea donated COVID-19 Diagnostic Kits amounting to the sum of USD 300,000 to contain and control COVID-19. The Korean Embassy in Sri Lanka has shown its thankfulness to the anti-COVID Task Force who

have dedicated themselves to protect people in Sri Lanka including Korean residents by donating re-usable fabric masks.

Ambassador Santhush expressed his willingness to explore the possibilities in the Northern Province, especially in the tourism sector and explore the establishment of trade activities. He said, “As the Korean Ambassador in Sri Lanka I hope the friendship between Korea and Sri Lanka will further grow and Korea will stand with Sri Lanka in its journey of development”. During the discussion the Governor extended an invitation for the Ambassador to visit the Northern Province in the near future.

ADA KOTIPATHI - Saturday
Date: 01-04-2021
Draw Number: 3121
Colour: Brown

Winning Numbers
07 16 50 58

Scorpio

Development Lotteries Board
No. 340, Dr. Colvin R. De Silva Mawatha, Union Place, Colombo 2.
Tel: 0112 331 54647. Fax: 0114 824 824
Result Hotline: 0112 333 770
Interactive Voice Response Number: 011 4 835 835

TOTAL VALUE OF PRIZES
Rs. 11,956,980/-

SUPER BALL
Date: 01.04.2021
Draw Date: 01.04.2021
Colour: Green
Date: Thursday

Winning English Letter and Numbers
V 25 52 61 72

Total Value of Prizes
Rs. 3,880,800/-

Development Lotteries Board
No. 340, Dr. Colvin R. De Silva Mawatha, Union Place, Colombo 2.
Tel: 0112 331 54647
Result Hotline: 0114 824 824, 0112 333 770 or 1919
SMS: SLB-appeal-01-appeal-00 & send to 999
For Interactive Voice Response Service - Call 011 835 835

ශනිදා
Date: 01.04.2021
Draw No.: 3570
Colour: Red

Total Value of Prizes
Rs. 4,783,560/-

Winning Numbers
11 28 44 69

English Letter
V

Development Lotteries Board
No. 340, Dr. Colvin R. De Silva Mawatha, Union Place, Colombo 2.
Tel: 0112 331 54647
Result Hotline: 0114 824 824, 0112 333 770 or 1919
SMS: SLB-appeal-01-appeal-00 & send to 999
For Interactive Voice Response Service - Call 011 835 835

ADA KOTIPATHI
Date: 01.04.2021
Draw No.: 1240
Colour: Dark Blue

Total Value of Prizes
Rs. 5,546,780/-

Winning Numbers
01 02 08 29

English Letter
D

Development Lotteries Board
No. 340, Dr. Colvin R. De Silva Mawatha, Union Place, Colombo 2.
Tel: 0112 331 54647
Result Hotline: 0114 824 824, 0112 333 770
SMS: SLB-appeal-01-appeal-00 & send to 999
For Interactive Voice Response Service - Call 011 835 835

කොරියානු වාසනාව
Date: 01-04-2021
Draw Number: 423
Colour: Blue

SUPER JACKPOT
Rs. 11,584,712/-

Winning Numbers
H 29 33 44 7

Total Value of Prizes
Rs. 3,600,140/-

Next Super Jackpot
Rs. 11,743,232/-

Development Lotteries Board
No. 340, Dr. Colvin R. De Silva Mawatha, Union Place, Colombo 2.
Tel: 0112 331 54647. Fax: 0114 824 824
Result Hotline: 0112 333 770
Interactive Voice Response Number: 011 4 835 835

Daily News



The Associated Newspapers of Ceylon Limited,
LAKE HOUSE
P. O. Box 1217 No. 35, D.R. Wijewardene Mawatha,
Colombo 10, Sri Lanka
Telephone : (011) 242 9211 Fax: (011) 234 3694
E-mail : editor.dailynews@lakehouse.lk
news.dailynews@lakehouse.lk
SATURDAY, APRIL 3, 2021

New trends in mobility

There is a wide debate in business circles, media and in society over the import restrictions imposed on motor vehicles in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic which led to a foreign exchange crunch. Industry bodies such as the Ceylon Motor Traders Association (CMTA) and the Vehicle Importers Association of Sri Lanka (VIAL) have called for a gradual resumption of vehicle imports, noting that the entire industry is on the verge of collapse.

The Government has however allowed the resumption of imports of construction, agricultural and heavy commercial vehicles (buses and trucks), given their importance to the economy. This has enabled some importers to keep their heads above water, though sales are still sluggish compared to the pre-COVID days due to the present economic downturn. In the meantime, hundreds of brand new and reconditioned cars imported before March 2020 are still languishing at "car sales" awaiting buyers. The used car market has picked up considerably, as many people cannot afford to buy unregistered vehicles in the present economic climate.

But there is no question that motor car imports will have to resume at some point. It is a matter of when, not if. Besides, as a member of the International Community abiding by World Trade Organisation (WTO) rules, we cannot keep out imports forever.

But there are several factors to consider here, both from the point of view of the Government as well as the consumer. The country generally spends around US\$ 1.5 billion every year to import vehicles, which is a huge burden for a country like ours. With nearly 500,000 registrations per year (inclusive of motorcycles and scooters, the biggest category), one also has to consider the collective fuel bill for all these new vehicles. The country spends around US\$ 6 billion yearly to import fossil fuels, though most of it goes for power generation. Nevertheless, this too is not sustainable in the long term for an emerging economy battered by COVID and other external shocks.

The depreciation of the Rupee, now hovering around Rs.200 to the US Dollar, is another factor to consider. This means vehicles will be more expensive to import and purchase in Rupees terms. Even if duties and taxes are adjusted accordingly, it will still be a huge outlay for all stakeholders concerned. It will thus not be a wise move to open the floodgates for vehicle imports at this juncture.

But there is a way out of this imbroglio that calls for a twin-pronged approach. There is currently a well-subscribed school of thought that we should limit passenger vehicle imports to hybrids and pure electric cars once the imports begin. This is a sensible argument, given the need to reduce our fuel bill.

In case you think that electric vehicles are not yet "mainstream", almost every manufacturer from BMW to Volkswagen has at least one all-electric model in their line-up. Electric vehicles are becoming cheaper and their battery range keeps on increasing. Almost every mainstream manufacturer has announced plans to produce only electric vehicles from 2030 onwards, which is just nine years away.

Sri Lanka should adjust accordingly, bringing in only hybrids and electric cars from now until 2030 and thereafter permitting only pure electric cars to be registered. A further grace period of 10 years can be given for heavy commercial vehicles, whose pace of electrification is somewhat slow in comparison to personal passenger vehicles. By 2030, electric cars will cost the same as Internal Combustion Engine (ICE) cars or even less, so price will no longer be an issue. Batteries may also be able to do up to 1,000 Km on a single charge by that time, ending "range anxiety".

But there is one problem. If all these electric cars tap into our mainly thermal-powered National Grid to recharge, the whole purpose of having electric cars will be negated, as fossil fuels will anyway be burnt for mobility. There are two solutions - one is to increase drastically the generation of renewable energy. Plans are already afoot in this direction and it will indeed be possible to get nearly 80 percent of our energy requirements from wind and solar by the end of this decade.

The other approach is to have individual solar-powered charger units for electric vehicles. Duty concessions can be granted for the import of such units. These two approaches will reduce the pressure on the National Grid, slash the fossil fuel bill and air pollution and lead to a better environment overall. The Government should also consider installing an islandwide DC electric car charger network which can fill up batteries to 80 percent capacity in just 20-30 minutes, which minimises electricity consumption. Taxes and duty concessions should be granted for the import and installation of these superchargers at private premises too. Hydrogen Fuel Cell cars are also appearing gradually, for which we will need hydrogen filling stations.

The world of mobility is changing fast, with driverless cars on the way. We should be ready for that future in terms of infrastructure and an attitudinal change. Transport planners should take all these factors into account as we head rapidly towards 2030.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

The time is right for electric cars - in fact the time is critical. - Carlos Ghosn

BANGABANDHU SHEIKH MUJIBUR RAHMAN BIRTH CENTENARY

Life, Work and Philosophy



Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman



The City of Dhaka, Bangladesh

Part 3

SWADESH ROY

On June 19, 1968, they started judicial proceedings inside Dhaka Cantonment to kill him in legal procedures. During the prefatory investigation of this judgement, Bangabandhu gave a written speech in the court and there he defended himself asserting his part as an activist of Pakistan movement, and that he can't separate Pakistan. The job of separating Pakistan can only be done by those who are now in Pakistan's government but not were the activists of Pakistan movement. This is known from the book of an arraigned of Agartala Conspiracy Case Commander Abdur Rauf that Bangabandhu took this stance for self-advocacy. Another arraigned of Agartala Conspiracy Case Commander Moazzem Hossain quoted, "We'll accept the execution confessing the truth that we attempted it to have us liberated as our Liberation Movement is accelerated." There Bangabandhu's logic was, "No, the more we'll negate their accusation, the more Pakistanis will insist upon the issue to sentence us to death. And the more people know this; the more will be their preparation for liberation. The aim is to prepare everyone for the Liberation Movement. We will not give them any chance to prove us dissident".

Focusing on the Agartala Conspiracy Case on that day our country was ready for liberation and the student community formed the All-Party Student Action Committee bringing all the students of the country in a row. Along with the six-point programme, the community demanded an 11-point programme maintaining compatibility with the former. They formed movement all around the country based on six-point and eleven-point programmes. The ground was well organised, focusing on freeing Bangabandhu. Matiur, a student of Dhaka Naba Kumar Institute, was murdered on that very day. Later a slip was obtained from his pocket where it was written that "Mother, I'm heading to free Sheikh Mujib." This emotion and sacrifice for Bangabandhu on February 22 forced the Pakistan government to withdraw the case and set Bangabandhu free.

Bangali and Bangla's Friend Bangabandhu

In 1966, when the Ayubed government detained Bangabandhu, he was the popular leader of East Pakistan and President of Awami League. But after his release on February 22, 1969, he took the shape of Bangladesh. That's why student-crowd was not willing to call their leader who took the shape of Bangladesh with just his parents' given name.

On February 23, at the Racecourse Ground, in the presence of millions of students, he was awarded Bangabandhu (Bengal's Friend) by the Student Action Committee. People were so enthused about calling him in a name - it can be mentioned that the title given to Sheikh Mujibur Rahman spread all around the country at lightning speed. For so many days, who used to call him Sheikh Saheb, Mujib Bhai or Sheikh Mujibur

In 1966, when the Ayubed government detained Bangabandhu, he was the popular leader of East Pakistan and President of Awami League. But after his release on February 22, 1969, he took the shape of Bangladesh. On February 23, at the Racecourse Ground, in the presence of millions of students, he was awarded Bangabandhu (Bengal's Friend) by the Student Action Committee.

Rahman, started calling him 'Bangabandhu' with love and respect from that moment. Reasoning from this fact, Bangabandhu understood that he was very close to his goal. So, he took the plunge to be the leader of the country and people in a legitimate way through election, and he came out as a single leader. That's why after his being free, he led the country's politics towards an election without being confused and off track. The entire politics of the country was in his control during that time.

After such a victory, he joined the conference and discussed the basis of a six-point programme with Ayub Khan who plotted to kill him. He knew very well that this round table conference would end up in vain. But he didn't step aside from regulatory politics despite being imparted that the assembly's futility will pave the way to another military dictator. He knew it too that military rule won't sustain for the long-term. He had a total control upon his land. The futility of the round-table meeting reduced Ayub Khan to transfer power to Yahya Khan. Yahya Khan was forced to give the declaration of the 70's election. But those who had vested interests always tried to protect their part. Yahya arranged his election within the Legal Framework Order (LFO). Many groups, including Maulana Bhashani, boycotted the election. But Bangabandhu was well versed that whatever plotting was done, he would come out victorious since the people of this land love him unconditionally. Result of the 70's election was the same as he premeditated. Bangabandhu assured an overwhelming single majority. Being the leader of the majority party, he became not only the legitimate leader of East Pakistan but also of the entire Pakistan.

Yahya was then a mere appropriator of power. To have this ground, Bangabandhu started his long journey since 1948, and through the election of December 7, 1970, he achieved that milestone. Today, if Bangabandhu's politics is revised, we will see his political sense of wisdom. The Election of 1970 was the basement of 1971's Liberation of Bangladesh. From 1948 to 1970, after passing an impassable track Bangabandhu became the single leader of his country and people which made the country legally stand on a pedestal to achieve the long craved freedom. Afterwards, he had left a formal declaration of inde-

pendence and exonerating his country from the Pakistani Military. Here, we notice his unimaginable cool-headedness for regulatory politics once again.

Regulatory Movement toward Liberation

After the victory of the 70's election, Bangabandhu understood Yahya wouldn't transfer power to him peacefully. Yahya's intent was to subordinate Bangabandhu and his Party Awami League as separatist and banning Awami League. By arresting Bangabandhu, he would lengthen military rule. If we reassess Bangabandhu's footing regarding contemporary politics, we will find he was proceeding in such a way Yahya himself will be marked as a segregationist. Even in 1972, in an interview with David Frost, Bangabandhu stated the same thing. He said, "We're in the majority. Why should we come back? They should go." So, this time we see, after 70's election for the disposal of power in the name of discussion internationally statured diplomat Julfikar Ali Bhutto and Yahya Khan jointly fought against the strategy of Bangabandhu.

On January 10 and January 27, Yahya and Bhutto came to Dhaka one after another. Yahya, after a 4-day discussion, stated that Sheikh Mujib is going to be the Prime Minister of Pakistan. Bhutto, after his discussion, stated that his discussion was futile. Bangabandhu never drew any division line. Keeping patience, he simply prepared his countrymen and organisation to go ahead to his cherished target. In this time, patience exhibited from Bangabandhu's part is certainly exemplary for any political leader of the world. All the time he was being informed that through the Sri Lankan route Pakistani troops were coming in plain-clothes. Cargos filled with ammunition and arms were anchored in the port. In spite of that, Bangabandhu remained calm but bold. Here, he plays the role of lover leader of Rabinranath- "Cruel leader has no time, but love has". It means Yahya was the cruel lord who was restless but on the other hand, Bangabandhu's heart was full of love with patience for Bengal and its people. He wished to see the last manoeuvring of Yahya. He understood that war was inevitable. But he was trying to be in the final victory with the lesser cost of blood. He knew that Yahya

would choose the path of audacity and that was exactly what happened.

On March 1, Yahya postponed the National Assembly for an indefinite period by a radio speech. Bangabandhu's patriotic people stepped down to highway without even being called. Though a good number of people stepped onto the road, they continued regulatory movement under Bangabandhu's instruction. Bangabandhu initiated non-cooperation and peaceful strike when the convening of the Constituent Assembly was suspended. Yahya's military junta killed several people in various parts of the country which drove Bangabandhu to take action against him. Yet, he who is only comparable to the Himalayan, appeared in the public meeting of Ramna Racecourse with a complete calm and composed temperament. He was the only speaker.

The entire country was his audience, and the whole world was anxious about what would be said. On that public meeting, Bangalination on her thousand years' history got the word 'liberation'. Bangabandhu explicitly stated, "This struggle is the struggle for independence." At the same time, he knew he couldn't be physically present in the war. On the other hand, it will be best to fight a guerrilla war. That's why in that speech, he gave all the necessary instructions how his countrymen would proceed. Above all, as the best democratic leader, he gave the most liberal definition of democracy for the whole world. He said, "If a person gives an opinion which is just, even after being the majority we would listen to that person." He marked the limitation of democracy, in the disguise of majority, in such a way not even any political scientist could identify till today.

Apart from this, after March 1 and March 7, Bangabandhu officially took all the imperatives of the country upon his control. On March 16, Yahya returned to Dhaka incognito to while away the hours and checked over his military preparation in the name of discussion with Bangabandhu. Bangabandhu was still calm and composed because he was the winner. In an interview with a foreign journalist referring to Yahya as his a guest, Bangabandhu disseminated a bitter truth to people. Even he also stated that he'd not leave a single stone unturned in his hospitality towards his guest. Despite knowing everything, he continued the discussion with a military ruler, but Bangabandhu did not yield to Yahya in any debate.

Yahya was proven to be futile in dragging Bangabandhu toward any sequestration and dilly-dallied time till the evening of March 25. And then, he chose the extreme path of separation. On that very night, under Yahya's instructions, a criminal military operation was carried out creating a brutal mass homicide upon unarmed civilians to curb the Bengali nationalist movement.

To be continued



Textiles play a major role in the economic integrity of Bangladesh.

Myanmar: Killings rise as Junta consolidates power

ON MY WATCH

BY LUCIEN RAJAKARUNANAYAKE

The situation in Myanmar has gravely worsened with the numbers killed exceeding 500, armed ethnic groups declaring defence from the government, citizens fleeing to neighbouring countries seeking refuge, and more sanctions being imposed by Western countries.

Airstrikes by the junta on the ethnic Karen regions on the border with Thailand has worsened the situation, with more than 3,000 moving across the Salween River seeking refuge in Thailand. They are held in special camps by the Thai government.

The Karen National Union (KNU), one of Myanmar's biggest armed ethnic groups, has joined other such armies in declaring it will defend itself from government troops.

"There is no legitimate reason to kill, harm and terrorise innocent people, including women, elders and children, in the dead of night," the statement says.

The KNU urges the international community "to cut all ties with Myanmar's armed forces, including military and economic relationships."

The Committee Representing Union Parliament (CRPH), leading the current civilian protests, issued a statement welcoming the announcement by three armed ethnic insurgent groups denouncing the ongoing military violence and pledging to protect the people. "CRPH has called on them to work together for the success of the revolution and establishment of a federal democratic union," the CRPH statement says.

Ethnic armed groups of the northern alliance - Arakan Army, Ta'ang National Liberation Army and Myanmar National Democratic Alliance Army - have demanded the "Myanmar military to stop killing and violating the rights of unarmed civilians and to find a political solution." They also announced that they will defend the people if the military continues its brutality against civilians.

United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres commenting on the weekend bloodshed in Myanmar said: "My message to the Myanmar military is simple: Stop the killings." "Stop the repression of the demonstrations; release the political prisoners; and return power to those who have a legitimate right to exercise it."

The U.S. has stopped all trade engagement with Myanmar under a 2013 trade and investment agreement that was adopted during Myanmar's earlier transition to democracy. This engagement will remain suspended "until the return of a democratically elected government," the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative said.

"The United States supports the people of Burma in their efforts to restore a democratically elected government, which has been the foundation of Burma's economic growth and reform," says Ambassador Katherine Tai, the U.S. trade representative.

Junta leader Gen. Ming Aung Hlaing had said in early February that the change in government in Myanmar would result in no change in economic policy or the country's stance toward foreign investment.

The US, Canada, Britain and the European Union had imposed sanctions on Myanmar's military generals. International organisations, including the United Nations, have continuously condemned the crackdown.

A series of airstrikes by Myanmar's military has driven thousands of people across the country's border with Thailand, adding a new dimension to an already volatile and deadly crisis.

The strikes in areas populated predominantly by ethnic Karen people began on Saturday. Since then an estimated 3,000 villagers have fled across the Salween River into Thailand and an unknown number have become internally displaced in the

jungles on the Myanmar side of the river.

