



NATIONAL HEALTH SYSTEM WITH EQUAL BENEFITS FOR EVERYONE AND EVERY AREA - PRESIDENT

President Gotabaya Rajapaksa said that a robust national health system would be implemented to benefit all people irrespective of their social status and to cover all parts of the country.

President Rajapaksa urged to present new ideas to achieve this goal within a short period. The President made these remarks participating as the Chief Guest at the

inaugural day of the 43rd Annual Academic Session of the Kandy Society of Medicine held in Kandy, on Wednesday (7). President Rajapaksa stressed the need for the entire health care com-

munity including doctors and other healthcare professionals to work with the government to identify and address long-term problems. "As doctors, you are well aware of

the crucial role medical professionals play in our society. Their impact has been considerably heightened in the past year as a result of the global pandemic. **TO PAGE 02**

STRICT COVID-19 HEALTH GUIDELINES FOR AVURUDHU

LEGAL ACTION AGAINST VIOLATORS

ISHARA MUDUGAMUWA

Stern legal action will be taken against those who violate COVID-19 health guidelines issued by the Health Ministry for the upcoming Sinhala and Tamil New Year (Avurudu) season.

Deputy Director General Health

Services (DDGHS) Consultant Dr. S.M. Arnold said a set of guidelines has been issued by the Director General of Health Services under the Quarantine and Prevention of Diseases Ordinance to thwart a possible surge of Coronavirus cases during the New Year period, when

large numbers head to their hometowns for the celebrations.

He stressed that the people should not become complacent and must continue to follow all COVID-19 precautions such as physical distancing, wearing masks and washing hands frequently with soap and

water or sanitizer. Health experts have warned of a third wave of the pandemic if people do not follow these and other safety precautions.

The Health Ministry has restricted festivals celebrating the upcoming Sinhala and Tamil New Year to 100 persons at a time. **TO PAGE 02**

AIM TO PREVENT SPIKE IN CASES

Palm oil banned due to health issues - PMD

President Gotabaya Rajapaksa decided on a complete ban on palm oil imports because it is harmful for public health, the President's Media Division

(PMD) said in a press statement yesterday. "Medical and food specialists have frequently pointed out that consuming food processed using crude

palm oil is a main cause for illnesses. However, palm oil varieties with accepted standards are used to manufacture biscuits, sweet snacks and bread. **TO PAGE 02**

Coconut oil in bowsers had aflatoxin - Customs

SUBASHINI SENANAYAKE

Tests have confirmed that the stock of coconut oil in the two bowsers taken into custody by the Police in Dankotuwa recently was contaminated with aflatoxins, Customs Media Spokesman Sudaththa Silva said. **TO PAGE 02**

Pettah Floating Market re-opened with added features



The 'Floating Market' in Pettah was re-opened for the public on Wednesday night after a full renovation by the Urban Development Authority (UDA).

A number of new features have been added to the market premises to make it attractive for the public.

The project was carried out under the instructions of President Gotabaya Rajapaksa and Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa. **TO PAGE 02**

Jurie, Chula Padmendra arrested, bailed over pageant drama

DINULI FRANCISCO



Mrs. World Caroline Jurie and model Chula Padmendra were arrested by the Cinnamon Gardens Police yesterday (8). They were released on police bail.

The arrests were made on the complaint lodged by the winner Pushpika De Silva regarding the fiasco that **TO PAGE 02**

CCC Mali bound for UN Peacekeeping



A new contingent of 243 personnel of the Combat Convoy Company (CCC) of the Army, set to leave for Mali to serve in the United Nations Peacekeeping assignments, presented a formal military salute to Army Commander Gen. Shavendra Silva at the Army Training Camp at Kukuleganga yesterday. The Sri Lankan CCC, comprising 20 Officers and 223 other ranks is scheduled to depart for Mali on April 22. **Picture by Rukmal Gamage**

Man arrested for laundering black money

The Criminal Investigations Department (CID) arrested a 27-year-old person, who was in possession of Rs. 136 million in his bank account deposited by a foreign source, on Wednesday, Police Spokesperson DIG Ajith Rohana said.

He said the suspect was arrested for committing offences. **TO PAGE 02**

THE LOWEST PRICE ACROSS THE COUNTRY THIS NEW YEAR

White Sugar (Bulk) 1kg

Rs. 99

Minimum bill value Rs. 300/- from other goods to be eligible. Offer valid for maximum 5kg only.

Offer valid till 15th April 2021. Until stocks last.

House erupts over Speaker's stance on Ranjan's Seat

Opposition Leader raising baseless arguments - Dinesh

SANDASEN MARASINGHE, CAMELIA NATHANIEL and AMALI MALLAWARACHCHI

Pandemonium reigned in Parliament yesterday following Opposition Leader Sajith Premadasa demanding to guarantee **TO PAGE 02**

Ranjan ceases to be an MP - Speaker

Ranjan Ramanayake would cease to be a Member of Parliament (MP) from the date the conviction was entered upon by the Supreme Court, Speaker Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena announced in Parliament yesterday.

He said Parliament will proceed regarding the vacancy created **TO PAGE 02**

Mannapperuma to fill Ranjan's Seat

The National Election Commission yesterday issued the Gazette notification announcing the appointment of Ajith Mannapperuma to the Parliamentary Seat vacated by Ranjan Ramanayake.

"We, the Election Commission, in the exercise of the powers vested in the Election Commission **TO PAGE 02**

Sinopharm jabs for locals only after NMRA nod - Minister

SANDASEN MARASINGHE, CAMELIA NATHANIEL and AMALI MALLAWARACHCHI

Health Minister Pavithra Wanniarachchi said the Sinopharm vaccine will not be given to Sri Lankans until its safety is assured by health authorities. **TO PAGE 02**

TID arrests two for propagating extremist ideologies

The Terrorist Investigation Division (TID) on Wednesday arrested two people in Oluvil for propagating extremist ideologies, Police Spokesperson DIG Ajith Rohana said.

The Police Spokesman said the suspects, aged 39 and 30 years, had been **TO PAGE 02**

Specially designed for Business Community

- Up to Rs 100,000 worth personal accident cover for the insured
- Claims below Rs. 75,000 will be settled in 3 working hours
- Free towing facilities
- 6 months' warranty for repairs at our partner garages

* Applicable for Hiring Cars, Hiring Vans, Private and Hiring Lorries and more benefits.....

Call us now 0112 357 357

SLIC Sri Lanka Insurance
Live a father - Live a mother

CCTV CAMERA & SECURITY ALARM SYSTEMS LET US PROTECT YOUR HOME WHILE YOU'RE ON HOLIDAY

ENJOY THE AVURUDU VACATION AWAY FROM HOME WHILE CERTIS PROTECTS YOUR HOUSE & PROPERTY



24 HOUR HOTLINE **2 55 77 77**

Certis Lanka Technology & Consultancy (Pvt) Ltd.



National Policy on traditional knowledge and practices related to biodiversity

A National Policy and Strategy Statement on Traditional Knowledge and Practices Related to Biodiversity in Sri Lanka were presented to Environment Minister Mahinda Amaraweera yesterday. The policy was formulated by the Ministry's Biodiversity Secretariat and handed over to the Minister by Biodiversity Director Padma Abeykoon.

There are times when our traditional

knowledge and wisdom are far ahead of modern science in what we call science and new technology, Minister Amaraweera said. Speaking to the media on the occasion, he pointed out the knowledge that has been handed down from generation to generation is a cultural right of the people in the country. "That is why we published this national policy and strategy, espe-

cially in relation to traditional knowledge and practice related to biodiversity. We use traditional knowledge related to biodiversity in several sectors such as agriculture and fisheries," he said. "Sri Lanka is a country with a history of more than 2,500 years. The traditional knowledge used by the people of our country since that long time is still used in our country today. But many today do not



Biodiversity Secretariat Director Padma Abeykoon handing over the National Policy to Environment Minister Mahinda Amaraweera.

want to follow this traditional knowledge. Our younger generation in particular say

that traditional knowledge is unscientific," he observed. The Minister also commented on the measures taken so far against those who destroy the environment. "We will not allow any person to damage the environment. The Government has arrested and prosecuted those responsible for all reported incidents. I responsibly say that about 300 people have been prosecuted so far

this year. Also, by 2020, 190 deforestation incidents had been reported. Cases have been filed against those involved in all 190 incidents. Over the past few years, the graph of deforestation in our country has been steadily rising. But I can responsibly say that after 2022 the curve of this environmental damage graph will be reversed. I will do everything I can about it," he commented.

Jamburewela Thera, another arrested

DILSHAN THARAKA

Ven. Jamburewela Chandrarathana Thera and another person have been arrested by the Fort Police during a protest held yesterday in the Colombo Fort area. Police Media Spokesperson DIG Ajith Rohana said a group of protestors had attacked and caused damage to a jeep belonging to the Fort Police. Thereafter Fort Police had launched an investigation into the incident and Ven. Jamburewela Chandrarathana Thera and another person who had joined the protest, have been arrested under charges of unlawful assembly, he said. Fort Police are investigating.

National health system... From page 01

That Sri Lanka managed to perform creditably on this front, despite extremely challenging circumstances, is a tribute to the strength and professionalism of our healthcare personnel and our public health infrastructure," he said. He said that during his visits to villages in 17 districts, to attend the "Discussion with the Village" programme he was able to first-hand experience the numerous problems faced by the rural and estate community. There were some weaknesses that needed to be overcome in the health system. The President pointed out that if these shortcomings were allowed to continue, serious adverse consequences could arise. "One of the most significant problems that has been raised time and again in my visits to these villages has been the lack of adequate healthcare facilities in these areas. In some regions, the villagers need to travel more than thirty to forty kilometers to consult doctors and receive proper medical care. Certainly, it is not a satisfactory situation where these poor villagers are concerned," he pointed out.

"Even though Sri Lanka has a free healthcare system, these structural problems in the distribution of healthcare are a significant hurdle we must overcome. If the present problems continue for much longer, the trust and respect that people in those communities have towards the broader medical community, will come under strain. In this context, people's trust and confidence in the government too will decline," he added. The President emphasized the need to overcome this situation in rural areas and to ensure the immediate and careful attention of the medical community to guarantee good health for the entire population. "As outlined in the Vistas of Prosperity and Splendour Policy Document, the central policy framework of our Government, ensuring a healthy nation is one of our foremost goals. We must build a national healthcare system in which Sri Lankans of all backgrounds and in all parts of the country have access to healthcare at a decent standard. We will need new and innovative initiatives to ensure this in a short span of time," he stated.

Strict COVID-19... From page 01

with a ban on a number of Avurudu games, especially contact games such as pillow fighting and tug-o-war to minimise the spread of COVID-19. According to the guidelines issued for New Year celebrations, organisers of festivals must produce a document agreeing with the Ministry guidelines to the local Medical Officer of Health and the relevant municipal or urban

council prior to organising the event. This also prohibits all quarantined citizens, people diagnosed with COVID-19 and their family members from entering these festivals. Chief Epidemiologist Dr. Sudath Samaraweera stated that the total number of COVID-19 positive patients detected in the country has increased to 93,993.

TID arrests two for... From page 01

conducting classes for the students who sat GCE Ordinary Level Examination. The suspects had used various video footages and content of lectures of foreign terrorist organizations connected to extremism in their classes. "The students were also asked to follow a physical fitness training course and the students who were reluctant to attend the training had been assaulted by the two suspects. Police are tracing several students who were reluctant to attend those classes and they will be referred to a

Judicial Medical Officer," he said. The DIG said the suspects had been detained at the TID Headquarters in Colombo under the provisions of the Prevention of Terrorism Act. The suspects were guided by ring-leader Zaharan Hashim, who carried out the Easter Sunday suicide bombings on April 21, 2019. The Police Spokesman said the Police previously arrested two suspects in Muttur on similar offences. They had also been conducting classes for students who sat for the OL exam.

Palm oil banned... From page 01

Palm oil variety referred to as 'Palm Stearin' bearing the Harmonized Code 1511.90.10 or is one such variety. There is no prohibition to import this variety used for the production of various supplementary food," the press release stated. "The incumbent Government banned ethanol imports, but permission was given to import ethanol for clinical needs. The permission to import 'Palm Stearin' is similar to that," the PMD said.

"It has been established through research that the palm cultivation leads to long term negative impacts on environment such as drying out of water retention areas and soil infertility. The President instructed the authorities about six months ago to gradually stop palm cultivation. It has been decided to gradually replace already cultivated palm trees with rubber or some other environment friendly cultivation," the PMD release added.

Pettah Floating... From page 01

The renovated market premises has 103 market stalls. The Government has come up with a plan to carry out the activities of this place properly.

Sinopharm jabs for... From page 01

She said once the Sinopharm vaccine is approved by the WHO it will be used on Sri Lankans with the approval of the Advisory Committee on Communicable Diseases and the National Medicines Regulatory Authority (NMRA).

Mannapperuma to... From page 01

by Section 04 (2) of the Parliamentary Elections Act, No. 1 of 1981, do hereby notify the public that A. Ajith Kumara Mannapperuma has been declared elected as a Member of the Ninth Parliament for the Gampaha Electoral District to fill the vacancy caused by reason of ceasing to be a Member of Parliament of Ranjan Leo Sylvester Ramanayake," the Gazette Extraordinary stated.

Jurie, Chula Padmendra... From page 01

occurred last Sunday (4) at the 'Mrs. Sri Lanka for Mrs. World' pageant held at the Nelum Pokuna Theatre. The arrests were made when Jurie and Padmendra appeared at the Cinnamon Gardens Police to record statements pertaining to the complaint lodged by Pushpika De Silva for using criminal force and the head injuries that occurred during the scrimmage. Police Spokesman DIG Ajith Rohana said the police are recording statements from the arrested suspects and the Cinnamon Gardens Police will conduct further investigations into the incident.

Coconut oil... From page 01

The samples obtained from crude coconut oil in the two bowsers were tested at the Sri Lanka Standards Institute (SLSI). He said the Customs continue investigations on the matter. He said the samples of the stocks were also sent to the Government Analyst's Department and the Food Control Unit of the Health Ministry, and that their reports were pending. The two bower trucks were seized by Dankotuwa Police on March 30 on suspicion of containing carcinogenic substances.

Man arrested for... From page 01

under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act. The suspect was a resident of Dharmarama Road in Ratmalana. "The money was transferred to the suspect's account by notorious criminal Dharmasiri Perera who is said to be in hiding in the United Arab Emirates (UAE). He is currently operating from Dubai," the Police Spokesperson said. The arrest was made based on a previous arrest of a suspect arrested for the possession of Rs.190 million in a bank account. The money had been transferred from the bank account of wanted criminal Dharmasiri Perera.

Ranjan ceases... From page 01

after the Court of Appeal dismissed the case filed by Ramanayake. "The reason for me to make this announcement is that yesterday in the House, the Leader of the Opposition made a statement that the Secretary General of Parliament has taken steps to inform the Chairman of the Elections Commission that Ranjan Ramanayake has vacated his seat due to non attendance of Parliament for three months and the non-acceptance of his leave motion also contributed to this situation.

Opposition Leader... From page 01

the right of Ranjan Ramanayake to remain as an MP which later led to sittings being suspended for five minutes. He raised the matter after Speaker Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena made a Speaker's announcement to inform the correct position on the letter that was sent by the Secretary General of Parliament to the Elections Commission Chairman on the seat rendered vacant with the ceasing of Ranjan Ramanayake to be an MP in terms of Article 66(d) of the Constitution of Sri Lanka. The Opposition Leader demanded that as Ranjan Ramanayake was in the course of appealing against the Court of Appeal decision on his membership in parliament, he should be given his due rights. "There seems to be a conspiracy to

BEST CORPORATE CITIZEN SUSTAINABILITY AWARD 2020



Four giant steps towards a more Sustainable Future!

We are proud to have achieved these four awards as a testament to our stability and commitment as Sri Lanka's No. 1 Bank, in integrating sustainability concepts in all our business operations, at the 'Best Corporate Citizen Sustainability Award 2020' organized by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce, Sri Lanka.

- Ranked among the Ten Best Corporate Citizens
- Triple Bottom Line Award Winner - Economic Sustainability (Profit)
- Category Award Winner of Employee Relations
- Category Award Winner of Financial Performance

We thank all our valued customers and our employees for helping us to achieve these milestones.




www.boc.lk





Head Office, BOC Square, No. 1, Bank of Ceylon Mawatha, Colombo 1.

Keells Deals

Great savings every day this Avurudu season

Up to 30% off on selected essential items for Nexus members

Nexus MEMBER DEALS 30% OFF



Avurudu Treats

Rs. 150

per pack
*Keells Naran Kewum 4s / Kokis 6s



Rs. 190

per pack
*Keells Mung Kawum 4s / Konda Kewum 4s / Athirasa 4s / Pani Walalu 4s / Aasmi 2s



* Available at selected stores until 15th of April 2021.

Rs. 109

per 100g
Thalapath Small



Rs. 129

per 100g
Prawns Medium



Rs. 180

each
Pineapple



Rs. 6

per 100g
Pumpkin



Rs. 4

Save **Rs. 2** was Rs. 6
per 100g
Cucumber



Rs. 685

Save **Rs. 105** was Rs. 790
Basso Olive Oil 250ml



Rs. 144

Keells Dish Wash Liquid 500ml



Rs. 207

Keells Brown Eggs 10s



Additional 5% off on Nexus offers

For Nations Trust Bank American Express card holders for bills over Rs.3,000 till 30th April 2021.

* Conditions Apply



10% off on the total bill

For HSBC credit card holders for bills over Rs.5,000 on Saturdays till 10th April 2021.

* Conditions apply



Rs. 189

Save **Rs. 81** was Rs. 270
Elephant House Fit O Orange 1l



Rs. 154

Save **Rs. 66** was Rs. 220
Elephant House Ginger Beer 1.5l



Rs. 91

Save **Rs. 39** was Rs. 130
Sera Festive Noodles 325g



Rs. 224

Save **Rs. 96** was Rs. 320
Edinburgh Tomato Ketchup 405g



Rs. 198

Save **Rs. 67** was Rs. 265
Date Crown Dates Khalas Thermo 250g



Rs. 375

Save **Rs. 125** was Rs. 500
Watawala Kahata Tea Pouch 400g



Rs. 371

Save **Rs. 124** was Rs. 495
Marina Coconut Milk Powder 300g



Rs. 318

Save **Rs. 107** was Rs. 425
MD Green Apple 100% Juice 1l



Rs. 442

Save **Rs. 148** was Rs. 590
Nestle Cereal Koko Krunch 330g



Rs. 440

Save **Rs. 110** was Rs. 550
MeadowLea Fat Spread 500g



Rs. 364

Save **Rs. 156** was Rs. 520
Marina Refined Coconut Oil 675ml



Rs. 416

Save **Rs. 104** was Rs. 520
Keells Krest Chicken Sausages Skinless 500g



Rs. 320

Save **Rs. 80** was Rs. 400
Elephant House Ice Cream Hakuru Mix Vanilla 1l



Rs. 315

Save **Rs. 35** was Rs. 350
MD Kithul Treacle 350ml



Rs. 592

Save **Rs. 198** was Rs. 790
Sunquick Orange Jumbo 840ml



All offers are valid from 9th to 15th April 2021.

* Valid for purchases upto 5kg & 3 items of the same kind, per day.

* Valid till stocks last. | * The prices are subject to change without prior notice.

Keells



PUBLIC VIGILANCE:

A CIVIC RESPONSIBILITY

DISHAN JOSEPH

Public security covers a wide spectrum and involves many stakeholders. One of the primary stakeholders is the police force. The police are the guardians of the law. However the public has a collective responsibility to ensure the safety of their neighbourhoods and workplaces. The global security arena has faced many new threats over the last decade, some of which are case studies of how an individual or group can suddenly unleash mayhem and death in a peaceful environment. One such example was seen at the Boston Marathon bomb blast when an improvised pressure cooker bomb was exploded amidst athletes and bystanders.

In the traditional security sense police forces across the world were always empowered and deployed for crime prevention and crime detection. With a history of more than 150 years the Sri Lanka Police have done their share towards this concept, with some shortcomings. Change is inevitable in any field of work in this digitally dominated era, and the Sri Lanka Police need a paradigm shift towards facing unexpected challenges. The police made a significant contribution towards the suppression of subversive uprisings and defeat of terrorism. The Special Task Force did an excellent job in the latter theatre. For the record almost 3,000 police officers have died gallantly in the line of duty, and this is testament to their courage. The STF has lost around 500 personnel.

What are the new challenges to police forces around the globe? Today the “acts of domestic terrorism” and “acts of criminal violence” manifest in new and somewhat innovative forms. Criminals and terrorists have stepped up their game, and the traditional *modus operandi* sometimes doesn't make sense and wanders away from human logic. Even FBI psychological profilers are bewildered about some bizarre forms of crime, which deviate from normally accepted human behaviour. One of the emerging crimes in the USA is the dangerous outburst of the ‘lone shooter’. These individuals have some form of hatred towards society and unleash their violence by shooting innocent people in public malls and schools. In the recent past there were two incidents when such enraged ‘lone wolves’ targeted Asians at two separate locations, causing death and disability.

No matter how much manpower or resources a police service has, it is impossible for policemen to be on duty everywhere, round the clock. This challenge is faced globally. For a developed country like USA with a skilled police force and so many specialized counter-terrorism teams it is not possible to secure every public location, i.e., malls, parks, libraries, sporting stadiums, hotels, churches, etc. However, the FBI working prudently with local police divisions has initiated practical public vigilance programmes. There are 1,800 (toll free code numbers) crime reporting hotlines and other terrorism reporting hotlines. Basically if someone sees something suspicious they can call in expecting a positive response. England also has similar programmes, with commendable initiatives from Scotland Yard. Both these countries have another val-

uable asset: helicopter response teams comprising trained policemen. This system of “eye in the sky” has a twofold benefit. In a strategic security sense, armed policemen can enter a crime scene with the element of surprise. Secondly it boosts public confidence in the police response capability.

At present in the context of this article, Sri Lanka is void of the threats it once faced. But should we not think about our response if a ‘lone wolf’ shooter should suddenly wield an automatic firearm in public? It is a probability which we must anticipate and mitigate. *Jane's Defence Weekly* brings to light the changing crime trends and unexpected acts of violence manifesting globally. There is a need for an attitudinal change on the part of the Sri Lankan police in how they view and analyze criminal and terrorist activity. Let me explain this point. During the JVP insurgency in the 1980s, all men sporting beards were often stopped at police check points (irrespective of ethnicity) simply because the late JVP leader Rohana Wijeweera sported a full beard. This shows the generalization of a suspect's profile. This shows the lack of pragmatic “in-service” training among the lower ranks of the Sri Lanka Police. All policemen and policewomen must have a good knowledge of computers and how to access and research the internet.

For the record I must state that the Inspectorate of the Sri Lanka Police is the backbone of the police force. There are hundreds of hardworking honest officers in the ranks of Chief Inspector, Inspector and Sub-Inspector. These officers perform a massive workload with dedication. One is left to ponder on the updating of effective policing methods amongst the sergeants and constables. Again there are thousands in this rank

For the record almost 3,000 police officers have died gallantly in the line of duty, and this is testament to their courage

A police helicopter in the UK.



The US and UK have another valuable asset: helicopter response teams comprising trained policemen

who perform their duty with dignity and decorum, and should be appreciated. Reverting to future threats globally (and perhaps locally) one area is that of CBRNE – Chemical, Biological, Radiation, Nuclear and Explosives. At present let's focus on the first three – CBR.

The Sri Lankan mindset had been induced over the years to look out for suicide bombers and automatic rifles. When the war was over we forgot the suicide bomber, until they resurfaced in a different style of synchronized attacks on Easter Sunday 2019. Let's take a futuristic example – what if someone (local or foreigner) should shrewdly keep a toxic cap-



The present threats globally are within the urban environment FIBUA (fighting in built up areas such as hostage rescue)



sule in an AC vent inside a public venue during a conference, or poison food. Public vigilance is needed. Security experts say that ISIS uses radicalized foreigners to launch attacks, and warn that such ISIS operatives can visit any country as tourists. According to the SITE Agency of Maryland, USA, there are about 80 foreign groups affiliated to ISIS, following their extremist ideology.

