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SRI LANKA'S ENGLISH NEWSPAPER WITH THE LARGEST CIRCULATION

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OPPOSITION'S ATTEMPT TO TOPPLE GOVERNMENT, A DAY DREAM

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DAVIES WAS PROBED BY FBI FOR LTTE LINKS



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WINS THIRD RUNNER-UP TITLE FOR SRI LANKA AT MRS WORLD PEACE 2021

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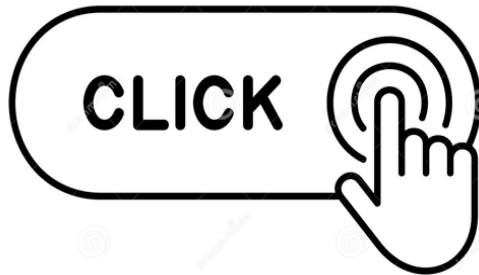
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“WIGNESWARAN WAS A FAILURE IN THE NORTH”

PUBLIC SECURITY MINISTER CLAIMS PC NOT SUITABLE FOR A COUNTRY SUCH AS SRI LANKA WHERE ALL NINE PROVINCES ARE NOT FUNCTIONING



By **Ananth Palakidnar**

Minister of Public Security Rear Admiral (Retd) Sarath Weerasekera lambasted the Provincial Council system in the country and added that the Northern Provincial Council was a failure with the former Northern Chief Minister C. V.

Wigneswaran even returning half of the money to the Treasury that was allocated to administer the Northern Provincial Council.

The Minister opened two new police stations at Maruthankani and Mallavi in the Northern province on Friday (March 2). Minister of Fisheries and Jaffna district

was not suitable for a country such as Sri Lanka where all nine prov-

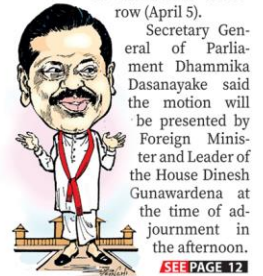
Wigneswaran. “The Provincial Council in the

North has failed to function for the past three years and therefore, development in the North had been neglected.

I am not for the Provincial Council system which was forcibly introduced to us by India. I believe the Government in the centre must be effective in... **SEE PAGE 12**

PM to present motion on PSC in Parliament tomorrow

The motion by Prime Minister and Finance Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa to appoint a Parliament Select Committee (PSC) to identify appropriate reforms in election laws and the electoral system and to recommend amendments will be presented in Parliament tomorrow (April 5).



Secretary General of Parliament Dhammika Dasanayake said the motion will be presented by Foreign Minister and Leader of the House Dinesh Gunawardena at the time of adjournment in the afternoon. **SEE PAGE 12**

EASTER MESSAGE

Culprits will not escape the long arm of the law - President

President Gotabaya Rajapaksa in his Easter Sunday message said they will leave no room for the culprits as well as groups, who are responsible for the dastardly attack on 2019 Easter Sunday to escape the long arm of the law. The Government is determined to ensure national security to prevent a recurrence of such tragedies in the country.

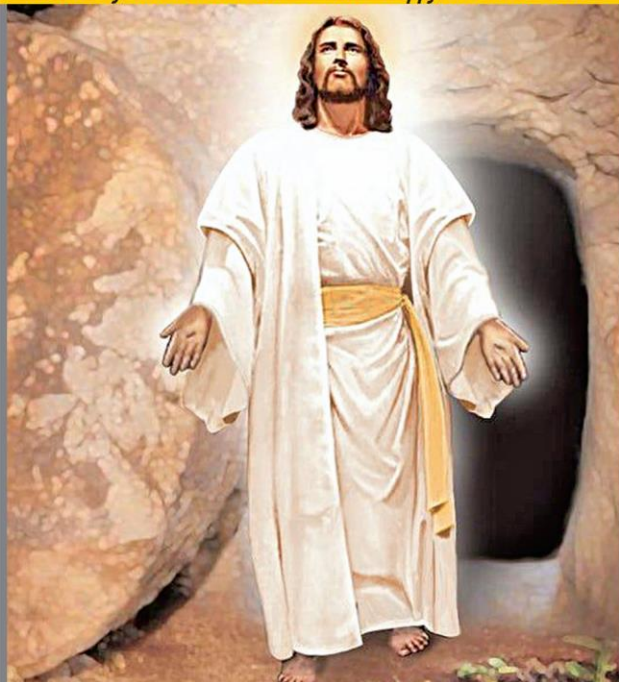
The President said: “Two years ago, when Easter Sunday was being celebrated by the Sri Lankan Christian community with utmost devotion, they became victims of the most brutal attacks by extremists. The sorrowful memory of pain and loss...” **SEE PAGE 12**

Prices of food items reduced from tomorrow - Trade Minister

Trade Minister Dr. Bandula Gunawardana said that the Government has decided to reduce the prices of several essential food commodities in view of the upcoming Sinhala and Tamil New Year. The relevant food items can be purchased at reduced prices from Sathosa outlets starting from tomorrow (April 5).

The Minister told a media conference at the Trade Ministry on Friday (April 2) that one kilogram of brown sugar will be sold at Rs. 115. The current price is between Rs. 150 - Rs.165. The current price of 100 grams of tea produced by the State Trading (General) Corporation which is

The Sunday Observer wishes its readers a happy and blessed Easter



Christians the world over celebrate Easter Sunday today, which marks the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. His Resurrection is the triumph of good over evil, sin and death.

PCOI ON EASTER SUNDAY ATTACKS

Committee to present report to President tomorrow

By **Uditha Kumarasinghe**

The six-member Ministerial Committee appointed to study the final report of the Presidential Commission of Inquiry (PCOI) that probed the Easter Sunday attacks is scheduled to hand over its report to President Gotabaya Rajapaksa tomorrow (April 5).

The Committee has already concluded its investigations and compiled its report which is due to be handed over to the President tomorrow, Tourism Minister Prasanna Ranatunga who is also a member of the Committee told the Sunday Observer yesterday. The Minister said since various

views were expressed on the final report submitted by the PCOI President Gotabaya Rajapaksa appointed a six-member Ministerial Committee headed by Minister Chamal Rajapaksa with a wide-ranging mandate to carefully study it and make its recommendations.

Minister Ranatunga said the Committee studied the reports submitted by the PCOI, the Special Parliamentary Select Committee that probed the Easter Sunday attacks and the Parliament Sectoral Oversight Committee on National Security.

After studying these three Committee reports, the Committee compiled... **SEE PAGE 12**

Security beefed up for Easter

The Ministry of Defence stepped up security during the Holy Week and Easter Sunday today where Catholics in the country will also commemorate the victims of the Easter Sunday terror bombings in 2019.

“The Tri Forces are now on standby and have been instructed to liaise with the Sri Lanka Police to strengthen countrywide security measures accordingly,” a media

release from the Ministry of Defence stated.

The Ministry has issued specific instructions to the Chief of Defence Staff and the Security Forces Commanders to be extra vigilant and to augment security measures.

Those celebrating Easter including the Vigilance Committees appointed by the... **SEE PAGE 12**