The government has battled Karen fighters on and off for years, as it has with other minority ethnic groups, seeking more autonomy; but the airstrikes are a worrying development at a time when the junta is violently suppressing anti-coup protests.

Leaders of the resistance to last month's military coup that toppled Myanmar's elected government are calling for the Karen and other ethnic groups to band together and join them as allies in a "federal army", which would add an armed element to their struggle.

China sanctions

The US Secretary of State, Antony Blinken, has warned that China's tit-for-tat sanctions against two Americans, and its allies, in the growing dispute over Beijing's treatment of Uighurs were "baseless" and would only shine a harsh spotlight on the "genocide" in Xinjiang.

"Beijing's attempts to intimidate and silence those speaking out for human rights and fundamental freedoms only contribute to the growing international scrutiny of the ongoing genocide and crimes against humanity in Xinjiang," Blinken said.

He spoke after China announced sanctions against two Americans, a Canadian and a rights advocacy body, in response to sanctions imposed this week by the two countries over Beijing's treatment of the Uighur minority.

The US, Canada and the EU have sanctioned several members of Xinjiang's political and economic leadership over allegations regarding alleged human rights violations against Uighur people, prompting retaliation from Beijing in the form of sanctions against individuals from US, Canada and the EU.

Blinken's statement also said: We stand in solidarity with Canada, the UK, and the EU and other partners and allies around the world in calling on the PRC to end human rights violations and abuses against predominantly Muslim Uighurs and members of other ethnic and minorities in Xinjiang and release those arbitrarily detained.

The individuals under Beijing's sanctions are banned from entering the Chinese mainland, Hong Kong and Macau, and Chinese citizens and institutions are prohibited from doing business with the three individuals or having any exchanges with the sub-committee.

"The Chinese government is firmly determined to safeguard its national sovereignty, security and development interests, and urges the relevant parties to clearly understand the situation and redress their mistakes," the Chinese foreign ministry said.

"They must stop political manipulation on Xinjiang-related issues, stop interfering in China's internal affairs in any form and refrain from going farther down the wrong path. Otherwise they will get their fingers burning."

UK on China

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson has vowed to make developing countries less dependent on China economically, as he met five MPs sanctioned by China.

The prime minister talked about exploring ways towards alleviation programmes to offset the level of dependency on China through the Belt and Road initiative.

The prime minister tweeted Saturday: "This morning I spoke with some of those who have been shining a light on the gross human rights violations being perpetrated against Uighur Muslims. I stand firmly with them



Refugees flee Myanmar for Thailand after airstrikes.

and the other British citizens sanctioned by China."

China's sanctions raised the possibility of longer-term damage to the already frosty U.K.-China relationship, which has been damaged over the national security law in Hong Kong.

The five parliamentarians - three MPs, including ex-Tory leader Iain Duncan Smith, and two members of the House of Lords - are part of the Inter-Parliamentary Alliance on China. Beijing sanctioned a total of nine British citizens over what it called "lies and disinformation" about human rights abuses against the Uyghur minority in Xinjiang.

"We are delighted that the Prime Minister agreed to meet us today to express his solidarity with Parliamentarians and other British citizens sanctioned by the Chinese government," the five IPAC members said in a statement. "Our focus is not on these sanctions, but on the victims of the Chinese Communist Party. We take this opportunity to raise again the plight of the Uyghurs, Tibetans, Hong Kongers and other groups subject to persecution by the Chinese government."

Brazil: Political tensions

Prominent leaders of Brazil's opposition have called for President Jair Bolsonaro to be immediately removed from office to prevent his "coup-mongering, authoritarian delusions" becoming a reality.

Bolsonaro's decision to sack Brazil's Defence Minister Gen Fernando Azevedo e Silva - and the subsequent departures of the heads of all three branches of the military - has sent political shockwaves through the world's fourth-largest democracy.

"There is an attempt here by the president to arrange a coup - it is under way already - and that is why we are reacting," claimed Alessandro Molon, the leader of the opposition in the lower house, as the impeachment request was presented to congress.

Defence Minister Gen Azevedo e Silva was relieved of his duties on Monday. Hours later, on Tuesday morning, the heads of the army, air force and navy were reportedly dismissed during an ill-tempered meeting after Bolsonaro had discovered they were poised to resign in protest.

The sudden and dramatic fissure between Bolsonaro's far-right president and the military men who helped bring him to power in 2018, indicates that senior members of the armed forces had decided to ditch Bolsonaro's crisis-stricken administration - partly out of frustration at his calamitous handling of an uncontrolled coronavirus outbreak that has killed nearly 320,000 Brazilians.

The military chiefs may have been trying to protect Brazilian democracy after Bolsonaro, a former army captain known for his admiration of dictators, attempted some kind of authoritarian move such as a self-coup, by which a democratically elected leader takes on dictatorial powers.

Bolsonaro's fears over his ability to secure a second term appear to have intensified in recent months, with polls showing his handling of COVID has dented support and the unexpected re-emergence of his political nemesis Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva.

Lula, a charismatic former union leader who led Brazil from 2003 until 2011, was prevented from challenging Bolsonaro in the 2018 election because of a corruption conviction that was recently quashed. But the 75-year-old now looks likely to run against Bolsonaro in 2022, and has spent recent weeks attacking his rival's "moronic" handling of coronavirus.

Political analysts see the president's



US Secretary of State Antony Blinken



British Prime Minister Boris Johnson



Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro



WHO Chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus

removal would only be possible if society mobilized against his "authoritarian misdemeanours". In the wake of this week's political crisis there are opposition calls to citizens who cherish democracy - including those who voted Bolsonaro into power - to wake up to the threat.

It was a military coup that plunged Brazil into dictatorship 57 years ago, on April 1, 1964. Bolsonaro has also been a strong supporter of US President Donald Trump, and followed similar policies in handling the COVID pandemic - making it the worst affected country today.

George Floyd murder

The case on the murder of George Floyd in Minneapolis, Minnesota, US began this week and is drawing international attention. Leading TV news services are reporting the case directly from the court.

George Floyd, a Black citizen, died due to inability to breathe, when he was held by the police, with the knee of a policeman pressing on his neck for more than eight minutes, after his arrest and being handcuffed.

The person charged for the murder, a Derek Chauvin, a white policeman. His defence is seeking to show that his death was not due to suffocation caused by the police action, but was due to his other physical ailments and the drugs he has been taking.

The prosecution showed the entire recording of the incident from the phone of a witness, which lasted more than nine minutes, enabling the jurors to obtain a view of what reportedly took place at the incident last year.

The person who made this recording and several other other witnesses who saw the incident, including minors - 18 years and below - gave evidence, being questioned by both the prosecution and defence.

Donald Williams III, a witness for the prosecution, said Mr. Floyd was "slowly fading away" during the nine minutes Mr. Chauvin knelt on his back and neck.

Mr. Chauvin's lawyer argued his use of force was "unattractive but necessary".

This trial is being seen by many as a pivotal moment in US race relations.

The May 2020 incident - in which Mr. Chauvin was captured on video kneeling on the neck of Mr. Floyd, a

black man, in the city of Minneapolis - sparked protests in the US and across the world against police brutality and racism.

Mr. Chauvin, 45, who was dismissed from the police, denies murder and manslaughter charges, which carry sentences of up to 40 years in prison. Three other officers present will go on trial later in the year.

Witness Donald Williams said he could see Mr. Floyd's life slipping away. "He's slowly fading away like a fish in a bag," he said. "His eyes slowly rolled to the back of his head" until "he didn't have no life in him no more in his body".

Prosecutor Jerry Blackwell told jurors that Mr. Floyd said 27 times that he could not breathe. The tape proves Mr. Chauvin was "engaging in behaviour that was imminently dangerous... without regard for its impact on the body of George Floyd," Mr. Blackwell said.

Defence lawyer Eric Nelson, in his opening statements, said that the evidence "is far greater than nine minutes and 29 seconds" of video footage, and the evidence would show Mr. Floyd "died of a cardiac arrhythmia, that occurred as a result of hypertension, coronary disease, the ingestion of methamphetamine and fentanyl, and adrenaline flowing through his body".

WHO - COVID source?

World Health Organisation chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus has urged a deeper investigation into whether the coronavirus outbreak originated with a leak from a lab, as world leaders pushed for a treaty to prepare for future pandemics.

A report by WHO and Chinese experts, published Tuesday, judged the lab-leak hypothesis highly unlikely, saying the virus behind COVID-19 had probably jumped from bats to humans via an intermediary animal.

But a potential leak "requires further investigation, potentially with additional missions involving specialist experts", Tedros said.

He added that the international team had difficulty accessing raw data during the mission to China, demanding "more timely and comprehensive data-sharing" in the future.

The United States, in a statement with 13 allies including Australia,

Britain, Canada, Japan and South Korea, voiced concern over the report and said that the mission to China "was significantly delayed and lacked access to complete, original data and samples".

"It is critical for independent experts to have full access to all pertinent human, animal and environmental data, research, and personnel involved in the early stages of the outbreak relevant to determining how this pandemic emerged," said the statement, without explicitly criticising China.

"We share these concerns not only for the benefit of learning all we can about the origins of this pandemic, but also to lay a pathway to a timely, transparent, evidence-based process for the next phase of this study as well as for the next health crises," it said.

The other nations that signed the joint statement were the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Israel, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Slovenia.

Members of the international team that wrote the report said Tuesday that it was only a "first start" and more needed to be done.

They appealed for patience as reams of information continue to pour in. The team emphasised that hypotheses, including a possible laboratory leak, could not be fully ruled out.

The report was released more than a year into the pandemic that has killed nearly 2.8 million people worldwide, with several countries battling new waves of infections.

Before its release, world leaders called for a new international treaty to better fight future pandemics and for countries to be ready if - or when - another hits.

Coronavirus spread

The new spread of the coronavirus in different parts of the world - Europe, South America and South Asia - is raising more concerns, after the expectations of a decline of the pandemic in recent weeks.

Apart from the US, which remains the country with the highest infections, there is now Brazil and India having a huge spread, and France being compelled to impose new restrictions to curb the spread.

Brazil has seen a sharp rise in infections and deaths, leading to major political issues, challenging the leadership of President Bolsonaro. The deaths are exceeding 3,000 a day, and many hospitals are unable to cope with the numbers seeking treatment.

India has recorded a massive surge in the number of COVID-19 cases. The country's tally of infections has soared to 12,221,665. With active cases hitting 584,055, India is now the 5th-worst hit country. The death toll from the deadly infection jumped to 162,960.

Maharashtra on Wednesday reported as many as 39,544 new coronavirus cases, its second-highest single-day rise in infection tally since the pandemic began. The surge in COVID-19 cases continued in Delhi with 1,819 new cases being reported in the last 24 hours.

The five most affected states by total cases are Maharashtra (2,812,980), Kerala (1,119,542), Karnataka (989,804), Andhra Pradesh (899,812), and Tamil Nadu (881,752).

In France, President Emmanuel Macron extended light lockdown measures to all of mainland France from April 3 for 4 weeks at a televised address on the resurgent COVID-19 pandemic on Wednesday.

He said: "We don't have to lock ourselves in but we need to limit our contacts.... We tried to push back this day for as long as possible - but unfortunately it has now arrived... We will lose control if we do not act now."

Here are the figures of infections and deaths at the time of writing: Global - 128,944,358 infections and 2,816,938 deaths. US - 30,460,344 (552,072), Brazil - 12,748,777 (321,515), India - 12,221,665 (162,927), France - 4,705,074 (95,758), Russia - 4,503,291 (97,594), UK - 4,359,984 (126,955), Italy - 3,584,899 (69,346), Spain - 3,284,353 (5,459) and Germany - 2,843,644 (76,589).

Meanwhile, UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres called for more debt relief for the poorest countries struggling with economic fallout from the pandemic. He urged a "new debt mechanism" allowing such options as debt swaps, buybacks and cancellations to help worse-off countries.

Addressing an online forum that included dozens of world leaders, he said the pandemic has pushed the world to "the verge of a debt crisis" and required "urgent action"... "We need to change the rules," he said.



Protesters march through Minneapolis on Monday as the George Floyd trial began.

OBITUARY



S.B. MOSES (SHELTON)
EX RAILWAY (F.P.L)

Loving husband of late Kumari, loving father of Rani, Roland and Anton, loving son of late S.B. Moses and Dorothy of Esmerland Estate, Kalagedihena.
Loving brother of late Esme, late Carl (Valuation Officer), Neville (retired S.P. Police) and Rexy. Loving brother-in-law of late Christy Anthony, Ranjani, Aloma and Chithra, loving father-in-law of Ruwan and Umendra, expired. Remains lie at Moses Avenue Kalagedihena (Esmerland Estate). Cortege leaves residence on Saturday 3rd April 2021 at 2.30 p.m., for burial at Catholic Cemetery Aluthgama, Bogamuwa.

60th Birthday Remembrance
03 April 2021

Mrs Thilanthi Perera

To our Darling Aachcha/Ammi/Thila



The sun would never shine
The way it ought to be
No breeze would ever flow
As soothing as it would be...

Never would we see again
The radiant smile of yours
Never would we hear again
The whiny whiney giggles of yours

You left us all in a gaze
What where and how it went wrong
You left us all in a haste
With a void that never to be filled

*May you attain the Supreme
Bliss of Nibbana*

From
Nikila, Dinila, Yuwan, Manindri
(Tharanga) Ashan, Shanuki, &
Ajith (Mano)

Discussions underway to solve illegal fishing issue: Douglas

NIMAL WIJESINGHE,
Anuradhapura Additional District Group Corr.

Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Minister Douglas Devananda told the *Daily News* recently that he never made a statement about Indian fishermen being permitted to fish in Sri Lankan waters.

He added that steps would soon be taken through bilateral discussions to solve the issue.

Indian nationals fishing illegally in local waters is a crime that has been a prevalent issue for a long time, and diplomatic discussions are in progress to find a solution, Devananda said.

A fisheries official said that until a final decision is made, the authorities are also looking into the possibility of providing temporary licences to foreign nationals wishing to fish in local waters, while limiting such activities to once a week. However, only a limited number of permits would be given, he added.

Nearly 300,000 coconut trees felled in Matara due to disease

P.P.G. SUGATHADASA,
Thihagoda Group Corr.

Nearly 300,000 coconut trees have been felled in the Matara District due to disease, Coconut Cultivation Board Regional Manager E. Leelananda said.

The owners of the felled trees have been compensated at the rate of Rs.3,000 per tree, bringing the total to Rs.26 million, he said. The

disease is fairly under control at present, Leelananda added.

According to him, the disease has mainly spread in the Weligama, Devinuwera, Welipitiya, and Dickwella Divisional Secretariat Divisions of the district, he said.

However, a considerable reduction in such cases has been seen in the Thihagoda, Malimbada, Kamburupitiya,

Akuressa, and Hakmana areas, the Regional Manager added.

The felling of diseased trees has helped prevent the disease from spreading faster. Furthermore, the Coconut Cultivation Board has initiated a project to grow more coconut trees to compensate for the ones that were felled, Leelananda said. The transportation of coconut-related materials has also been suspended in the Matara Dis-

trict due to the issue, he added.

Awareness programmes on coconut cultivation using modern methods are also underway in the district, with focus being drawn to proper fertilization and the prevention of diseases. The Coconut Cultivation Board has also urged farmers to inform them of any early symptoms of disease on their trees, Leelananda said.



An Adhistan Pooja was held at the Arukkigoda Sri Indrasarama Maha Viharaya's Dharma Mandiraya in Panadura, recently. Galdoga Sri Maha Viharaya Chief Incumbent and Panadura Thotamuna Chief Sangha Nayake Ven. Pothupitiye Pagnasekera Thera conducted the Pooja, which was organised by the Liya Udana Women's Organisation. Picture by Upali Jayaratne, Panadura Group Corr.

Kalmunai students asked to bring garbage from home for disposal

I.L.M. RIZAN,
Addalaichenai Central Corr.

Under the instructions of Kalmunai South Medical Officer of Health (MOH) Dr. A.R.M. Azmi, schoolchildren have been asked to gather waste material from home and bring to their schools, adding that those who do so would be rewarded.

The MOH has also instructed the school staff on how to dispose of the waste. The programme has been organised with the aim of preventing the spread of dengue in the area. School heads in Kalmunai have commended the MOH's efforts.

Lion Express launches SL's first courier app



Lion Express and Shield Technologies panelists at the event.

Lion Express launched Sri Lanka's first courier app at the Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall on March 25. Shield Technologies, with funds from Lion Express Courier and Logistics, developed the application.

Sports and Youth Affairs Minister Namal Rajapaksa attended the event as its chief guest. The main purpose of the app is to aid prompt and reliable delivery

services at the lowest rates, Shield Technologies Chief Executive Officer Thenu-ra Geeth Thamuditha said.

Lion Express Courier and Logistics Sanjeeva Arandara said the app would play a pivotal role in the local courier services. "While providing a consistent service to all our customers, we also hope to expand our services globally," he said.

'46,000 unqualified doctors practising in country'

S.M. WIJAYARATNE,
Kurunegala Daily News Corr.

The lives of patients are threatened as nearly 46,000 unqualified doctors are practising in the country, former Kurunegala District DMO Dr. S.M.A. Priyadarshana said. He was speaking at a meeting of PHIs in the Kurunegala District in Bingiriya, yesterday.

Dr. Priyadarshana said that a recent survey conducted by the GMOA has confirmed the aforementioned number. He added that the GMOA would appoint a committee to investigate the issue as well.

The former DMO also said that some unqualified doctors have even left for foreign employment.

He added that the authorities have been inactive in taking legal action against them. The majority of them are in the Western Province, Dr. Priyadarshana said.