Thankfully the Special Task Force has highly skilled CBRNE response teams. The STF also has skilled SWAT teams and motorcycle response teams. Other military teams in Sri Lanka (Army Commandos and Air Force SABB) can also be called in to intervene in such situations when required. It has been the aspiration among the public that the Sri Lanka police must have their own helicopters to respond to certain situations, at least in Colombo for a start. This would enhance their operational capability and enrich the image of the police. However the counter argument made in the past decades is that an air wing causes a huge additional cost to the police budget. The present threats globally are within the urban environment FIBUA (fighting in built up areas such as hostage rescue). The military perspective on this threat is coined as MOUT- military operations in urban terrain.

The Sri Lankan public have conveniently moved away from public vigilance, and given their undivided attention to cricket matches and cable television. The public must always assist the police in crime prevention. There are some shortcomings by few police officers in how they respond to the public's tip-offs, and this has caused a loss in public confidence. The public is sure to see suspicious signs in activities related to drug trafficking, etc. In the incident a few weeks ago when a suspect left a bag in busy Pettah (concealing a dead woman's body) no one noticed the unattended bag for a long time. What if this bag contained explosives? As I stated, the police can't be omnipresent. Social media platforms and smart phone apps can be used to alert the police and society of crimes, i.e., missing persons, stolen vehicles, etc. How cautious are we at a railway station platform or sports stadiums?

It is the role of all Sri Lankans to reactivate their vigilance committees incorporating temples, kovils, churches and mosques, in cooperation with their respective police divisions. These vigilance committees yielded good results in the past. All police stations OICs must duly engage the public in a friendly manner to eradicate crime and enhance public security. Female police officers must be sent out more into communities to interact with other women, and build trust. Women (mainly housewives) would be more comfortable reaching out to a woman police officer.

How much does a landlord verify the background of a new tenant? Especially when they rent houses in Colombo. Are there vigilance committees in large government built condominium flats where there are more than 700 to 1,000 apartments? During massive religious festivals does the public assist the police by being vigilant? Do Sri Lankans realize the danger of identity theft, on the digital domain? The police engaged intensively during the Covid prevention programmes, amidst their regular duties. We have to value this fact. We must remember this is our motherland and appreciate our ethnic diversity respecting all religions. The police and public vigilance partnership is vital for public security and prosperity. It ultimately impacts on national security.

Navy nab 20 persons in migration bid

The Navy in Kondachchikuda, Silawathura apprehended 20 persons who were attempting to illegally migrate to a foreign country via sea on April 6.

The Northwestern Naval Command, after having searched 4 suspicious three-wheelers at the Kondachchikuda roadblock in Silawathura, nabbed the suspects. Twenty persons in the three-wheelers were on their way to the Silawathura sea area to migrate to a foreign country via sea routes. The group and four three-wheelers were taken into Naval custody.

Fourteen men, four women, a girl and one boy were nabbed. The accused were residents of Mullaitivu (09), Jaffna (4), Mannar (4) and each from Walachchani, Wattala and Puttalam. The person who devised the attempt was among the group.

The accused and four three-wheelers were handed over to the Silawathura Police. The Navy also nabbed a group who were attempting to illegally migrate on March 11.

Speaker thanks Kuwait for assisting Sri Lankans in Kuwait

Speaker Mahinda Yapa Abeywardane extended his gratitude to the Government of Kuwait for the assistance provided for Sri Lankans in Kuwait.

He thanked the Government of Kuwait for the assistance including healthcare facilities for Sri Lankans working in Kuwait.

The Speaker was participating in the revival meeting of Sri Lanka-Kuwait Parliamentary Friendship Association in Parliament recently. Ambassador of the State of Kuwait to Sri Lanka Khalaf Bu Dhahir and several Cabinet Ministers, State Ministers and Parliamentarians were present.

"Bi-lateral relations between Kuwait and Sri Lanka dates back over five decades. Our two countries established formal diplomatic relations on



Ambassador of the State of Kuwait to Sri Lanka Khalaf Bu Dhahir and Speaker Mahinda Yapa Abeywardane at the meeting.

February 19, 1971. This year, we celebrated the 50th anniversary of establishing diplomatic relations between two countries.

"We wish to extend gratitude for the Kuwaiti Government for their cooperation in looking after the welfare of the stranded housemaids through establishing the Dasma Police and some Detention Camps and assisting the expeditious repatriation of housemaids to Sri Lanka" the Speaker said.

The new office bearers for the 9th Parliament were elected at the meeting. State Minister Kanaka Herath was appointed as the President of the Sri Lanka-Kuwait Parliamentary Friendship Association and Parliamentarians Faizal Cassim and Aravindh Kumar and Selvam Adaikkalanathan were appointed as the Vice Presidents. MPs Gayantha Karunathilake and Ishak Rahuman were appointed as the Secretary and the Treasurer.

IMPORTANT NOTICE!

COVID-19 DEBT MORATORIUM

According to the Central Bank of Sri Lanka Circular No. 04 of 2021, the maximum period allowed for debt moratorium has been announced as up to 6 months for transport sectors (Public, School, Office, Tourist Transport and Taxi Services) with acceptable proof.

Borrowers who are eligible for such debt moratorium can forward their requests on or before 19th April 2021 by logging onto https://abansfinance.lk/morotoriuform/get_number.php

For further details, please call:

0112 208 888

ABANS FINANCE PLC

NO. 456, R. A. DE MEL MAWATHA, COLOMBO 03.



PRONTO

Stepping into a Face Lifted Branch in Kegalle!

PRONTO Lanka warmly announces the grand opening of its modernised Kegalle Branch @ 611C, Kandy Road, Kegalle on April 09th, 2021 at the auspicious time.

PRONTO
Ceremonially opened its New Branch at Mawanela on April 08th 2021
#373, Colombo Road, Anwarama, Mawanela

Prime Line ☎ 0112 102 700
611C, Kandy Road, Kegalle ☎ 035-2031020

WARRANTY 24hr Delivery Spot tracking Island wide delivery

Head Office: 160/1b, Kirimandala Mawatha, Narahenpita, Colombo-05. infoprnto@transnational-grp.com | www.prntolanka.lk

Transnational Group
Pronto Lanka (Pvt) Ltd

Abans Elite Showrooms Open Till 9.00 p.m. Daily



ENJOY REFRESHING AIR ANY TIME YOU WANT with a collection of copper motor fans exclusively from Abans.



Misting Fan

Produces water-cooled misty air.

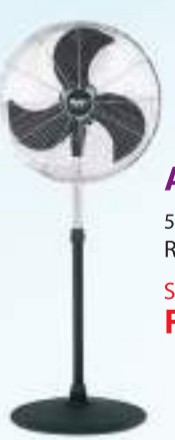
ABANS
YD-207
With Remote Controller
Rs. 17,990
Special Price
Rs. 15,990

ICE or COOL WATER can be used

Industrial Fans



ABANS
DFP600-T-II
Rs. 18,490
Special Price
Rs. 16,490



ABANS
50T-5
Rs. 17,990
Special Price
Rs. 15,990



ABANS
RDT-40I
Rs. 6,490

Pedestal Fans



mistral
oustralian heritage 1948
MSF1651M
Rs. 10,990
Special Price
Rs. 9,490
5-YEAR WARRANTY ON COPPER MOTOR
+
2-YEAR COMPREHENSIVE WARRANTY



mistral
oustralian heritage 1948
MSF1816D
Rs. 12,490
Special Price
Rs. 11,490
5-YEAR WARRANTY ON COPPER MOTOR
+
2-YEAR COMPREHENSIVE WARRANTY

Pedestal Fans



MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC
LV16-GU-P-CYRD
Rs. 18,490



Table Fans

mistral
oustralian heritage 1948
MTF16E20
Rs. 7,390
Special Price
Rs. 6,590
5-YEAR WARRANTY ON COPPER MOTOR
+
2-YEAR COMPREHENSIVE WARRANTY

Wall Fans



ABANS
YF-WA1602R
Rs. 5,190
Special Price
Rs. 4,490



ABANS
45T-W
Rs. 12,490
Special Price
Rs. 10,990

Ceiling Fans



orient electric
NEW AIR PLUS
Rs. 6,790
Special Price
Rs. 5,990



ACL CARLIS
ACL56A
Rs. 7,090

2-YEAR WARRANTY



0115 999 000

Available at Abans Elite and Abans Showrooms islandwide.



*Conditions apply. Pictures used are for illustration purposes only. Prices and promotions are subject to change without prior notice, due to the rise in the Dollar Rate. Credit card offers will differ depending on the bank.

Abans

Mattala Airport will be made cargo hub – Minister Prasanna

The Mattala International Airport will be developed as a cargo hub while upgrading its luxury facilities, Tourism Minister Prasanna Ratanunga said in Parliament yesterday.

Minister Ratanunga said that an export processing zone, an aircraft maintenance and turnover yard (MRO) and a duty-free shopping complex will be built at the airport.

Minister Ratanunga was responding to Samagi Jana

Balawegaya (SJB) MP Heshu Vithanage regarding the construction of the Mattala International Airport and its future activities, during the Oral Questions Round.

The Minister said that USD 247.7 million was spent on the construction of the Mattala International Airport. He added that China provided USD 190 million under the concessionary loan scheme and the airport and the airline



used the remaining funds. The Minister said that the Mattala Airport commenced operations on

March 18, 2013 and earned Rs. 445,319,656 up to November 2020. The number of flights operated from the date of opening to November 2020 was 10,206. Twenty three airlines, including SriLankan Airlines, operated flights during that period where 58,651 passengers had arrived. The number of departed passengers is 73,513.

Plans are afoot to resume the operations of

its duty free shopping mall and to develop the cargo terminal facilities. Minister Ratanunga said that the previous Government of Good Governance had brought disrepute to this airport by storing paddy in it. Minister Ratanunga said that although the Mattala Airport was planned to be made an active airport after the Government came to power, it was difficult to reach those targets because of the pandemic.



Opposition avoiding real issues by clamouring over Ranjan's Seat – Prof. Bandara

The Opposition is systematically deviating from the subject of focusing on the Presidential Commission's Report on Easter Sunday attacks, just by making a fuss on Ranjan Ramanayake's seat disregarding that he was imprisoned for making derogatory statements against the judiciary, Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna (SLPP) MP Prof. Ranjith Bandara yesterday said.

He was speaking at the adjournment motion on the report of the President's Commission on the Easter Sunday attacks in Parliament for the fifth day.

He said that the Opposition is complaining of the function of the Presidential Commission,



which was appointed under their government. He said that even the Opposition leader admitted that during their tenure they allowed over 300 people to have been killed by the Islam extremists. He said that even relatives of the Opposition MPs, too, faced this tragic incident. He said that the incident had an

adverse effect on the economy.

The Opposition has a responsibility to discuss and debate the affected economy. "We saw how the political party, which was in power formerly, was rejected by the people. The United National Party (UNP) could not secure even a single seat in Parliament. However, we have seen this Government has strengthened the defence of the country," he said.

He said that the country affected by the Easter Sunday attacks was jeopardised by the COVID 19 pandemic. "However, it affected the entire world and we, too, are a victim. All must rally round to get rid of the situation," he said.

Agreements will be signed with many suppliers of COVID vaccines – Minister Pavithra

The National Drug Regulatory Authority (NDRA) has received applications for supplying the AstraZeneca Vaccine from the Serum Institute, Sputnik Vaccine, Synopharm Vaccine and Covaxin from the Bharath Biotech and will sign agree-

ments with those companies and register for them in the future, Health Minister Pavithra Wanniarachchi said.

She said her Ministry will sign agreements for seven million doses of vaccines from Pfizer and the

stock will be supplied in the next year.

The Minister said that discussions have also commenced for Moderna, Johnson & Johnson vaccines through the American Embassy.

She said that if the talks

are successful, then the Government will take steps to buy the vaccine.

The Minister said that the Sinopharm vaccine had been donated to Sri Lanka and that any plans have not been made to buy the vaccine so far.



IN LOVING MEMORY OF
BERNADETTE FERNANDO
19/07/1946 - 09/01/2021

For us at home, you were Ammi, and to dad, Bernie.

Never did you think of yourself, being as self-less as you are.

Your priorities were never your own, your sadness, if any, was never shown.

Our every day seems different without you, difficult even.

We are confused and lost without you in our lives.

We long for your presence, your advice - yet we know that you are in a better place, a better home, God's own paradise.

Lovingly remembered by husband Benildas, son Suranga, daughter Harshi, son-in-law Dexter and grandchildren Jayden and Hailey

ITAK MP Rasamanickam's statement should be probed – State Minister Semasinghe

A CID investigation should be carried out on a statement by the Illankai Tamil Arasu Kachch (ITAK) MP S.R. Rasamanickam in Parliament in relation to the Easter Sunday attacks, State Minister Shehan Semasinghe yesterday said.

State Minister Semasinghe said that the Government should consider MP Rasaman-

ickam's statement seriously and carry out an investigation to verify its content. State Minister Semasinghe said that MP Rasamanickam has predicted another terror attack in 2021 with the support of the ruling party during a speech he made in Parliament.

State Minister Semasinghe was speaking, joining the

adjournment motion on the report of the Presidential Commission of Inquiry that investigated the Easter Sunday attacks.

"While expressing our deep sorrow to all the victims of the Easter Sunday attacks, I feel very unfortunate to listen to these very same people who were then in power without preventing these attacks.

Opposition Leader questions Vaccination Project

Opposition Leader Sajith Premadasa raised concerns in Parliament yesterday over several areas in the Vaccination Project by the Government to curb the COVID-19 pandemic in the country.

Opposition Leader Premadasa questioned why the National Medicines Regulatory Authority has not yet given its approval for certain vaccines brought into the vaccination project by the Government.

He raised these concerns

under the Standing Order 27 (2).

"Beginning in late 2019, various countries and pharmaceutical companies were quick to discover vaccines to control the pandemic, which had spread rapidly around the world in the past year. By the end of last year, many countries started producing vaccines and distributing them in their countries. The Covax Facility, the World Health Organization and the Global

Alliance for Vaccines and Immunizations (Gavi), had already ensured that the vaccine was distributed fairly across the globe. While many other countries were starting vaccinations, the Sri Lankan Government was promoting various local medicines instead of rushing to import vaccines," he said.



Disciplinary inquiry demanded into SJB MP's statement

Wildlife and Forest Conservation Minister C. B. Rathnayake yesterday demanded a disciplinary inquiry into the defamatory statement on the Speaker by Samagi Jana Balawegaya (SJB) Parliamentarian Thushara Indunil in Parliament yesterday.

The Speaker Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena expunged the statement made by MP Indunil from the Hansard on the request of the Chief Government Whip Minister Johnston Fernando and many other statements.

Following the statement by MP Indunil, Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna (SLPP) MP Shantha

Bandara objected that the Opposition Member was defaming the Chair of the august assembly. Minister Prasanna queried if Parliament goes forward with such MPs who did not understand the value of a democratic Speaker.

Minister Johnston Fernando requested to expunge the statement by MP Indunil. He said that even the former Opposition MP Ranjan Ramanayake did the same mistake by addressing the Speaker in an unparliamentary language and Indunil was fol-

lowing the same. He said that after the former Speaker Chamal Rajapaksa, it was Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena who acted democratically in Parliament. He said that the Speaker is giving more time for the Opposition when the Point of Orders are concerned. He added that democratic values of the Speaker have been misused by the Opposition MPs.

Minister C. B. Rathnayake demanded a disciplinary inquiry into the defamatory statement by Parliamentarian Indunil.

APPRECIATION

Mrs. Rajarobini Thamboo

We, the family members of late Mrs. Rajarobini Thamboo, express our sincere gratitude and appreciation to Dr. N. Jayakumaran who treated her to the best of his abilities and other doctors who provided her with the best of care whenever we sought medical assistance. We owe a debt of gratitude to the members of the clergy for conducting the service of thanksgiving and the burial service. We would also like to thank most sincerely those who attended the funeral, sent floral tributes and sent messages of condolence. We also wish to thank all our relatives, friends and those near and dear to us who strengthened and supported us in various ways during this time of distress and sorrow.

May God Bless You

Brian N. Thamboo & Andrew Nirmalan Thamboo

'Police duties in Jaffna taken by security firm'

Samagi Jana Balawegaya (SJB) MP Kins Nelson revealed in Parliament yesterday that the Jaffna Mayor had deployed members of a private security firm to carry out traffic duties, which is the responsibility of the Police.

He said that under the 'One Law One Country' concept of the Government, only one Police

Department exists. He questioned the action of the Jaffna Mayor to deploy a separate unit to control traffic.

MP Nelson said that this private group was also wearing a uniform similar to that of the LTTE.

Therefore, he urged the Minister to address this matter urgently. "Even on Wednesday, this group

had controlled traffic in Jaffna. This is a grave issue and I wonder if the Government is aware of this situation?" he asked.

Minister Chamal Rajapaksa said that the meeting of the Advisory Committee of the Defence Ministry was meeting last evening and invited MP Nelson to attend the meeting and raise his concerns.



Over 20,000 in Ratnapura District lack lands – State Minister Indika Anuruddha

Over 20,000 families in the Ratnapura District do not have land to build a house, Rural Housing and Construction and Building Material Industries State Minister Indika Anuruddha Herath said.

He was responding to a question by Samagi Jana Balawegaya (SJB) MP Heshu Vithanage during the Question Round for Oral

Responses in Parliament yesterday. "Therefore, the Government is launching a number of housing projects such as Siyapatha Housing, Home for You and Mihindu Homes, and the construction of flats, the establishment of young farming colonies for those working in the estate sector, urban housing development projects are also included in the programme," he said. MP Chaminda Wijesiri requested the Government to construct such housing projects where every person can get a house with some garden space, and also to identify the problems

faced by people who live in flats or apartments in Colombo and take steps to minimise these issues when constructing these flats in the future.

The State Minister said that in designing such housing projects, common facilities such as playgrounds, community halls, proper garbage disposal systems and toilets should be included.

He said that in the implementation of such housing projects, ecosystems will be protected and this will be done under the guidance of the Prime Minister.

Second dose will be given on time – Health Minister

The timeframe for administering the second dose spans between April 23 and July 6 because the first dose of the Oxford AstraZeneca vaccine was administered from January 29 to April 23. The Health Ministry and relevant institutions will commence administering the second dose of the vaccine for those who received their first dose during the first round on time, Health Minister Pavithra Wanniarachchi said in

Parliament yesterday. She was responding to Opposition Leader Sajith Premadasa under Standing Orders 27/2.

She said that under the first stage of vaccinations from January 29 until April 6, they had administered 924,687 doses of the Oxford AstraZeneca Vaccine. The Minister said that it had been scientifically proven that by administering the second dose of the vaccine after 12 weeks

of the first dose, an optimal level of immunity could be obtained. The Minister said that the Health Ministry Epidemiology Unit has allocated 356,730 doses of the Oxford AstraZeneca vaccine to administer the second dose.

She said that as the requirement for the administering of the second dose is 924,687 doses, in addition to the allotted 356,730 doses, another 568,000 doses are required.

Obituaries

PERERA, RITA, Loving wife of late John, caring mother of Hiran, Suren and Nalin, mother-in-law of Jasmin, Chinta and Ayesha, darling grandmother of Roshan, Rehena, Sohan and Maya, daughter of late Mr and Mrs E.J. Perera, sister of late Olive, Lloyd, Donny, Therese, Marie and of Col. A.E.T. (Nimal) Perera. Cremation will take place at General Cemetery, Borella on Friday the 9th of April at 11.30 a.m. Cortege leaves residence at 10.00 a.m. from 429/2, "Basildon", Old Kandy Road, Nungamugoda, Kelaniya. 027647

PUSHPA PIYASENA - (retired - Sri Lanka Police). Late wife of Mr. Piyasena Ampawila (retired - Sri Lanka Police), mother of Mr. Piyasena Ampawila (Son) (Deputy Director-CID), Mrs. Devika Ampawila (Daughter-in-Law) (retired - Postal Department), Mrs. Priyanthi Ampawila (Daughter) (Department of Irrigation, Colombo), Mr. Gamini Munasinghe (Son-in-Law) (retired Additional Director General - Department of Census and Statistics), Mr. Rohan Ampawila (Son) - Australia, Gayanthi Ampawila (daughter-in-law) - Australia, Mr. Anura Ampawila (Son) - Wiley Global Technologies and Thanuja Shiromi Ampawila (Daughter-in-Law) (Bank of Ceylon, Head Office), grandmother of Senith, Siyath, Minura, Visura, Manula, Sanula, Senali, Inuka and Chenuka. Remains lie at **Jayarathne Funeral Parlour - "Respect", Borella**. Cremation on 09th April at Borella General Cemetery (Buddhist Section) at 5:30 p.m. 027703

SHIROMI PERERA - (nee **ABEYWARDENE**), called to Eternal Rest. Everloving wife of Dhanushka Perera, beloved daughter of Esme Rita Abeywardene and late Maxwell Luke Abeywardene, sister of Malcolm, Marlene, Myrna, Mohan, Nimal, Ravi & Susantha, sister-in-law of Nirmala, Mahesh, late William, Suzanne, Gwendoline, Nishani, Shakila, Surekha, Vijitha and Charindu, daughter-in-law of Ramya & Jinadasa Perera, aunt of Nirosha & Shalindra, Maheshini & Eranga, late Suresh, Kristina, Dilan, Kevin, Shanell and Brian, grandaunt of Jenul. Cortege leaves residence 18, Charles Place, Dehiwela at 3.30 p.m. on Saturday 10th April for Burial at Mount Lavinia Cemetery. 027650

ANGELO JOSEPH RANJIT DAVID

The family of Late Ranjit David would like to thank all who were with us during this time of loss, helped us in numerous ways, came to pay their last respects, sent messages of condolences and comfort.

Whilst this loss will never be replaced in our lives, let us celebrate his life by offering mass in his memory.

We invite you to join the family to celebrate his life

A requiem mass will be offered for the repose of the soul of Mr. Ranjit David

on the 10th of April (Saturday) 2021 at
St Lawrence's Church, Wellawatte
at 10:00 am

Interest Payment for Electricity Security Deposits

The payment of interest on electricity consumer deposits is a benefit provided to the consumer under the Sri Lanka Electricity Act. Cooperation between the various parties was required to implement such a benefit. The PUCSL has developed a methodology for determining interest rates in an accepted and transparent manner. Public Utilities Commission of Sri Lanka (PUCSL) Chairman Janaka Ratnayake said.

He said that it would be a huge subsidy flowing to the country's economy through the power industry.

Ratnayake was speaking at a ceremony organised by the PUCSL together with Lanka Electricity Company Private Limited (LECO) to launch the 'Interest Payment for Electricity Security Deposits' scheme for LECO consumers at the BMICH yesterday.

He said that the Commission recently decided that the interest rate for this year would be 8.68 per cent.

"Licensed companies that provide electricity services on that interest have to calculate the interest benefit and pay it to their customers. Starting from now the consumers will get this unique benefit scheme," he said.

He said that the implementation of the decision was delayed due to various issues such as determining the interest to be paid. He added that Section 28 of the Sri Lanka Electricity Act stipulates that an electricity consumer must be paid interest on the security deposit paid by his client company or licensee.

"Lanka Electricity (Pvt.) Limited, a distribution licensee, will start paying interest to its customers from today. LECO alone will pay Rs. 42 million annually to its customers as a benefit through the interest payment benefit on customer deposits. We hope that in the future other licensees will implement this interest payment programme. When other electricity distribution licensees also implement this interest benefit scheme in the future, around Rs. 1,200 million will flow into the hands of electricity consumers annually," he stated.

The Chairman said that the Commission will also implement regulatory measures to meet the aspirations of the licensees to maintain a high quality and efficient electricity service.

"The PUCSL together with the electricity service providers today affirm a unique right for electricity consumers. We have taken the steps to protect the rights of electricity consumers since the inception of the Commission in accordance with the powers vested in it. We have published the Declaration of the Rights and Obligations of Electricity Consumers and many regulatory decisions to protect the rights contained therein and to protect consumers. Over 20 different regulations, rules and guidelines have been enacted to protect consumers," he said.

"The Commission has been entrusted with the regulation of electric vehicle charging stations. We also have plans to expand the network of electric vehicle charging stations to protect the rights of electric vehicle owners. This year, we are implementing a programme to enhance the quality of professionals in the electricity sector and ensure the maintenance of high-security electricity service. Nearly 45,000 people are working as electricians. Only by standardising these people can the quality of home electrical systems be guaranteed," he said.