FOURTH YEAR REMEMBRANCE

In Treasured Memory of

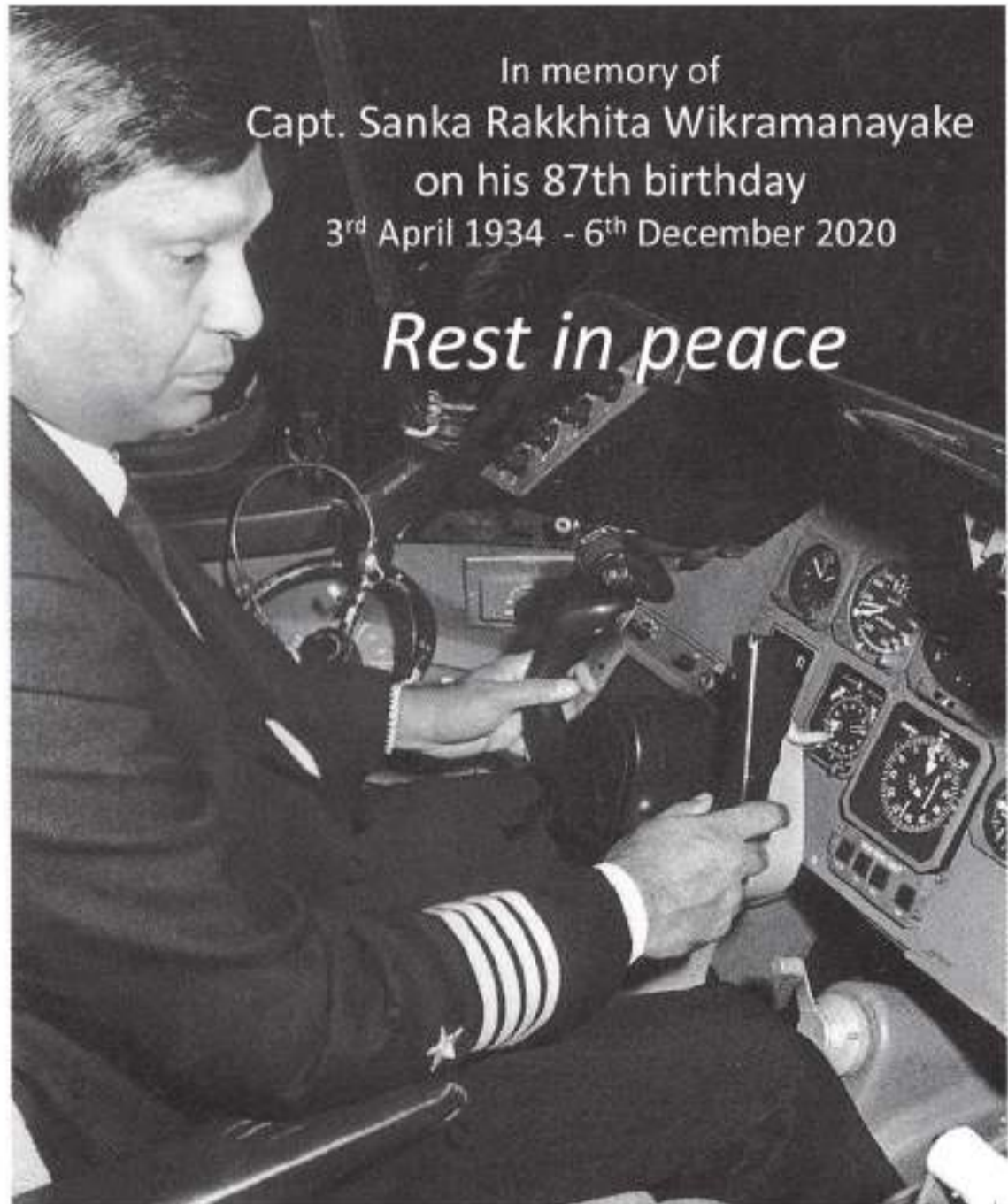


OLGA PERERA

Loving and kind in all her ways,
Upright and just to the end of her days;
Sincere and true, in her heart and mind,
Beautiful memories, she left behind.

"Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints"
(Psalms 116:15)

Yohan, Sharmali, Anusha & Priyan



In memory of
Capt. Sanka Rakkhita Wikramanayake
on his 87th birthday
3rd April 1934 - 6th December 2020

Rest in peace

We miss you

Husband of Sheila Rose

Son Eric
Father-in-law to Teruni
Grand daughter Maria Rose

Daughter Tamara Rose
Father-in-law to Richard
Grand daughter India Rose



An art exhibition on deforestation was held opposite the United National Party Headquarters, yesterday. Here, Deputy Party Leader Ruwan Wijewardene looking at a painting.

State Minister conducts inspection tour of Batticaloa school

SIVAM PACKIYANATHAN,
Batticaloa Special Corr.

At the request of Backward Rural Areas Development State Minister Sathasivam Viyalandran, Women and Child Development State Minister Piyal Nishantha de Silva and Ministry Secretary Kumari Jayasekara visited Batticaloa Vincent

Girls' High School on an inspection tour on Thursday.

Following the tour, State Minister de Silva provided Rs.3.2 million for the renovation of the school's science laboratory. State Minister Viyalandran said that the Batticaloa Vincent Girls' High School is over 200 years old.



State Ministers Sathasivam Viyalandran and Piyal Nishantha de Silva entering the Batticaloa Vincent Girls' High School. Picture by Sivam Packiyathan, Batticaloa Special Corr.

Body found in Ulhithiyava Oya

NAVARATNA BANDARA,
Mahaweli Systems Group Corr.

Mahiyanganaya Police seized a body from the Ulhithiyava Oya on Wednesday. They arrived at the scene upon receiving calls from passersby who had spotted the body.

A mobile phone was found in the victim's pocket. The body is said to be around two to three days old and has been handed over to the Mahiyanganaya Hospital. Investigations are continuing.

Seminar on promoting rural economy held at Batticaloa District Secretariat

SIVAM PACKIYANATHAN,
Batticaloa Special Corr.

A seminar on promoting the rural economy was held at the Batticaloa District Secretariat on Thursday. Projects in the field of sports, education, and health were discussed at the event, with the participation of Sports and Youth Affairs Minister Namal Rajapaksa.

Eastern Province Governor Anuradha Yahampath; State Ministers Sathasivam Viyalandran, Roshan Lal Singhe, and Nishantha de Silva; Batticaloa District Parliamentarians Sivanasadurai Chandrakanthan, Sanakian Rasamanikkam, Govindan Karunakaran, and Nazeer Ahmed; as well as Batticaloa Government Agent K. Karunakaran and Batticaloa Mayor Thiagaraja Saravanapavan were also present.

Obituaries

REV. SR. BENEDICT MARY JAYATUNGA, SCJM, is being called to her Eternal Home. Holy Mass will be offered at 3.00 p.m. at the **Chapel of the Convent of Child Jesus, Ratnapura** followed by the funeral service at the **Roman Catholic Burial Ground - Ratnapura** on 04th April 2021 - Sunday. Provincial Superior - Sisters of Charity of Jesus and Mary. 025870

CHRISANTHI HANWELLA (Miss D.F.C. HANWELLA) (Former Financial Controller of the University Grants Commission), daughter of late Mr D.C.W. Hanwella and Mrs Daisy Hanwella, loving sister of Vijayanthie, Shyamalie (Melbourne) and Anil (Dubai), sister-in-law of Shantha De Mel (Melbourne) and of Pradeepa, aunt of Vathsala and Sathyajith, Tiranagama (Sydney), Leon De Mel (Melbourne), Heshan Hanwella (Jeddah) and Vidura Hanwella (Dubai), grandaunt of Nimeth and Dilneth Tiranagama (Sydney). Her remains lie in "Respect Home" at **Jayarathne Parlour, Borella** from 8.30 a.m. Cortege leaves for Burial at the General Cemetery Kanatte, Borella at 12.30 p.m. on 3rd April 2021. 026302

MRS MENEKA LILY SENEVIRATNE (nee PATHBERIYA) - Retired Teacher at Ananda College, Colombo. Beloved wife of late Mr Cyril Seneviratne (Retired Principal), mother of Athula and Champa (USA), Aruna, mother-in-law of Kumari, Prasad Kodikara & Anoma, grandmother of Madhuja, Mandula, Chandula, Senuri, Inuli and Rasali, passed away peacefully. Remains lie at the **Respect, Borella** on Friday 2nd and 3rd April from 10 a.m. Cremation at 4 p.m. on Saturday 3rd April at the Old Crematorium Devi Balika Side. 025758

MRS PUSHPA RANASINGHE - Beloved wife of Clifford Ranasinghe, loving mother of Lasindu Ranasinghe, sister of Mallika and Kalyanasiri, sister-in-law of Kanthi, Kenneth. Remains lie at **Jayarathne Funeral Parlour, Borella**. Cortege leaves for Cremation at General Cemetery Borella on Saturday April 03rd 2021 at 5.00 p.m. 026043



The life of Jesus Christ who died on the Cross to save mankind from its sins was commemorated yesterday, Good Friday, at St. Sebastian Church, Puliadikudha, Batticaloa. The Way of the Cross procession started from the church and proceeded along Periya Uppodai, Keeriodai, Bar Road, Old Rest House Road, Pansala Road, Pioneer Road and Lady Manning Drive. Here, Parish Priest Richard Pitchai conducting the procession and the devotees praying at the 9th Station where Christ falls down for the 3rd time. Pictures by Sivam Packiyathan, Batticaloa Special Correspondent



State Minister thanks China for support at UNHRC

Ambassador of China to Sri Lanka Qi Zhenhong paid a courtesy call on State Minister of Regional Cooperation Tharaka Balasuriya at the Foreign Ministry yesterday.

State Minister Balasuriya conveyed the sincere appreciation of the Government of Sri Lanka for consistent support given by China to Sri Lanka during the 46th session of the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC).

The Ambassador of China reiterated their commitment to work together

to pursue investment and business opportunities with third-party countries in the Colombo Port City and the Hambantota Special Investment Zone.

The State Minister also invited Ambassador Zhenghong to take part in the inaugural seminar/webinar series being organised by the Lakshman Kadirgamar Institute (LKI) with the participation of students, academia and think tanks; which the Chinese Ambassador graciously accepted.



Ambassador of China to Sri Lanka Qi Zhenhong paid a courtesy call on State Minister of Regional Cooperation Tharaka Balasuriya at the Foreign Ministry yesterday.

'NARA to play greater role in fisheries industry development'

NIMAL WIJESINGHE

Anuradhapura Additional District Group Corr.

The Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Ministry has broadened the working facilities of the National Aquatic Resources Research and Development Agency (NARA) in order to help it play a more significant role in developing the country's fisheries industry, Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Minister Douglas Devenanda told the *Daily News*.

He said that on the instructions of

President Gotabaya Rajapaksa and Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa a range of appointments such as the provision of physical resources to facilitate this process.

Minister Devenanda said that at present, NARA is engaged in a number of research and scientific studies for making recommendations, conclusions and guidance required to boost the fisheries industry and associating components.

NARA in collaboration with the National Engineering and Develop-

ment Centre and the Fisheries Department is currently engaged in finding strategies to minimize post-harvest losses in the fisheries industry for ensuring food security.

A NARA spokesman told the *Daily News* that research is being conducted to modernize outdated fish storage facilities in existing multi day fishing boats.

NARA is also expected to give its recommendations with regard to a new boat design for fishing vessels under construction, concerning

freezing storage. Studies and research conducted by NARA have disclosed that poor fish harvest management and an inadequate freezing mechanism has resulted in a massive loss to the country's economy. The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation is extending financial assistance to NARA research activities.

The Spokesmen said that more staff will help accelerate NARA's research and development programmes.



The Bediyawa water supply scheme providing potable water to over 1,000 families in the Godigamuwa and Bediyawa villages was vested with the people by Water Supply Minister Vasudeva Nanayakkara on Tuesday. Education State Minister Vijitha Berugoda, Moneragala District Coordinating Committee Co-Chairman Kumarasiti Rathnayake and Medagama PS Chairman Ranjith Piyadigama were present. Picture by D.S.Gunathilake, Uva Wellassa Special Corr.

Opposition should help Govt. fight extremist elements

- Gamini Jayawickrama Perera

S. M. WIJAYARATNE

Kurunegala Daily News Corr.

All Sri Lankan politicians despite their political ideologies or parties should stand with the present Government to face challenges against this country, said former Kurunegala District UNP Parliamentarian Gamini Jayawickrama Perera.

"This country does not belong to President Gotabaya Rajapaksa or Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa. These two leaders are elected by the voters of this country only for a specific period of time," he said.

However, the Opposition politicians should refrain from playing petty politics. They should criticise the Government in a constructive manner when required and not make baseless allegations.

"When certain international anti-Sri Lankan extremist ele-

ments work against our Motherland, it should be our prime duty and responsibility to stand as a nation in unity to protect this country from vicious, unjust and biased pressure of such evil forces," he said.

Jayawickrama Perera said despite political differences, all patriotic political forces of the Opposition have to come forward to fight the anti-Sri Lankan international forces.

"For that purpose only, the voters of this country have given the political power to politicians of the Opposition political parties and not to see Opposition politicians misleading the masses and criticizing of the present ruling party with sheer hatred and hypocrisy," he said.

Guwan Mithudam project Fifth leg conducted

The Fifth leg of the *Guwan Mithudam* (Air Friendship) project was conducted at SLAF Station Morawewa on Thursday. A Drinking Water Project was officially handed over to the Diulwewa residents while Morawewa Yayahaya Vidyalaya at Mahadiulwewa was renovated as part of this community project.

Gift packs were distributed among the schoolchildren of Morawewa Yayahaya Vidyalaya to mark the occasion.

Divulwewa is a rural village facing a drinking water problem. Therefore, this event was organised under the series of *Guwan Mithudam* projects of the SLAF Seva Vanitha Unit along with SLAF Sta-

tion Morawewa to better the lives of those people in need which is one of the prime objectives of the SLAF Seva Vanitha Unit.

SLAF Seva Vanitha Unit Chairperson Mrs. Charmini Pathirana was the Chief Guest on the occasion. Mrs. Rosy Labrooy, wife of the Director Ground Operation, Mrs. Nirodha Thennakoon, wife of the Director Welfare, Mrs. Ajantha Jayawardana, wife of the Acting Director Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering, Group Captain H.T.H. Dharmadasa, Commanding Officer of SLAF Station Morawewa, a cross section of Officers, Other Ranks of SLAF Station Morawewa and SLAF Seva Vanitha Unit staff also participated.



The Fifth leg of the *Guwan Mithudam* project was conducted at Sri Lanka Air Force Station Morawewa was held under the patronage of SLAF Seva Vanitha Unit Chairperson Mrs. Charmini Pathirana on Thursday.

Sri Lanka's Consulate in Germany celebrates Maha Sivarathri



The Consul General and the staff of the Consulate General of Sri Lanka in Frankfurt am Main celebrated the 'Maha Sivarathri' at the Sri Mahamari Amman Kovil in Sulzbach in the Federal State of Saarland. Here, Kurukkal Shanmugasharma conducting a special pooja to mark the occasion.

The Consul General and the staff of the Consulate General of Sri Lanka in Frankfurt am Main celebrated 'Maha Sivarathri' on March 20, 2021 at the Sri Mahamari Mariamman Kovil in Sulzbach in the Federal State of Saarland.

Kurukkal Shanmukha Sarma and the Sri Lanka Hindu representatives of the Kovil invited the Consulate General to join in the celebration with a special pooja to mark Maha Sivarathri. The celebration was limited to a few devotees.

Many cultural pursuits and activities are usually performed in acknowledgement of Maha Sivarathri, known as the night of God Shiva's dance. Hindu devotees were compelled to limit those cultural pursuits this year and celebrate the event adhering to health guidelines due to the present pandemic.

Consul General Madurika Joseph Weninger in her brief

address appreciated that it is an opportunity for all communities to renew ties of friendship and unity while celebrating cultural differences in a spirit of harmony and fellowship.

She concluded her address with President Gotabaya Rajapaksa's message which read: "Sri Lankan Hindus and their brethren across the globe since ancient times pay obeisance to Lord Shiva on this Maha Sivarathri, with utmost reverence and expectation of dispelling darkness of ignorance and acquiring wisdom. And added that ".... May the blessings of Lord Shiva bestow upon us to achieve our objectives of establishing peace, reconciliation and happiness in the society".

The Consulate General's participation in the celebrations provided an impetus in further strengthening relations with the Sri Lankan community living in the Federal State of Saarland.

Workshop on "Conflict Management and Reconciliation"

H. L. SUNIL SHANTHA, Kalutara Central Special Corr.

A one day workshop and discussion on "Conflict Management and Reconciliation" organised by Asia Lanka Social Development Co-operation (ALSDC), jointly with National Peace Council of Sri Lanka was held for Kalutara District Provincial Journalists at Lake View Hotel recently.

Lectures and discussions were held by Mrs. Buddhima Sirimanna (Lecturer of Philosophy at Kelaniya University), Sachith N. Hewage (Executive Director, National Peace

Council), M. R. Sandaruwan (Programme Manager, ALSDC, Kalutara) and Sachith Samuditha (Lecturer, ALSDC, Kalutara).

National Peace Council (NPC) was established by an inter-religious group of civil society leaders in 1995 during the height of the LTTE terrorist conflict to promote a sustainable peaceful end to the ethnic conflict. The mission of the organisation is to engage in public education and advocacy so that solutions fair and just to all ethnic and religious communities may be found with the people's participation.

DATE 2021.04.01 THURSDAY OFFICIAL RESULTS www.nlb.lk

MAHAJANA SAMPATHA DRAW NUMBER: 4444
Value of prizes won in this draw
Rs. 14,424,280.00

THE SUPER PRIZE OF NEXT DRAW
Rs. 10,328,813.00

WINNING LETTER: V WINNING NUMBERS: 8 5 3 9 9 1

Govisetha DRAW NUMBER: 2739

TOTAL PRIZE WON IN THIS DRAW
Rs. 8,129,000.00

THE SUPER PRIZE OF THE NEXT DRAW
Rs. 61,371,516.40

WINNING LETTER: S WINNING NUMBERS: 12 30 60 70

Mega Power 10 DRAW NUMBER: 805

TOTAL PRIZES WON IN THIS DRAW
Rs. 4,473,660.00

NEXT MEGA SUPER PRIZE
Rs. 126,246,338.00

NEXT POWER SUPER PRIZE
Rs. 20,938,204.80

NEXT GRAND SUPER
Rs. 10,000,000.00

ENGLISH LETTER: M WINNING NUMBERS: 13 26 35 55 73

Dhana Nidhanaya DRAW NUMBER: 481

TOTAL PRIZE WON IN THIS DRAW
Rs. 5,132,400.00

THE SUPER PRIZE OF THE NEXT DRAW
Rs. 91,158,495.20

WINNING LETTER: P WINNING NUMBERS: 12 17 55 70

SEVANA DRAW NUMBER: 327

TOTAL PRIZE WON IN THIS DRAW
Rs. 3,500,580.00

THE SUPER PRIZE OF THE NEXT DRAW
Rs. 14,000,000.00

ENGLISH LETTER: G WINNING NUMBERS: 13 32 39 49

01.04.2021 - TOTAL PRIZE WINNERS PRODUCED BY NATIONAL LOTTERIES BOARD: 757,068

TOTAL PRIZE MONEY DISTRIBUTED AMONG WINNERS: **Rs. 35,659,820.00**

Rs. 2,000,000 PRIZES 02 **Rs. 1,000,000 PRIZES 04** **Rs. 1,00,000 PRIZES 35**

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 ලොটারි පිළිබඳව
දුරකථන අංකය: 011-4607006, 011-2324324
011-4669416
National Lotteries Board
32, Deshamanya N. W. J. Mudalige Mawatha, Colombo - 01.



RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST

DEATH HAS NO POWER OVER LIFE



E. WEERAPPERUMA

Catholics and Christians across the world will celebrate Easter tomorrow, April 4, the feast of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. It is the feast of Jesus rising from the dead conveying us a very profound truth, that death has no power over life, and those who die in faith in God will rise again at the last day to live an eternal life.

"The Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead is the culmination of the Passion (Latin *Passio*, *passus sum* means to suffer, bear, endure) of Jesus, preceded by Great Lent, a 40-day period of fasting, prayer, and penance.

His Resurrection is the triumph of good over evil, sin, and death. It is the principal feast of the ecclesiastical year, the singular event proving that those who trust in God and accept Christ will be raised from the dead on the last day.

This day, the last day of the Easter Triduum marks the end of Holy Week. It heralds the beginning of the Easter Season of the liturgical year. The true followers of Jesus will receive "a new birth into a living hope through the Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead."

The word 'Easter' has reference to Eostara, the goddess of rebirth. It is claimed that in early times the feast of Eostara was celebrated to mark the resurrection and rebirth of the Earth.

The Christian celebration is called *Pascha* in Latin and Greek, and the word derived from the Aramaic language has reference to a Jewish festival known as Passover in English. It recalls the great exodus of the Jewish community from slavery in Egypt.

Although the King of England, Charles I, in 1647, declared Resurrection, as a feast to be celebrated on a Sunday, contradicting him, Parliament abolished celebrating the feast along with other festivals of the Church.

The day of the Resurrection of Christ is a day of great significance to both Catholics and Christians across the globe.

This year, the celebrations of the feast will be held strictly following the health guidelines in view of COVID-19, continuing the uniqueness of the Easter celebration, as the deadly virus is still spreading across the world.

Coronavirus, the health hazard we experience right now, has revealed to us the fundamental truth about what our lives are with others. From the pandemic to climate change and nuclear weapons — the world needs to find shared solutions to shared challenges as the global Coronavirus has infiltrated into our lives. Restrictions such as social distance and lockdown have been imposed for the sake of the common good. Thus, our lives have taken a new rhythm. The pandemic situation has led people to reevaluate their lives.

New technology in operation has brought people closer from all parts of the globe despite the rule in force, to maintain social distance physically. It has given the opportunity to be in close contact though one lives miles away, distance-wise. And one needs not to live in isolation with anxiety, loss of hope, and longing to live with loved ones and share the joy of Resurrection of Jesus Christ, with one's neighbour. This is because "Night never has the last word; the dawn is invincible", as penned by the Irish Poet John O'Donohue. God invites us all to delve deep into the stillness around us in the midst of the pandemic, to discover the gift of solitude and quiet pace of life as Psalmist said: "Be Still, and know that I am God" (Psalm 46:11)

The feast of Resurrection of Jesus which happened only once in Human History. It invites us to reflect on the eternity of life as that brings our attention to the fact that 'life eternity' is not a mere continuation of life but a new quality of life. Sufferings we endure owing to the pandemic, remind us of the vulnerability of life and the fragility of human existence. Yet as people, we tend to ask the fundamental question about the meaning of life and of our very existence. The COVID-19 has aggravated moments of such confusion and doubts. That is why Prophet Jeremiah wrote: "For I, the Lord, know well, the plans I have in mind, for you; plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope."

We should be able to understand the current Coronavirus situation in that light shed by the Psalmist in his wording and instead of worrying, let us try to see the hand of God within it, who never let His Creation, loses its value. Christ was resurrected to a New Life and that is the promise God made to the human race, that life is eternal provided we as humans abide in the Lord, God the Creator, the source of our life.

Last year, we stayed away from attending the church services due to the islandwide curfew imposed in view of the catastrophic COVID-19 that has eaten into the very fabric of our society. We were not alone in facing this calamity, almost all the countries were facing it with patience and trust in God, the Creator and Protector of the human race and the universe. This year the situation has changed a bit better, than the last year.

"This year believers, the devotees, will celebrate the victory of life hoping to fight death. The COVID-19 pandemic is ravaging the world causing mourning and suffering among all peoples. More than ever, the current events remind us how much hope is a dimension of faith," stated a news release issued last year, by the Commission of the Bishops' Conferences of the European Union (COMECE) and the Conference of European Churches (CEC). And the situation is not that good in any part of the world including our own country though the situation has relaxed a bit, better than last year.

For Sri Lankans, this Easter reminds us of what occurred on Easter Sunday, April 21, 2019, where the innocent devotees participating in the Most Sacred and Solemn Feast of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ were brutally killed and injured by the suicide bombers in two Catholic churches, St. Anthony's Shrine in Kochchikade, Colombo; Katuwapitiya St. Sebastian's Church, Negombo and Zion Christian Church in Batticaloa. There were also people killed in several hotels within Colombo city due to bomb blasts. The church is seeking justice on their behalf and underscores the fact that the incident was life-threatening and would continue to be so if the law fails to deal with it. It is a national issue and not an issue limited to a particular group or a set of individuals.

Perusing the pages of history, we recall how Sri Lanka (then Ceylon) was targeted during World War II. The Southwest of the country was heavily damaged by the Japanese air attack that occurred on Easter Sunday, April 5, 1942.

This attack referred to as the "Easter Sunday Raid" or the "Battle of Ceylon", was aimed at the British heavy cruisers HMS Dorsetshire and Cornwall by the aircraft of the Imper-

Japanese Navy. This was during the South-East Asian theatre of World War II.

A few days after the "Indian Ocean Raid", a similar attack was launched in Trincomalee, targeting British warships and harbour installations. The objective of the Japanese attack was to disrupt the war efforts of the British Commonwealth Nations and force the British Eastern Fleet to leave the Asian waters.

For us, as humans, suffering remains a mysterious reality from time immemorial beyond our comprehension. We see it in the books of Genesis, Exodus, Job, Psalms, Prophets, and in the New Testament up to

POPE FRANCIS SAID, "EASTER TELLS US THAT GOD CAN TURN EVERYTHING TO GOOD AND THAT WITH HIM WE CAN TRULY TRUST THAT ALL WILL BE WELL. "THAT IS WHY ON EASTER MORNING WE ARE TOLD: DO NOT BE AFRAID! WE ARE NOT ALONE, GOD DOES NOT FORGET US..."

Revelation, including in the lives of Jesus and His disciples. Jesus through His passion, death, and resurrection set an example of the redemptive value of suffering.

During the Lenten season and Holy Week, this was what we commemorated, and that continues to give us hope. In the midst of all the suffering and uncertainties of COVID-19, this Christian perspective of suffering can give hope for all people and, the pandemic has provided many moments of grace and hope. We could identify the suffering face of Christ in those affected by the Coronavirus, both patients and their loved ones. It is also an opportunity for us to become the compassionate face of Christ while accompanying them during their time of pain, loneliness and loss. To be sowers of this prophetic hope is a joyful as well as a challenging experience.

Faith denotes a strong belief in God, doctrine or religion even when at times this tends to overshadow reality. Reflecting on the promise of everlasting life, how do we hold our faith as we look at the collective loss during this time of pandemic?

Dietrich Bonhoeffer once said that nothing can fill the gap of a loved one who passes on, and I think it is unrealistic to try to find anything to put in that space. Painful as it might be, the bitter reality is that each person mourning a loved one has to bravely walk the road of healing each day and learn to live with the void created by the loss without looking for a substitute. I feel when we leave the gap unfilled somehow it preserves the bond of love between us and the dead person — in hope of the resurrection, as our faith informs us.

Death is such a mystery that it can never be fully comprehended with our human mind, and so in our efforts to understand it, we sometimes try to fill the gap it creates with endless questions. We, who have faced the death of our loved ones in our lifetime become convinced, that our inner healing shall be achieved by allowing ourselves to leave that space empty so that our communion with those gone for good could be kept alive, even at the cost of deep pain.

The belief in Life Eternal, strengthens us to accept the reality that death is not the end, but the beginning of a new life- the Everlasting Life, where we shall meet face to face with God and our departed ones. That is the message Easter brings to us.

As we reflect on life after death, we come to appreciate that grief and gratitude are kindred souls, each pointing to the beauty of what is temporary and given to us by God. At the same time, we begin to look at the reality of the earthly life with new eyes that are not focused on the transient things, but on the eternal.

The paschal mystery symbolizes in many ways what this year is about and what life is about. As we commemorate the last days of Christ's earthly life, we can see more clearly the bewilderment and disbelief of the disciples and the way their lives changed suddenly.

It is very much fitting to quote Pope Francis



while celebrating this Easter Festival, where we are assured of God's care and protection and that He has not abandoned us.

Pope Francis addressing the faithful at the General Audience held in the recent past said, "These weeks filled with anxiety and suffering because of the Coronavirus pandemic, we may be asking ourselves 'What does God do in the face of our pain? Where is He when everything is going wrong? Why does not He solve the problems immediately?'"

The Pope while inviting the faithful to live the 'Holy Week' and the Triduum as "one great domestic liturgy" admonished them to find courage, strength and hope in God's infinite love.

The Pope said, "In these days of quarantine when we are secluded at home, let's take these two things in our hands: the Crucified One — let's look at Him — and the Gospel. It will be for us a great domestic liturgy because we cannot go to church."

Explaining further Pope Francis said, "In the same way, Easter tells us that God can turn everything to good and that with Him we can truly trust that all will be well. "That is why on Easter morning we are told: Do not be afraid! We are not alone, God does not forget us..." the Pope added.

Pope Francis concluded by saying that Jesus changed history "by being close to us." Through His death, He conquered death. So we too can change our lives by being close to Him, in the certainty that we are not alone because the Lord loves us, He does not abandon us and He never forgets us."



St. Anthony's Church, Kochchikade was a target in the Easter Sunday attack on April 21, 2019.

DEATH IS SUCH A MYSTERY THAT IT CAN NEVER BE FULLY COMPREHENDED WITH OUR HUMAN MIND, AND SO IN OUR EFFORTS TO UNDERSTAND IT, WE SOMETIMES TRY TO FILL THE GAP IT CREATES WITH ENDLESS QUESTIONS. WE, WHO HAVE FACED THE DEATH OF OUR LOVED ONES IN OUR LIFETIME BECOME CONVINCED, THAT OUR INNER HEALING SHALL BE ACHIEVED BY ALLOWING OURSELVES TO LEAVE THAT SPACE EMPTY SO THAT OUR COMMUNION WITH THOSE GONE FOR GOOD COULD BE KEPT ALIVE, EVEN AT THE COST OF DEEP PAIN. THE BELIEF IN LIFE ETERNAL, STRENGTHENS US TO ACCEPT THE REALITY THAT DEATH IS NOT THE END, BUT THE BEGINNING OF A NEW LIFE- THE EVERLASTING LIFE, WHERE WE SHALL MEET FACE TO FACE WITH GOD AND OUR DEPARTED ONES. THAT IS THE MESSAGE EASTER BRINGS TO US.



This year Easter Sunday has to be celebrated following health guidelines in view of the Coronavirus pandemic.

Easter is Pro-Life and heralds Human Liberation

Rev. Fr. LEOPOLD RATNASEKERA OMI Ph.D., Th.D.

Advocacy for the promotion and defence of human life as well as working for the establishment of freedom and liberation from all forms of oppression have increasingly become crucially decisive social commitments today on a global scale. Such activities are of priority concern in the context of dramatically surging threats to life and of intruding social trends creating complex situations of subversion of freedom. Despite the high level of feats achieved in the area of science, bewildering as it seems and of technology that has risen to incredible heights, the basic human and fundamentally perennial rights to both life and freedom that give a higher and nobler elevation to human beings, surprisingly show signs of gross deterioration and appear to be helpless victims of a process of alarming devaluation.

On the contrary, all right-thinking minds alert us to the urgency of never losing sight of these two issues, summoning all of us meanwhile to a global and local solidarity of ideology and action, to promote, safeguard and strengthen them. Easter 2019 in Sri Lanka with its ruthless carnage made a travesty of this annual celebration of life and joy turning it into a doomsday scenario of death, mayhem and destruction of precious lives to the utter shock and dismay of our Motherland and indeed, of the entire civilized world. It has left an indelible stain on our national image and recent history.

Most of the struggles of our post-modern era manifest an evident sign of how seriously these two issues of life and freedom are embattled for survival in a society that increasingly is secular in spirit and lifestyle as well as pinning its stability and future on sciences and



The infamous slogan 'Arbeit Macht Frei' (Work Sets You Free) at the Nazi concentration camp at Auschwitz



Freedom - life's most precious asset

freedom are rooted in the infallible dignity of the human which is God-given along with his vocation to live and achieve fulfillment in joy and hope in a community supporting his journey through life.

Life and Freedom Interface

There is much more to life than food and drink, economic prosperity and health security and all other needs that ensure a healthy social existence. Easter which commemorates the festival of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead and together with it the dawn of a brand new world of peace and solidarity is inevitably an imposing challenge to this secular spirit that is inundating the thinking and behavioural patterns prevailing in today's culture. The God of creation who is the Lord of history and his voice heard in the depths of man's conscience are being eclipsed in a culture that is polluted with voices in disarray and signs of contradiction that have brought in confusion and reversal of perennial values that were once held infallible and sacrosanct.

Humankind is forever in search and eager yearning for meaning in life and the art of living it to the full as a goal worth pursuing. People long to be free and be able to make their options and choices which they think are best for them and profitable. Of course, life just cannot be manipulated as one wants and freedom abused to do wrong, living with

no sense of either transparency, accountability or responsibility. Both life and freedom have to be handled with a high sense of awakened responsibility since these are blessings bestowed and values earned at the price of much sacrifice, struggle and commitment. The Lord Jesus rose from the darkness and gloom of death in order to restore power to life preventing it from anymore succumbing to the dust of death. People are born to live and not to fall to the grave of inevitable disintegration and so the need to understand the meaning of human death and see it as a moment of transformation and not just being slithered into nothingness. The greatest power that humanises the world and society is the freedom of man and its responsible exercise.

The Risks and Threats to Freedom

No state or secular power has the right to control life and human freedom, the least of all to curtail or deny it altogether as it had often happened in certain totalitarian regimes that lived and thrived on the power of the clenched fist and enveloped in a culture of death. They summarily dealt with the lives of millions of innocent people what they wanted through their despicable atrocities that maimed, disabled, gassed and killed the innocents. The Pol Pot regime in Vietnam, the Mao spree in China, the Milošević massacres in Serbia and the horrible Nazi extermination of millions in the camps of Auschwitz are chilling instances of the suppression of life, human dignity and human freedom even as the brazen dehumanisation that ensued. The

spirit of the Christian Easter radically questions these sad and despicable events of world history. They are clear cases of violence to life, human dignity and above all, to freedom, that is the greatest precious jewel in the crown of humanity. Such denials that contradict the spirit of Easter are also realised in the denial of human rights that are fundamentally rooted in the dignity of every human person which society committed to the common good has to ensure in its structures, laws and governance. Democracy has eventually proved to be the only social ideology and political system that has become the effective guardian of human rights, thus becoming the sanctuary-space of mankind's freedom.

Easter ushers in a New Culture

Easter celebrates the recovery of life that was snuffed out and destroyed in a most cruel manner by those who wielded religious and political authority at the time of the earthly Jesus of Nazareth. It was triumph over the grave and sadness of death.

We are told in the Bible, that the disciples of Jesus rejoiced when they saw the Risen Lord, their guru and master. He accompanied them on their journeys listening to their stories of frustration, fear and uncertainty. He visited them in their familiar beaches where they had returned to their old trade of fishing and could even feed them as he fed the thousands out in the Galilean hills; He could still the wild storms of the sea and would show them the wounds he incurred at his death in proof that the Risen Lord is the Crucified One as well. His was now a real presence, a real person and neither a ghost nor phantom, just a pious vision nor some hallucination.

The Risen Jesus assured them of his presence to the end of time and that the living communities of believers would be the new sanctuaries and temples in which he will abide till the end of the world. They were asked to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, fulfill the need of those

who are thirsty, visit the sick and the prisoners, heal those afflicted by disease and take the gift of peace to every home they enter. A new world has thus begun with the Risen Lord in their midst. They would dare any suffering, persecution or even death in his cause and in defense of their faith. This was the spiritual revolution and explosion of the Easter spirit that continues in the life and work of the Christian communities to this day globally throughout the world in all cultures and civilizations. The power of Easter has been released and unleashed. It will always be invested in the cause of a better humanity in a world more human and just where love and compassion abound. Easter is in this manner a great harbinger of life, human dignity, freedom and liberation.

The spirit of Easter and those who are under its spell, whatever their religious or cultural persuasion, will engender emissaries of a message of transformation and renewal which the world needs to hear today in earnest: promote life and let people go free.

It will grind to a dead halt, all crimes against humanity, whatever their hue. Besides, terrorism and violence are clearly agents of death and it must be categorically stated that they will never succeed in destroying religions as history has amply borne witness.

Humanity must decide to rise from their graves of inhumanity, injustice, cowardice, hatred and violence, pride, insolence and arrogance, oppressive structures, false sense of supremacy and complexes of all kinds in order thereby, to step into and venture forth into a new world where love reigns supreme and truth abides ruling the soul of humanity.

In this new way of life, the culture of death and destruction will be completely displaced and instead, a culture of life and a civilization of love and solidarity will take over their reins meandering a sure pathway to a world abounding in goodwill, trust and human fraternity. A new world will be born as death-dealing factors are neutralized and springs of life are discovered.



research that are purely historical, rooted in empirical, scientific investigation and corroborated concretely in existential experience. Life in this light is considered merely as a physical and biological phenomenon, a commodity to be negotiated while freedom is looked upon merely as a social imperative. Both life and



Easter Sunday falls tomorrow

Quarantined Easter

DR. LALITH MENDIS

I was only an infant when mom and dad had to run Not 'cos of Covid, but a King who'd have Me done Wise men came in time with much-needed finances Bank in lockdown – but gold, myrrh frankincense

After Lazarus, my friend resurrected and was famous I'd Lockdown for a month - death threat was serious I surfaced from Mary's house – anointed for burial Even God needed friends – before my death arrival

Final Lockdown in a tomb after the cross Romans guarding Inter-galactic terrific star wars between good and evil enacting Son of man bruised iniquity laden into dark hades descending Pure in spirit, Sinless Perfection, Prince Valiant ne'er doubting

Let My People Go – menacingly decreed hades quivering Lion of Judah, Lamb of God loudly His pure blood calling Satan trembles, shivers relinquishes keys of hades and death Ascent begins Glorious Risen Sovereign His Victory Trek

Hallelujah Hosanna all creation rejoice celebrates Heaven and Earth with triumph marvel reverberates Swords turn to ploughshares – nations war no more Prince of Peace for every nation – our spirit to soar

Celebrating Easter with an eye on 2022

CREEDE HINSHAW

The Church that proclaims the Resurrection of Jesus Christ finds itself in the position on Easter 2021 of claiming the resurrection for itself, the Church, in these still uncertain times. Even with the vaccine and the gradual re-opening of life and routine, it feels like we are living in those murky early morning hours on that first Easter, wondering who will roll away the massive boulder/stone, not having grasped that death could not hold Jesus and that even COVID-19 ultimately cannot defeat us.

Last Lent, when I was serving a church as an interim pastor, I preached my Easter Sunday sermon in a cemetery, my audience consisting of a cameraperson, a sound technician and our church's minister of music. It was the most unusual, and in some ways the most memorable, Easter sermon I ever preached. It was certainly the smallest Paschal congregation I ever preached to.

Those first bewildering weeks of the pandemic were full of trepidation and uncertainty. We in the Church were still trying to figure out how to approach this virus. I remember – in the first early weeks of the pandemic – how some people were speculating that maybe the church would be able to re-open by Easter (of 2020). How little did we know what we were facing.