"We have also paved the way for these electricians to be recognised nationally and internationally. The National Electrician Licensing Scheme prepared by the PUCSL will be introduced from this year. To obtain this licence, we have implemented an expeditious process of awarding at least the 3rd level of National Vocational Qualification or NVQ 3 Certificate. Under this expeditious programme, 2,500 electricians will be issued NVQ 3 qualification and professional licenses by next July. The awarding of the licence and NVQ 3 certificates to the first group of professional electricians will take place next June under the patronage of President Gotabaya Rajapaksa," he said.

'Senior citizens' allowance will be increased by Rs. 500'

S.M.WIJAYARATNE, Kurunegala Corr.

State Minister Dr. Sudarshani Fernandopulle told the media that the Government will increase the allowance of senior citizens by Rs 500.

Therefore, Rs. 2,000 that is now being paid will be increased to Rs. 2,500.

State Minister Dr. Ferandopulle said that about 416,677 senior citizens are receiving the allowance now.

Teenager commits suicide over mobile phone

RASULA DILHARA GAMAGE, Northern Province Special Corr.

A 14-year old boy in Jaffna had committed suicide by hanging since his mother took his mobile phone.

The boy, who was studying in Grade 9, had been addicted to playing games on his mobile phone. His mother had taken it to prevent him from playing games.

The boy was a resident of Pilavattai, Sulpuram, Jaffna. Police are investigating.

Bilateral relationship has deepened - Afghanistan Envoy

MOHAMMED RASOOLDEEN

The Sri Lanka-Afghanistan bilateral relationship has deepened with mutual understanding between the two countries, Afghanistan Ambassador in Sri Lanka M. Ashraf Haidari said on Wednesday evening in Colombo.

The envoy was speaking at the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on establishing a political consultations mechanism between the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of Afghanistan and Sri Lanka in Colombo.

The signatories to the accord were Ambassador Haidari and Sri Lankan Foreign Minister Dinesh Gunawardena.

The two sides will hold regular political consultations at the most senior level of the two Ministries,

discussing for further and long-term cooperation of mutual interest relating to "political, security, economic, culture, education, health, social, people-to-people relations, human resources development, and other issues."

The Ambassador said that the signing of a cooperation MOU between the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce and the Afghanistan Chamber of Commerce and Industry. It was facilitated by the Afghan Embassy last September.

"Indeed, the strong friendship and partnership between Afghanistan and Sri Lanka rest on a solid foundation of mutual respect, understanding, and benefit. This is underpinned by our cherished, shared heritage. The statues of Buddha in Afghanistan's Province

of Bamiyan speak to the ancient civilizational bonds that tie the 'Jewel of the Indian Ocean,' Sri Lanka, and the 'Heart of Asia,' Afghanistan," Ambassador Haidari said.

Foreign Minister Gunawardena underscored his Government's firm commitment to expand the growing Afghanistan-Sri Lanka bilateral ties. In this light, the Foreign Minister reiterated Sri Lanka's consistent condemnation of the terrorist attacks in Afghanistan, calling for a peaceful resolution to end the deadly conflict that daily costs innocent lives. Sri Lankan Foreign Secretary Jayanath Colombage, Regional Cooperation State Minister Tharaka Balasuriya and other senior officials of the Sri Lankan Foreign Relations Ministry were present.



Afghanistan Ambassador in Sri Lanka M. Ashraf Haidari and Foreign Affairs Minister Dinesh Gunawardena signing the MoU.



THE FASTEST TO REACH 20 BILLION!

The First Capital Money Market Fund (FCMMF) has surpassed Rs. 20 Billion in Assets Under Management.

FCMMF has been the best performing Unit Trust in its category with the highest Compounded Annual Growth Rate (CAGR), for the past 5 years.*

As we celebrate this milestone, we thank all our investors for the trust placed in us.

*Source: Unit Trust Association - Performance Report (February 2021)



First Capital

For more information, call:

0771 764 799, 0771 535 465

No. 02, Deal Place, Colombo 03, Sri Lanka. | Tel: +94 112 639 898 | E-mail: info@firstcapital.lk | Web: www.firstcapital.lk



First Capital

(Part 3 of a three-part article)

THE CONCEPT OF EQUALITY AND ELIMINATION OF DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT: SCOPE AND DEVELOPMENTS



Prof. S SARATH MATHILAL DE SILVA
Attorney at Law

The *Perera v Jayawickrema* case was an application under Article 126 of our Constitution, which came up before nine-member Full Bench of the Supreme Court. The petitioner was a Deputy Surveyor General, where there was personal animosity between him and the first respondent, the Minister of Public Administration due to differences between them as office-bearers of the Sri Lanka Tennis Association. The first respondent threatened to put the petitioner in the Public Officers' Reserve (Pool) set out in the Public Administration Circular No. 136. The third respondent who was the Secretary, Ministry of Lands acting on instructions received from the second respondent (Secretary, Ministry of Public Administration) served a letter dated April 24, 1984 transferring the petitioner to the 'Pool' for 'inefficiency' and 'incompetence' and placing him on compulsory leave.

The petitioner received the letter through the Surveyor-General (fourth respondent) on 27.08.1984. The petitioner was also asked to show cause within 30 days why he should not be retired or otherwise punished. He, by his letter dated September 25, 1984 addressed to the second respondent through the third respondent, gave reasons why he should not be retired. Alleging non-receipt of a reply, the second respondent informed the petitioner by letter dated October 2, 1984 that he was being compulsorily retired on the ground of general inefficiency in terms of paragraph 24.3 of Chap. XLVIII of the Establishment Code. The petitioner complained that his fundamental right to equality was violated. He alleged that Circular No.136 was wrongly applied to him and that the procedure prescribed by the Establishment Code was not followed.

It was held unanimously that the petitioner was retired not by following the Establishment Code but by misapplying Public Administration Circular No.136. Arbitrary procedure had been followed and the action of the second respondent in retiring the petitioner was unreasonable, unjustifiable and lacked bona fides. The main question that confronted the Full Bench was whether the arbitrary action of the respondents amounted to a violation of the guarantee of equal protection. The petitioner did not disclose the names of the persons who were similarly placed but who, unlike the petitioner, had been treated according to law. On the other hand, the petitioner stated that as far as he was aware, he was the only public officer who has been dealt with in this manner, in flagrant disregard of the due process of law, administrative rules and regulations and violations of the rules relating to the disciplinary control of public officers and the rules of natural justice and that he had been denied equal protection of the law in violation of Article 12(1) of the Constitution.

The majority opinion of the Court was delivered by Chief Justice Sharvananda (with Justices Ranasinghe, Abdul Cader, Atukorala, Tambiah and De Alwis agreeing). The Chief Justice stated that a person claiming to be discriminated against must show that there was at least one other person similarly situated or equally circumstanced: that he had been treated differently from others and that there was no reasonable basis for such differential treatment.

The majority in *Perera v Jayawickrema* went on to hold that even if the petitioner's contention that Circular No.136 did not apply to him and that the relevant provisions of the Establishment Code applicable to him were not observed or followed was true, it



amounts only to a breach of the law but not constitute a breach of the right to equality. Chief Justice Sarvananda stated in *Perera v Jayawickrema* that in the absence of a golden triangle as constituted by such Articles as 14, 19 and 21 of the Indian Constitution and "the incompetency of our courts to pronounce on the validity of arbitrary legislation, (the Sri Lankan) Constitution does not ... lend authority or support for the 'new doctrine'".

The three dissenting judgments in *Perera v Jayawickrema* may also be briefly stated here. Justice Wimalaratne endorsed the 'new doctrine' in no uncertain terms. He stated: "In order to establish discrimination it is not necessary for the petitioner to show that correct procedure was applied in the case of others and that he has been singled out for the adoption of a different procedure. Nor is it necessary for him to show that no others were victims of the wrong procedure now applied for the first time, perhaps in his case. Take the case of X, Y, and Z officers of the same grade lined up for retirement on say the ground of general inefficiency. The wrong set of rules is purposefully applied in the case of X and he is retired, while the cases of Y and Z have yet to be tried. It is not necessary for X to wait till Y and Z have been tried, perhaps after the executive becomes wise and tries them following the correct procedure."

The moment the correct Constitutional procedure has not been adopted in the case of X, the equal protection afforded to him by the correct procedure has been violated."

Justice Colin-Thome also stated: "In order to establish discrimination or denial of equal protection it is not necessary to establish the due observance of the law in the case of others who form part of that class in previous instances. The Rule of Law which postulates equal subjection to the law requires the observance of the law in all cases. The maxim *omnia praesumuntur rite esse acta* under Section 144 of the Evidence Ordinance applies and the Court will presume that official acts have been regularly performed."

The essence of the principle

enunciated by Justice Wanasundera may be stated as follows: In ordinary circumstances, a comparison is necessary. But where a comparison with a person similarly situated is impossible, as in the case of the first violation of a norm or a singular office, comparison would be with the legally applicable norm. However, a mere error or mistake would not be struck down. The impugned decision must have the characteristic and the nature of the policy decisions.

Bandara v Premachandra

In *Bandara v Premachandra* the petitioners who participated in a sick note campaign were treated as having vacated their posts. But they were informed that their services had been terminated. Due to this mistake, the petitioners were deprived of their right to submit an explanation, as provided by the Establishment Code. Justice Mark Fernando with Perera v Wijetunga agreeing, stated that he did not think it necessary that in order to prove discrimination the petitioners should have adduced proof of instances in which other public officers who were absent without leave were deemed to have vacated post and not terminated, as it was a matter of common occurrence, demanding judicial notice. However, the petitioners relied on additional matters to prove discriminatory treatment without a rational basis for differentiation. Despite being a full-bench decision, *Perera v Jayawickrema* was not followed in the landmark case of *Jayasinghe v Attorney General*.

Jayasinghe v Attorney General

The petitioner in *Jayasinghe* decided in 1994 was a storekeeper employed by the second respondent, a co-operative society. He was interdicted by letter dated October 14, 1977, without giving a reason and without pay. But it was known that he was alleged to have been responsible for shortages at four places where he had worked between March 16, 1974 and September 16, 1977. No charge sheet was served on the petitioner for over 14 years until January 1, 1992. His principal ground of

complaint was delay. Disciplinary proceedings were concluded only in August 1994, after the Supreme Court had granted leave to proceed. He was informed by letter dated September 2, 1994 that his services had been terminated with effect from October 14, 1977. This delay too has some relevance to the petitioner's claim that the equal protection of the law has been denied to him.

Justice Mark Fernando, with Justices Perera and Wijetunga agreeing, held that there had been a denial of one important protection which the law provided for the petitioner, upon interdiction without pay in respect of his livelihood, namely, that disciplinary proceedings which could have resulted in depriving him of his livelihood should be completed without inordinate delay. A delay of 16 years was manifestly excessive.

Dealing with the requirement that the petitioner has to cite instances of others who were similarly placed as him but were differently treated, the learned judge stated: "It is not enough for the petitioner to show that he has been denied the protection of the law. He must also show that he had been denied equal protection - that he was treated less favourably than others similarly situated. Since the petitioner has not produced any evidence of the delays in similar cases, it is contended on behalf of the second respondent (relying on *Perera v Jayawickrema*), that the petitioner has failed to prove this essential ingredient. I doubt whether that decision must be regarded as laying down an inflexible principle of universal application; the facts of each case must be considered. If an employee alleges a denial of equal protection because he was compelled to participate in a disciplinary inquiry without ever being told what the charges against him were, would a court demand evidence to prove at least one other contrary instance? I think not. The Court must take judicial notice that ordinarily - and not merely in a few instances, charges are disclosed prior to inquiry."

Jayawardena v Wijayatilake involved the cancellation of an appointment of an Inquirer into Sudden Deaths. The petitioner

Equality is a new frontier in judicial activism in Sri Lanka. Social realities have demonstrated, however, that equality which the philosophers visualize is not always attainable in practice however sweeping be the pronouncements on equality in the statute book.

Many of the discriminations in society cannot be countered by law alone but need a deep change in social attitudes.

alleged that the first respondent had no power to cancel his appointment and that in any event, the cancellation was without cause or inquiry and hence invalid. Justice Fernando further stated in the *Jayawardena* case: "This Court can and indeed must, take judicial notice of the fact that, generally, a person holding an office which is public in character, is not removed without legal authority without cause, without complying with the *audi alteram partem* rule and without notice. Since the petitioner was not treated in accordance with these essential requirements of justice and fairplay, he was denied the equal protection of the law."

In *Jayawardena v Wijayatilake*, Justice Mark Fernando further pointed out that Chief Justice Sharvananda had not, in *Perera v Jayawickrema* considered an important question relating to proof. While dismissing the application on the ground that there was no evidence that some other person similarly circumstanced was treated differently and that the maxim *omnia praesumuntur rite esse acta* could not be invoked, the learned CJ had considered whether, in some circumstances, judicial notice could and should be taken of the fact that certain fundamental safeguards are generally observed. Thus if it is ever argued that an accused had been denied the equal protection of the law in a criminal trial because he was informed of the charge only after the verdict was given could it be said that in order to prove the denial of equal protection evidence should have been led of other trials in which the charge had been disclosed at the outset? Thus it appears that Mark Fernando J., built on the foundation laid down by Wanasundera J. Accordingly a violation of the norm would be a violation of equal protection as judicial notice could and should be taken of the fact that certain fundamental safeguards are generally observed.

The recognition that the violation of a legal norm is a violation of the Equal Protection Clause would mean that a violation of principles of administrative law also amounts to a violation of the Clause, thus giving rise to constitutional reme-

diaries in addition to remedies in administrative law. This development took place in both India and Sri Lanka.

Wickramasinghe v Ceylon Petroleum Corporation

This case involved the termination of the petitioner's dealership in petroleum products. Chief Justice S.N Silva, with Bandaranayake and Ameer Ismail JJ agreeing, stated that although the termination was in compliance with specific terms of the dealership agreement and the petitioner may not be entitled to any relief in respect of the termination under the law of contract and the common law on the subject that was from the perspective of the private law. However, the termination has been challenged from the perspective of public law, on the basis of an alleged infringement of fundamental rights. Therefore the matters to be considered transcend the mere examination of the terms of the agreement and a review of the legality of the termination in the light of the law of contract and enter the domain of the Constitutional guarantee enshrined in Article 12.

Chief Justice S.N Silva added: "Although the objective is to ensure that all persons similarly circumstanced are treated alike, it is seen that the essence of this basic standard is to ensure reasonableness being the positive connotation as opposed to arbitrariness being the related negative connotation."

Chief Justice S.N Silva stated that the application of this basic standard had been blurred in later cases due to an over-emphasis on the objective of ensuring that all persons similarly circumstanced shall be treated alike. *Perera v Jayawickrema* demonstrated the ineffectiveness of the guarantee in Article 12(1) when the doctrine of classification is rigidly applied. "Such a rigid application ignores the essence of the basic standard which is to ensure reasonableness as opposed to arbitrariness."

The learned Chief Justice explained that: "If the legislative or executive or administrative action in question is reasonable and not arbitrary, it necessarily follows that all persons similarly circumstanced will be treated alike, being the end result of applying the guarantee of equality. The effectiveness of the guarantee would be minimized if there is insistence that a failure of the end result should also be established to prove an infringement of the guarantee. If however there is such evidence of differential treatment that would indeed strengthen the case of a petitioner in establishing the unreasonableness of the impugned action."

His lordship also emphasized the need to judge reasonableness from an objective basis as follows: "The question of reasonableness of the impugned action has to be judged in the aforesaid state of facts. The claim of each party appears to have merit when looked at from the particular stand point of that party. But reasonableness particularly as the basic component of the guarantee of equality has to be judged on an objective basis which stands above the competing claims of parties. In this context I find the basic standard laid down in the *Royster Guano* case ... to be a useful guide. It has to be borne in mind that the basic standard was laid in relation to a challenge of the validity of State legislation granting a tax exemption to certain corporations and not others." The principle element in the basic standard as stated above is reasonableness as opposed to being arbitrary.

Equality is a new frontier in judicial activism in Sri Lanka. Social realities have demonstrated, however, that equality which the philosophers visualize is not always attainable in practice however sweeping be the pronouncements on equality in the statute book. Many of the discriminations in society cannot be countered by law alone but need a deep change in social attitudes. However, the attainment of equality is considered to be one of the time-honored objectives of the law.

(The writer is a retired professor in Law at the University of Sri Jayewardenepura, has practised in courts and holds a PhD. in Law.)



We should encourage Sri Lankans to consume liquid milk and export powdered milk

Industry leading local dairy milk producer, Pelwatte Dairy Industries Ltd, a trend setter in saving major foreign exchange from milk powder imports, is now planning to be a major FOREX earner. The company created history by creating the sole milk powder processing plant in the Southern Province in Buttala opening up a new lively hood to the entire Province.

Diversified Entrepreneur Ariyaseela Wickramanayake invested over Rs. 1.2 billion in 2006 as a 'single owned investor' to put up this milk powder processing plant in Buttala and under the brand name, Pelwatte Dairy introducing 100% locally made Pelwatte Powdered Milk and several other by products to Sri Lankan supermarket shelves and even wayside kiosks.

With time he increased production resulting in several other local companies too 'increasing' their local powdered milk production thereby helping to reduce the powdered milk imports bill to Sri Lanka by several millions of rupees.

Sri Lanka, for the first time in its history, has been able to save over US\$ 300 million (almost Rs. 50 billion) from not importing milk powder from overseas in 2020. This is a major plus point achieved during the COVID-19 pandemic. Last year Sri Lanka only imported milk in limited volume according to the latest Customs data.

Chairman Wickramanayake said that C-19 though has many negative factors to both human and economy it has resulted in taking Sri Lanka towards self-sufficiency in milk sooner than expected. "I am sure there will not be any milk powder imports for 2022. Sri Lanka by then will also reverse the pattern in the milk powder industry and will join an 'elite' group of countries in the world that export milk powder," he said.

Wickramanayake said that the main point to remember is that the '2020 import bill of Rs. 50 billion saving' from milk powder went to local farmers increasing their per capita income. "Hence the import restrictions had twin economic benefits, saving FOREX and increasing local farmer income," he commented.

He said the savings were less than the cost of building Mattala Airport and little higher than the cost for Phase 1 of the Hambantota Harbor and Moragahakanda Irrigation Project.

Wickramanayake said last year the local fresh milk production has increased and several new players have introduced locally produced milk and fresh milk to the Sri Lankan market. "In addition the price of fresh milk offered to local farmers too has increased and NLDB pays around Rs. 130 per liter of fresh milk which is encouraging more people to invest in dairy as a self-employment." This price was around Rs. 90 per liter two years ago. Currently there are 1.3 million milking cows and only around 240,000 are milked.

He also took the initiative to uplift and empower the local dairy farmers and smallholders through multiple socio-economically empowering avenues rendered through the company's Dairy Services and



Pelwatte Dairy Industries, Chairman, Ariyaseela Wickramanayake



The then President Mahinda Rajapaksa opening the animal feed factory. Chairman of the Company Ariyaseela Wickramanayake and Dilrukshi Ratwatte Wickramanayake look on

Extension Field Team through offering competitive pricing for the raw milk through their island wide milk collection centers.

"Many dairy manufacturing companies opt not to purchase milk produce during the rainy season, where the scalability of yogurt sales depletes. Pelwatte Dairy Industries maintains that, despite varied climatic conditions, their commitment to uplift the livelihoods of the dairy farmers is of utmost importance," he said.

Currently, the dairy giant purchases from a pool of over 10,000 dairy farmers and the network continues to grow.

Another important venture of Pelwatte Dairy Industries is their initiative on training and knowledge sharing with the local dairy farmers on important facets of dairy farming. Wickramanayake further stated that the company's vision is farfetched from the ideologies of financial gain but more on towards serving the nation.

Pelwatte Dairy Industries conducts regular training camps at their Training and Development farm in Buttala. The ideology behind the training process of the dairy farmers for the Pelwatte Dairy Industries is that it would in turn pave the way for the farmers to supply high quality and concentrated feed based on their animal feed plant, which can boost the output of the dairy cows.

To strengthen the initiative of uplifting the socio-economic statuses of the local dairy farmers, Pelwatte Dairy Industries recently opened 04 new milk collection centers in Haputale, Ambagasdowa, Maoya and Padaviya. As of now the company houses 40 milk collection centers across the island. These centers benefit the farmers, with hassle free and timely handing over of the collected milk, which evades the inconveniences faced by the farmers of remote areas such as Nuwara Eliya, Haputale, Hatton, Batticaloa, Ampara, Trincomale, North West region and etc.

Expressing his future plans Wickramanayake the Chairman of

Maubima Lanka Foundation said that they had invested around Rs. 1.2 billion to build two milk powder processing plants in Kurunegala, and in the North. "We were the first to have a Spray Dry Milk producing factory in Sri Lanka and will install latest machinery for our Kurunegala plant to be opened in May 2021," he said. Recalling history behind his investment in Pelwatte Dairy Industries he

said it all started when he saw a newspaper ad calling for tenders to sell the Pelwatte Sugar Company in 2002 and purchased it.

"I then met the farmers who were growing sugarcane and taking an income for their harvest only once in 10 months and introduced them to dairy farming and they are now getting better income," said Wickramanayake.

"I am proud to say that we are owners of a most modern dairy factory established under the Danish technology, which produces vivid varieties of dairy products namely Full Cream Milk Powder, Non Fat Milk Powder, Yoghurt, Butter, Ice Cream, Sterilized Plain and Flavored Milk and also Cow Ghee. Our dairy processing factory is the first largest factory of its magnitude in the island and is an ISO 22000: 2005 certified Company."

The company has extended its marketing even beyond the shores of Sri Lanka and is currently exporting butter to the Far East and the Maldives. Plans of venturing into new markets in Africa are also underway.

Hambantota harbor development
Recalling his experiences since he was a young man

involved in the diving business, he said that he had established his first company, Master Divers, investing the money he had earned in Saudi Arabia.

He had been the first Sri Lankan to start a diving company in 1978 and is the oldest and most prestigious underwater services and Salvage Company. "Ship owners preferred to go to Master Divers because the process of getting diving services from the government was complicated by bureaucratic procedures and liable to cause delays," he elaborated.

Through this venture I met the cream of the shipping society both locally and globally and they too agreed that the Hambantota port has the potential to be the largest in the World. "I made this proposal to successive governments and Political leaders but none were serious to implement this project except former President and present Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa.

With the building of the Hambantota Harbor economic benefits started trickling in with one of the world's largest hotel chains Shangri La investing and several other investments taking place.

"The port, lying beside one of the world's biggest sea routes, provides an opportunity for exports far greater than Colombo. It is unfortunate that Sri Lanka is not controlling this asset which could have had multiple economic benefits to Sri Lanka," concluded Wickramanayake.



Local Goodness **Strengthening our local dairy farmers by providing wholesome products to all**

Head Office : Pelwatte Dairy Industries Limited, A-4, Perahera Mawatha, Colombo 03.
TP : +94 (0) 11 599 0111 | +94 (0) 11 245 2094

Email : info@pelwattedairy.com
Web : pelwattedairy.com

Facebook: /PelwatteDairy
Instagram: @pelwatte_dairy
ISO 22000: 2018 Certified company

SHARES - COLOMBO STOCK EXCHANGE

COCONUTS

Market Statistics on 08.04.2021

Table with columns: Security, Volume, **V.W.A. Previous Close, Open, High, Low, **V.W.A. Yesterday's Close, Change (Rs.). Includes Main Board and Second Board sections.

Table with columns: Security, Volume, **V.W.A. Previous Close, Open, High, Low, **V.W.A. Yesterday's Close, Change (Rs.). Includes sections for DIRI SAVI BOARD and WATCH LIST.

Coconut Products - Prices on 08.04.2021

Table listing coconut products and prices. Columns include product name, quantity, and price in Rs./kg or Rs./MT. Includes categories like FRESH COCONUT, COCONUT OIL, and COCONUT SHELL.

EXCHANGE RATES

Table showing exchange rates for various currencies. Columns include Currency, Buying Rate, and Selling Rate. Includes notes about average rates and approximate exchange rates.

Packsense shines at 'Entrepreneur of the Year' with two Silver awards

Packsense Pvt Ltd, a leading manufacturer of all types of corrugated cartons for over 15 years, was the winner of two Silver Awards at the Entrepreneur of the Year awards ceremony organized by the Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industries Sri Lanka.