Now churches are open again to varying degrees, although many are not open to the extent they were open



on Easter 2019. It might be a long time before the church returns to the participation levels seen two Easters ago.

Some congregations – including the one I attend – will require reservations for Easter Sunday in hopes of managing the crowds. A church one of my friends serves opened reservations for two Easter services on its website. Fifteen minutes after the reservation list opened, it was completely filled, and church members arriving late to the website were complaining because they were closed out. My friend opened a third slot for Easter worship to satisfy all who want to attend.

I hope that congregation is indicative of the renewed spiritual hunger. People are eager to assemble again, and those who have been faithful in worship over the decades are starved for the community again. But I doubt

the church will be back to 2019 crowd levels this Sunday.

I will be in an Easter Sunday congregation this week, happily rejoicing with the faithful who claim the power of the Resurrection for our lives, God's triumph over death and evil. I am not serving a church these days, so I will be gathered with the worshipping body.

Even as I worship, I will be looking forward to Easter 2022 when my congregation will perhaps be able to sing "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today," hear a full choir sing the Hallelujah Chorus and enjoy the sound of brass.

There is no such thing as a "partial Easter." The church can proclaim triumphantly and victoriously under any setting and circumstance. God's victory over sin and death is complete – once and for all. However, even as I attend Easter worship this Sunday, I will be anticipating Easter 2022. (Albany Herald)

ANNIE RENEAU

As the world ramps up vaccine production and distribution, misinformation and myths about the vaccines are ramping up as well. There are the wackadoodle conspiracy theories, of course, but there is also a lot of genuine confusion out there. Some confusion is due to the constant deluge of rapidly evolving (and sometimes changing) information, some of it is due to how scientists communicate what they know and do not know, and some of it is because people do not know who to trust for reliable information.

For example, some of the myths below originated from people with “Dr.” before their names. And, there will assuredly be people in the comments sharing screenshots and Bitchute links to talks from scientists, doctors, and nurses who have been booted from social media for spreading misinformation. It is an epidemic at this point.

While an individual’s credentials matter, they are not enough to make someone a trustworthy source of information. There are people with multiple degrees from elite institutions who are steeped in conspiracy thinking, addicted to attention, grifting for profit, or just genuinely kooky. Scientific skepticism is healthy, to a point. But if a medical professional makes a claim and 100 medical professionals refute it, the majority consensus is the logical way to go.

Rather than relying on individual doctors or scientists, I look to well-respected medical institutions and professional medical associations for the most accurate information. That is where most of the information here comes from.

This list is by no means exhaustive.

MYTH 1: “The vaccine is not really a vaccine”

This myth appears to trace back to a man named Dr. David E. Martin who said this on a podcast. He is not a medical doctor; he is CEO of a financial analyst firm. He does not specify what his Ph.D. is in, but it is clearly not in any field related to immunology.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), a vaccine is “a product that stimulates a person’s immune system to produce immunity to a specific disease, protecting the person from that disease.” That is exactly what all three of the COVID vaccines in use in the U.S. do. The mRNA vaccines do so with a different mechanism than traditional vaccines, but the basic premise—getting the immune system to produce immunity to a specific disease—still stands. That is why every professional medical institution uses the word “vaccine” to describe these injections.

MYTH 2: “The mRNA vaccine is gene therapy” and/or “The mRNA vaccine changes your DNA.”

No, it is not gene therapy and it does nothing to your DNA. mRNA does not go into the parts of the cell where your DNA actually exists. “Unlike gene editing and gene therapy, mRNA technology does not change the genetic information of the cell, and is intended to be short-acting,” reads the Moderna website. In fact, mRNA research was launched decades ago as an alternative to DNA-based gene therapy, precisely because it does not change your DNA.

Though super simplistic, a video depicting how mRNA vaccines work earned high praise from immunologists for showing what the vaccine is actually doing in your body. The mRNA goes in, gives your body instructions for making the spike protein that exists on the outside of the coronavirus, prompting your immune system to create the weapons needed to destroy it. The mRNA itself gets destroyed by your own body shortly thereafter. No genes altered. No genetic material left in you. Just nice, shiny immunity.

MYTH 3: “The vaccines were rushed and have not been around long enough to know they are safe.”

Yes, these are new vaccines. Yes, they went through the development and testing processes in record time. It is understandable that people would be hesitant for this reason. But there are two issues at play here.

1) People are assuming that fast = rushed = skipped steps. But does the evidence bear that out? No. The University of Nebraska Medical Center has a well-laid-out, concise explanation of the various phases of normal vaccine development and how they were able to safely speed them up with these vaccines. (In a long nutshell, our knowledge about vaccines, decades of mRNA research, a decade of mRNA vaccine research specifically, and base knowledge about coronaviruses gave us a solid foundation to start from. Then, having thousands of volunteers sign up quickly, building facilities ahead of time, combining phases—which is not the same as cutting

COMMON MYTHS ABOUT COVID VACCINES



corners—having enough viral spread to get the necessary results quickly, and having all hands on deck at every level combined to give us these vaccines in record time.)

Do we know the long-term effects of the vaccines? No. Is there any scientific or biological reason to anticipate that there will be any, based on the decades of research we have under our belts? No.

2) The risk ratio heavily favours the vaccine, even without long-term data.

One thing people do not seem to realise is that these vaccines have been around almost as long as the virus itself has—just a few months less. (The first Moderna vaccines were injected into trial volunteers on March 16, 2020—over a year ago.) So we have had almost the same amount of time to observe the effects of both.

We know the risks with COVID are real, both short-term and long-term. Obviously, death is a big one. Severe illness is another. But even recovered people who initially had mild symptoms can have ongoing health problems. Some people with more severe COVID may have permanent organ damage. And those are just the health effects we know about so far.

We know that the risks with the vaccine so far are teeny tiny. More have gotten the vaccine than have gotten the virus at this point, and what have we seen? A small number of severe allergic reactions, out of tens of millions of doses. Lots of expected temporary side effects shortly after injection as the body’s immune system does its thing. That is it. And while we do not know if there are any long-term side effects, there does not appear to be any scientific reason to believe there will be.

Everything carries some risk. The risk ratio here for the vast majority of us is clearly in favour of vaccination.

MYTH 4: “The vaccine does not keep you from transmitting the virus, it just lessens symptoms.”

This myth began because scientists simply did not have the evidence to show whether or not the vaccine prevented infection and transmission, and they said so. But “we do not have evidence at this point” does not mean “does not.” It just means there was not enough data to know yet, and scientists (thankfully) try not to speculate, but rather go by what the data shows.

As of this week, we have seen enough real-world evidence to be able to say that yes, at least the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines do prevent infection—including asymptomatic infection—by 90 percent. The CDC officially

announced it. That is amazing news. Shout-it-from-the-rooftops kind of news.

MYTH 5: “The vaccine is not even approved by the FDA.”

Technically, this is true—the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has not approved the vaccines for licensure per their normal processes. However, the FDA has issued Emergency Use Authorization, which is the best they can do in the limited timeframe of an out-of-control global pandemic. It is not like the FDA is hesitant about these vaccines. You can go right to the FDA website and read all about their recommendations and the authorisation process, including all of the documentation from the three authorized vaccines.

MYTH 6: “The vaccine could make you infertile.”

This one is easy. According to the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG): “Unfounded claims linking COVID-19 vaccines to infertility have been scientifically disproven. The ACOG recommends vaccination for all eligible people who may consider future pregnancy.”

Considering the fact that obstetricians are the main medical professionals who actually want women to be able to get pregnant so they can continue to have a job, I trust their professional take on this.

MYTH 7: “The vaccine is messing with women’s menstruation.”

As far as menstruation goes, there is some evidence that COVID-19 infection can mess with the volume and duration of a woman’s menstrual cycle. So it is not like there are not questions about how the coronavirus itself might impact your reproductive system.

There have also been some anecdotes from Israel of a small number of women reporting irregular menstrual bleeding after receiving the vaccine, which the Health Ministry is monitoring. However, it is a handful of reports out of millions of vaccinations, and women’s cycles can be impacted by all kinds of things, which makes the causal connection not particularly convincing.

MYTH 8: “There are reports of people dying not long after they get the vaccine, which means they are risky.”

It is true that some people are going to die after they get the vaccine, but that does not mean they are dying from the vaccine. We are administering two to three million vaccine doses per day. One in 45,000 Americans dies each day. Statistically, that means 40 to 60 people will die the day they get their vaccine, no matter what.

And naturally, some of those deaths will be random heart attacks, brain aneurysms, and other unexpected and sudden causes of death.

“These medical events occur every single day, including unexplained illnesses,” Dr. William Schaffner, Professor of Medicine in the Division of Infectious Diseases at Vanderbilt University Medical Center told the *ABC News*. “The question really is, do they occur at a greater rate in the vaccinated population than they do in the general population?”

It is not like doctors just assume someone’s death was not caused by the vaccine. They investigate it each time it happens. And so far, no evidence shows that the vaccines are killing people.

MYTH 9: “The virus has a 99 percent survival rate so a vaccine is not necessary.”

There are lots of percentages floating around about survival rates, but there is no official number because we do not truly know how many people have been infected. Case fatality rates—meaning how many have died

out of confirmed cases—are all over the place, ranging from 0.1 percent in Mongolia to 21 percent in Yemen. (In the U.S., it is 1.8 percent. In Mexico, 9.1 percent.)

However, even if we go with a 99 percent survival rate estimate, that sounds low until you calculate what that would mean if every American got infected with the virus. Are we ready to see more than 3.5 million Americans die from a disease we have an effective vaccine for? That seems cruel.

Not to mention, the longer we let the virus spread, the more chance it has to mutate into more contagious and deadlier variants. Widespread vaccination is the only way we are going to mitigate the pandemic without millions of deaths and prolonged economic and social hardship.

MYTH 10: “The vaccines use aborted fetal tissue.”

Here is where we get into some confusing science, but the short answer is ‘no’. No fetal tissue is used in the making of these vaccines.

What is used are what is called fetal cell lines, which are basically cellular descendants of fetal tissue taken from elective abortions in the 1970s. They are not fetal tissue now, and no fetal tissue is used in any of these vaccines. The North Dakota Department of Health has a clear explanation of what role fetal cell lines play in COVID-19 vaccines.

Worth noting that the famously anti-abortion U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops has given their approval of the vaccines, stating: “receiving a COVID-19 vaccine ought to be understood as an act of charity toward the other members of our community. In this way, being vaccinated safely against COVID-19 should be considered an act of love of our neighbour and part of our moral responsibility for the common good...Given the urgency of this crisis, the lack of available alternative vaccines, and the fact that the connection between an abortion that occurred decades ago and receiving a vaccine produced today is remote, inoculation with the new COVID-19 vaccines in these circumstances can be morally justified.”

MYTH 11: “Once you are vaccinated you can go about life as you did pre-pandemic.”

Not yet. Now at least we know that the mRNA vaccines drastically reduce transmission, which should give us some peace of

mind. But drastically reduced does not mean eliminated, and most people still are not vaccinated. In public, we still need to observe pandemic protocols until our numbers really drop for a while.

If you are vaccinated and the people you are with are vaccinated, have a ball. But around the general public, keep the distancing and the masks up for a while longer.

MYTH 12: “The vaccine will trigger autoimmune diseases in the body.”

There has been speculation about vaccines causing autoimmune diseases for many years, with no evidence to show that the concerns are founded. The same goes for the COVID vaccines. This myth may originate from a viral video from a nurse practitioner claiming that the mRNA vaccine could make the immune system attack the body, but that has been debunked by experts.

Again, I like to go to professional medical associations for this kind of thing, as non-profit organisations dedicated to maintaining high standards in their fields. The American College of Rheumatology (ACR) recently released this recommendation on COVID vaccines for people with autoimmune conditions:

“Although there is limited data from large population-based studies, it appears that patients with autoimmune and inflammatory conditions are at a higher risk for developing hospitalised COVID-19 compared to the general population and have worse outcomes associated with infection,” said Dr. Jeffrey Curtis, chair of the ACR COVID-19 Vaccine Clinical Guidance Task Force. “Based on this concern, the benefit of COVID-19 vaccination outweighs any small, possible risks for new autoimmune reactions or disease flare after vaccination.”

MYTH 13: “We do not even know what is in these vaccines.”

We actually know a tonne about these vaccines, including what is in them. The FDA has all of that information available on their website, though it does take wading through some long documents to find them. But the reality is that the ingredients list won’t be all that meaningful to the average person. Here is the list for Pfizer:

“The vaccine contains a nucleoside-modified messenger RNA (modRNA) encoding the viral spike glycoprotein (S) of SARS-CoV-2. The vaccine also includes the following ingredients: lipids ((4-hydroxybutyl)azanediyl)bis(hexane-6,1-diyl)bis(2-hexyldodecanoate), 2-[(polyethylene glycol)-2000]-N,N-ditetradecylacetamide, 1,2-distearoyl-sn-glycero-3-phosphocholine, and cholesterol), potassium chloride, monobasic potassium phosphate, sodium chloride, dibasic sodium phosphate dihydrate, and sucrose.”

If that makes you feel better, more power to you.

MYTH 14: “We just need to eat well and take care of our health and our immune systems will save us.”

I am 100 percent in favour of optimal health, so by all means, eat well, exercise, take vitamins, and reduce stress. But the idea that a strong immune system is sufficient for battling the novel coronavirus simply is not true.

One thing that makes COVID-19 such a problem is that it is new so no one’s immune system knows how to fight it. Yes, a robust immune system can be helpful—but it can also backfire. A healthy immune system can go into overdrive, causing what is known as a cytokine storm. It is what kills young and healthy people with the flu sometimes as well. Not super common, but it happens.

The vaccines are like a personal trainer getting your body ready for the COVID battle. If you were going to compete in a decathlon, you would hone the skills and strength you need for those 10 specific events. You would not just rely on being in great shape in general.

MYTH 15: “The vaccine only lasts three months.”

We do not actually know how long immunity will last with the vaccines yet. That is one of the things researchers are observing in the ongoing studies. The initial vaccine trials indicate that immunity lasts at minimum three months. A new study from the U.S. military indicates that vaccine immunity remains strong for at least seven to nine months. It could be that it ends up lasting a year or 10 years. We just do not know yet. We may end up having to get a booster, or a yearly shot like the flu shot. But there is no evidence that it only lasts three months.

(Source: Upworthy)

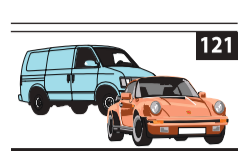


A vaccine against COVID-19 being given in Colombo.



Nurses at a vaccination centre in Colombo

Classifieds



Vehicles Wanted

Seyana Rent-A-Car - Hanwellla - Wanted cars / vans without Driver on monthly rent basis for long periods on signing of agreement. Inquire : 0114360370, 0771360370. 024717



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Employment Opportunities



UNIVERSITY OF KELANIYA - SRI LANKA

Vacancies - Security Guards (Males/Females) (on Contract Basis)

Applications are invited from applicants having completed over 12 years of service in the Tri-forces or in the Sri Lanka Police Department and fulfilling the undermentioned requirements to fill vacancies lying vacant in the University of Kelaniya for Security Guards.

Qualifications:

1. Should have passed Grade Eight
2. Should have actively participated in sports and social activities
3. Should not be less than 05 feet 04 inches in height
4. Chest should not be less than 32 inches
5. The age should not exceed above 45 years to the last date for accepting applications.

- ❖ Salary - Rs. 50,000.00 (monthly fixed)
- ❖ Period - 01 year
- ❖ Benefits - Entitled to University Provident Fund and Employees Trust Fund
- ❖ Selection - Through an interview and a fitness test

Applications could be obtained through the University official website: <https://news.kln.ac.lk/index.php/classified/vacancies> or by calling over at the Kelaniya University. Applications thus obtained should be duly completed and sent along with copies of certificates in proof of qualifications, letter confirming for having legally resigned from the Tri-forces, Police or from state service, by registered post addressed to **Assistant Registrar, Non-Academic Branch, University of Kelaniya** to be received on or before 19.04.2021. The words "Security Guard (Contract Basis)" should be marked on the top left-hand corner of the envelope containing the application.

Applications received late and applications which don not fulfill the required qualifications will be rejected.

Registrar
29.03.2021

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Marriage Proposals

in the Sunday Observer

Board of Investment of Sri Lanka (BOI)

REGISTRATION OF SUPPLIERS & SERVICE PROVIDERS FOR THE YEAR 2021

The Departmental Procurement Committee of Board of Investment of Sri Lanka has decided that the suppliers & service providers who are registered for the year 2020 are to be continued for the year 2021.

New parties who are willing to register for the year 2021 are informed to act according to the advertisement published on the official website of BOI (www.investsrilanka.com)

Chairman,
Board of Investment of Sri Lanka

Institute of Western Music & Speech

(Incorporated by Act of Parliament No. 44 of 1988)



Vacancies for

Post of Computer Operator / Clerk

Minimum Qualification:

- G.C.E. (Advanced Level)
- Diploma in Computing
- Fluency in English is essential

Age : Between 21 and 30 years
Salary : Negotiable

Please forward your C.V. with names of two non-related referees and contact telephone number/email address within 10 days of this advertisement under registered cover to:

The President
Institute of Western Music & Speech
No. 12, Kotalawela Gardens,
Colombo 04.
Tel: 2582498 / 2587328
E-mail: admin_of@slt.net.lk

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given in terms of Section 9 of the Companies Act, No. 07 of 2007.

Name of the company: HARVARD TRADING (PVT) LTD
Date of Incorporation: 13th July 2020
No. of the company: PV 00224222
Registered Office: 23/1, Alandara Road, Colombo 05

Name of the company: SUMMERSET INTERNATIONAL (PVT) LTD
Date of Incorporation: 18th Oct. 2020
No. of the company: PV 00229220
Registered Office: No. 16/A, Pazarala Road, Mt. Lavinia

Name of the company: B C L GLOBAL HOLDINGS (PVT) LTD
Date of Incorporation: 28th Oct. 2020
No. of the company: PV 00229634
Registered Office: No. 84/13A, Debandana Rd, Pajalana Road, Galle

Name of the company: MANITHA PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT (PVT) LTD
Date of Incorporation: 12th Nov. 2020
No. of the company: PV 00230228
Registered Office: Kindelipitiya, Welimulla

Name of the company: L.N.S. AUTO CLUB (PVT) LTD
Date of Incorporation: 23rd Nov. 2020
No. of the company: PV 00230655
Registered Office: No. 59/2, Harris Canal Road, Colombo 10

Name of the company: DELON GLOBAL HOLDINGS (PVT) LTD
Date of Incorporation: 13th Dec. 2020
No. of the company: PV 00231694
Registered Office: No. 327, Ganesha Junction, High Level Road, Nuwara-Eliya

Name of the company: VERTEX INNOVATORS (PVT) LTD
Date of Incorporation: 28th Jan. 2021
No. of the company: PV 00233872
Registered Office: No. 423/30/2A, Jaya Mawatha, Hospital Road, Homagama
Secretary, Telephone No.: 0758002885



SUGATHADASA NATIONAL SPORTS COMPLEX AUTHORITY INVITATION FOR BIDS

Serial No.	Procurement File No.	Details	Last date for issuing Bid Forms	Date and Time for opening Bids	Non-refundable Bid Form Fee	Bid Guarantee
01	QTN 63/2021	Obtaining cleaning services for the indoor, outdoor stadium and the sports Hotel Administration Building of the Sugathadasa Authority	19.04.2021 up to 10.00 a.m.	20.04.2021 at 1400 hours	Rs. 3000/-	Rs. 50,000/-

Bids are invited from institutions possessing experience relevant to the service in this field and from those providing these services.