Packsense MD Wasantha Kumara receiving the award. BOI approved companies are in PackSense's clientele. As a result of being committed to maintaining high quality, the company has been accredited with ISO 9001:2015 certification. Due to our unwavering commitment to quality and durability, we have been able to win the trust of a number of leading foreign companies and local giants as well.

T'nc

To re-ignite the passions of town & country folk

FEATURES EDITOR : (011) 242 9216 Fax: (011) 234 3694
E mail : features.dailynews@lakehouse.lk

Cave of Curiosity

Sacred trident

Head for Haputale to explore its legendary tales and trails while going in search of its mysterious cave complex or as some put it the entrance to hell.

JULIET COOMBE

There is another worldly quality about the tea country and in particular Haputale, which incorporates the epic Lipton's seat and its spectacular views of the hills. My destination was the mysterious cave complex known as Songamony point (meaning 'cave god' in Tamil). If you get up early morning to hike through the hills you will hear in hushed whispers the tea pickers many legendary and mythical stories about the area, handed down from one generation to the next, which are all the more lively over a steaming cup of early morning breakfast tea. It was one such morning that I discovered from one bunch of tea pickers that Songamony cave is actually the official entrance way to hell and that I should be very careful when going there. Curiosity of course got the better of me and despite the long walk to the caves in the hot sunshine, it was more than worth while as the site is not only a stunning Hindu shrine dedicated to the local god, Songamony, as well as Ishvaran, but also a giant cave that drops deep into the mountains guts that some say goes to the very core of the earth, where demons exist in this hellish hot spot of molten red lava.

All tea trail walks are inspiring and beautiful as they trail through some of the worlds most beautiful estates and I learn as I buy snacks at the local village Kade that it takes about an hour from the Greenfield Bio Plantations Ltd, pure Organic Tea factory to the highest point, where the sacred shrine can be found. Eagles mark this mysterious area by circling it like a scene out of Lord of the Rings as I climb ever upwards this turned out to be true, but be warned the clouds that look more like waves can sweep back in at anytime across the valley, covering the rock face completely in minutes so its invisible to the naked human eye, and like the sea, can be very dangerous if you are out alone trekking. The giant white blanket of clouds according to a wizened old tea picker can cover the huge hill top walls in minutes and make visibility for the walker almost impossible. If this happens walk slowly onto the pinnacle, where you are often above the cloud line and enjoy an ancient site that makes one feel as though you have left Greenfields estate behind and entered into another world through a shroud of mist revealing like a theatrical production a cave that vanishes into the belly of the earth, wild animals and very strange rituals have gone on here for centuries. Everywhere there are remnants of these rituals that continue to take place in the Uva Province since the birth of tea in the area. The estate proclaims "At the core of every organic life tea is an age old story of our ancestors who preserved the land on which they farmed.

Now, over a century later, we strive to produce the highest quality, organic teas through our certified carbon neutral farms" and this holistic approach can be felt as you follow the trail ever upwards. The walk is easy at first along the main track



Fabled 'cave to hell'

and a lovely way to really experience a working organic forest tea garden estate first hand, however once off road the adventure really begins emerging from the tea bushes, you walk up a 'stairway to heaven'-like path and arrive on a grassy, peaty plateau, which is dotted with strange looking granite stones and small water holes. In places there are hand paths to follow indented with rocks to stop you slipping on a rainy day, and in other spots they vanish altogether and all you can do is clamber ever upwards, finding a branch or two to hold onto when the going gets rough. From the hot sun to lightning zipping across the sky one is reminded when doing a tea country trail to take all weather clothing, lots of water and snacks in case you get lost. I could hear thunder claps in the distance, it was now late morning in Haputale a place that was to the sounds of 'Poli Poli' reverberating through the tea bushes and all around the different estates, as the Tamil women pick the symbolic first handful of tea and pray that the rain will go away until the end of the day, which seems to work more times than not. The area is full of fascinating traditions and every year the Hindu Pusari (holy man) becomes possessed by a god when he is performing the factory's annual goat sacrifice to Rodamoni, the god of machinery. I learn how a goat is killed early morning with a sword and then a few drips of blood are put on each area of the factory, bringing the building and the machinery inside it good fortune. When new bushes are planted, puja ceremonies are always performed, with coconut smashing, and other special rituals. If the coconut breaks special wishes to the gods are made and prayers are sent asking for them to protect the new plants. At pruning time, bindi ash is put on the knives to protect against accidental cuts.

As you approach Songamony point, the site of a Hindu shrine, large birds of prey swoop round almost directing you to the sacred area and its curious cave complex. Once there, having slipped off your

shoes or walking boots and socks in respect to the god, you will have a fantastic view of the whole valley basin and hill range: the now doll-size Haputale town below; the forest that surrounds the ethereal Adisham Monastery, where it is said political intrigue has been plotted and the best Jams in Sri Lanka are made; and even on a clear day views of Nuwara Eliya to the east, famous for its English buildings with rose arched gardens and horse racing.

Turning away from the view, with the smell of sudu mal, a white flower, lacing the air with perfume, you will focus on the shrine. If you believe in the supernatural, it has a strange power resonating from it, as does the cave through a whole series of bushes, and at the end of a very rough pathway below, which is thought to be the place where the Songamony god resides during the heat of the day. The shrine itself has five components and is marked with a white flag. From left to right, there are two tridents covered in sari pieces representing individual pilgrim wishes, with cracked eggs and remnants of other puja offerings scattered around them from the early morning pilgrims, and an arch structure with a sacred stone inside, decorated with shiny bright orange fabric. The main focus is the god himself, with a bell tower beside it, is an arched white kovil structure with a statue of the blue Songamony god supporting long tresses and a curled black moustache. Looking like a cross between Bob Marley and an Indian sadu just back from taking the waters in the city of learning and burning Varanasi. Here offerings lay strewn about in front of Songamony and behind the shrine, coins in colourful material had knots in them, remnants of white rice offerings on banana leaves laid scattered like confetti after a wedding, joss sticks half burnt made the air smell sweet and broken yellow coconuts caught the tropical sun light as the local insects feasted on their fleshy remains.

Heading out of the clearing and down an over-grown path to the right of the shrine you will come to the god cave, which sends up bursts of freezing cold air even on the hottest of days. Taking pictures it seemed to also send an electrical current to the camera, which sparked and almost made the flash catch fire, thinking it was a coincidence I took another shot and the same thing happened. I did not risk shooting a third picture in fear the whole thing would burst into flames as the sun was now out and hotter than before it rained and so instead sat down trying to take in the site and all its peculiarities and evocative beauty.

Dripping water can be heard inside, and locals get nervous if you get too close because once people fall in, they are said

to never return from hell, and a cold misty day they say you will hear the screams of the dead as the wind whips way around the tea hills. It feels deeply surreal, with purple-flowered vines creeping across the entrance way, shards of sunlight illuminating huge cobwebs with giant spiders spinning webs to catch passing flies, large ferns growing from the mossy stone walls and bees and butterflies flying around oblivious of the latest visitor. The air, scented with incense, mingles with the earthy damp stench of the cave interiors. Yes, it's a disturbingly enchanting place with a scary double edge to it- but you definitely wouldn't want to be lost in the area when the churning mists that rapidly descend from above covers everything in a white shroud like the one used in Turin. Making everything vanish and finding your foot hold anything but easy.

As soon as the clouds moved in I headed out of the area and caught a lift with one of the tea trucks on the road half way down the track, who kindly took me back to the factory, where I enjoyed a nice cup of freshly picked tea.

As I looked out of the tea factory window and it started to rain again, I thought the cave god walk would by now be a waterfall, but the environmental ethos of the area is a reminder to all of us that it's up to everyone on the planet whether we make a heaven or hell, that we are all responsible for Mother Nature's well being and that the best things in life such as a beautiful mountain trek is free.

As a friend Kavinda succinctly put it from the tea country "having a cup of tea is almost spiritual - even better if it's while watching the cricket or walking the hills. If you buy really good tea, you don't have to do anything special. Just boil it and drink it. When you drink it, you can feel it."



Hindu Temple where daily rituals are made



View of Haputale, Uva province



Hindu marks the entrance to the cave complex



Guardian of songamony cave



Greenfield factory

Danger lies beyond this point

Dr. Shanika Arsecularatne awarded Best Woman Entrepreneur



Prof. Ramani Arsecularatne, Christell Skin Clinic Director Ihan Jayawardene and Dr. Shanika Arsecularatne

Entrepreneur Awards 2020

her inspirational journey to becoming one of the most successful businesswomen in the country, and also of her outstanding contribution to the field of cosmetology and wellness in Sri Lanka.

"I'm truly honoured to receive this recognition, especially because I believe that no one receives an award like this out of sheer luck, but rather in acknowledgement and appreciation of the hard work, sleepless nights and sacrifices we have all made, to be where we are today," said Dr. Arsecularatne on accepting her award.

"As a young doctor, my decisions and expertise would be constantly questioned, especially by those who were sceptical," she said, speaking further on the many hurdles faced when attempting to break through as a provider of niche medical services. "Additionally, due to the lack of proper awareness and unfortunate incidents owing to unsafe procedures conducted by practitioners previously, we had to work very hard to convince patients to get the treatments they needed; conducting workshops,

TV programs, and social media education campaigns in order to create awareness and trust among the general public."

Dr. Shanika Arsecularatne, alongside her mother, Prof. Ramani Arsecularatne have celebrated their multiple award-winning milestone ever since its founding centre in 2014. As it stands now, The Christell Skin Clinic boasts two state-of-the-art facilities in Sri Lanka and the Maldives, with over 50 full-time employees, including specialised cosmetologists, medical doctors, and nursing staff. The centre has served more than 20,000 clients to date, including heads of state, VVIPs, ambassadors, expats, and residents; with some clients even flying to Sri Lanka for treatments and therapies. -NDEA



Dr. Shanika Arsecularatne receives the trophy for Best Woman Entrepreneur



Prof. Ramani Arsecularatne and Dr. Shanika Arsecularatne receive the Best Enterprise service sector trophy

Christell Skin Clinic proved their mettle as industry leaders again, by clinching the three topmost awards at the recently held Western Province Entrepreneurship Awards Ceremony 2020. The highly-anticipated annual event jointly organised by the National Enterprise Development Authority (NEDA) and the National Chamber of Commerce of Sri Lanka took place this year at the BMICH. The event brought together industry leaders and newcomers with the aim to recognise and honour micro, small, medium and large sector entrepreneurs that have contributed significantly to Sri Lanka's service sector over the past year.

The country's leading aesthetics and wellness centre took home The Best Enterprise service sector trophy, as well as the Best Entrepreneur of the Year award – the most sought-after prize of the night. More notably however, the Best Woman Entrepreneur title was awarded to the director of the Christell Skin Clinic, Dr. Shanika Arsecularatne, in recognition of



Expack celebrates its women at workplace A call for gender diversity

Celebrating the ever inspiring contribution and enthusiasm of women in its workplace, sustainable packaging solutions provider Expack Corrugated Cartons held an event at its state-of-the-art factory premises in Kelaniya during the week in view of the International Women's Day last month.

Expack recognized and commemorated their fine achievements, highlighting their impressive drive and high spirits towards sharing ideas and knowledge among fellow employees. "Their entrepreneurial mindset and attitude goes beyond

the norms and is well commendable," said Azhar Sheriff, Head of HR and Compliance- Expack Corrugated Cartons.

"This is very impressive in comparison to their male counterparts. We've witnessed numerous such thoughts and contributions with our open door policy. We encourage and place high emphasis towards fostering a culture that embraces women empowerment, inclusivity, diversity and equity. We look forward to having more women onboard and challenge the status quo in a traditionally male dominated industry sector," he added.

Gender diversity is very important irrespective of the nature of the business and industry, and today many companies of different sizes and types see this as a fundamental need; to close the gender gaps and have a healthy and equal or

adequate representation of women at its workplaces. Expack is one such company and has a zero tolerance policy towards gender discrimination. The men and women at Expack are respected, rewarded and compensated equally, with the leadership encouraging a wider acceptance that women and their strengths are a key pillar in the both the company's as well as the overall economy's growth and success.

With over 300 employees from diverse backgrounds, Expack believes in promoting policies and strategy that provides a platform which respects and includes the voice of each and everyone irrespective of their religion, ethnicity, age, gender, sexual orientation, norms and beliefs.

Expack was recognized as one of Sri Lanka's best workplaces for 2018, 2019 and 2020 and also one of Asia's best workplaces for 2019 and 2020 by Great Place to Work

Institute. Expack believes having a stimulating environment that brings out the best of oneself. -TT

The Big Bad Wolf Book Sale "Howls" Online Once Again!

Get ready as the World's Biggest Book Sale, the Big Bad Wolf Book Sale makes yet another virtual return to Sri Lanka for the second consecutive year in its fifth entrance to the country. The Book Sale is just around the corner and is bound to bring much excitement among its Wolf pack and book enthusiasts. The Online Book Sale scheduled to go live from May 05 to 12 and is poised to be bigger and better, offering books at amazingly low prices.

The decision to stick with a virtual Sale format for two consecutive years is primarily to safeguard the wolf pack, so that they can enjoy the Sale from the comfort and safety of their own homes, as well as the fact that international travel and restrictions have not returned to Pre-Covid levels. As last year's online Sale hinted, the fans are more than happy to meet the Wolf online.

This year's Online Sale will see improvements in all aspects thanks to last year's first ever Online Sale that helped to figure out the necessary changes and improvements which need to be made.

This year, the much-anticipated Big Bad Wolf



Online Book Sale is expected to showcase a selection of over 50,000 new English book titles, ranging from fiction, best-sellers, literature, non-fiction, business, cookbooks, art and design, as well as coffee table books, all on offer with massive savings of up to 90% off the recommended retail prices.

The Online Sale will be further developed to serve the 24-hour online shopping experience with an even smoother home delivery service. In addition, the Wolf has part-

nered with Sampath Bank as the official banking partner for the sale in order to provide the fans with a safe and secure method to complete payments. The Wolf Fans can also expect an array of exciting games and competitions hosted by the Wolf's official radio partners: Lite 87 and TNL Radio. We invite all book lovers across Sri Lanka to stay tuned for more updates on what's to be expected at the Online Sale coming soon! -AK

Special Iftar Buffet at Curry Leaf, Hilton Colombo

The Curry Leaf Restaurant at Hilton Colombo is preparing a culinary festival this Iftar season with an array of Middle-Eastern cuisine. The promotion will run for a month starting April 12 with the dinner buffet opening at 6pm for guests to breakfast. Furthermore, a prayer room will be available upon request.

Iftar buffet includes dishes required to break fast from Moroccan dates on the table to congee and condiments, home-made falooda and juices to a selection of short eats, appetizers and salads which include a classic Lebanese hummus, Baba-

ganoush, Fattoush and Falafel to name a few. The menu will also feature a carvery with the chef's special of the day and a variety of hot dishes like biryanis, kebabs and a delightful collection of desserts. The buffet is on nightly until midnight.

In addition to the restaurant offering, a special curated Iftar menu consisting of four or more and an



extensive selection of appetizing dishes are available on www.shop.hiltoncolombo.lk for take-away and free delivery. -GDeS



Ancient Japanese culinary technique meets modern performance art

The Kingsbury's new Japanese restaurant Tenku

Picture this: on a balmy Colombo evening, you are seated at a table in a private dining enclosure that is centred on a teppan (iron hotplate). The panoramic views show the twinkling lights of the city as you relax into your deluxe seat. Teppanyaki Specialist Chef Sugath Ratnayake is in front of you, and is about to begin performing his culinary art. He begins by tossing the

spatulas, flipping them and clanging them together. Next, he expertly chops and dices the food, and then quickly sets the grill aflame. He throws ingredients in the air and seems to be dancing with them while they sizzle on the hot plate. Watching your food being cooked with such pomp and pageantry, your senses celebrate, as you patiently wait to dig in to the delicacies being prepared.

Fresh and flavourful ingredients and light seasoning; the seeming simplicity of its preparation belies the complex art behind it. Teppanyaki is a style of ancient Japanese cooking that has embraced modern performance art. As a cooking technique, Teppanyaki, literally meaning 'grilling on an iron plate', in Japanese, is popular the world over for its unique flavour, coupled with the entertainment value it offers. When at a Teppanyaki table, you get to

choose how you want your food prepared, and decide on the type and amount of seasoning. You also get to decide on the oil you want in the dish, as well as the meat, seafood or noodle of your choice. The skill of the Teppanyaki Chef, as well as the finest ingredients that are used, are the main reasons why Teppanyaki is a luxurious indulgence.

At Tenku, the carefully curated Teppan menu consists of Lobster Tail, Wagyu Strip Loin, Norwegian Salmon, Baby Octopus and Lamb Chops, just to name a few. A special Teppanyaki selection with Edamame, Miso Soup and Green Tea Ice Cream and Fresh Cut Fruits, is also on offer.

The Kingsbury Colombo adheres to stringent safety protocols, having received the 'Safe and Secure Tourism' Compliance Certificate from the Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority in 2020. -AK





Are you a smart pet owner?
Share your 'Pet care in the time of lockdown' story with us.
Email : features.dailynews@lakehouse.lk



Sophie's friend "in need"

I never believed that cats could be this sweet until Sophie came to our lives when the entire world was battling with Covid 19. She was our neighbour's cat, but became homeless as my neighbour was taken away by her son to live with them. Being little selfish, they never thought even a bit about this poor soul's future!

In fact my neighbour did not love her very much. She did not have a name either. However the poor thing did make a very clever decision by trying out me as her new owner!

She was roaming around our house for two or three days and one day she was courageous enough to come to our sitting room through a window.

I decided not to chase her away. She has very innocent , speaking

eyes. I certainly did not have enough courage to chase the poor girl out though I did not like her owner!!! I am far advanced than her former owner!!

So we started calling her Sophie, for no particular reason at all!! Since the country was under lockdown we stayed at home and did most of our shopping online. Initially I ordered special cat food for her even though she did not expect much from me.

However, a friend of mine advised me not to give them artificial pet food because local cats are not much used to those and they might end up as ' obese' cats! She now eats salaya with rice and I feel that is her favourite meal.

Initially I was ' horrified' to see Sophie sleeping on my bed in the middle of the night. I chased her away and later repented. The poor girl looked at me in a sad manner



that made me almost cry. Perhaps she might have thought that she would lose her second home too.

Now she sleeps on my bed like a queen.

She would start meowing at around 6 in the morning. Then would drink her bed tea before going out to the garden.

Now, many months after the Covid 19 lockdown Sophie is a happy cat.

When my neighbour returned when the bad days are over, Sophie was firm in her decision. She did not want to disappoint her " friend in need" who helped her when she needed it most!! - Gayani SK

DOG CARE



Deafness in dogs due to fire crackers

Dr GCS KURUGALA,
Veterinary Surgeon,
(B.V.Sc; M.Sc Poultry Science; Master of Public Administration & Management)

Sinhala Avurudu season can be extremely stressful for dogs because of firecrackers. Besides the loud sound, light and smoke emitted by crackers too affect animals.

Fireworks and other explosive materials can emit sounds - up to 190 decibels (110 to 115 decibels above the range of 75 to 80 decibels where the damage to the human ear begins). Fireworks generate a higher noise level than firecrackers, gunshots (140 decibels), and some jet planes (100 decibels). Noises caused by fireworks and firecrackers can lead to loss of hearing and tinnitus.

Dogs' hearing capacity is higher than that of humans. They can hear even minute sounds and high frequency sounds. Dogs' hearing range is 67-45,000 Hz when compared to humans' hearing range which stands at 64-23,000 Hz. This auditory acuity of dogs is one of the reasons why the sound of fireworks can be so harmful to them.

SIGNS

They show signs of overwhelming anxiety as they are unable to escape from the sound. Common reactions are freezing or paralysis, uncontrolled attempts to escape and hide, and tremors. Other more intense signs may also be present, such as salivation, tachycardia, intense vocalizations, urination or defecation, increased activity, hyper alertness and gastrointestinal disorders. All these signs are indicative of great discomfort.

Irritation of the ear can be seen like head tilt, ear tilt, bleeding from ear, itching ear, no response to sound or calling etc.

TREATMENT

This is an emergency situation which requires speedy attention. You have to rush to the vet. The animal will get treatment accordingly. But you have to avoid exposure to similar conditions repeatedly by the animal. Most of the deafness due to loud sound is irreversible.

FEAR AND STRESS

In addition to these damages, the noises caused by fireworks harm animals by causing fear. In fact, repeated exposure to unexpected, unpredictable loud noises can cause phobias in many animals, increasing panic reactions to loud noises in the future.

HARMFUL EFFECTS BY CHEMICAL PARTICLES

In addition, firecrackers are poisonous, and their explosion releases harmful particles such as fine dust (PM10) that is toxic to inhale. It can worsen the existing diseases and may cause other illnesses as well. Therefore, fireworks can pose a danger to animals that live in the vicinity as well as those living in relatively distant locations because the wind transports the particles. There is also a risk of ingestion of firework residues and firecrackers. Burns and damage to the eyes depends on the proximity of the animals to the areas where the firecrackers are made.

The chemicals are also dangerous for cats and dogs with respiratory diseases such as asthma. Careless use of crackers/fireworks can also cause mutilations and fatal accidents to animals who are close by.

Let's all be a bit more considerate towards dogs (cats , birds as well) when celebrating Avurudu.

APPEALING FOR A FOREVER HOME FOR NANDU



SAHANA RAVISHANKAR

Appealing for a forever home for NANDU Thank you to the wonderful kind people who contacted me towards seedevs and Nandu's rescue bills. I still have a portion to settle from the outstanding. The longer he stays at the hospital the higher the bills will be.

So I'm desperately looking for a kind home for him where he can spend his final stages with love and care. He is now around 11 years old and is a gentle loving soul. His story was published a few weeks ago. He was rescued from kelaniya with many complications.

He has fully recovered now but is still in hospital as I don't have a place to keep him and I feel very sorry to drop him back on the streets. He has suffered so much already and deserves to have a happy ending. I would have adopted him if I didn't live on rent with many rescues.

Please contact me on 0777567122 if you would like to give a senior dog like Nandu a forever home. (Please see the pictures of nandu before and after treatment)



THE FAMILY DOG IS IN SYNC WITH THE KIDS

GRETCHEN REYNOLDS
Dogs orient and move in synchrony with family members, which may have implications for the emotional development of people and pets

Family dogs match their movements to those of the children they live with, according to a poignant new study of young people and their pets. In the study, pet dogs moved when their accompanying children did and remained still when they stopped, a physical synchrony that often signals emotional bonding. The family canines also tended to stay close by and to orient themselves in the same directions as the kids, a further indication of social engagement and attentiveness that could have implications for the emotional development of both dogs and youngsters, as

well as for the safety of the interactions between them.

The results add to the growing evidence that how people and other creatures move depends to a surprising extent on who they are with, and that social connections can be shaped and strengthened by shared activity. The findings also raise practical questions about how children and dogs can best learn to read each other's body language, and how family pets might help to encourage children to move more or best serve as a source of emotional support.

The idea that being around others influences how we move is not new. Past research shows that romantic couples tend unconsciously to synchronize their walking pace to a much greater extent than strangers do and that men often speed up when walking with other men, even if the new pace is not physiologically comfortable for them.

In the same way, moving together seems to build familiarity, even if it did not exist before. People who take up dancing

together, for instance, often express greater closeness and cohesion afterward. Moving in tandem seems to generate intangible, intimate bonds. Other research suggests that these connections are not limited to humans.

When, during earlier studies, scientists asked adults to bring their pet dogs to large, unfamiliar rooms and then walk around the space, sometimes pausing, sometimes changing direction, and not directly engaging with their pets, the dogs followed and repeated their owners' actions to a remarkable degree. About 80 percent of the time, the dogs walked when their owners walked and fell still when they stopped.

They also usually turned and pivoted whenever their owners did, so that they stayed oriented in the same direction.

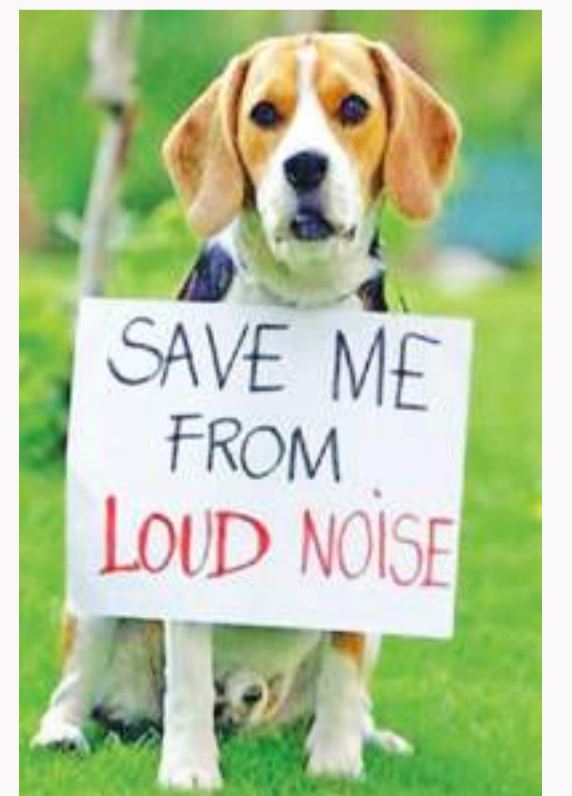


THESE CUTIES IN NEED OF LOVING HOMES



Rescued off the street, these little puppies both males and females are in need of caring homes. They are around 6 weeks old, vaccinated and de-wormed. Willing n help with sterilizations when older and can transport. To adopt a homeless pup and love them to bits please contact Sarah on (076) 788 8075 / Sahana on 0777567122.

If you prefer an older pup please do reach out as there are more on the road who are homeless too.



De-crowned and re-crowned!



Mrs. World 2020 Caroline Jurie stripping the crown off Pushpika De Silva.

Pushpika with her son

RUWINI JAYAWARDANA
Not everyone accepts the victory of another with grace. From snatching the crown off a winner's head to drunken brawls, some of the biggest catfights have happened in beauty pageant history. And now the Mrs Sri Lanka for Mrs World 2021 beauty pageant can be added to the list.

Dozens of beauties were prepping for months for what they hoped will be the crowning day of their lives.

Then finally on April 4, 2021, at a gala event held at Nelum Pokuna theatre, contestant number 20 and former beauty queen, Pushpika Sandamali de Silva, was adjudged as the winner. She was crowned by Prime Minister's wife Shiranthi Rajapaksa and Mayor Rosy Senanayake who was herself a winner of the Mrs World title.

However what took place next on stage showed that some weren't about to let de Silva

take the crown without a fight. After the VIPs have left and the judges vacated the premises, de Silva was about to take centre stage to celebrate her victory. The reigning Mrs World Caroline Jurie took up the microphone and cited a pageant rule that contestants should be married and a divorcee is not fit to be crowned.

"There is a rule that prevents women who have already been married and are divorced, so I am taking steps to make the crown go to second place," she claimed before dramatically pulling the crown off the winner's head. Adding fuel to this melee, Chula Padmendra who was also part of the show supported Jurie in stripping the crown off de Silva and crowning the first runner up instead.

Following the brawl that erupted, it is reported that significant damage was caused to the Nelum Pokuna premises, mainly the dressing rooms. De

Silva is also said to have suffered scalp injuries when the crown was ripped from her head.

The crown has since been returned to de Silva, after pageant organisers confirmed she is not a divorcee, but is separated. Speaking about the incident which she terms as 'unreasonable and insulting' de Silva notes that she is currently focusing on taking her duties as Mrs Sri Lanka World 2021 forward.

"I addressed the issues faced by women, divorcees, single mothers and children. However some have begun politicizing my comments. The people expect me to perform the duties of a beauty pageant title holder at this moment, not a political figure. So that is what I am set-

ting my sights on right now," she said.

Though she had initially decided to press charges against Jurie and Padmendra for the damage caused to her image, de Silva said now she has decided to let bygones be bygones. You cannot gain anything through vengeance and malicious acts. Her biggest concern was not being stripped of her crown but due to the trauma that her son had to suffer after witnessing her injuries.

"There are a lot of single mothers like me who are suffering in Sri Lanka today. I dedicate my crown to all of them," she mused adding that a true queen is not a woman who snatches another woman's crown, but a woman who secret-

ly sets another woman's crown. Branding the event as 'disgraceful', the event organizers have officially apologized to de Silva. National Director of the Mrs Sri Lanka World organization Chandimal Jayasinghe said, "There is no need to take any action against Jurie as the whole country witnessed her behaviour in disgust. We expect Mrs. World organization to take action against her. Caroline may be suffering from some issues, but we do not know what happened. She made a huge blunder. She is responsible for her own actions."

Describing the incident as unacceptable and shocking, Colombo Mayor Rosy Senanayake stated, "This is not how women should behave. For me, I

am ashamed because this is disgracing the Mrs. World organization.

It is a disgrace for all humanity to see people going to the extent of humiliating, character assassinating and plucking the crown off someone and making it look like a wrestling match.

The little I saw of this, I am shocked!"

The Daily News made several attempts to contact Jurie via phone calls, smses and e mails to inquire about her views about the incident but all attempts failed as she did not respond to the calls or messages.

MARMADUKE



"Fetching halfway doesn't cut the mustard."

MUTT AND JEFF



ARCHIE



FISH TALES



UP & RUNNING



CA Lanka, Kelaniya University sign MoU

To increase collaboration and strengthen accounting profession



Manil Jayasinghe addressing the event.

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka (CA Sri Lanka) recently entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the University of Kelaniya which will pave way for both institutions to increase collaboration and strengthen the Accounting profession in the country.

The MoU signed by President of CA Sri Lanka, Manil Jayasinghe and Vice-Chancellor of the University of Kelaniya, Senior Prof. Nilan-



CA Sri Lanka President Manil Jayasinghe and the University of Kelaniya, Vice-Chancellor Prof. Nilanthi de Silva exchanging the MoU.

thi de Silva aims to reinforce the long-standing relationship between both institutions while also facilitating students and lecturers of both institutions to participate in various forms to develop their knowledge on accountancy.

Speaking at the event, Jayasinghe said that a key feature of this MoU is that it will allow CA Sri Lanka to offer scholarships and awards for best-performing students at the university,

while both institutions will share resources to improve the knowledge of the students of both the University and CA Sri Lanka.

The MoU will also create a path for both institutions to jointly undertake research work.

He said that it was important for institutions to foster an environment of collaboration without restricting to the borders of their organisations, or institutes. "The ability to work together, will be

critical for the future success of our country," he said.

Jayasinghe said that both the University of Kelaniya and CA Sri Lanka, have contributed immensely towards supporting Sri Lanka's vision of a skilled nation. "Therefore, there is an underlying need to strengthen the partnership between professional and academia if we are to overcome challenges we face and will face," he said.

Jayasinghe highlighted

that members of CA Sri Lanka, who are Chartered Accountants influence and give leadership to a wide spectrum of businesses across all industries. He added that he was certain the MoU with the University of Kelaniya will provide new opportunities for the undergraduates who are interested to take up a successful career in accountancy or wish to enhance their knowledge on the subject as an additional qualification.

IIHS appoints new Director for International Marketing and Development

Sri Lanka's pioneer healthcare education provider, the International Institute of Health Science (IIHS), having to pioneer in Nursing education in Sri Lanka, is looking to take its model to the region and beyond.

As part of an ambitious internationalization strategy, which seeks to contribute to an expansive post-pandemic Sri Lankan export sector and develop indigenous research capacity, IIHS has appointed a long-time international education figure, Carl Jones.

Newly appointed board member and Director, International & Development, Carl Jones has been with IIHS since January 2021 playing a development and advisory role in expanding student recruitment beyond Sri Lanka. Drawing on years of experience in education marketing in prestigious universities including Deakin University, Australia, he is charged with developing partnership and recruitment opportunities and developing international distribution channels.

Commenting on his new appointment, Jones said, "It was truly an honour to be invited to be a part IIHS organisation and its ambitious program. I have known IIHS for many years and, as an observer and partner, I've been incredibly impressed with its trajectory and culture. With its international 'multiversity' plans and it's soon to come degree-awarding status, IIHS is set to become a significant regional player in a world that needs new dynamic, flexible and integral models of healthcare education".

"This is a most opportune time to be involved with such a provider in Sri Lanka. There is endless employment



Carl Jones

opportunity in the health sector at home, in the region and the developed world.

Carl's area of focus will be South Asia, Africa and the Middle East. Dr Kithsiri, Edirisinghe, CEO & Co-Founder IIHS commented, "Carl will be a vital asset to us as we journey ahead. By opening doors for foreign students to come to IIHS, we can support the Sri Lankan economy through foreign remittances and can further help develop the country as a tourist destination. Students in the region will benefit from this offering as they will have access to quality education at an affordable price and secure employment in the first world. We have an enormous opportunity as a nation to be an exporter of skilled labour."

DFCC Bank offers Cardholders savings for the Avurudu season

DFCC Bank has made a commitment to offering credit cardholders up to 60% in savings across 300 island-wide partner outlets.

From shopping to electronics and e-commerce online platforms, the bank for everyone has left no stone unturned, allowing for their loyal customers to rejoice in shopping sprees with their loved ones this festive season.

In addition to the savings offered to cardholders, every transaction will entitle the cardholder to 1% CashBack credited to a DFCC Bank account throughout the year. Further to this, credit cards from DFCC Bank also have the lowest

processing fee on loan on card and balance transfer products.

Among the 300 merchants DFCC Bank has partnered with, some consumer favourites have been included as well.

Cardholders will also enjoy discounts at leading merchants across electronics and household; holiday and travel; health and well-being; jewellery; clothing and accessories; restaurants; supermarkets and leisure categories.

As many customers prefer to shop for appliances and high-value items during this period of the year, DFCC Bank has also enabled a Buy Now Pay Later

incentive to cardholders. Featuring payment plans of up to 12 months with 0% interest during April, cardholders are encouraged to make use of this offer.

This year, the bank has also incentivized their debit cardholders. To encourage debit cardholders to use their cards for transactions instead of going through the hassle of withdrawing cash through ATMs, DFCC Bank is offering many discounts at selected shopping, footwear, jewellery and dining partner outlets including offers for online purchases. Speaking on these festive card offers from DFCC Bank, Lakshman Silva, CEO, DFCC Bank said, "Year after



year, we have made the Avurudu season happier for our cardholders by offering amazing incentives and discount deals

through our partner merchants. As last year's celebrations were subdued due to the lockdowns, we are hopeful that this

year, our customers will once again be able to celebrate the Avurudu Season with their loved ones."



Chemistry Olympiad SL Chairman Dr. Chinthaka Nadun Ratnaweera

Uvidu Praveen Sumanasekara of Badulla Central College, Badulla, Arulanantham Abhinanthan of Hindu College, Jaffna and R M S Ravindu Sanwara of Ananda College, Colombo won Bronze medals at the 52nd International Chemistry Olympiad (IChO) in July 2020. The fourth member of the Sri Lankan team Shakindi Vihanga of Sujatha Vidyalaya, Matara also won an honourable mention. This was indeed remarkable achievements from our team as Sri Lanka participated in this competition for the first time in history. The Sri Lankan team was selected and trained by the Chemistry Olympiad Sri Lanka (COSL) committee of the Institute of Chemistry Ceylon (IChemC).

The IChO is a competition organized for secondary school students of all levels from all over the globe to promote their creativity and cognitive skills in solving Chemistry related problems. While identifying and recognizing the most talented youngsters in Chemistry, the IChO helps to facilitate cordial relations between the youth of different nationalities and encourage networking. IChO is one out of the 12 International Science Olympiads held in the world. The rest represent other disciplines, such as Mathematics, Physics, Biology, etc. The IChO headquarters is based in Bratislava, Slovakia of the former Eastern Bloc.

The IChO event began in 1968



Dr. Ireshika De Silva

with participation from Czechoslovakia, Poland and Hungary. Subsequently, other countries joined the program and currently, there are more than 80 participating countries including the USA, UK, China, Russia, India, etc.

In 2016, IChO steering committee officially accepted the Institute of Chemistry Ceylon (IChemC) as the official organizer to conduct the National Chemistry Olympiad competition in Sri Lanka. Since then IChemC is organizing the local Chemistry Olympiad annually and named it as Chemistry Olympiad Sri Lanka (COSL). Sri Lanka participated as observers in IChO in the Czech Republic and France and respectively in 2018 and 2019 and was ineligible to participate as a team to take part in the competition in Turkey in 2020. Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 pandemic situation in the world competition was remotely held under a virtual platform. After screening and intense training, the steering committee of COSL selected four highly talented students to represent the Sri Lankan team.

The IChemC recently organized a charm ceremony to award the medals and certificates received from the International Organizers. The event was held at the IChemC headquarters on February 18, 2021, and the Chief Guest was Prof Janitha Liyanage who is the current Vice-Chairperson of the University Grants Commission.

IChemC recognizes bronze medalists of the International Chemistry Olympiad



JAFFNA HINDU COLLEGE Arulanantham Abhinanthan



BADULLA CENTRAL COLLEGE Praveen Sumanasekara



SUJATHA VIDYALAYA Shakindi Vihanga

Dean of the College of Chemical Sciences Prof Sujatha Hewage has also participated. Due to the pandemic situation, the number of participants was restricted however the event was live-streamed on Youtube.

Prof Sagarika Ekanayaka who is the current President of the Institute welcomed the gathering and

said she was very proud of the young prodigies who produced exceptional results as the first time participants of the IChO. Dr Chinthaka Ratnaweera who is the chairman of the COSL committee presented a brief introduction to the Chemistry Olympiad competition and explained the opportunities and challenges. Next, Prof

Janitha Liyanage addressed the gathering and congratulated the team for the outstanding performance. She also thanked the IChemC for providing all the support for this program and committee members for voluntarily organizing these events and training students. Medals and certificates were awarded by Prof Janitha

Liyanage. After the presentation of awards, each of the winners addressed the audience and all of them expressed their sincere gratitude to the mentors who trained them with immense dedication. Praveen, during his talk, invited youngsters to take part in future Chemistry Olympiads as they can develop their logical and critical

thinking skills which will help their future academic career.

Abhinanthan was very happy and emotional about his achievements and specially mentioned that the Chemistry practical sessions have been a valuable experience for him. Ravindu said even though he felt there was a big gap between the A/L chemistry content and the International Chemistry Olympiad syllabus due to the training he received and with the hard work he was able to make this achievement. Shakindi said that she has realized the beauty of Chemistry after experiencing this Chemistry Olympiad training workshops and got to know a lot of new friends.

Before the end of the event, the new Chemistry Olympiad website was launched by the IChemC past President Dr Poshitha Premaratne who has given visionary leadership to establish the COSL. Dr Ireshika De Silva, Secretary of the committee delivered the vote of thanks to end the ceremony.

The 53rd International Chemistry Olympiad will be held in Japan during this year. The COSL committee is eagerly waiting to select a team and train them and expect even better performance from them to bring honour to our motherland.

Anyone interested to learn more about the programme can visit this new website through the <http://www.web.ichemc.edu.lk/cosl/>. Also, applications forms and deadlines for the future selection examinations will be updated on this website and students can obtain the Chemistry Olympiad past papers and educational resources through it.

One in three Covid-19 patients are diagnosed with a neuropsychiatric condition - study

Six months after being diagnosed with Covid-19, 1 in 3 patients also had experienced a psychiatric or neurological illness, mostly mood disorders but also strokes or dementia, a large new study shows.

About 1 in 8 of the patients (12.8%) were diagnosed for the first time with such an illness, most commonly anxiety or depression. Compared to control groups of people who had the flu or other non-Covid respiratory infections, first-ever neuropsychiatric diagnoses were almost twice as high.

we think that regardless of the explanation, health services need to be prepared for the increased demand that this data is showing."

The size of the study lends confidence to its findings, which confirm what has been hinted in smaller studies, including earlier work from the Oxford group. The researchers analyzed electronic health records of 81 million U.S. patients (both insured and uninsured), finding 236,379 people who had been diagnosed with Covid-19



The study, published Tuesday in *The Lancet Psychiatry*, used real-world health data on millions of people to gauge the incidence of 13 brain disorders. Anxiety, mood, and substance use disorders were most common, but the researchers also found worrying, if lower, rates of serious neurological complications, especially in patients who had been severely ill with Covid-19. In all Covid-19 patients, 0.6% developed a brain hemorrhage, 2.1% an ischemic stroke, and 0.7% dementia.

"We need urgent research to better understand how and why does this occur in patients with Covid-19 and how they can be treated and [how to] prevent it," Max Taquet, a clinical fellow in psychiatry at the University of Oxford and a study co-author, said on a call with reporters on Tuesday. "But

and comparing them to three cohorts of similar people: one cohort had the flu, another had another respiratory illness such as sinusitis or pneumonia, and one cohort included people who were hospitalized for unrelated conditions such as bone fractures or gallstones. The researchers hoped that comparing the Covid group to the others would help isolate Covid-19 as a cause and tease out its effects on the brain.

After accounting for patients' age, sex, ethnicity, and existing health conditions, patients overall had a 44% higher risk of neurological and mental health diagnoses after Covid-19 than after flu, and a 16% higher risk after Covid-19 than after other respiratory tract infections.

There were two exceptions: The researchers did not see increased risk of Parkinson's

disease, a movement disorder, or Guillain-Barré syndrome, which is a rare disorder that shows up after some viral infections as tingling and weakness when the immune system attacks nerves.

Allison Navis, assistant professor in the division of neuro-infectious diseases at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, sounded a note of caution. The lead clinical neurologist at Mount Sinai's post-Covid clinic, she was not involved in the *Lancet* study.

"It does highlight that there is something unique going on with Covid," she told STAT. "And the 12.8% who have a new diagnosis of something neuropsychiatric can sound very sensational.

That 12.8% encompasses depression and anxiety, so it's extremely important to not minimize that and not make that sound like a lesser diagnosis at all, but the more severe things like strokes are still fairly uncommon. I don't want people thinking that 1 in 10 people get a stroke with Covid."

The new study reinforces previous research that showed some brain disorders increased with the severity of illness, going up in people who needed to be hospitalized and rising further in people who needed intensive care. While 33.6% of people developed a neuropsychiatric illness overall, that risk grew to 46.4% among Covid patients treated in an ICU.

What's new is the distinction between neurological and psychiatric complications. People with very severe Covid-19 had a higher risk of complications like stroke or dementia, but people who developed anxiety or depression spanned the spectrum of illness severity.

While the study did not examine the mechanisms that might explain neuropsychiatric disorders associated with the virus, the authors did speculate in the call with reporters that if patients know that they have Covid-19, that and other stressors might contribute to a psychiatric illness. "It could be psychological factors and biological factors and psychosocial factors, such as, for instance, the

need to isolate and the loss of income as a result of that," Taquet said.

It's easier to tie neurological disorders to the virus' effects on the brain. Scientists believe the virus can enter the brain through the olfactory bulb, where taste and smell are decoded. Inflammation throughout the body also harms blood vessels in the brain, and can lead to stroke-causing blood clots, delirium, or dementia. While the medical records could tell the researchers whether someone had previously suffered a stroke or been diagnosed with dementia, they couldn't surmise whether someone was going to have a recurrence any-

way or whether Covid-19 caused it, Masud Husain, professor of neurology and cognitive neuroscience at Oxford and a study co-author, warned. Longer follow-up will be needed to answer that question, but the signal was too strong to ignore, he said. Husain also cautioned that the numbers they reported could be an underestimate if they don't include people who were infected with Covid but did not test positive for it, or if people had no symptoms that drove them to seek medical care. On the flip side, patients with Covid-19 might be more likely to have a neurological and psychiatric disorder diagnosed simply because they were receiving more medical attention compared to patients with the flu or other respiratory infections, Taquet pointed out.

This was not a study of long-Covid, said Paul Harrison, professor of psychiatry at the University of Oxford and a study co-author, referring to the constellation of lingering symptoms that overlap with some problems caused by the neuropsychiatric illnesses described in the current paper. But the need for more research and continued clinical care is the same.

"Sadly, many of the disorders identified in this study tend to be chronic or recurrent, so we can anticipate that the impact of Covid-19 could be with us for many years," Jonathan Rogers and Anthony David of University College London wrote in a commentary appearing with the *Lancet* study. (STAT)

Rapid progress achieved in COVID drugs research

Researchers are reporting some progress in their search for drugs that tamp down the overwhelming immune reaction that can kill a patient with COVID-19.

These reactions are triggered by Coronavirus infections and can veer out of control in some people. It's this reaction, rather than the virus itself, that is the real peril for people seriously ill with COVID-19. Doctors last year recognized that a cheap and readily available steroid drug called dexamethasone can often rein in this over-reaction, which is a form of inflammation. In fact, it's the only COVID-19 drug so far that clearly saves lives.

"Dexamethasone is a really powerful anti-inflammatory," says Dr. Rajesh Gandhi, an infectious disease doctor at Harvard and Massachusetts General Hospital, but, "there are still people who need more."

Two anti-inflammatory drugs that have been developed to treat rheumatoid arthritis are sometimes used, either instead of or in addition to the steroid. Tocilizumab is recommend-



ed for patients who are getting rapidly worse in the intensive care unit. Another drug, baricitinib, is sometimes prescribed alongside an antiviral drug called remdesivir.

But there's also a race to come up with something more.

Last week, Humanigen announced in a press release that its drug, lenzilumab, reduced the risk that someone with COVID-19 would need to be put on a ventilator.

"You really don't want to be in the ICU. You don't want to be on a ventilator," says Dr. Cameron Durrant, president and CEO of

Humanigen. "You don't want to be in a hospital bed. So potentially offering something that gets patients out faster is something that we're all striving for."

Durrant says that based on a study of about 500 patients the company plans to ask the Food and Drug Administration to grant emergency authorization for its drug.

The press release certainly left an impression on investors, who at least briefly drove the company's stock price sharply higher. That enthusiasm was tempered when scientists said the press release left some

significant questions unanswered.

Derek Lowe is a pharmaceutical researcher who writes a related blog called *In the Pipeline*. He noted that there was a wide range of uncertainty about the reported results, which could mean that the experimental drug is either much worse or much better than the company reported.

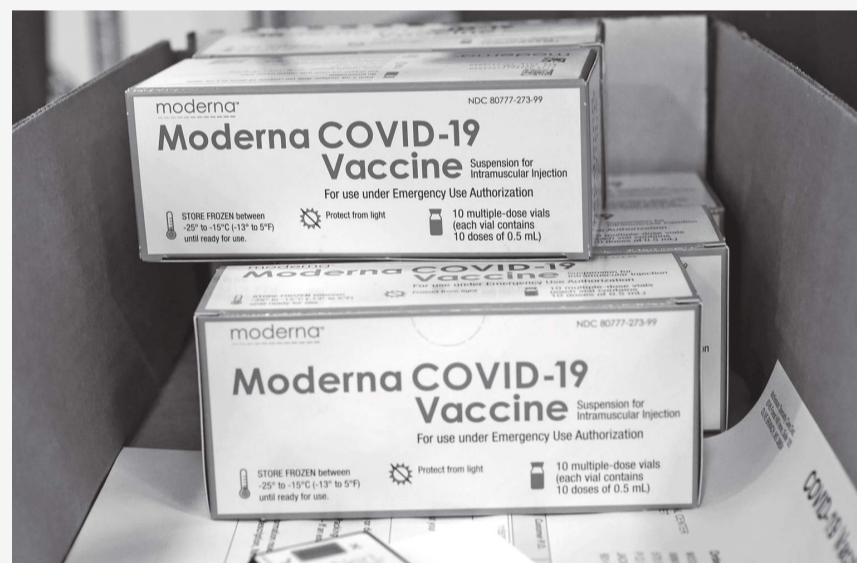
Similar questions cropped up when the company NeuroRx announced in a press release that its drug, aviptadil, also showed promise in treating an excessive immune response in COVID-19. Lenzilumab is in a class of

medicines called monoclonal antibodies. They have been engineered to disable certain molecules that help regulate the immune system. The concept is that by interfering with the molecules that help orchestrate inflammation, it's possible to mute the reaction. (The steroid dexamethasone, in contrast, is less targeted in its ability to tamp down an immune reaction.)

Another feature of these engineered antibodies: They are expensive to make, and companies often sell them for thousands of dollars a dose. So, Lowe doubts these drugs — even if the FDA authorizes them for emergency use — will replace cheap and readily available steroids as the first drug of choice.