Should submit a written application to obtain bid documents. Bids prepared according to the instructions given in the bid documents should be sent by registered post or could be handdelivered.

Bid forms for this purpose could be obtained from the Sugathadasa National Sports Complex Authority after paying a non-refundable fee in cash as mentioned above. Bid forms will be issued to interested persons during office hours on working days from 9.30 a.m. to 2.30 p.m.

Bid documents will be issued from 9.30 a.m. on 05.04.2021.

A bid guarantee issued by any commercial bank registered under the Central Bank of Sri Lanka to the value as mentioned above should be submitted with the bid.

Further details regarding this matter could be obtained from the Purchases Division of the Sugathadasa National Sports Complex Authority and interested persons could inspect the bid documents free of charge on this occasion.

Telephone: 2445677 / 2384490 and 2384385.

Chairman - Procurement Committee
S.N.S.C. Authority,
P.O. Box 2211,
Arthur De Silva Mawatha,
Colombo 13.

UNIVERSITY OF KELANIYA - SRI LANKA

VACANCIES

Applications will be received from qualified persons to fill the vacancies of the University of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka.

1. Post of Technical Officer Grade II Segment "A"

Qualifications:

1. National Diploma in Technology or equivalent qualification **OR**
2. Higher National Diploma in Engineering **OR**
3. Higher National Diploma in relevant field **OR**
4. Diploma in relevant fields of at least two (02) year's full time duration obtained from a recognized institute with one (01) year experience in the relevant field.

Note : According to the nature of the post, the relevant fields are Engineering/ Science/ Technology/ Medical Laboratory Technology etc.

Age Limit: Should be not less than 18 years and not more than 45 years.

Salary Method: U-MT 1 (III)
Rs. 35,145 - 7 x 355; 9 x 495 - 42,085 (Monthly)
(According to the UGC Circular 17/2016(v))

Method of Selection: By Practical test and interview.

2. Post of Technical Officer (Audio Visual) Grade III

Qualifications:

1. Should have passed in three (3) subjects at the G.C.E (A/L) examination in any Stream **AND**
2. (a) Having obtained a certificate of proficiency not below than the N.V.Q Level 5 in the field of Electronics and Telecommunication / Electronics / Multimedia or Audio Visual Techniques from an Institution recognized by Tertiary and Vocational Education Commission or a Statutory Institution which has been established by an Act. passed by the Parliament. **OR**
(b) Having obtained technical qualifications in the field of Electronics and Telecommunication / Electronics / Multimedia or Audio Visual Techniques accepted as equivalent to the above qualification of (2) (a.) by Tertiary and Vocational Education commission with one year experience in Audio Visual work in reputed organization.

Age Limit: Should be not less than 18 years and not more than 45 years.

Salary Method: U-MT 1 (III)
Rs. 31,625 - 7 x 300; 10 x 355 - 37,275 (Monthly)
(According to the UGC Circular 17/2016(v))

Method of Selection: By Written and / or Practical test and interview.

3. Post of Technical Officer (Civil) Grade III

Qualifications:

1. Should have passed in three (3) subjects at the G.C.E (A/L) examination in Physical Science Stream **AND**
2. Having obtained a certificate of proficiency not below than the N.V.Q Level 5 in the field of Civil Engineering from an Institution recognized by Tertiary and Vocational Education Commission or a recognized Institution in the field of Civil Engineering or equivalent

Age Limit: Should be not less than 18 years and not more than 45 years.

Salary Method: U-MT 1 (III)
Rs. 31,625 - 7 x 300; 10 x 355 - 37,275 (Monthly)
(According to the UGC Circular 17/2016(v))

Method of Selection: By Written and / or Practical test and interview.

4. Post of Technical Officer (Electrical) Grade III

Qualifications:

1. Should have passed in three (3) subjects at the G.C.E (A/L) examination in Physical Science Stream **AND**
2. Having obtained a certificate of proficiency not below than the N.V.Q Level 5 in the field of Civil Engineering from an Institution recognized by Tertiary and Vocational Education Commission or a recognized Institution in the field of Electrical Engineering or equivalent

Age Limit: Should be not less than 18 years and not more than 45 years.

Salary Method: U-MT 1 (III)
Rs. 31,625 - 7 x 300; 10 x 355 - 37,275 (Monthly)
(According to the UGC Circular 17/2016(v))

Method of Selection: By Written and / or Practical test and interview.

METHOD OF APPLICATION :

Application forms could be downloaded from the University Website (www.kln.ac.lk). Duly completed Applications on prescribed forms should be sent with copies of relevant certificates, indicating the post applied for on the top left hand corner of the envelope to reach the **Assistant Registrar/ Non-Academic Establishment Division, University of Kelaniya, Dalugama, Kelaniya**, to be received on or before **20th April 2021**.

Age limit will be not applicable to applicants from higher Education Institutes, Government Departments, Corporations and Statutory Boards and they should channel their applications through the respective Heads of Institutions.

The University reserves the right to shortlist the candidates.

Applications which are not fulfilling the required qualifications, incomplete, illegible applications and those received after the closing date will be rejected and they will not be considered again under any circumstance.

Registrar
University of Kelaniya
25.03.2021

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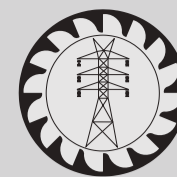
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இலங்கை மின்சார சபை
CEYLON ELECTRICITY BOARD

In pursuit of our objective of improving the quality of supply and service to the consumers, Ceylon Electricity Board intends to attend to construction, rehabilitation and maintenance works in the localities listed below. As a result, the electricity supply would be interrupted to those areas on the dates/times mentioned. We regret any inconvenience caused to the consumers in these areas as a result of these interruptions to our services. Ceylon Electricity Board would take all steps to restore the electricity supplies as soon as the planned works are completed.

UVA PROVINCE - APRIL 2021

The electricity supply would be interrupted during 08.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. on given dates in the months of April - 2021

DIYATHALAWA AREA	
Diyathalawa CSC	
2021-04-05	08.00 - 17.00 Bulk : Haputhale Petroleum Distribution : Haputhale Temple Rd, Haputhale Town, Haputhale Ceypetco
2021-04-06	08.00 - 17.00 Distribution : Moraketiya, Nikapotha, Lemashota, Akkara 100 Kakkutuarawa, Muthuwanagama, Muruthahinna
2021-04-07	08.00 - 17.00 Distribution : Moraketiya
2021-04-08	08.00 - 17.00 Distribution : Moraketiya, Nikapotha, Lemashota, Akkara 100 Kakkutuarawa, Muthuwanagama, Muruthahinna
2021-04-09	08.00 - 17.00 Distribution : Moraketiya
2021-04-10	08.00 - 17.00 Distribution : Akkara 100 Kakkutuarawa
2021-04-28	08.00 - 17.00 Distribution : Moraketiya, Nikapotha, Lemashota, Akkara 100 Kakkutuarawa, Muthuwanagama, Muruthahinna
Bandarawela CSC	
2021-04-03	08.00 - 17.00 Bulk : Yowun Senankaya Distribution : Punagala Rd (Galwala), Training College Bindunuwewa, Maduwelpathana
2021-04-05	08.00 - 17.00 Distribution : Punagala Rd (Kovil)
2021-04-06	08.00 - 17.00 Bulk & Distribution : Jalasa Kanda Distribution : Dehinna, Wellawala
2021-04-07	08.00 - 17.00 Bulk : ITN Nayabedda Distribution : Batawala, Meeriya Junction, Suramyagama, Gedyaroda, Dikarawa, Wellawala, Ambegoda, Diganathenna, Heeloya
2021-04-08	08.00 - 17.00 Distribution : Maduwelpathana, Dehinna, Wellawala
2021-04-09	08.00 - 17.00 Distribution : Dehinna, Mirahawatha, Makulella Kurudugolla
2021-04-10	08.00 - 17.00 Distribution : Mirahawatha School, Wellawala
2021-04-12	08.00 - 17.00 Distribution : Amunumulla
2021-04-15	08.00 - 17.00 Distribution : Abeypura
2021-04-16	08.00 - 17.00 Distribution : Perahettiya
2021-04-17	08.00 - 17.00 Distribution : Atthalagedara
2021-04-19	08.00 - 17.00 Bulk & Distribution : Uva Highland Distribution : Amunudowa
2021-04-20	08.00 - 17.00 Distribution : Kurukude, Heeloya
2021-04-21	08.00 - 17.00 Distribution : Katugaha Junction, Amunudowa
2021-04-22	08.00 - 17.00 Bulk & Distribution : Aislaby Estate Distribution : Heeloya
2021-04-23	08.00 - 17.00 Distribution : Karandagolla, Hunuketiya
2021-04-24	08.00 - 17.00 Distribution : Amunudowa
2021-04-27	08.00 - 17.00 Distribution : Ambandegama
2021-04-28	08.00 - 17.00 Distribution : Diyabibila, St. Thomas College, Amunudowa, Heeloya
2021-04-29	08.00 - 17.00 Distribution : Laksirigama
Welimada CSC	
2021-04-03	08.00 - 17.00 Distribution : Boralanda Town, Boralanda School
2021-04-05	08.00 - 17.00 Distribution : Pitapola
2021-04-06	08.00 - 17.00 Distribution : Galedanda, Gammeda
2021-04-07	08.00 - 17.00 Distribution : Hinnarangolla, Wathugodawela
2021-04-08	08.00 - 17.00 Bulk & Distribution : Quality Seed Distribution : Kandepuhulpola
2021-04-09	08.00 - 17.00 Distribution : Wangiyakumbura, Olugama
2021-04-19	08.00 - 17.00 Distribution : Uva Benhead Estate, Nedungamuwa III (Temple)

2021-04-20	08.00 - 17.00 Distribution : Nedungamuwa School
2021-04-21	08.00 - 17.00 Bulk & Distribution : Kalubulanda Telecom Distribution : Madowita, Wiyalakumbura
2021-04-22	08.00 - 17.00 Distribution : Amarakoongama
2021-04-23	08.00 - 17.00 Distribution : TC. Puhulpola, Moragolla
2021-04-24	08.00 - 17.00 Distribution : TC.Daragala, Pitapola
2021-04-27	08.00 - 17.00 Distribution : Puhulpola New, Prime Land
Uva Paranagama CSC	
2021-04-03	08.00 - 17.00 Distribution : Thuppiya, Mahakumbura, Galpattiya Bulathwaththa
2021-04-06	08.00 - 17.00 Distribution : Miriyakamatha
2021-04-08	08.00 - 17.00 Distribution : Thuppiya, Mahakumbura, Galpattiya Bulathwaththa
2021-04-09	08.00 - 17.00 Distribution : Galpattiya Bulathwaththa
2021-04-10	08.00 - 17.00 Distribution : Miriyakamatha
2021-04-20	08.00 - 17.00 Distribution : Thuppiya, Mahakumbura, Galpattiya Bulathwaththa
2021-04-22	08.00 - 17.00 Distribution : Miriyakamatha
2021-04-23	08.00 - 17.00 Distribution : Galpattiya Bulathwaththa
2021-04-29	08.00 - 17.00 Distribution : Galpattiya Bulathwaththa
MAHIYANGANAYA AREA	
Kandaketiya CSC	
2021-04-03	08.00 - 17.00 Distribution : Hapathgamuwa
2021-04-05	08.00 - 17.00 Bulk : Kathik Engineering, Maliban Textile 2, Jayasiri Rice Mill Distribution : Aggala Upatha, Athuruella, Godayagama, Karadagamada, Kirigalanda Karadagahada, Arwa New, Polgaha Arawa, Mahiyangana Road -16th Mp, Vihara Landa, Balagolla, Rda, Maliban Textile I
2021-04-06	08.00 - 17.00 Distribution : Badulu Oya
2021-04-09	08.00 - 17.00 Distribution : Kadapothhawa, Bopitiya, Lindahena
2021-04-18	08.00 - 17.00 Distribution : Makulugolla -Meegahakiula
2021-04-24	08.00 - 17.00 Distribution : Thalagahakumbura
Rideemaliyadda CSC	
2021-04-05	08.00 - 17.00 Distribution : Damunuketiya, Bubula, Cbl Agro, Kuruwithenna, Rathmalketiya (Beerlinda), Dambagahapitiya, Thambagoda Uduyaya, Weeragolla, Pinnagolla, Galgodayaya, Mahagama School, Udoowa Mahagama, Baladangolla, Urakote, Ritigaha Arawa, Dikyaya, Gurupanwela Kohana
MONARAGALA AREA	
Monaragala CSC	
2021-04-03	08.00 - 17.00 Distribution : Karandawaththa, Magandanamulla II, Gaminipura, Monaragala II (Near the Court)
2021-04-05	08.00 - 17.00 Distribution : Karavila, Sirigala Hospital, Okkampitiya I, Viharamulla Road
2021-04-06	08.00 - 17.00 Bulk & Distribution : Technical college, Monaragala Estate Distribution : Ella karavila, Galtenmandiya
2021-04-07	08.00 - 17.00 Distribution : Alupotha, Tc Sirigala (Pothuwil Road), Okkampitiya II Bogashandiya, Srivijayapura
2021-04-08	08.00 - 17.00 Distribution : Badalkumbura I (Near the Hospital), Galtenmandiya II, Hindikiula I
2021-04-09	08.00 - 17.00 Distribution : Bogahapellasa, Maligawila (102 Junction), Palaruwa (Horombuwa)
2021-04-16	08.00 - 17.00 Bulk & Distribution : C.T.B Monaragala Distribution : Dambegoda, Hulandawa Junction
2021-04-17	08.00 - 17.00 Distribution : Dehikindagama, Neyadalla, kalawelaragama
2021-04-19	08.00 - 17.00 Distribution : Hulandawa South, Madukotamarawa (New), Maligawila Water Supply, Kumbukkana

2021-04-20	08.00 - 17.00 Distribution : Hulandawa Left, Dambeyya Wewa Pedesa, Mahagodayaya
2021-04-21	08.00 - 17.00 Distribution : Wadikumbura, Katuwamada 1, Industrial Colony
2021-04-22	08.00 - 17.00 Distribution : Karametiya, Rajakandiya Dickiya, Kiulaara
2021-04-23	08.00 - 17.00 Distribution : Meegahayaya, Punsisigama, Gemunpurayaya Hulandawa, Okkampitiya I
2021-04-24	08.00 - 17.00 Bulk : Pelwaththa Suger Co. Badalkumbura Distribution : Wasipana, Ihawa Kahambana
2021-04-27	08.00 - 17.00 Distribution : Pusbedda, Elamanayaya, Kahambana, Neyadalla
2021-04-28	08.00 - 17.00 Distribution : Madukotamarawa 16 Mile Post, Weheragoda, Gadolbedda, Okkampitiya I
2021-04-29	08.00 - 17.00 Distribution : Thalawagama, Water Supply Katugahagalge, Thenagallanda
2021-04-30	08.00 - 17.00 Distribution : Udangoda, Water pump Lunugala Janapadaya, Wood Industrial Zone I, Neyadalla
Wellawaya CSC	
2021-04-03	08.00 - 17.00 Bulk : Dole Lanka 1, Dole Lanka 2, Dole Lanka 6, Dole Lanka 3, Dole Lanka 4, Dole Lanka 5 Distribution : Medagama - Nelungama (Karavila Kotuwa), Wellawaya Waguruwelsa, Waguruwela, Aluthwela, Wekada - Yatiyallathota, Koonketiya Raja Mawatha, Welpathara, koonketiya 18th Mile Post, Walliamma Gama 17th Mile Post, Koonketiya 19th Mile Post, Galapita Aragama, Peelessa Wewa Village, Gonagan Ara, Diyakiriththa, Block 15-16
2021-04-04	08.00 - 17.00 Distribution : Hingurukaduwa, Kehel Agala, Uda Arawa (Peraketiya)
2021-04-05	08.00 - 17.00 Bulk : Dole Lanka 1, Dole Lanka 2, Dole Lanka 6, Dole Lanka 3, Dole Lanka 4, Dole Lanka 5 Distribution : Medagama - Nelungama (Karavila Kotuwa), Wellawaya Waguruwelsa, Waguruwela, Aluthwela, Wekada - Yatiyallathota, Koonketiya Raja Mawatha, Welpathara, Koonketiya 18th Mile Post, Walliamma Gama 17th Mile Post, Koonketiya 19th Mile Post, Galapita Aragama, Peelessa Wewa Village, Gonagan Ara, Diyakiriththa, Block 15-16
2021-04-06	08.00 - 17.00 Bulk : Horabokka Suger Company (Sirikatha Cane Mill), CST Rdeniya Distribution : Hingurukaduwa, Kehel Agala, Uda Arawa (Peraketiya), Uda Arawa, Bubula, Moratuwagama, Moratuwagama 2, Horabokka
2021-04-09	08.00 - 17.00 Bulk : Horabokka Suger Company (Sirikatha Cane Mill), CST Rdeniya Distribution : Hingurukaduwa, Kehel Agala, Uda Arawa (Peraketiya), Uda Arawa, Bubula, Moratuwagama, Moratuwagama 2, Horabokka
2021-04-10	08.00 - 17.00 Bulk : Dole Lanka 1, Dole Lanka 2, Dole Lanka 6, Dole Lanka 3, Dole Lanka 4, Dole Lanka 5 Distribution : Medagama - Nelungama (Karavila Kotuwa), Wellawaya Waguruwelsa, Waguruwela, Aluthwela, Wekada - Yatiyallathota, Koonketiya Raja Mawatha, Welpathara, Koonketiya 18th Mile Post, Walliamma Gama 17th Mile Post, Koonketiya 19th Mile Post, Galapita Aragama, Peelessa Wewa Village, Gonagan Ara, Diyakiriththa, Block 15-16
2021-04-17	08.00 - 17.00 Distribution : Randeniya, Keeriyagolla
2021-04-20	08.00 - 17.00 Bulk : Horabokka Suger Company (Sirikatha Cane Mill), CST Rdeniya Distribution : Uda Arawa, Bubula, Moratuwagama, Moratuwagama 2, Horabokka, Randeniya, Keeriyagolla
2021-04-22	08.00 - 17.00 Bulk : Horabokka Suger Company (Sirikatha Cane Mill), CST Rdeniya Distribution : Uda Arawa, Bubula, Moratuwagama, Moratuwagama 2, Horabokka, Randeniya, Keeriyagolla
2021-04-23	08.00 - 17.00 Bulk : Upul Metal Crusher, Warunagama Army Camp Distribution : Warunagama, Pelwaththa Block 2, Anapallama School Lane, Kandyagama, Ranawirupura, Pahala Warunagama
2021-04-24	08.00 - 17.00 Bulk : Horabokka Suger Company (Sirikatha Cane Mill), CST Rdeniya Distribution : Uda Arawa, Bubula, Moratuwagama, Moratuwagama 2, Horabokka, Randeniya, Keeriyagolla
2021-04-25	08.00 - 17.00 Bulk : Yudaganawa Dharmasena Metal Crusher, DMP Metal Crusher Distribution : Buttala Hospital, Yudaganawa Temple, Yudagan Junction, Yudagan Akkara 50, Buttala - Udagama
2021-04-27	08.00 - 17.00 Bulk : Ayurvedic Medicin Center, Wellawaya MHP, Lemashota Upper, Lemashota Bulk & Distribution : Koslanda Estate Distribution : Koslanda Town, Koslanda Telecom, Udumulla, Naulla, Kelipanawela, Diyaluma, Kolongasthenna, Kotabakma, Ranasinghagama, Ambaragala Waththa
2021-04-29	08.00 - 17.00 Bulk : Upul Metal Crusher, Warunagama Army Camp Distribution : Warunagama, Pelwaththa Block 2, Anapallama School Lane, Kandyagama, Ranawirupura, Pahala Warunagama

2021-04-30	08.00 - 17.00
Bulk: Ayurvedic Medicin Center, Wellawaya MHP, Lemasthota Upper, Lemasthota, Yudaganawa Dharmasena Metal Crusher, DMP Metal Crusher	
Bulk & Distribution: Koslanda Estate	
Distribution: Koslanda Town, Koslanda Telecom, Udumulla, Naulla, Kelipawela, Diyuluma, Kolongasthenna, Kotabakma, Ranasinghegama, Ambaragala Waththa, Buttala Hospital, Yudaganawa Temple, Yudagana Junction, Yudagana Akkara 50, Buttala - Udagama	
Bibila CSC	
2021-04-03	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution : Powerloom - Bibile	
2021-04-06	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution : Medagama Town	
2021-04-07	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution : Powerloom - Bibile	
2021-04-09	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution : Powerloom - Bibile	
2021-04-10	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution : Medagama Town	
2021-04-19	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution : Yalkumbura II, Mpcs Bibila, Yakunnawa, Ranminigama, Thimbiriya	
2021-04-20	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution: Unagolla, Badullagammana, Nagala, Bediyawa, Wayadena, Mellagama, Keenagoda	
2021-04-21	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution: Madapitiya, Hamapola, Yakunnawa, Ranminigama, Kapulanda (11 Mp)	
2021-04-22	08.00 - 17.00
Bulk & Distribution : Interlock Garment	
Distribution : Badullagammana, Nagala, Janaudana Gammanaya, Dahamgama, Bakinigahawela, Gonakura Arawa	
2021-04-23	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution : Pitakumbura, Kotabowa, Nannapurawa 2, Bakinigahawela, Ussagala, Wagama	
2021-04-24	08.00 - 17.00
Bulk & Distribution: CTB Bibila	
Distribution: Delgolla, Thotillakatiya, Senapathiya, Nannapurawa III (7 Mp), Bakinigahawela, Kanawegalla, Bibile Waththa	
2021-04-25	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution: Powerloom - Bibile, Pitakumbura, Kotabowa, Meeghawagura, Thimbiriya Rathupasketiya, Dambagaspiya Mellagama, Wagama	
2021-04-26	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution : Godigamuwa, Ahugoda, Gallindamulla	
2021-04-27	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution : Rathupasketiya - Bibila, Police - Bibile, Walihandeniya, Kanulwela, Senapathiya	
2021-04-28	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution: Bibilamulla, Nannapurawa 3 (7 Mp), Pitadeniya, Moragahamada	
2021-04-29	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution : Walihandeniya, Kalugahawadiya, Pubbara, Kirawanahela	
2021-04-30	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution : Rathupasketiya - Bibila, CSC Bibila, Police - Bibile, Sikuralanda, Balagolla, Bibilamulla, Kudugala, Pubbara	
Thanamalvila CSC	
2021-04-03	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution: Wild Life, Kahakurullan Peessa, Kahakurullan Peessa Pump House, Arambekema, Hambegamuwa, hambegamuwa Colony, Karapinchalandayaya, Thuparamaya, Gomagala, Usgala, Mahawewa, Walaskanda, Debara Ara, Gemunupura, 5th Mile Post, Anandapura, Balaharuwa, Us Ella, Sooriyagodana, Uruhora, Dimuthukade, Naw Ara, Annasigala, Debaraara 4 Mile Post, Balaharuwa New	
2021-04-05	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution: Komaligama, Uruhora, Balaharuwa	
2021-04-06	08.00 - 17.00
Bulk & Distribution: Army Camp - Kudaoya	
Distribution: Badrakali Dewalaya, Manelgala, Bodigama, Kudaoya Junction, Weheragala, Neluwawaya, Kithulkote, Kiulara, Gurugammanaya, Pathanayaya, Pideniara, Dole Lanka 1, Dole Lanka 2, Dole Lanka 3, Ethiliwewa Washing, Kudaoya Camp Junction, Pahalagoda, Rthambalagama, Deewara Gammanaya, Kukulkatuwa, Aluthwewa, Kilimbunna 1, Paluaththa Karametiya, Degal Ara, Kilimbunna 2	
2021-04-07	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution: Bodagama, Bodigama	
2021-04-08	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution: Kumaragama, Manelgala	
2021-04-09	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution: Mahawewa	
2021-04-10	08.00 - 17.00
Bulk & Distribution: Universal Gament (Bulk & Distribution), Kudaoya	
Distribution: Thanamalvila Town, Thanamalvila Water Board, Gaminipura, Sarwodaya, Sarwodaya II, Manelgala, Army Camp - Bodigama	
2021-04-17	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution: Kudaoya Junction, Rohanapura	
2021-04-19	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution: Kithulkote, Debara Ara	
2021-04-20	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution: Thanamalvila Water Board, 5th Mile Post	
2021-04-21	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution: Neluwawaya, Anandapura	

2021-04-22	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution : Kiulara, Us Ella, Naw Ara, Annasigala	
2021-04-23	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution: Kudaoya Junction, Gaminipura	
2021-04-24	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution: Bodigama, Dewramvehera	
2021-04-27	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution : Dewramvehera Water Board	
2021-04-28	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution: Galahitiyawa	
2021-04-29	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution: Kithulkote	
2021-04-30	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution: Thanamalvila Water Board	
Dambagalla CSC	
2021-04-03	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution: Ariyasirigama	
2021-04-05	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution: Mahakandawila Water Supply, Kotiyagala	
2021-04-06	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution: Ethimale Wila Oya	
2021-04-07	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution: Ethimale Water Board	
2021-04-08	08.00 - 17.00
Bulk & Distribution : Wila Oya Water Supply	
Distribution : Guruhela Saddathissagama	
2021-04-09	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution : Gamagala Ethimale, 60 Potion Ethimale	
2021-04-10	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution: Hiripitiya, Kalu Obba	
2021-04-11	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution: Dombagahawela	
2021-04-17	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution: Neelawabedda	
2021-04-18	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution : Kottagala Godana	
2021-04-19	08.00 - 17.00
Bulk & Distribution : P.S.Co. Kodayana (Bulk & Distribution)	
Distribution: Namal Oya Janapadaya, Aratugaswela, Diyakolayaya	
2021-04-20	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution: Pangura, Udukumbura, Mayuragama Ethimale	
2021-04-21	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution: Thereela, Kodayana	
2021-04-22	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution: Bolgalla Araluwina, Galabedda I, Galabedda II	
2021-04-23	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution: Debeddekiula - Batugammana, Gemunupura Akkara 50 Kumbukayaya	
2021-04-24	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution: Kotigalhela, Pahatha Arawa, Polkotan Arawa, Ampitiya, Kolonwinna, Ethimale 70 Potion, Gemunupura Akkara 50 Kumbukayaya	
2021-04-25	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution : Polkotan Arawa, Ampitiya	
2021-04-26	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution: Kotigalhela - Miyawaththa, Jayaminigama Water Board, Perakumpura	
2021-04-27	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution : Weliyaya, Galketiya Karanagama	
2021-04-28	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution : Kolonwinna, Karanagama	
2021-04-29	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution : Madukotapudama	
2021-04-30	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution : Maganda Oya	
BADULLA AREA	
Passara CSC	
2021-04-03	08.00 - 17.00
Bulk & Distribution: Adawatta	
Distribution: Janathapura, Lunugalagama, Alakolagala, Arawakumbura, Udagama/ Kirawanagoda, Dodamgolla, Kehelwattagama, Udakiruwa 1 (Udathenna), Udakiruwa, Udawattha, Udakiruwa 3 (Ethundemuwewa), Alubogolla, Pallekiruwa 1, Pallekiruwa 2 (near the School), Janathapura North, Lunugala Police - Udupanguwa, Wetakewela, Pallekiruwa 3	
2021-04-05	08.00 - 17.00
Bulk: Training Center Ury	
Bulk & Distribution :Gonakelle Estate, Palgathanna, Ury Factory, Wewassa Factory, Bibilegama 1	
Distribution : Gonagala, Sangabo Mawatha, Maussagolla, Parapawa 1 (Godapita), Parapawa 2 (Near The Temple), Tri - Tea Research Laboratory, Udagama (Near The Temple), Udagama (Diyakillapotha), Kirigala, Agarathanna (Near The Kovil), Welgolla, Welgolla 2, Galbokka	
2021-04-10	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution : Kirigalpoththa	

2021-04-17	08.00 - 17.00
Bulk & Distribution: Passara Estate - Meedumpitiya	
Distribution: Meeriyabadda, Ellawatta, Kehelwatta, Maduwaththa, Kehelwattagama, Peessagama, Daysbrook, Wetakewela	
2021-04-20	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution: Rabarwatta, Madugasthalawa	
2021-04-21	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution: Gonagala	
2021-04-24	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution: Rabarwatta, Madugasthalawa, Alubogolla, Janathapura North	
2021-04-27	08.00 - 17.00
Bulk & Distribution: Batawatta Estate, Cocagala Estate, Roeberry Estate	
Distribution: Matigahathanna 1/ Hospital - Wewabedda, Matigahathanna 2, Bakinikanda, Akiriya, Elamanne, Ragala, Pitamaruwa, Diggala, Dehigolla	
Haliela CSC	
2021-04-09	08.00 - 17.00
Bulk & Distribution: Kollumandiya, Kandededara	
Distribution: Kohana, Panjolla, Yelwerton, Serandib, Mahathenna, Sarniya Factory, Galkotuwegama, Thangamale, Pussellakanda, Kohana, Panjolla, Keenakale, Keenakale New, Dikpitiya, Thenepannanguwa	
2021-04-19	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution: Kohana, Panjolla	
2021-04-20	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution : Namunukula (Telecom), Springvalley, Gawarawela	
2021-04-21	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution: Baddewela, Gawarakele	
2021-04-22	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution: Nallamale, Memale Factory	
2021-04-23	08.00 - 17.00
Bulk: Orzone, Videsha Sewa, Dialog Uda Dompe, Kingswood, Egodagama	
Bulk & Distribution: Ceb, Unagolla Waththa, Rokathenna Factory	
Distribution: Kohana, Panjolla, Petzone, Ag Office - Haliela, Urban Council, Hali Ela Telecom, Hali Ela Town, Ambawaka, Rokathanna Estate, 5th Mile Post, Springvalley, Nawala Estate	
2021-04-27	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution: Wewalhinna	
2021-04-28	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution : Springvalley, Othube Waththa	
2021-04-29	08.00 - 17.00
Bulk: Bogoda Metal Crusher	
Bulk & Distribution : Uva Ketawala	
Distribution: Jangulla, Ketawala, Deegalla, Landewela, Kobbeketiya, Panakanniya	
Badulla CSC	
2021-04-03	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution: Kirioruwa, Nelungama, Nelumwewa, Sirimalgoda, Pallekanda	
2021-04-05	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution: Nelungama, Nelumwewa, Sirimalgoda	
2021-04-06	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution : Andeniya, Nelungama, Nelumwewa, Sirimalgoda, Cullen Estate, Katukele, Damanwara, Wekada, Kosgolla, Kuttiyagolla, Athgala, Boastal Camp	
2021-04-07	08.00 - 17.00
Bulk & Distribution : Kalugalpitiya	
Distribution : Madithale, Pitapola, Welihinda, Kohowila	
2021-04-08	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution: Weeriyapura, Andeniya, Nelungama, Nelumwewa, Sirimalgoda, Cullen Estate, Katukele, Damanwara, Wekada, Kosgolla, Kuttiyagolla, Athgala	
2021-04-09	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution : Vineethagama 2, Kosgolla, Kirioruwa	
2021-04-10	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution: 3rd Mile Post	
2021-04-15	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution : Wewessa Estate 2	
2021-04-17	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution : Bulk & Distribution : Pin Arawa Water Pump House	
Distribution : Kuttiyagolla	
2021-04-19	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution : Thelbeddagama	
2021-04-20	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution : Silpolagama	
2021-04-21	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution: Mailagasthenna, Vineethagama, Muthumala, Andeniya, Nelungama, Nelumwewa, Sirimalgoda, Cullen Estate, Katukele, Damanwara, Wekada, Kosgolla, Kuttiyagolla, Athgala,	
2021-04-22	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution : Daya Gunasekara Mawatha Junction	
2021-04-23	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution : Janawasam	
2021-04-24	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution : Goradiyawaka, Heennarangolla	
2021-04-27	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution : Nikathanna Water Pump Huose	
2021-04-28	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution : Rock Hill Technical College, Galliha	
2021-04-29	08.00 - 17.00
Distribution : Dunuwangiya, Allearawa-New	

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NOTICE OF SALE UNDER SECTION 29 D OF 1961 AS AMENDED BY ACT NO. 32 OF 1986



PEOPLE'S BANK AUCTION SALE

OF A VALUABLE PROPERTY WITH LAND, BUILDINGS, PLANTATIONS AND EVERYTHING STANDING THEREON

All that divided and defined allotment of the land marked Lot C depicted in the Plan No. 1896 dated 07.11.2001 made by H. Siribaddana, Licensed Surveyor of the land called "Kaluwitharanage Watta" alias Baduwatta alias Medakoratuwa, bearing Assessment No. 106, Hambantota Road situated at Medaketiya Tangalle within the Urban Council Limits of Tangalle, and within the Grama Niladhari's Division of Medaketiya in the Divisional Secretariat Division of Tangalle in South Giruwa Pattu of Hambantota District Southern Province and which said land Lot C is bounded on.

North : Lots B and D in Plan No. 1896
 East : Danibuge Watta alias Weeragahawatta bearing Ass. No. 106/1, Hambantota Road
 South : Land resides A.A. Dheerasekara Notary bearing Ass. No. 02, Hambantota Road
 West : Main Road from Tangalle to Hambantota

Containing in extent Thirteen Decimal One Perch (A-0, R-4, P-13.1) according to Plan No. 1896 aforesaid and together with the buildings, plantations and everything standing thereon and registered in G 01/111 at Land Registry Tangalle.

Under the Authority granted to us by People's Bank, I shall sell by Public Auction

On Thursday, 29th April 2021 Commencing at 10.30 a.m. At the People's Bank - Regional Office (Hambantota) Situated at 2nd Floor, 146A, Matara Road, Tangalle

ACCESS TO THE PROPERTY

From Tangalle town main Roundabout junction then proceed along Tangalle - Hambantota main road for about 250 meters to reach the property. The subject property is situated on the right side of the main street.

FOR NOTICE OF RESOLUTION

Please refer the Government Gazette, Daily News, Dinamina, and Thinakaran Newspapers of 10th July 2020 for additional information.

MODE OF PAYMENT

The successful purchaser will have to pay the following amounts in cash at the fall of the hammer.

- 10% (TEN PERCENT) of the Purchased Price.
- 1% (ONE PERCENT) Local Sales Tax payable to the Local Authority.
- Auctioneer's Commission of 2 1/2 % (TWO AND A HALF PERCENT) on the Purchased Price.
- Cost of Sale and all other charges, if any
- Stamp Duty to the Certificate of Sale.
- The balance 90% of the Purchased Price will have to be paid within 30 days from the auction date to the Regional Head Office - Hambantota, Tangalle Branch, 2nd Floor, 146A, Matara Road, Tangalle

If the said amount is not paid within 30 days as stipulated above, the Bank shall have the right to forfeit the 10% of the purchase price already paid and resale the property.

Title deeds and any other reference may be obtained from the following address.

Regional Manager,
 People's Bank, Regional Head Office - Hambantota
 Tangalle Branch, 2nd Floor, 146A, Matara Road, Tangalle.
 Tel: 047-2220902, 047-2220903

The bank has the right to STAY or CANCEL the above auction sale without prior notice.



DALLAS KELAART

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Sale Under Section 29 D of People's Bank Act No. 29 of 1961 as Amended by Act No. 32 of 1986



AUCTION SALE PEOPLE'S BANK

POLONNARUWA TOWN BRANCH (232)

Auction Sale of a Valuable Property

All that divided and defined allotment of land marked as Lot No. 01 depicted in Plan No. 1293 dated 23.11.1996 made by Mr. D Mudunkothage, Licensed Surveyor of the land called "Thalagahawatta" situated at Thopawewa Village in the Grama Niladhari Division of Thopawewa, No. 171 within the Municipal Council limits of Polonnaruwa in Medu Pattu in the Divisional Secretary's Division of Thamankaduwa in the District of Polonnaruwa, North Western Province.

Containing In Extent: A 00, R01, P 6.6

Together with the buildings, trees, plantations and everything else standing thereon This is registered in Folio A25/273 in the Land Registry Polonnaruwa

Under the authority granted to us by People's Bank We shall sell by

Public Auction On

Wednesday 21st April 2021

Commencing at 11.00 a.m at the People's Bank, Polonnaruwa Town Branch Premises (232)

The auction will be conducted in accordance with the strict guidelines issued by the Ministry of Health, adhering to COVID 19 protocol.

FOR NOTICE OF RESOLUTION

Please refer the Government Gazette on 13.11.2020.

ACCESS TO THE PROPERTY

From the Polonnaruwa Bandaranayake statue roundabout turn to Sudarshanarama Mawatha and proceed along about 25 meters and the subject property is situated at the end of the road. (No entrance obstacles, motorable road)

MODE OF PAYMENT

The successful purchaser will have to pay the following amounts in cash at the fall of the hammer.

- 10% of the purchased price
- 1% Local Authority tax payable to the local authority
- Auctioneer's Commission of 2 1/2 % (Two and a half percent only) or the purchased price plus applicable taxes on the commission.
- Clerk's & Crier's Fee of Rs. 1500/=
- Cost of sale and any other charges, if any.
- Stamp duty for the Certificate of Sale.

Balance 90% of the purchased price will have to be paid within 30 days from the date of sale to the Manager, People's Bank, Polonnaruwa Town Branch.

If the said amount is not paid within 30 days as stipulated above, the Bank shall have the right to forfeit ten percent (10%) of the purchased price already paid and resell the property.