"You would figure more expensive, more targeted sorts of inflammation drugs like this are going to be second or third line," he says. "I think they're going to help some, but they are not going to be game changers."

Vaccines are the game changers, and as more and more people get vaccinated, fewer will end up in the hospital needing intensive care. (NPR)



More side effects from Moderna vaccine

The anecdotal reports are true: people who get the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine say they have more side effects than people who get the Pfizer / BioNTech shots, according to new data published this week in *JAMA*.

The study analyzed reports collected through a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention program called v-safe. It's a text message-based program designed to track side effects in vaccine recipients. For the first week after each vaccine dose, people who enroll are prompted to fill out a daily survey about any

symptoms, like fatigue or arm pain.

Over 3,600,000 people who got their first dose of a COVID-19 vaccine before February 21st enrolled in v-safe and checked in at least once. Around 70 percent of those people said they had some kind of injection site reaction, like pain or swelling, and half had a more generalized reaction like fatigue or chills. For both, people who got a Moderna shot were more likely to have a side effect — 73 percent had an injection site reaction, compared with 65 percent of people who had a Pfizer / BioNTech

dose. Around 51 percent of Moderna recipients had full-body symptoms, compared with 48 percent of people who got Pfizer / BioNTech.

The gap widened after the second dose. About 1.4 million people completed those check-ins. Almost 82 percent of people getting their second Moderna shot had injection site pain versus just under 69 percent of people with Pfizer / BioNTech. Overall, 74 percent of people said they had general reactions after their Moderna shot, compared with 64 percent of people getting Pfizer / BioNTech. (The Verge)

Vaccine passports 'likely' trend - Qatar Airways

The CEO of a flagship Middle Eastern airline has said the requirement for Covid-19 vaccinations will likely be a trend in air travel, as the industry attempts to rebound from the impact of the coronavirus pandemic.



"In the short term, yes, I think that the vaccine passport will be helpful to give confidence both to governments and to the passengers in our industry to start travelling again," Qatar Airways Group CEO Akbar Al Baker told CNBC's Hadley Gamble on Tuesday.

When asked whether vaccinations will become a "necessity" in order to fly, Al Baker said: "I think this will be the trend initially, because

the world needs to open people need to have confidence in the air travel."

"I think this will be a trend that will happen until such a time that people are certain that there is a proper cure, or proper treatment for this very serious pandemic we are facing today," he added.

The idea of vaccination passports has been floated by many governments and

industries, with proponents saying it would make travel safer. Critics, however, argue it could worsen inequality and access for people from countries that are further behind in their inoculation campaigns.

Asked who should run the vaccination passport process, the CEO said, "In my view, it should be led by IATA (the International Air Transport Association) ... I have full

confidence that IATA will get into grips with the issues in front of the industry."

The conversation with Al Baker took place in conjunction with the launch of Qatar Airways' first fully Covid-19 vaccinated flight, on an A350-1000.

The "flight to nowhere" will remain within Qatari airspace and feature the company's new hygiene and safety features, including "zero-touch" in-flight entertainment technology. It will carry only passengers and crew that have been vaccinated against the virus that turned the world economy on its head and bankrupted so many airlines in the past year. (CNBC)

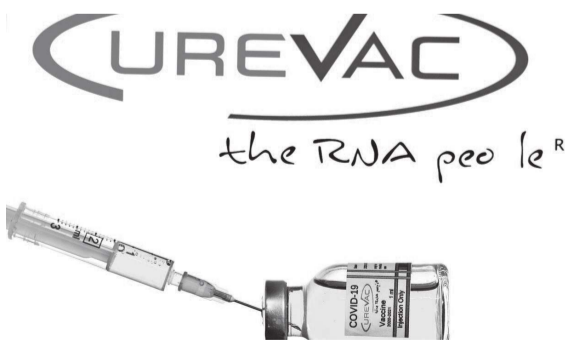
CureVac seeks EU approval by June

Coronavirus vaccine maker CureVac has said it hopes its Covid shot will receive European approval in the second quarter.

CureVac's CEO Franz-Werner Haas told CNBC Thursday that the vaccine maker was close to finalizing the recruitment for the vaccine's Phase 3 clinical trial. Approval could come not long after, he said, given the urgent need for additional effective coronavirus vaccines and the expedited regulatory approval process.

"We are expecting, according to our calculations, that towards the end of April or beginning of May that we will have the data," Haas told CNBC's Squawk Box Europe.

"So we expect to be



given approval, depending on the data certainly, in the beginning of June."

Once the trial is underway, the German biotech CureVac will wait for safety data and then conduct an interim analysis of results from the late-stage study. Crucially, it will also have to wait until a certain number of trial participants develop Covid-19 in

order to see how effective the vaccine is at preventing the virus.

The data is then submitted to regulatory authorities, such as the European Medicines Agency, for what's called a "rolling review;" this is where the data is analyzed by regulators as it emerges, speeding up the assessment of new, potentially life-saving vaccines or medicines

during public health emergencies.

The U.K. and EU have pre-ordered up to 455 million doses of CureVac's mRNA vaccine, subject to regulatory approval. The company is already producing its vaccine, despite the fact it has not yet been authorized, in anticipation of the shot's approval.

CureVac CEO Haas said the company was trying to avoid manufacturing pitfalls hit by other vaccine makers. This issue has perhaps been most notable at AstraZeneca and has put the vulnerability of global supply chains into sharp relief. "Manufacturing is certainly a struggle at the moment," he said. (CNBC)



Expressions of Interest
Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka
Ministry of Education

Name of Procuring Entity: The Open University of Sri Lanka

The Department Consultant Procurement Committee on behalf of the Open University of Sri Lanka invites proposals or CVs to provide the above consultancy services from eligible individual consultants for following two separate individual consultancy assignments.

1. Individual Consultancy Service for Finance & Inventory Systems of Open University Information Management System (OMIS)
2. Individual Consultancy Service for University Management System (UMS), Completion System and Security Management System of Open University Management Information System (OMIS)

More details regarding the individual consultancy services are provided in the Terms of References (TORs). The individual consultant will be selected in accordance with the procedures set out in the Guidelines for Selection and Employment of Consultants, published by National Procurement Commission.

Interested consultants may obtain further information and TOR at the address below Senior Assistant Registrar, Capital Works, and Planning Division, Open University of Sri Lanka, Nawala, Nugegoda (Tel: 0112881286) or Director, Information Technology Division, Open University of Sri Lanka, Nawala, Nugegoda (0112805675) from 09.04.2021 to 28.04.2021 between 0900 hrs to 1500 hrs or download from the university website (www.ou.ac.lk).

Interested consultants may obtain further information and TOR at the address below Senior Assistant Registrar, Capital Works, and Planning Division, Open University of Sri Lanka, Nawala, Nugegoda (Tel: 0112881286) or Director, Information Technology Division, Open University of Sri Lanka, Nawala, Nugegoda (0112805675) from 09.04.2021 to 28.04.2021 between 0900 hrs to 1500 hrs or download from the university website (www.ou.ac.lk).

Expressions of interest in terms of proposal / CV must be delivered to the address below on or before 29.04.2021 at 1400 hrs.

Chairman
The Department Consultants Procurement Committee
OMIS Development Project
Capital Works & Planning Division
Open University of Sri Lanka
Tel: 01128818495/0112881286
Email: dirit@ou.ac.lk/sarw@ou.ac.lk

09, April 2021



TENDER NOTICE

Sealed tenders are invited from reputable companies who are capable of providing janitorial services to Colombo International Container Terminals Limited ("CICT").

Inquiry No	Description	Closing date
RFQ- 01-04-2021	Procurement of annual janitorial services (2021/2022) to Colombo International Container Terminals Ltd.	CLOSING DATE - 28 th April 2021

Prospective Vendors are requested to obtain Tender Documents (In Electronic Format Only) by email to Ranidu Laksiri of Procurement Department of CICT (Mob/Tel: 0766-666803, 0112-666803) (Email: ranidu.laksiri@cict.lk)

Please submit your sealed tenders to be received to below address not later than 3:00 pm (local time) on 28th April 2021 mentioning "Procurement of annual janitorial services 2021/2022" on the Top Left-hand corner of the envelop.

Management committee
Colombo International Container Terminals Limited, Port of Colombo,
120/20, Marine Drive Road,
Colombo 01,
Sri Lanka.

Southern Provincial Ministry of Education, Lands and Land Development, Highways and Information

SOUTHERN PROVINCIAL COUNCIL

PROCUREMENT NOTICE

Bids are invited by the Chairman, Procurement Committee of the Southern Provincial Ministry of Education from qualified bidders from 09.04.2021 up to 10.00 a.m. on 10.05.2021 for the following works implemented under the Province Specific Development Grants Programme.

Ser. No.	Project No.	School	Work Description	Required CIDA Registration	Non Refundable Fee (Rs.)	Bid Security Value (Rs.)
01	G/C/21/01	Ga / Siri Abeyatissa K.V.	Construction of 70'x25' Two Storey Building (Stage 2)	C7 and C6	1000.00	75,000.00
02	M/C/21/01	Ma / Dickwella North M.V.	Construction of 90'x25' Three Storey Building - Balance Work	C7 and C6	1000.00	60,000.00
03	M/C/21/02	Ma / Kirinda Puhulwella P.V.	Construction of 90'x25' Two Storey Building (Stage 3)	C8 and C7	1000.00	45,000.00
04	M/C/21/03	Ma / Kithalagama West M.V.	Construction of 90'x25' Two Storey Building (Stage 2)	C7 and C6	1000.00	70,000.00
05	M/C/21/04	Ma / Kolavenigama M.V.	Completion and Construction of 80'x20' Building	C9 and C8	1000.00	20,000.00
06	H/C/21/01	Ha / Alapotheniya K.V.	Construction of 90'x25' Two Storey Building - Ground Floor (Stage 2)	C7 and C6	1000.00	70,000.00
07	H/C/21/02	Ha / Wathukanda K.V.	Construction of 90'x25' Two Storey Building (Balance Work)	C8 and C7	1000.00	45,000.00
08	H/C/21/03	Ha / Magama K.V.	Construction of 90'x25' Two Storey Building (Stage 2)	C7 and C6	1000.00	80,000.00

1. Contractors who are registered with the Construction Industry Development Authority (CIDA) in the specific grades for the above works.
2. Further details regarding this, may be obtained from the Secretary, Southern Provincial Ministry of Education, Ground Floor, Dhakshinapaya, Labuduwa or by calling on Tel. No. 091-2242776. Bid documents may be inspected during office hours at the Accounts Division of this ministry.
3. Bid documents may be obtained by submitting the receipt obtained from the Shroff of this office upon payment of the abovementioned non refundable fee or the receipt obtained from the bank upon crediting that amount in official account of this ministry bearing Account No. 00015874232 maintained at the Galle Fort Branch of the Bank of Ceylon to the Chief Accountant. Bid documents will be issued from 09.04.2021 up to 3.00 p.m. on 07.05.2021.
4. Bids should be accompanied by a bid security as per the form given with the bid documents obtained from any reputed commercial bank registered with the Central Bank of Sri Lanka to the specific amount. Bid security should be valid from 10.05.2021 until 06.08.2021. Bid security amount may also be made as a refundable cash deposit and if so, the amount mentioned against the item for which bid is submitted should be paid in cash to the Shroff of this office before 3.00 p.m. on 07.05.2021 and the receipt obtained should be submitted with the bid. Bids should be valid until 09.07.2021.
5. Bids will be received up to 10.00 a.m. on 10.05.2021 and the bids will be opened at 10.30 a.m. on the same day. Bids may either be sent by registered post or deposited in the Tender Box kept at the Official Room of the Chief Accountant to receive before 10.00 a.m. on that date. Bidder or his authorized representative may be present at the time of opening of bids. Late bids will be rejected.
6. Name of the work and the relevant No. should be mentioned on the left hand top corner of the envelope containing the bid. Bids should be submitted in duplicate as Original and Duplicate in separate sealed covers mentioning "Original" or "Duplicate" clearly. Those two envelopes should be reinserted in a single cover, sealed and submitted.
7. Pre bid meeting for all works will be held at 10.30 a.m. on 28.04.2021 at the Auditorium of the Southern Provincial Ministry of Education, First Floor, Dhakshinapaya, Labuduwa, Galle.
8. As inspection of the worksite is very important, you should make arrangements to inspect the worksite before submission of bids.
9. Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding procedure. As the value of the works performed under this procurement is less than Rs. 50 million, regional priority and CIDA priority will be taken into consideration when evaluating the bids as per Public Finance Circular No. 4/2016 (iii).

Ranjith Yapa
Chairman, Procurement Committee
Southern Provincial Ministry of Education
First Floor, Dhakshinapaya,
Labuduwa, Galle.
09.04.2021

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST ECOSYSTEM CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT PROJECT (ESCOMP) MINISTRY OF WILDLIFE AND FOREST CONSERVATION

Credit No.5792 LK, Project ID: P 156021

Legal Consultant (National)

(To develop "Public-Private Partnership" (PPP) Model Contractual Agreement/MOU for Nature Based Tourism Development)

1. The World Bank has extended a credit to the Government of Sri Lanka for the Ecosystem Conservation and Management Project (ESCOMP) with the view of improving the management of sensitive ecosystems in selected locations for conservation and community benefits. The Ministry of Wildlife and Forest Conservation will execute the project through a Project Management Unit (PMU). The Forest Department (FD) and the Department of Wildlife Conservation (DWC) will implement the project activities. The sub-component 3 (b) of ESCOMP aims at enhancing the quality of nature-based tourism opportunities in priority Protect Areas (PAs) under the jurisdiction of the DWC and FD, including marine PAs. The sub-component aims to support the development of nature-based tourism strategies and plans for the DWC and FD, the two lead project implementing agencies (IAs).

It is well accepted that, the tourism has been one of the major economic and social development avenue of the twentieth century, the largest and fastest growing industry and contribute largely in foreign exchange earnings and generate employments for many developing countries. Although it has greater demand for nature based tourism development in Sri Lanka, the lack of improved facilities (infrastructure and logistics) and services (visitor services, interpretation, guiding, transport etc.) have been significantly hindered the development of this sector. The main constraint faced by this sector is that the limitations of public funds for developing Sri Lanka's potential in nature based tourism. The private sector could be a potential partner in investing and developing the nature based tourism sector in Sri Lanka in collaboration with the Forest Department. Considering that Sri Lanka's experience in public private partnerships (PPP) in nature based tourism development is limited, the Forest Department requires legal assistance in drafting a model contractual agreement for PPP in nature based tourism, within the current legal framework governing the Forest Department and PPPs with the Government of Sri Lanka.

2. The ESCOMP intend to hire an experience Legal Consultant to Project Management Unit (PMU), ESCOMP to develop a "Public-Private Partnership" (PPP) Model Contractual Agreement for selected Nature Based Tourism activities to be carried out by the Forest Department. He/She will be mainly responsible in developing this PPP model Contractual Agreement/MOU to be implemented in selected forests which have potential for nature based tourism development, managed by the Forest Department.

3. The intended Contract Period is 3 Months

3.1 Interested experts should provide a proposal with sufficient proofs indicating that they are qualified to perform the consultancy in complying with the ToR given in the web site www.escamp.lk (The full TOR of the consultancy and other information are uploaded in the website for references).

3.2 The expert will be selected based on professional qualifications and experiences in the relevant field and the procedures set out in the World Bank's Consultancy Guidelines: Selection and Hiring of Individual Consultants by World Bank Borrowers January 2011, revised July 2014.

3.3 Interested Experts may obtain further information from the Procurement Specialist, ESCOMP.

Email: anushasceneviratne1987@gmail.com

Telephone: + 940112888 / 25 - 428 Fax: +94-11-2888 577

3.4 Expression of Interest with a project proposal must be delivered in duplicate to the address given below, not later than 1500 hrs on ...April 2021. Envelope containing the Expression of Interest should be marked "Public-Private-Partnership (MOU/Agreement Development Consultant) - ESCOMP".

Project Director,
Ecosystem Conservation and Management Project,
Project Management Unit,
No. 82, "Sampathpaya", Rajamalwatte Road,
Battaramulla
Sri Lanka
Telephone: + 940112888 / 425 - 428, Fax: +94-11-2888 577
09/04/2021



GOVERNMENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA
MINISTRY OF HIGHWAYS
ROAD DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

INVITATION FOR BIDS

FUNDED BY THE INCOME OF EXPRESSWAY IN SRI LANKA
 NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING

HIRING OF VEHICLES FOR EXPRESSWAY OPERATION, MAINTENANCE & MANAGEMENT DIVISION FOR A PERIOD OF ONE YEAR (2021/2022)

1. The Chairman, EOM & M Division's Procurement Committee, on behalf of the Road Development Authority (RDA), invites sealed bids for above, from eligible and full qualified firm. Complete details are available in the bidding document. All bids must be accompanied by a bid security as in the table given below.

No	Vehicle Type	Contract No	Quantity	Bid security per One Vehicle Rs.
01	Labour Transport Truck	RDA/EOM&M/PRC/ 2021/MNT/11-LT-1-9	09	30,000.00
02	Tipper Truck	RDA/EOM&M/PRC/ 2021/MNT/11-TT-1-4	04	25,000.00
03	Sign Board Transport Truck	RDA/EOM&M/PRC/ 2021/MNT/11-STT-1-4	04	30,000.00

2. Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding Procedure.
3. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from the Procurement Section, Expressway Operation, Maintenance & Management Division, Road Development Authority, Kahatagahena, Walgama, Bandaragama (Telephone: 038-2289122, Fax: 038-2289560) and inspect the bidding documents during office hours free of charge.
4. A complete set of Bidding Documents in Sinhala language shall be purchased by interested bidders on submission of a written application to the **Director (EOM&M Division), Road Development Authority, Kahatagahena, Walgama, Bandaragama from 09/04/2021 until 07/05/2021 during 09:00 hrs. to 15:00 hrs.** upon payment of non-refundable fee of Rs. 5,000.00 + 400(VAT). As per the Public Contract Act no. 3 of 1987, the Agent and successful winners of the tender shall be registered in the Department of Registrar of Companies.
5. Bid shall be delivered to the **Director (EOM&M Division), Road Development Authority, Kahatagahena, Walgama, Bandaragama** on or before **10:00 hrs. on 07/05/2021.** Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened soon after the closing, in the presence of the bidder's representatives who chooses to attend.
6. Bid Validity period shall be until 08/08/2021.
7. Each Bid shall be accompanied by a Bid- Security. Bid- Security shall be valid until 06/09/2021.

The Chairman
 Road Development Authority Procurement Committee
 C/O Director (EOM&M Division),
 Road Development Authority,
 Kahatagahena, Walgama,
 Bandaragama.

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

Ministry of Justice

**DESIGN, MODIFICATION AND REFURBISHMENT OF SECOND FLOOR
 Phase-II - KALUTOTA BUILDING**

Contract No : MOJ/AC/26/12/2021

1. **The Chairman, Ministry Procurement Committee (MPC) of the MINISTRY OF JUSTICE** now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders to **design, modification and refurbishment of Kalutota Building Second Floor Phase II** as described below and estimated to cost of Rs. 36 Million.
- Face lifting of front entrance of Second Floor Phase II and internal interior design of our plan should be a main scope of the work
- Contract Period - one Months and 365 days of defects liability period.
2. Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding Procedure - (Bidder has to submit Preliminary Information, Design/Technical Proposal and Financial Proposal in duplicate. The proposal will consist of two different sealed envelopes, where the first envelope will contain the Preliminary Information, Design/Technical Proposal and the second envelope will contain the Financial Proposal). Bid price of the technically qualified Bidders will be read out at the time of opening of financial bid.
3. To be eligible for contract award, the successful Bidder shall not have been blacklisted and shall meet the requirements of Institution for Construction Industry Development Authority (CIDA) registration with the Grade **SP3 or above** for interior design in **Building Construction**.
4. Qualification requirements to qualify for contract award shall be.
- Average annual turnover value of the company in last Five years shall be at least LKR 4.5 million.
 - Experience in successful completion of one project in similar nature (Interior Design and Build - Construction or Construction, Modification and refurbishment of a Building) of which value shall not be less than LKR 50 million within last five years.
 - The minimum amount of liquid assets and / or credit facilities (after setting a part for other contractual commitments) and exclusive of any advance payment which may be made under this Contract shall be not less than LKR 10 million.
5. Interested bidders may obtain further information from Accountant, Supplies Division 3rd Floor, Ministry of Justice, Superior Courts Complex, and Colombo-12 and inspect the Bidding documents free of charge at the same address from 09/04/2021 until 29/04/2021 from 09:00hrs to 15:00hrs during a working day.
6. A complete set of Bidding Documents in English Language may be purchased by interested Bidders on submission of a written application to The Secretary, Ministry of Justice, Superior Courts Complex, Colombo 12 from 09.04.2021 until 19.04.2021 from 0900hrs to 1500hrs during a working day upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Rupees Five Thousand Rupees (LKR 5,000.00). The method of payment will be in cash.
7. Bids shall be delivered to The Chairman, Ministry Procurement Committee (MPC), Ministry of Justice, Superior Courts Complex, and Colombo-12 or shall be deposited in the Tender Box placed in the Procurement Division, Third Floor, Supplies Division, Ministry of Justice, Colombo 12 at or before 11.00 am on 30.04.2021. Late Bids will not be accepted. Bids will be opened soon after closing in the presence of the Bidders' representatives who choose to attend.
8. All bids shall be accompanied by a "Bid Security" of Three Hundred and Sixty Thousand Sri Lanka Rupees (LKR 360,000.00) issued by a commercial bank operating in Sri Lanka approved by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka. This Bid-Security shall be in the form of an unconditional, on demand bond and shall be obtained in favor of Secretary, Ministry of Justice, Superior Courts Complex, Colombo-12 and shall be valid up to 27.08.2021 (119 days after the Bid Opening).
9. Pre Bid meeting will be held at the **Auditorium in the Ministry of Justice** at 1100 hrs. on 20/04/2021.

The Chairman
 Ministry Procurement Committee (MPC)
 Ministry of Justice
 Superior Courts Complex
 Colombo 12

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **MOHAMED SHERIFF RAZIEN AHMED** of 72, Hajjiyar Rd, Nintavur-18, hereby notify the Government and General Public of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka that my son **SHARAF AHMED RAZIEN** will hereby change his name and will be called as Sharaf Ahmed from today onwards.

SALE OF TODDY RENT 2021/2022

WENNAPPUWA DIVISIONAL SECRETARIAT DIVISION

Tenders will be accepted for toddy rent sales to the period of 01.07.2021 to 30.06.2022 till 10.30 a.m. on 10.05.2021. Further particulars please see the Gazette of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka dated 09.04.2021.

U.S.N.Fernando,
 Divisional Secretary - Wennappuwa.
 Divisional Secretariat,
 Wennappuwa

NOTICE TO EMPLOYERS OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR!

Cabinet approval has been granted to extend up to June 2021, the relief granted (up to January-March 2021) to the private sector businesses and industries which could not function without hindrance due to the Covid-19 pandemic to pay the higher amount of Rs. 14,500.00 or half of the monthly salary when paying monthly salaries to their employees. The prior approval of the Commissioner General of Labour must be obtained before implementing this relief.

Institutions that apply for the said relief must submit a written request with the following details to the Commissioner General of Labour 10 days prior to payment such salaries.

- Total number of employees of the institution
- Number of employees for whom the relief is required and the period.

Commissioner General of Labour

Department of Labour
 Colombo 05.
 06.04.2021

NOTICE UNDER SECTION 7(1) LAND ACQUISITION ACT (CHAPTER 460)

My No - New : DIVPANN/LND/ACBOA/1/7/9
 Old : 3/62/462/68
 Land Min. Ref. No : J.72L.1023

The land described in the schedule below is intended to be acquired for a public purpose. For further details please see Part III of the Gazette Extra Ordinary No. 2218/18 dated 08.09.2021 of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.

Schedule

Province : North Western
 District : Kurunegala
 Divisional Secretariat : Pannala
 Grama Niladhari Division : No. 1598, Welpalla
 Village : Welpalla
 Plan No. : F.V.P. 256 -
 Supplementary 7,
 F.V.P. 256 -
 Supplementray 8

Lot Nos. : 52, 53
 Extent of Land : 0 Acres, 02 Roods,
 00.00 Perches
 0 Acres, 02 Roods,
 00.05 Perches

Divisional Secretary Pannala

At the Divisional Secretariat - Pannala

NOTICE UNDER SECTION 7(1) LAND ACQUISITION ACT (CHAPTER 460)

My No - New : DIVPANN/LND/ACDEP/1/4/12
 Land Min. Ref. No : 4-3/8/2017/PC/63

The land described in the schedule below is intended to be acquired for a public purpose. For further details please see Part III of the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2218/67 dated 12.03.2021 of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.

Schedule

District : Kurunegala
 Divisional Secretariat : Pannala
 Grama Niladhari Division : No. 1553,
 Ingaradawula
 Village : Ingaradawula
 Name of the Land : Indigahawelawatte
 Plan No. : F.V.P. 341
 Lot No. : 130
 Extent of Land : 0.5939 Hectare

Divisional Secretary Pannala

At the Divisional Secretariat - Pannala

INVITATION FOR BIDS



**DISTRICT GENERAL HOSPITAL, VAVUNIYA
 PROCUREMENT ON SUPPLY OF OFFICE FURNITURE, EQUIPMENT & MEDICAL EQUIPMENT**



The Chairman, Departmental Procurement Committee now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for Supply of Office Furniture, Equipment & Medical Equipment for District General Hospital, Vavuniya. Requirement details are given below:

S.No.	Reference No.	Item	Non-Refundable Fee	Refundable Deposit
01	NP/04/43/OFE/PSDG/2021/01	Computer Accessories Computer with UPS, Printer	1,000.00	9,000.00
02	NP/04/43/OFE/PSDG/2021/02	Office Furniture & Equipment Revolving Chair, Glass Cabinet, Office Table, Mattress, Stool, Executive Chair, Executive table with locker, Single Steel Bed with Mattress, Hybrid Chair	1,000.00	20,000.00
03	NP/04/43/OFE/PSDG/2021/03	Electric Items Air Conditioner, Refrigerator - Double Door, Washing Machine, Forklift, Ceiling Fan, Stand Fan, Wall Fan, Exhaust Fan, Water Pump - Electric	2,000.00	31,500.00
04	NP/04/43/GHV/PS-DG-ME/2021/01	Hospital Furniture, Medical Equipment & Upper Extremity work station with Accessories Heavy IV Stand, Bed Side Screen, Wheel Chair, Hand held Doppler, Syringe pump, Digital Blood, Pressure Monitor, Pulse Oximeter, Upper Extremity work station with Accessories	2,000.00	24,000.00
05	NP/04/43/GHV/PS-DG-ME/2021/02	Laboratory Equipment Centrifuge, Mini Autoclave, Chemotherapy shaker	1,000.00	20,000.00
06	NP/04/43/GHV/PS-DG-ME/2021/03	Ultrasound Scanner	2,000.00	45,000.00
07	NP/04/43/GHV/PS-DG-ME/2021/04	ENT Equipment Portable Video Bronchoscope, Rigid Nasal Endoscope	2,000.00	38,000.00
08	NP/04/43/GHV/PS-DG-ME/2021/05	Bronchoscope for existing Endoscopy system	2,000.00	30,000.00
09	NP/04/43/GHV/PS-DG-ME/2021/06	Fire Protective Devices	1,000.00	3,000.00

- Bidding procedure will be conducted separately through National Competitive Bidding procedure.
- To be eligible for contract award, the successful bidder shall not have been blacklisted.
- Interested bidders may obtain further information from District General Hospital, Vavuniya (Accounts Branch) and inspect the bidding documents at the same address from 0900 Hrs to 1500 Hrs on working days.
- A complete set of Bidding Documents in English language may be purchased by interested bidders on submission of a written application from 09.04.2021 to 28.04.2021 from 0900 Hrs to 1500 Hrs upon non-refundable cash payment mentioned above.
- Bids shall be submitted to Director, District General Hospital, Vavuniya at or before 1030 Hrs on 29.04.2021. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened soon after closing in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend.
- Pre-Bid Conference will be held at District General Hospital - A9 Road - Vavuniya commencing at 10.00 a.m. on 20.04.2021. (Tuesday).

Dr. T. Gandeepan
 Chairman - Regional Procurement Committee
 District General Hospital
 Vavuniya.
 024-2222715, 024-2228094, Fax: 024-2222762.
 Email: acctghv@gmail.com

INVITATION FOR BIDS**Lanka Electricity Company (Private) Limited**

(Ref. ERD/SDD/PROC/2021/162/T003)

Sealed Bids are invited from the prospective suppliers to supply & delivery of

Three Phase Four Wire CT Connected CT/ VT Connected Static Energy/Demand Electricity Meter with Remote Meter Reading Facility - 1,000 Nos

Bidding documents could be obtained from the Procurement Department, Lanka Electricity Company (Private) Limited, 4th Floor, No. 411, E.H. Cooray Building, Galle Road, Colombo 03, from 9.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. on working days, on payment of a non-refundable fee of Rs. 2,000.00. Bidding documents will be issued from 09th April, 2021 to 04th May, 2021. Draft bid document (Not for Bid) is available on www.promise.lk or www.leco.lk websites for reference purpose.

Completed Bid documents shall be addressed to General Manager, Lanka Electricity Company (Private) Limited under sealed cover. The Bid documents shall be placed in the Tender Box at the Ground Floor of the address below, not later than 2.00 p.m. on 05th May, 2021. Bids will be opened immediately after the closing time, in the presence of the Bidders who wish to attend.



General Manager,
Lanka Electricity Company (Private) Limited,
411, Galle Road,
Colombo 03.
Tel: 011 2371660 / 2371637

Invitation for Bids (IFB)**STATE MINISTRY OF VEHICLE REGULATION, BUS TRANSPORT SERVICES AND TRAIN COMPARTMENTS AND MOTOR CAR INDUSTRY****SUPPLY OF 21600 NOS. NEW TYRE KITS TO SRI LANKA TRANSPORT BOARD (SLTB)**

Procurement No : SMOT/04/CT/04

- The Chairman, Standing Cabinet Appointed Procurement Committee of State Ministry of Vehicle Regulation, Bus Transport Services and Train Compartments and Motor Car Industry, will receive sealed Bids for the Supply of 21600 Nos. New Tyre Kits to SLTB until 2.00 p.m. on 12.05.2021. Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding procedure. Bids should be submitted on the prescribed form available from the Office of the Secretary, Procurement Committee, Sri Lanka Transport Board, 200, Kirula Road, Colombo 05. (Tel. 0117706110, Tel/Fax : 011-2588457). Bidding documents will be issued from 09.04.2021 up to 11.05.2021 during office hours on normal working days on payment of a non-refundable Bid Fee of Rs. 80,000/=.

Description	Bid Security (Rs.)
Supply of 21600 Nos. New Tyre Kits to SLTB on minimum 45 days credit basis (600 Nos. of size 8.25 x 20, 20856 Nos. of size 9.00x20 & 144 Nos. size 10.00x20)	i) For Bidders offering new tyre kits of sizes 8.25x20 & 10.00 x 20 only - Rs. 0.3 Mn ii) For Bidders offering new tyre kits of size 9.00 x 20 only - Rs. 8.4 Mn iii) For Bidders offering new tyre kits of all 03 sizes - Rs. 8.7 Mn

- Only Tyre Manufacturers and Sole Nominated Local Representatives or Accredited Local Agents of Tyre Manufacturers are eligible for this bid.
- Domestic preference will be a bid evaluation factor.
- Bids shall be valid up to 12.09.2021. However, prices quoted shall be fixed for a period of one (01) year.
- Bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security for the value mentioned above, valid till 12.10.2021, irrevocable & unconditionally encashable upon the first written request by SLTB and issued by a registered commercial bank approved by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka or an Insurance Agency registered with the Insurance Regulatory Commission of Sri Lanka. Any Bid not accompanied by a valid Bid Security will be rejected.
- (a) Any person who acts as an Agent or Sub Agent, representative or nominee for or on behalf of any Bidder shall register himself before submission of Bid with the Registrar of Public Contracts, Sri Lanka as required by the Public Contracts Act No. 03 of 1987. The Original Certificate of Registration shall be submitted with the Bid. Bids of those Bidders who failed to submit such Original Certificate shall be rejected.
(b) Bidders shall also register themselves immediately after the submission of Bids and prior to the award of the procurement in terms of the Public Contracts Act. No. 03 of 1987. The Procurement shall not be awarded to any Bidder unless such Bidder has submitted the Certificate of Registration issued in terms of the Public Contracts Act to the relevant Procurement Committee.
- All pages of the Bid Documents shall be initialied by the Bidder and his seal affixed.
- Bids will be closed at 2.00 p.m. on 12.05.2021. Sealed Bids should be dispatched either by Registered Post or hand delivered to The Chairman, Standing Cabinet Appointed Procurement Committee, C/o Chief Accountant, Accounts Division, State Ministry of Vehicle Regulation, Bus Transport Services and Train Compartments and Motor Car Industry, No.01, D.R. Wijewardene Mawatha, Colombo 10. The sealed cover in which the Bid is enclosed should be marked "Bid for the Supply of 21600 Nos. New Tyre Kits to SLTB" at the top of left-hand corner of the envelope.
- Bids will be opened immediately after the closing of the Bid at the Accounts Division of the State Ministry of Vehicle Regulation, Bus Transport Services and Train Compartments and Motor Car Industry. Bidders or their authorized representatives are requested to be present at the opening of Bids.

The Chairman,
Standing Cabinet Appointed Procurement Committee,
State Ministry of Vehicle Regulation, Bus Transport Services and Train Compartments and Motor Car Industry
No. 01, D.R. Wijewardene Mawatha,
Colombo 10.

For further details and inspection of Bid Documents free of charge, please contact :

The Secretary,
SLTB Procurement Committee,
Sri Lanka Transport Board,
200, Kirula Road, Colombo 05,
Sri Lanka.

Telephone Nos : Tel : 011-7706110, Tel/Fax : 011-2588457

My No: RG/NB/11/2/8/2021/B@/a

NOTICE UNDER THE LAND REGISTERS RECONSTRUCTED FOLIO ORDINANCE (CAP. 120)

- I hereby give notice under Section 04 of the Land Registers Reconstructed Folio Ordinance (Cap. 120) that Land Register Folios, particulars of which appear in Column 1 of the schedule hereto, affecting the land described in Column 2, thereof which have been found to be missing or torn, have been reconstructed in full in provisional folios and relate to the connected deeds, particulars of which are shown in Column 3 of the said schedule.
- The provisional folio will be opened for inspection by any person or persons interested therein at the Office of the Registrar of Lands, Homagama, 16.04.2021 to 30.04.2021 between the hours of 10.00 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. on all working days.
- Any person desirous of lodging any objection against any entry included in a provisional Folio or against any of the particulars contained in any such entry and any person desiring to make a claim for the insertion of any entry or of any particulars alleged to have been improperly omitted from any entry must do so, by an objection or claim in writing addressed to the undersigned which must be sent under registered cover and must reach the Office of the Registrar General not later than 07.05.2021. The matter in respect of which the objection or claim is made must be clearly and fully set out in the objection or claim, and the objection or claim must be accompanied by all documentary evidence relies upon the support of it.

SCHEDULE

Particulars of Damaged Folios of the Land Registers	Particulars of Land	Particulars of Deeds Registered
Folio No. 27 of volume 174 of G Division of the Land Registry Homagama Colombo District.	All that divided and defined Lot No. 'A1' of the land called 'Kongahawatta alias Paluhena portion situated at Weliwita Palle Pattu of Hewagam Korale in the District of Colombo, Western Province bounded on the, North by : Land of A.F. Piger and others East by : Land of B.K. John Rodrigo and others South by : Lot B West by : Juwunnehena Extent : A:01 R:00 P:25	01. Deed of Transfer No. 3215 written and attested by D.F.J. Perera, Notary Public on 18.07.1941. 02. Deed of Mortgage No. 3216 written and attested by D.F.J. Perera, Notary Public on 18.07.1941. 03. Deed of Transfer No. 108 written and attested by C.M.M. Mahroof, Notary Public on 29.05.1944.
Folio No. 126 of volume 275 of G Division of the Land Registry Homagama Colombo District.	All that divided and defined Lot No. 'A1' of the land called 'Kongahawatta alias Paluhena portion' situated at Weliwita Palle Pattu of Hewagam Korale in the District of Colombo, Western Province bounded on the, North by : Land of A.F. Piger and others East by : Land of B.K. John Rodrigo and others South by : Lot B West by : Juwunnehena Extent : A:01 R:00 P:25	01. Deed of Transfer No. 2885 written and attested by S. Wickramasinghe, Notary Public on 24.08.1959. 02. Deed of Transfer No. 1103 written and attested by G.T.B. Makalande, Notary Public on 06.07.1963. 03. Deed of Gift No. 5370 written and attested by M.K.R. Ranawaka, Notary Public on 01.09.2005.

W.M.M.B. Weerasekara
Registrar General

Registrar General's Department,
No. 234/A3,
Denzil Kobbekaduwa Mw.,
Battaramulla.

Invitation for Bids (IFB)**STATE MINISTRY OF VEHICLE REGULATION, BUS TRANSPORT SERVICES AND TRAIN COMPARTMENTS AND MOTOR CAR INDUSTRY****LIMITED BID FOR THE SUPPLY OF 200 NOS. NEW DIESEL AIR CONDITIONED LOW FLOOR BUSES FOR THE SRI LANKA TRANSPORT BOARD**

Procurement No. SOMT/04/09/CT/02

- The Chairman, Standing Cabinet Appointed Procurement Committee, State Ministry of Vehicle Regulation, Bus Transport Services and Train Compartments and Motor Car Industry, No. 01, D.R. Wijewardene Mawatha, Colombo 10 will receive sealed bids from Accredited Local Agents of Foreign Bus Manufacturers registered for the Supply of 200 nos. New Diesel AC Low Floor buses for the SLTB within 90 days of signing of contract agreement up to 14.00 hrs. on 11.05.2021 under Limited National Competitive Bidding Procedure.
- (a) Only Accredited Local Agents of Foreign Bus Manufacturers having (i) workshop facilities, equipment, qualified & trained staff, (ii) at least 05 years experience in bus repair and maintenance to attend to warranty obligations during the warranty period of offered buses and (iii) whose principals have at least 10 years experience in manufacturing of buses and 03 years experience in manufacturing of Low Floor buses are eligible to submit bids.
(b) Bidders shall provide details / proofs of (i) their workshop facilities, equipment, qualified & trained staff (ii) their experience in bus repair and maintenance and (iii) OEM Agency agreement and the principal's experience in manufacturing of buses & Low Floor buses.
(c) Bids from Bidders who fail to prove their eligibility as per (i), (ii) and (iii) above with supporting documents shall be rejected.
- Bids should be submitted on the Forms obtainable together with Bidding Documents from the Office of the Secretary, Procurement Committee, Sri Lanka Transport Board, 200, Kirula Road, Colombo 05 (Tel: 011 7706110, Tel/Fax: 011 2588457) during normal working days from 09.04.2021 to 10.05.2021 between 09.00 hrs and 15.00 hrs (Sri Lanka time) on payment of a Bid fee of Sri Lankan Rupees 200,000/=.
- (a) Any person who acts as an agent or sub agent, representative or nominee for or on behalf of any bidder shall register himself before submission of bids with the Registrar of Public Contracts, Sri Lanka as required by the Public Contracts Act No. 03 of 1987. The Original Certificate of Registration shall be submitted with the bid. The bids of those bidders who failed to submit such Original Certificates shall be rejected.
(b) The bidders shall also register themselves immediately after the submission of bids and prior to the award of the procurement in terms of the Public Contracts Act No. 03 of 1987. The procurement shall not be awarded to any bidder unless such bidder has submitted the Certificate of Registration issued in terms of the Public Contracts Act to the relevant Procurement Committee.
- Bids shall be valid up to 11.10.2021.
- Bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security as per annexure II for the value equivalent to Sri Lankan Rupees 70 Million valid till 11.11.2021, irrevocable & unconditional encashable upon the first written request by the Secretary, State Ministry of Vehicle Registration, Bus Transport Services, Railway Compartments and Motor Car Industry and issued by a registered commercial bank approved by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka or an Insurance Agency registered with the Insurance Regulatory Commission of Sri Lanka. Any Bid not accompanied by a valid Bid Security as mentioned above will be rejected.
- All pages of the Bid Documents shall be initiated by the bidder and his seal affixed.
- Bids will be closed at 14.00 hrs on 11.05.2021. Sealed bids should be dispatched either by Registered Post or hand delivered, addressed to:
The Chairman,
Standing Cabinet Appointed Procurement Committee,
Accounts Division,
State Ministry of Vehicle Registration, Bus Transport Services,
Railway Compartments and Motor Car Industry,
No. 01, D.R. Wijewardene Mawatha,
Colombo 10.
The sealed cover, containing 'Original' and 'Copy' of the Bid in two separate envelopes, should be marked "Bid for Supply of 200 nos. New Diesel AC Low Floor buses for the SLTB" at the top of left hand corner of the envelope.
- Bids will be opened immediately after the closing of the Bid at the Accounts Division of the State Ministry of Vehicle Registration, Bus Transport Services, Railway Compartments and Motor Car Industry. Bidders or their authorized representatives are requested to be present at the opening of bids.
- For further details, please contact :

Chief Accountant,
State Ministry of Vehicle Registration, Bus Transport Services,
Railway Compartments and Motor Car Industry,
No. 01, D.R. Wijewardene Mawatha,
Colombo 10.
Tel/Fax No. 94 (11) 2694371

The Chairman,
Standing Cabinet Appointed Procurement Committee,
State Ministry of Vehicle Registration, Bus Transport Services, Railway Compartments and Motor Car Industry,
No. 01, D.R. Wijewardene Mawatha,
Colombo 10.



TENDER NOTICE

Sealed tenders are invited from reputable companies who are capable of providing tyres to Colombo International Container Terminals Limited ("CICT").

Inquiry No.	Description	Closing date
RFQ- 02-04-19	Procurement of Annual Agreement of supplying of Tyres 2021/2022.	30 th April 2021

Prospective Vendors are requested to obtain Tender Documents (In Electronic Format Only) by email to Ranidu Laksiri of Procurement Department of CICT (Mob/Tel: 0766-666803, 0112-666803) (Email: ranidu.laksiri@cict.lk)

Please submit your sealed tenders to be received to below address not later than 3:00 pm (local time) on 30th April 2021 mentioning "Procurement of Annual Agreement of supplying of Tyres 2021/2022" on the top left-hand corner of the envelop.

Management Committee
Colombo International Container Terminals Limited,
Port of Colombo,
120/20, Marine Drive Road,
Colombo 01,
Sri Lanka.

Replies to
Classifieds

&

Casual
Advertisements
published
C/o the

Daily News

should only be
sent by
ordinary post.

Replies sent
under
registered cover
will not be
accepted.

Invitation for Bids (IFB)

Ministry of Mass Media

Construction of Generator Room and Supply, Installation, Testing, Commissioning and Maintenance of 100kVA Generator to Ministry of Mass Media, No.163, "Asidisi Medura", Kirulapone Mawatha, Polhengoda, Colombo 05.

The Chairman, Procurement Committee, Ministry of Mass Media, No.163, "Asidisi Medura", Kirulapone Road, Polhengoda, Colombo 05 on behalf of the Secretary, Ministry of Mass Media invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the "Construction of Generator Room and Supply, Installation, Testing, Commissioning and Maintenance of 100kVA Generator to Ministry of Mass Media, No.163, "Asidisi Medura", Kirulapone Mawatha, Polhengoda, Colombo 05.

The Site is located at the premises of Ministry of Mass Media, No. 163, "Asidisi Medura", Kirulapone Road, Polhengoda, Colombo 05 & work to be carried out is mainly comprised of Construction of Generator Room and Supply, Installation, Testing, Commissioning and Maintenance of 100kVA Generator
The contract period will be 119 Days.

- Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding procedure.
- To be eligible for contract award, the successful bidder shall not have been blacklisted and shall meet the following requirements :
CIDA Registration Required:
Specialty : **Generators (Gen)**
Grade : **EM 4 & above**
- Qualification requirements to qualify for contract award include:
 - Experience in successful completion of at least **ten** diesel generators of the offered brand of supply and installation works of 100 kVA or larger within the last 10 years.
 - Average annual turnover of generator installation work performed in the last 5 years exceeding Rs. 40 million.
- Interested bidders may obtain further information from Secretary, Ministry of Mass Media, No. 163, "Asidisi Medura", Kirulapone Road, Polhengoda, Colombo 05, Tel. No. 071-0382040 and can inspect the Bidding Documents at the address given below from 09.00 hrs to 15.00 hrs.
- A complete set of Bidding Documents in English language may be purchased by you on submission of a written application to the Secretary, Ministry of Mass Media, No. 163, "Asidisi Medura", Kirulapone Road, Polhengoda, Colombo 05, from 12th April 2021 until 06th May 2021 from 09:00 hrs to 14:00 hrs, upon payment of a non refundable fee of Rs. 4,000.00 (without taxes).
- Bids shall be delivered to the address below, on or before 07th May 2021 at 14.00 hrs. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened soon after closing of Bids in the presence of the bidders or their representative.
- All bids shall be accompanied by a Bid Security of Rs. 130,000.00 (Rupees One Hundred and Thirty Thousand).
- Name of Beneficiary – Secretary, Ministry of Mass Media, No. 163, "Asidisi Medura", Kirulapone Road, Polhengoda, Colombo 05.
(Refer ITB Clause No. 16 – Page No. 09 of Volume II)
- Bids shall be valid up to 91 days.
- Bid Security shall be valid up to 119 days from the bid closing date.
- Pre-Bid meeting will be held at 10.00hrs on 30th April 2021.

Secretary,
Ministry of Mass Media,
No.163, "Asidisi Medura",
Kirulapone Road,
Polhengoda, Colombo 05.

UVA PROVINCIAL COUNCIL

PROCUREMENT NOTICE

UVA PROVINCIAL DEPARTMENT OF IRRIGATION

INVITATION FOR BIDS

Bids are hereby invited from eligible and qualified Contractors, registered with the Construction Industry Development Authority (CIDA) for the completion of works, described in the table below, implemented by the Uva Provincial Department of Irrigation.

02. Procurement Forms could be obtained by the interested Bidders upon payment of refundable deposit and the non-refundable fees mentioned in the table below, paid to the Office of the Director of Provincial Irrigation in cash to obtain bidding documents.

Bidders should have to submit the ICTAD (CIDA) Registration Books and a certificate to ascertain that the Bidder have not been blacklisted.

03. Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding (NCB) procedure. Due to the reason that any work included in this notice does not exceed Rs. 50.0 million in its total estimate, the Construction Industry Development Authority Registration Grade preference and Contractors Province preference will be taken into consideration while evaluating the Bids, according to the Ministry of Finance Circular No. 4/2016(III).

04. Instead of the refundable Bid Security an unconditional Bank Guarantee double that amount obtained from a commercial bank approved by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka valid up to 60 days could be submitted with the Bids. Relevant conditions are given the bidding documents / Procurement Forms.

05. For works Rs. 5.0 Million or above in value. Contractor should have to register under Public Contract Act No. 03 of 1987 (PCA3) and Bids, sans that Registration Certificate or documents to substantiate that matter will cause to be rejected.

06. A Pre Bid Meeting is scheduled to be held using On-line Technology, in future and information / details in this regard could be had from the office of the Provincial Director of Irrigation.

07. Duly completed sealed Bids in duplicate addressed to the **Chairman, Procurement Committee, Ministry of Provincial Agriculture and Irrigation, Ratwatta Mawatha, Badulla** should be deposited in the Tender Box kept at the Office of Ministry of Provincial Agriculture and Irrigation to receive on or before **2.00 p.m. on 03.05.2021**. The duplicate should be photocopy of the original and Bidder's Official Frank/ Seal should be placed over it and signed by the Bidder.

Issue of Bid Forms : From 9.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. from 08.04.2021 to 30.04.2021 and upto 1.00 p.m. on 03.05.2021 during office hours.

Acceptance of Bids : Up to 2.00 p.m. on 03.05.2021.

Opening of Bids : At 2.00 p.m. on 03.05.2021

Bidder or one of his authorized Agents could be present on the occasion of opening of Bids. Engineer's estimate and further details could be had from the **Office of the Provincial Department of Irrigation, Ratwatta Mawatha, Badulla** on contacting **Telephone No. 055-2222311. Email : pdirrigationbd@gmail.com**

The decision of the Procurement Board, regarding the award of the Bids in the final.