Title deeds and any other reference may be obtained from the Manager, People's Bank, Polonnaruwa Town Branch. Tel. Nos.: 027-2223294 / 027222138.

The bank has the right to stay / cancel the above auction sale without prior notice

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, NORTHERN PROVINCIAL COUNCIL

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

- The Chairman, Departmental Procurement Committee, on behalf of the Provincial Department of Agriculture, Northern Province, invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for Civil work as described in the table below.
- Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding (NCB) procedure and Public Finance Circular No: 03/2020 and 03/2020(i) dated 09.10.2020 and 11.01.2021 respectively will be adopted.
- To be eligible for contract award, the successful bidder shall not have been blacklisted and shall meet the Construction Industry Development Authority (CIDA) registration and qualification requirements listed below. Additional details are provided in the Bidding Documents.
- Qualification requirements are indicated in section 4 of the Bidding document. Additional details are provided in the Schedule / Bidding data & Contract Data (Section 5).
- Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from the Finance Branch, Department of Agriculture, Northern Province, No: 68, Crossette Lane, Chundukuli, Jaffna, TP. No : 021-221 9027 & Fax No:021-221 9251 and inspect the Bidding Documents at the same address on any working day from 9.00 hrs to 15.00 hrs.
- A complete set of Bidding Documents in English language may be purchased by interested bidders on the submission of a written application to the Finance Branch, Department of Agriculture, Northern Province, No: 68, Crossette Lane, Chundukuli, Jaffna, from 05.04.2021 till 27.04.2021 on working days from 9.00 hrs to 15.00 hrs, upon cash payment of a non-refundable fee

Bid No.	Title of Contract	Non-refundable Fee (Rs.)
NP/25/03/10/2021/PSDG/LE.HALL/01	Construction of Lecture Hall at District Agriculture Training Centre, Jaffna - Phase III	3,500/=
NP/25/03/10/CBG/2021/001	Construction of Provincial Director's Office, Department of Agriculture - Northern Province at Mankulam	12,500/=

- Bids (Original, Duplicate) shall be delivered or sent by registered post to the Chairman, Departmental Procurement Committee, Department of Agriculture, Northern Province, No: 68, Crossette Lane, Chundukuli, Jaffna at or before 10.30 hrs on 28.04.2021. Bid number must be written on the left - hand upper corner of the envelope. Late Bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened soon after the closing in the presence of the Bidders' representatives who choose to attend.
- Bids shall be valid as indicated in the form of bid. (Section -4).
- All bids shall be accompanied by a bid security in the form of Bid Security included in Section-9. The amount and validity of the bid security shall be as per details given in Section -5.
- Pre-bid meeting will be held at Department of Agriculture, Northern Province, No: 68, Crossette Lane, Chundukuli, Jaffna commencing at 10.00 hrs on 21.04.2021
- The Table referred to above is:

Bid No.	Title of Contract	PC	Proposed contract Price (Rs.Mn)	Bid Security Amount (Rs) & Validity	Construction Period	Required CIDA Grade
NP/25/03/10/2021/PSDG/LE.HALL/01	Construction of Lecture Hall at District Agriculture Training Centre, Jaffna - Phase III	DPC	17.056	325,000/= & 23.08.2021	160 Days	C6 or C5 (Buildings Construction)
NP/25/03/10/CBG/2021/001	Construction of Provincial Director's Office, Department of Agriculture - Northern Province at Mankulam	DPC	62.0	930,000/= & 23.08.2021	280 Days	C4 or C3 (Buildings Construction)

PC: Procurement Committee,

DPC: Department Procurement Committee

Chairman, Departmental Procurement Committee Department of Agriculture Northern Province.

Phone : + 94-21-221 9251

Fax : + 94-21-221 9251

Date : 03.04.2021

BID NOTICE

Department of Health Services Western Province Washing of Soiled Linen 2021

Sealed bids are hereby invited for the washing of soiled linen, in the following institutions belonging to the Division of the Regional Director of Health Services Office, Colombo.

Lot No.	Name of the Institution	Bid Document Fees Rs.Cts.
1.	Avissawella Base Hospital (large and small)	1000.00
2.	Homagama Base Hospital (large and small)	1000.00
3.	Maligawatta Hospital (large and small)	500.00
4.	Thalangama Hospital (large and small)	500.00
5.	Nawagamuwa Hospital (large and small)	500.00
6.	Kosgama Hospital	500.00
7.	Padukka Hospital	500.00
8.	Athurugiriya Hospital	500.00
9.	STD control unit (large and small)	500.00
10.	For 71 Dental Clinics (large and small)	200.00

Bidding documents could be obtained from the office of the Regional Director of Health Services, Colombo, from 9.00 a.m. to 2.45 p.m. on working days of the week, from 03.04.2021 to 26.04.2021, upon payment of the non refundable fee as indicated in the table above, against each lot No. relevant.

If required, bidding documents could be inspected free of charge, at this office and further details could be obtained over telephone No. 011-2326248.

Duly completed bids in duplicate (two copies) as at "Original" and "Duplicate" enclosed in two separate covers, sealed could be either sent by registered post, addressed to the Chairman, Procurement Committee, Office of the Regional Director of Health Services, P.O. Box 1287, New Secretariat Building, Maligawatta, Colombo 10, or deposited in the bid box kept at the Accountant's room of this RDHS Office, Colombo.

The caption to the effect "Quotation for the Service of washing of Soiled Linen - Lot No. (.....) - 2021" should be clearly indicated on the top left-hand corner of the envelope enclosing of Bids.

Bids will be closed at 10.00 a.m. on 27.04.2021 and will be opened at 10.00 a.m. on 27.04.2021, at this office. Late bids will be rejected. Bidder or one of his agents could be present at the occasion of opening of Bids.

Chairman, Procurement Committee, Office of the Regional Director of Health Services, P.O. Box 1287, New Secretariat Building, Maligawatta, Colombo 10.

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WORLD OF SPORTS

(April 3)
LOCAL EVENTS
CRICKET
(Major Club Limited Over Tournament): Army SC vs Air Force SC at Panagoda Bloomfield vs BRC at Bloomfield Grounds Kandy Customs SC vs Badureliya CC at Welisara Saracens SC vs SSC at SSC Grounds Police SC vs Moors SC at Police Park Sebastianites CC vs Kurunegala YCC at Moratuwa (Inter-Schools U-19 Tournament): Thurstan vs Mahanama at Thurstan Grounds
FOREIGN EVENTS
FOOTBALL
(Premier League): Chelsea vs West Bromwich Albion Leeds United vs Sheffield United Leicester City vs Manchester City Arsenal vs Liverpool (April 3 and 4)
LOCAL EVENTS
TENNIS
Clay Court Nationals at SLTA Courts, Green Path
BASKETBALL
Masters Tournament at Sugathadasa Indoor Stadium
FOREIGN EVENTS
CRICKET
(Sheffield Shield): New South Wales vs Queensland at Wollongong Victoria vs South Australia at Melbourne Western Australia vs Tasmania at Perth (April 4)
FOREIGN EVENTS
FOOTBALL
(Premier League): Southampton vs Burnley Newcastle United vs Tottenham Hotspur Aston Villa vs Fulham Manchester United vs Brighton & Hove Albion
CRICKET
South Africa vs Pakistan (2nd ODI) at Johannesburg New Zealand Women vs Australia Women (1st ODI) at Tauranga

Five-member committee to run SLC until Election



Professor Arjuna de Silva

DHAMMIKA RATNAWEERA

Sports Minister Namal Rajapaksa yesterday appointed a high-profile five-member administrative committee on a temporary basis to carry out day-to-day affairs of Sri Lanka Cricket (SLC) until the SLC Election are held next month.

Professor Arjuna de Silva, who is also the head of the SLC Medical Panel, will head the newly appointed administrative committee.

The remaining members of the administrative

committee are Ashley de Silva (Secretary), Sujewa Mudalige (Treasurer), Uchitha Wickremesinghe (Attorney-at-Law), and Amal Edirisooriya (Observer) who is also the Director General of the Sports Ministry.

"My committee will start work from April 6. Our target is to see that the game would progress smoothly until the SLC Elections are held," Professor de Silva told the *Daily News* yesterday.

"I think cricketers should not worry about the

things happening outside the field and should continue to play the game in the best possible way," he added.

Professor de Silva also said that he is keen to provide some entertainment to local cricket fans by organising a match between the Sri Lanka Legends Team and the present cricketers.

Sports Ministry Secretary Anuradha Wijekoon earlier this week said that the Attorney General (AG) has informed the Minister of Sports to appoint a management committee to

handle the administrative affairs of SLC. He said that the AG is in the opinion that the term of SLC administration has ended, and that they cannot continue to legally hold office any further.

The Colts Cricket Club had written to the Sports Minister seeking to appoint an interim committee to run SLC, as the term of the management of the local cricketing authority had ended on February 20.

SLC Election is scheduled to be held on May 20.

Roles reversed as Sri Lanka face last day BATTLE TO SAVE TEST

FLASH:

Sri Lanka 72 for no loss

NORTH SOUND. In an almost exact reversal of roles from the first Test, Sri Lanka will go into the final day of the second and final Test having been set a challenging target of 377 after the West Indies declared their second innings at 280 for four on the fourth day on Thursday.

A week earlier the Caribbean side batted through the last day at the same venue to ensure a draw after being set 375 to win.

Now it will be the visitors heading to the final morning at 29 without loss after the opening pair of Lahiru Thirimanne and captain Dimuth

Karunaratne navigated nine overs to the close.

For the second time in four years Kraigg Brathwaite missed out on the rare feat of centuries in both innings of a Test when he was dismissed for 85 as the West Indies skipper was again the fulcrum of his team's second innings effort.

In the second Test of the 2017 series against England at Leeds, Brathwaite scored 134 and 95 as the West Indies achieved a famous victory.

Having occupied the crease for eight-and-a-half hours in accumulating 126 out of 354 in the first innings, Brathwaite was more energetic second time around with his team looking to set a declaration.

Nevertheless his five hours at the crease in which he faced 196 balls

and struck only four boundaries was again typical of his phlegmatic manner.

Expectations of a declaration when he was bowled by Dushmantha Chameera deep into the final session proved unfounded as the pair of Jason Holder and Joshua da Silva put on 53 unbroken for the fifth wicket when the call finally came.

Holder dominated the scoring with an unbeaten 71.

"I just wanted to give us enough time to get the sort of runs on the board that our bowlers can work with," said Brathwaite in justifying the delayed declaration.

"This is still a good batting pitch but I back our bowlers to put in a really good effort on the last day."

Kyle Mayers' positive play in getting to 55 had

ideally complemented the opener's more measured pace in the afternoon session.

After Kemar Roach polished off the Sri Lankan first innings at 258 by taking the last two wickets in the space of three deliveries in the fourth over of the morning, West Indies went in pursuit of quick runs to consolidate their position.

They lost John Campbell early, the left-handed opener again dismissed to a catch by wicketkeeper Niroshan Dickwella off Lakmal.

New batsman Jermaine Blackwood lived a charmed life but his luck eventually ran out with his score on 18, Chameera, the third pacer in the Sri Lankan bowling attack, inducing an edge for Dickwella to take his seventh catch of the match. -AFP



Kraigg Brathwaite of West Indies bowled by Dushmantha Chameera of Sri Lanka (out of frame) during day 4 of the second Test. - AFP

SCORECARD

WEST INDIES		SRI LANKA	
1ST INNINGS - 354		1ST INNINGS - 258	
WEST INDIES		2ND INNINGS	
K. Brathwaite	b Chameera 85	J. Holder	not out 71
J. Campbell	c Dickwella b Lakmal 10	J. da Silva	not out 20
J. Blackwood	b Chameera 18	Extras (b2, lb12, nb6, w1)	21
K. Mayers	lbw b Lakmal 55	Total (72.4 overs, 4 wts dec)	280
J. Holder	not out 71	Did not bat:	N. Bonner, R. Cornwall, A. Joseph, K. Roach, S. Gabriel
J. da Silva	not out 20		
Extras (b2, lb12, nb6, w1)	21		
Total (72.4 overs, 4 wts dec)	280		
Did not bat:	N. Bonner, R. Cornwall, A. Joseph, K. Roach, S. Gabriel		
Fall of wickets: 1-14 (Campbell), 2-58 (Blackwood), 3-140 (Mayers), 4-227 (Brathwaite)		SRI LANKA	
Bowling: S. Lakmal 14-3-62-2 (2nb), V. Fernando 12.4-1-49-0 (1nb, 1w), D. de Silva 28-3-81-0 (3nb), D. Chameera 18-0-74-2		2ND INNINGS	
		L. Thirimanne	
		not out 17	
		D. Karunaratne	
		not out 11	
		Extras (nb1) 1	
		Total (9 overs, 0 wkt) 29	
		To bat: O. Fernando, D. Chandimal, D. de Silva, P. Nissanka, N. Dickwella, S. Lakmal, L. Embuldeniya, V. Fernando, D. Chameera	
		Bowling: K. Roach 4-0-18-0, J. Holder 3-2-3-0 (1nb), R. Cornwall 2-0-8-0	

Pavan rescues Mahanama with FIGHTING CENTURY

DHAMMIKA RATNAWEERA

Skipper Pavan Ratnayake stole the limelight once again with a fine knock of 104 as Mahanama College made 228 all out in their first innings on the opening day of their Inter-Schools Under-19 traditional fixture against Thurstan College, which commenced at Thurstan Grounds yesterday.

Mahanama were struggling at 52 for three at one stage, but experienced right-hander Ratnayake and Vinuka Rubasinghe added 78 valuable runs for the fourth wicket to rebuild the innings.

Ratnayake hammered 15 fours and one six in his 133 ball innings, while Rubasinghe provided good support with 33 inclusive of four fours.

Chief scores

● **At Thurstan Grounds Mahanama:** 228 (Pavan Ratnayake 104, Vinuka Rubasinghe 33, Chamath Chamupathi 34, Bhawantha Jayasinghe 4/42, Punthila Samantha 5/71)
Thurstan: 40/2.
● **At Gampaha (Bandaranayake College) won by 30 runs**
Bandaranayake College: 221 in 49.3 overs (Navod Silva 40, Rusith



Pavan Ratnayake (Mahanama)

Kavishka 36, Hasitha Hisan 5/41)

● **Sri Jayewardenepura MV, Kotte:** 191 in 43.3 overs (Kavishka Gihan 68, Janith Akash 31, Thishakya Wimalawickrama 4/37, D. R. T Jayawardena 3/23).

● **At Galle (Mahinda won by 183 runs)**

Mahinda: 341/4 in 50 overs (Kawsitha Kodituwakku 141, Sandev Induwara 96, Rashmi Madushanka 53 n.o.)

● **Moratuwa MV:** 158/8 in 50 overs (Kushan Madusha 4/32).

● **At Kalutara (Anuradhapura Central won by five wickets)**

Tissa Central: 152 in 50 overs (Thilina Chandeeppa

3/24, Lahiru Geethanjana 3/30)

● **Anuradhapura Central:** 156/5 in 33.4 overs (Lahiru Geethanjana 35 n.o., Dahnushka Madushan 30, Vishva Lahiru 5/20).

● **At Panadura (Sri Sumangala won by 100 runs)**

Sri Sumangala: 253/9 in 50 overs (Mihiranga Fernando 122, Prabash Jayasekara 38, Imeth Gampola 35, Kalanjith Ranawaka 4/33, Shamod Aponsu 3/54)

● **St. John's, Panadura:** 153 in 44 overs (Dinushka Madushan 70, Vishawa Lahiru 5/20).

● **At Dehiwala (President's College, Maharagama won by two wickets)**

S. de S Jayasinghe Central: 160 in 46 overs (Jayuka Kandamarachchi 4/28, Inusha Umayanagana 3/23)
President's College: 162/8 in 31.3 overs (Vihanga Pathirana 39, Nidul Dulnath 4/36, Mohammad Akif 3/47).

● **At Horana (Taxila won by five wickets)**

Asoka Vidyalaya: 105 in 41.2 overs (Kusal Gunawardena 30, Anjana Jayalath 3/16)

Taxila Central: 106/5 in 26.4 overs (Deshan Dilmith 52 n.o.).

JANADI ANALI guides Chilaw Marians to victory

DHAMMIKA RATNAWEERA

Spinner Janadi Anali produced fine bowling figures of four wickets for 17 runs as Chilaw Marians CC defeated Air Force SC 'B' by 33 runs in their SLC Women's Division One Cricket Tournament fixture played at Katunayake yesterday.

Chilaw Marians CC scored 141 in their 50 overs, while Air Force SC 'B' managed to score only 108 runs in 37.5 overs.

Meanwhile, Navy SC, Seenigama CC, and Air Force SC 'A' recorded victories in their respective matches played yesterday.

● **At Katunayake (Chilaw Marians CC won by 33 runs)**

Chilaw Marians CC: 141 in 49.3 overs (Pabasa Ranabahu 30, Dewmi Wihanga 28, Chamari Atapattu 25, Shakila Pre-

maratne 4/12, Lanka Mendis 2/19, Ruchi Samarasinghe 2/40)

● **Air Force SC 'B':** 108 in 37.5 overs (Lanka Mendis 24 n.o., Janadi Anali 4/17, Dewmi Wihanga 2/25, Saduni Nisansala 2/14).

● **At Panagoda (Air Force SC 'A' won by six wickets)**

Army SC 'B': 92 in 46.5 overs (Iresha Damayanathi 23, Sakuntala de Silva 21, Chamari Polgampola 2/6, Oshadi Ranasinghe 2/22, Tharuka Shehani 2/25, Malsha Swehani 2/11)

● **Air Force SC 'A':** 93/4 in 30.3 overs (Lihini Apsara 34 n.o., Harsha Gunasena 3/42).

● **At Welisara (Navy SC won by two wickets)**

Army SC 'A': 138/9 in 50 overs (Niluka Kushanthi 27, Madushika Methananda 37, Sugandika Kumari 2/27).

● **At Hikkaduwa (Seenigama CC won by 40 runs)**

Seenigama CC: 194 in 49.5 overs (Piyumi Wathala 36, Geethika Probdhini 35, Nimasha Madushani 3/28, Sandali Weerasinghe 2/36, Dulanga Dissanayake 2/15)

● **Colts CC:** 154 in 50 overs (Kausini Seneviratne 27, Malki Madara 36, Sulesha Satharani 2/27, Sachini Nisansala 2/19, Kavesha Dilhari 2/18, Kawya Kavindi 2/19).



Thehan Wijemanne in action

THEHAN to meet LUCA in Men's Open FINAL

Thehan Wijemanne and Luca Knese qualified to play in the Men's Open Singles final when they won their respective semi-finals of the HNB-Hutch Clay Court Tennis Nationals, which continued at the SLTA Courts in Green Path yesterday.

Wijemanne rallied around through his experience to beat Akila Vimukthi in straight sets 6-2, 6-2, while Knese also cruised to a straight set win over Sanka Athukorala 6-0, 6-2.

Results:
Men's Open Singles semi-finals: Thehan Wijemanne beat Akila Vimukthi 6-2, 6-2. Luca Knese beat Sanka Athukorala 6-0, 6-2. (C.D)



Luca Knese in action