Serial No.	Name of the Work	Regional Irrigation Engineer's Office	Divisional Secretary's Division	ICTAD Old/New Category	Refundable Bid Security (Rs.)	Non Refundable Fee (Rs.)	Date of Completion of Works
PDIUVA1	i. Pahala Hobaragoda Wewa Tank & Canal System - Reconstruction	Buttala	Thanamalwila	C-6,C-05	84000.00	3500.00	Within 03 Months of Agreement
	ii. Construction of Naa-liya Wewa Tank	Buttala	Thanamalwila				
PDIUVA2	i. Construction of Bagamuwa Canal System	Buttala	Thanamalwila	C-6,C-05	51000.00	3500.00	
	ii. Construction of Manelgala Wewa Canal System	Buttala	Wellawaya				
PDIUVA3	iii. Mahagodayaya Wewa Tank and Canal System - Reconstruction	Buttala	Buttala	C-7, C-06	29500.00	2500.00	
	iv. Weherayaya Wewa Tank Canal System - Reconstruction	Buttala	Buttala				
PDIUVA4	i. Yalwela Canal Road Development	Buttala	Bibila	C-6, C-05	67500.00	3500.00	
	ii. Abeylanda Udubupula South Canal Development	Buttala	Bibila				
	iii. Improvements Yakunnewa Wewa and Canal	Buttala	Medagama				
	iv. Reconstruction of Ankada Maha Ela Canal	Buttala	Badalmumbura				
PDIUVA5	v. Improvements to Pathigalalanda Canal	Buttala	Buttala	C-7, C-6	29500.00	2500.00	
PDIUVA6	i. Construction of Batale Wewa Tank Spill	Badulla	Rideemaliyadda	C-6, C-05	55000.00	3500.00	
	ii. Beligalle Lift Irrigation Project	Badulla	Rideemaliyadda				
	iii. Hepola Oya Alikandura Anicut and Canal - Construction	Badulla	Rideemaliyadda				
PDIUVA7	Repairs to Mahawela Ela Canal and Anicut	Badulla	Kandaketiya	C-8, C-07	13000.00	1500.00	
PDIUVA8	i. Kelipana Wela Maha Ela Canal - Reconstruction	Badulla	Haldummulla	C-8, C07	15000.00	1500.00	
PDIUVA9	ii. Reconstruction of Palle Bambaragama West Canal	Badulla	Bandarawela	C-8, C-07	39500.00	1500.00	
PDIUVA10	Reconstruction of Endarugala Yaya Wewa and Canal	Buttala	Buttala	C-7, C-7	35000.00	2500.00	

Chairman
Ministry / Department Procurement Committee,
Ministry of Provincial Agriculture, Irrigation, Animal Products and Fresh Water Fishing
Ratwatta Mawatha, Badulla.

Provincial Department of Irrigation
(055-2222311)

07.04.2021

INVITATION FOR BIDS

MINISTRY OF FINANCE

PROCUREMENT OF GOODS

NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING (NCB)

The Chairman, Ministry Minor Procurement Committee on behalf of the Ministry of Finance invites sealed Bids for eligible and qualified bidders for **Printing Annual Report for the Year - 2020 - "Ministry of Finance in Sinhala, Tamil and English Languages"** as described below:

- Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding procedure.
- To be eligible for contract award, the successful bidder shall not have been blacklisted and this Invitation for Bids (IFB) is limited for the Bidders who have substantially fulfilled the following qualifications criteria:
 - Bidder shall be a registered business venture/ institution registered within Sri Lanka;
 - Participation as contractor in at least 3 works within the last 3 years each with a value of at least **LKR 3 million** that have been successfully and substantially completed and that are similar to printing works;
 - Ability to design and print report in three languages, namely, Sinhala, Tamil and English.
- Interested Bidders may obtain further information from **Accountant (Supplies)**, Ministry of Finance, The Secretariat, Colombo 01.
(Telephone/ Fax: 011-2484538/ 011-2421253).
- A complete set of bidding documents may be purchased by interested bidders on submission of a written application to Chief Accountant, Finance Division, Upper Ground Floor, New Building, Ministry of Finance, Colombo 01 and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Rs.1,500.00 between 9.00 am & 3.00 p.m. from 9th of April 2021 till 30th of April 2021. The method of payment will be by cash.
- All bids shall be accompanied by a Bid Security for an amount of **Rs. 50,000.00 (Rupees Fifty Thousand only) in favour of the Secretary, Ministry of Finance**. Bid security shall be a bank guarantee issued by a commercial bank operating in Sri Lanka, approved by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka. Bid Security shall be valid up to 29th July 2021 after the date of the closing of bids.
- Bids must be inserted in the tender box kept in the Finance Division, Upper Ground Floor, New Building, Ministry of Finance or dispatched by registered post to the address: Chairman, Ministry Minor Procurement Committee, Finance Division, Upper Ground Floor, New Building, Ministry of Finance, Lotus Road, Colombo 01, to reach at or before 3.00 p.m. on 30th April 2021. Late Bids shall be rejected. The top left hand corner of the envelope should be marked **"PRINTING ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR - 2020"**. Bids will be opened immediately thereafter at the Finance Division, Upper Ground Floor, New Building, Ministry of Finance, Lotus Road, Colombo 01 in the presence of the bidders and their authorized representatives.
- A pre-bid meeting will be held at the Finance Division, Upper Ground Floor, New Building, Ministry of Finance, Colombo 01 on 22nd April 2021 at 2.00 p.m.

The Chairman
Ministry Minor Procurement Committee
Ministry of Finance
Secretariat,
Colombo 01.
09.04.2021

VEHICLES FOR SALE

VEHICLE No	VEHICLE CATEGORY	MAKE & MODEL	YOM
BOKUNDARA YARD : No 225/A, J.D.SOLAMAN MW. DULAMMAHARA, PILYANDALA			
WP CBA-3171	CAR	TATA NANO	2017
WP CBA-7483	CAR	TATA NANO	2017
SP CAZ-9628	CAR	SUZUKI SPEACIA	2016
WP CAF-4589	CAR	TATA NANO TWIST	2014
NW CAB-7180	CAR	HONDA CR-Z	2012
WP DAG-3560	MINI LORRY	TATA SUPER ACE	2018
SP DAE-8900	MINI LORRY	TATA ACE HT2	2016
SP PU-1702	MINI LORRY	TATA ACE EX	2012
SP DAF-4653	LORRY	TATA ACE HT2	2017
CP LA 2106	LORRY	TATA 207 RX	2005
CP NC-3156	BUS	EICHER SKYLINE	2015

TENDER WILL BE CLOSED ON 16th April 2021

Vehicle Inspection during week days from 09th April 2021 to 16th April 2021 from 9.00 am to 4.30 pm

UB Finance reserves right to remove any vehicle without prior notice whatsoever

For Details Contact :

Arjuna - 0712 628 552 / Chaminda 0703 070 102



Invitation for Bids A Building on Lease Basis

Bids are invited to obtain suitable commercial buildings on lease basis to house undermentioned Offices of the Education Employees Cooperative Thrift & Credit Society Limited

Office	Town where the building should be situated	Required Square Area Sq.Ft.
Nuwara-Eliya District Office	Nuwara-Eliya	2500-3000
Jayawardanapura Office relevant to Colombo District	Battaramulla / Malabe	1500

Specifications of the Buildings

- Buildings should be situated close to the city centre facing either a Main Road or a by Road in the cities mentioned above.
- They should be in a suitable condition for an office and should have a tiled floor
- Should have parking facilities for at least 05 vehicles
- Should have sanitary facilities of specific standards (At least 04 toilets)
- Should have separate water and electricity connections and a water tank of 2000 litre capacity should be available for storing water
- It is mandatory to attach a copy of the building plan and deed with the quotations submitted.

Note : A form for the submission of quotations could be obtained either from the Head Office or from the District Offices and Tenders should be submitted on these specific forms.

Owners and holders of Power of Attorney only should submit quotations along with documents to prove the ownership and all other relevant documents and the quotations may either be sent by registered post or hand delivered to reach the Chief President of the Society before **12.30 p.m. on 30.04.2021**. The caption "Quotation for the Leasing of Building" should be mentioned on the left-hand top corner of the envelope containing the bid.

Bids will be opened at 1.00 p.m. on the same day at the Head Office and the Bidders may be present at the time of opening of Bids.

General Secretary
Education Employees Cooperative Thrift and Credit Society Limited
No. 294, Galle Road, Colombo 03.
Telephone : 011-2370067 / 011-2575172,
Fax : 011-2577475

SALE OF RENTS FOR 2021/2022 IN THE DIVISIONAL SECRETARIAT MADAMPE FROM 01.07.2021 TO 30.06.2022

Tenders will be received for toddy rent sales for the period from 01.07.2021 to 30.06.2022 till 10.30 a.m. on 11.05.2021. For further particulars, please see the Gazette of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka dated 09.04.2021.

A.M.C.M. Premasooriya
Divisional Secretary,
Madampe.

Divisional Secretariat,
Madampe.

05.04.2021

My No : WGSWD&EIP/ACQ/KB/33
Land Min's Ref. No : 4/3/10/2016/LRB/67

Weras Ganga Storm Water Drainage and Environment Improvement Project,
No.03, Sri Jayawardenapura Mawatha,
Welikada, Rajagiriya.

NOTICE UNDER SECTION 7 OF THE LAND ACQUISITION ACT (CHAPTER 460)

The inquiry for ownership and compensations under Section 9 of the Land Acquisition Act regarding the lands described below which have been acquired to the Government will be held on 27.04.2021. For more details, please see the Gazette No. 2218/18 dated 08.03.2021 of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.

Schedule

- Province : Western
- District : Colombo
- D/S Division : Kesbewa
- Location : Allotments of lands located adjacent to the Garbage Recycling Center at Karadiyana and Weras Ganga
- Village : Thumbowila
- Plan No. : Cadastral Map No. 521203, Block No. 16, Sheet No. 04
- Name of the lands : Karadiyan Kumbura and Korale Kumbura, Dunuhinga Kumbura, Maaweekotuwa, Etadombawewa Kumbura, Karadiyanawaththa
- Lot Numbers : 150, 151, 152, 154, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195
- Total Extent : 5.9804 hectare

Acquiring Officer
Weras Ganga Storm Water Drainage & Environment Improvement Project,
Divisional Secretary's Division - Maharagama

Weras Ganga Storm Water Drainage & Environment Improvement Project
No. 03, Sri Jayawardenapura Mawatha,
Welikada, Rajagiriya.

02.04.2021

Publish your advertisements with us

ADVERTISING Centres

MARADANA KV
No.383, D R Wijewardena Mawatha,
Colombo 10
011 242 9336

Associated Newspapers of Ceylon Limited | 1949
No 35, D R Wijewardene Mawatha, Colombo 10

TENDER NOTICE



Accelerating Higher Education Expansion and Development Operation (AHEAD)
Operational Technical Secretariat (OTS)

RAJARATA UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA MIHINTALE

The Chairman of Project Procurement Committee (University) on behalf of AHEAD Project, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for following proposed project. Bidding Document should be collected on the submission of a writing application to the Deputy Director (Procurement), AHEAD Project from **0900 to 1500 hrs** on working days from **09/04/2021 to 06/05/2021**. Sealed bids will be closed at 1400 hrs. on **07/05/2021**.

Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive bidding procedure.

Bidding Document may be inspected free of charge at the Office of the Deputy Director (Procurement), AHEAD Project of Rajarata University of Sri Lanka at Mihintale.

Project Title	File Reference No.	Minimum Qualifications	Non Refundable document fee (Rs.)	Bid Bond Amount (Rs.)
Construction of Student Centre (Phase II) for Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities in Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, Mihintale	AHEAD/RA2/ELTAELSE/RUSL/FSSH/WORKS/01	ICTAD Grade - C05 or C06 Specialty-Building Construction	5,000/-	110,000/-

The Bid should be valid up to **26/07/2021**
The Bid bond should be valid up to **23/08/2021**

Pre-bid meeting will be held on 30/04/2021 at 1000 hrs at Faculty of Social Science and Humanities.

A complete set of bidding documents in English language shall be purchased by interested bidders on submission of a written request to the Deputy Director (Procurement), OTS Office, AHEAD Project, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, Mihintale and upon payment of a **non-refundable fee as stated in above until 1500 hrs on each working day from 09/04/2021 to 06/05/2021**. The method of payment shall be by cash or a bank deposit made to Account No.008-1-001-8-1725841 at People's Bank, Anuradhapura in favor of Bursar, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka.

Bidder should get registered in terms of the Public Contract Act No 03 of 1987 for PCA 3 Certificate and should submit with the Bid (Please register online www.drc.gov.lk)

Sealed bids may be dispatched either by registered post to the Director (OTS), OTS Office, AHEAD Project, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, Mihintale or inserted in the tender box kept at the OTS Office, AHEAD Project, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, Mihintale to receive on or before 07/05/2021 at 1400 hrs. Please indicate the name of the project, Contract number and Opening date & time on the top left hand corner of the envelope.

Bids will be opened at **1415 hrs on 07/05/2021** at the OTS Office, AHEAD Project, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, Mihintale. For further details or clarifications, bidders may contact Deputy Director (Procurement) through **025-2266513** or Works Engineer through **025-2266787** of this University.

Chairman of Project Procurement Committee
Rajarata University of Sri Lanka
Mihintale

PROCUREMENT NOTICE

Bids are invited for the repairing of Mahendra LF-4885, belonging to Kuliypitiya Pradeshiya Sabha. Sealed Bids will be accepted until 3.00 p.m. on 21.04.2021.

Procurement documents can be obtained from the Cashier of Kuliypitiya Pradeshiya Sabha, upon a non-refundable payment of Rs. 1000.00 from 09.04.2021 to 21.04.2021 during working days of the week, between 8.30 a.m. - 4.00 p.m. Procurement documents will be issued until 10.00 a.m. on 21.04.2021. Bids will be closed at 3.00 p.m. on 21.04.2021. Bids will be opened at 10.30 a.m. on 22.04.2021.

Bids can be sent under registered cover, addressed to 'Chairman, Kuliypitiya Pradeshiya Sabha, Bohingamuwa, Kuliypitiya' or can be deposited in the Tender Box kept at Kuliypitiya Pradeshiya Sabha and the top left corner of the envelope containing Bids shall be marked as '**Bids for the repairing of Mahendra Vehicle**'.

Further details can be obtained via contact Nos. 0374947212, 0374937905

On 09th of April 2021

R.D.K. Amarajewwa,
Secretary,
Kuliypitiya Pradeshiya Sabha.



STATE MINISTRY OF NATIONAL HERITAGE, PERFORMING ARTS & RURAL ARTS PROMOTION

MAHINDA RAJAPAKSHA NATIONAL TELE CINEMA PARK, RANMIHITHENNA

Invitation for Bids

Construction of Movie Sets (05 Village Houses and Walauwa) at Ranmihithenna Tele Cinema Village

- The Chairman, Department Procurement Committee, State Ministry of National Heritage, Performing Arts & Rural Arts Promotion on behalf of the Mahinda Rajapaksha National Tele Cinema Park, Ranmihithenna now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for "Construction of Movie Sets (05 Village Houses and Walauwa) at Ranmihithenna Tele Cinema Village." as described below:
The construction period is **91 Days**.
- Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding Procedure.
- To be eligible for contract award, the successful bidder shall have:
 - Valid business registration.
 - Should have at least 7 years experience in construction sets in film or television industry.
 - Should have employed an experienced Production Designer, Art Director or Construction Manager with experience of 7 years in the film or television industry.
- Interested bidders may obtain further information from the **Chief Accountant, State Ministry of National Heritage, Performing Arts & Rural Arts Promotion, 4th Floor, "Sethsiripaya, Stage II", Battaramulla** and inspect the Bidding Documents at the same address on any working day from **9:00hrs to 15:00hrs**.
Contact numbers are: Phone: 011-2786094/077-7444719.
- A complete set of Bidding Documents in English language may be purchased by interested bidders on the submission of a written application to the **Chief Accountant, State Ministry of National Heritage, Performing Arts & Rural Arts Promotion 4th Floor, "Sethsiripaya, Stage II", Battaramulla** from **12th April 2021** until **3rd May 2021** from **9:00hrs to 15:00hrs** upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Rupees three thousand five hundred (Rs.3,500/-).
- Bids shall be delivered or sent by registered post to the **Chairman, Department Procurement Committee, State Ministry of National Heritage, Performing Arts & Rural Arts Promotion, 4th Floor, "Sethsiripaya, Stage II", Battaramulla** to reach at or before **14:00 hrs on 3rd May 2021**. Bids will be opened soon after closing at the 4th Floor, "Sethsiripaya, Stage II", Battaramulla in presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend.
- Bids must be submitted within a valid period of 77 days from 03.05.2021 or any extension of the prescribed period for opening bids.
- All Bids shall be accompanied by a Bid Security which shall be; (Bid Bond)
 - in the form included in the **Section 09** in the Bidding document.
 - in favour of **Secretary, State Ministry of National Heritage, Performing Arts & Rural Arts Promotion** should be submitted in the name of the State Ministry.
 - unconditional refund when requested for an amount of **Rs. 130,000.00**
 - valid until the date of preparation of the contract (valid for a period of 03 months)
 - issued by a registered bank recognized by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka as specified in **clause 16.0** of the Schedule.
- A preliminary meeting will be held on 22.04.2021 to inspect the Ranmihithenna site before bidding and discuss the issues regarding bidding from 10.30 am to 14.00 pm at Ranmihithenna premises. No transport or other facilities are provided for this purpose.

Secretary,
State Ministry of National Heritage, Performing Arts & Rural Arts Promotion
4th Floor, "Sethsiripaya, Stage II",
Battaramulla.

BE BETTER INFORMED! News you can trust now free on your mobile phone.

Visit - apps.lakehouse.lk

Download Today!

DIVISION OF BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING SERVICES

PROCUREMENT NOTICE FOR SUPPLY OF MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

1. Sealed bids for the supply of undermentioned medical equipment will be received by the Chairman, Procurement Committee, Division of Biomedical Engineering Services, 27, De Saram Place, Colombo 10 up to 10.00 a.m. on closing date stated below.

Item	The period: Bidding Documents could be obtained		Closing Date	Non- refundable fee to be made at BES Office. (Rs.)	Estimated Cost (Rs.) (In Million)
	From	To			
1 09 Nos. Ultrasound Scanners	09.04.2021	30.04.2021	03.05.2021	12,500.00	90

2. Only the sole nominated representative/accredited agent of manufacturers of the medical equipment offered for Sri Lanka market are eligible to participate in this procurement.
3. Sealed bids shall be made on a complete set of bidding documents in duplicate purchased by any interested eligible bidder, agent, representative or nominee on submission of,
- A written application to the Director, Division of Biomedical Engineering Services, 27, De Saram Place, Colombo 10.
 - A registration certificate issued by Registrar General of Companies for the item for which bidding documents are to be purchased.
 - Upon payment of the non-refundable fee stated above in cash to the Director (Finance), Division of Biomedical Engineering Services.
 - Certificate of Business Registration with a photocopy.
 - A certificate / letter issued by the principals appointing as local agents for their products.
4. Bidding documents can be obtained from the Director (Finance), Division of Biomedical Engineering Services, 27, De Saram Place, Colombo-10 between 9.00 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. during the period stated above. (Tel. No. : 011-2691916, 2694479 - Fax No. : 011-2698317)
5. Bids will be opened immediately after the closing of bids at the office of Director (Finance), Division of Biomedical Engineering Services, 27, De Saram Place, Colombo-10.
6. Bidding Documents may be inspected free of charge at the office of the Director (Finance), Division of Biomedical Engineering Services, 27, De Saram Place, Colombo-10.
7. Please submit contract registration certificate issued by Company Registrar with bidding document.
8. Further information could be obtained from Director (Finance), Division of Biomedical Engineering Services on Tel. No. 2684732.

**Chairman/Ministry Procurement Committee,
Division of Biomedical Engineering Services,
27, De Saram Place, Colombo-10.**



SRI LANKA PORTS AUTHORITY

Invitation for Bids (IFB)

1. The Chairman, Department Procurement Committee on behalf of the Sri Lanka Ports Authority now invites sealed Bids from eligible Bidders for the items given below.

Tender No.	Name of the Tender	Bid Security Amount (Rs.)	Document Fee (Inclusive of VAT)	Closing Date & Time
CES/FP/04/PT/6188 (EL)	Spare Modules for the Stinis Spreaders	30,000.00	1,000.00	11.05.2021 10.00 hrs
CES/FP/03/PT/6194 (EL)	Main and Guide Wheels for Duratrack Trolley of JCT	60,000.00	1,000.00	11.05.2021 10.00 hrs
CM/LP/20/PT/20/054	Marine Quality Paint & Thinner for Dredger Hansakawa	100,000.00	3,500.00	19.04.2021 13.30 hrs
CMS/LP/20/PT/07/059	5040 Litres of Transfluid Oil P-157	24,000.00	1,000.00	27.04.2021 13.30 hrs
CMS/LP/21/PT/14/015	01 No. Battery / Inverter System for JCT RTG Crane	22,000.00	1,000.00	28.04.2021 13.30 hrs
CMS/LP/21/PT/16/051	10 Nos. PVS Piston Pumps for RAM Spreaders - 41T	20,000.00	1,000.00	28.04.2021 13.30 hrs
CMS/LP/21/PT/13/51	Cam Clutch KK8332H-22/ Tsubaki - MZ 70G TK - 10 Nos.	38,000.00	1,000.00	29.04.2021 13.30 hrs
CMS/LP/21/PT/10/051	Fifth Wheel Unit P/N T27055449	50,000.00	1,000.00	29.04.2021 13.30 hrs
CMS/LP/20/PT/01/053	Cloth Polyester Brown Suiting - 7700 Meters for Year 2021	50,000.00	1,000.00	29.04.2021 13.30 hrs
CMS/LP/20/PT/08/059	Marine Quality Paint and Thinner for Tug Nandimithra	55,000.00	1,000.00	30.04.2021 13.30 hrs
CMS/LP/21/PT/01/051	Diesel Engine for ZPMC Transtainers at JCT - 01 No.	150,000.00	3,500.00	30.04.2021 13.30 hrs

2. Bidders are hereby informed that the provisions of Public Contracts Act No. 3 of 1987 are applicable to Tenders total cost exceeding Rs. 5 million. Accordingly, all parties involved in each aforementioned Tender are required to strictly abide by the said Act throughout the duration of contract. Furthermore, any Bidder who wishes to act as an Agent, Sub-Agent, a Representative or a Nominee for and on behalf of any foreign Manufacturer or a Supplier is required to register himself with the Registrar of Public Contracts and submit the duly completed Registration Certificate along with his Bid Documents.
3. Bidders should have been in the business of supplying similar goods given above at least during the last three (3) years.
4. Interested Bidders may obtain further information from The Chief Manager (Supplies & Material Management) and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address given below during office hours.
5. A complete set of Bidding Documents in English Language may be purchased by interested Bidders on submission of a written application to the address below and upon payment of a non-refundable fee indicated in Column 4 from 09th April, 2021 from 9.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. on working days, up to day prior to the closing date. The method of payment will be by cash.
6. Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before closing time. Late Bids will not be accepted. Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidders' Representatives who choose to attend in person at the address below at closing time. All Bids must be accompanied by the amount of abovementioned Bid Security.

**Chief Manager (Supplies & Material Management),
Supplies Division,
Sri Lanka Ports Authority,
No. 45, Leyden Bastian Road, Colombo 01.**

**Telephone Nos : 2482231, 2483338, 2482499, 2482832, 2482409, 2482652, 2483024, 2482638
Fax Nos : 2381652, 2470443**

Procurement Notice

Bentota Pradeshiya Sabha - Bentota

Sealed Bids are invited by the Chairman, Procurement Committee of the Bentota Pradeshiya Sabha up to **10.00 a.m. on 29.04.2021** for Construction work mentioned below. Bids will be opened at this Office on this day at this time in the presence of the Tenderers.

Details	Required Registration (CIDA) In terms of Section No. 3 of Public Finance Circular No. 03/2020 dated 09.10.2020 and Section No. 3.3 of Public Finance Circular No. 04/2016(iii) dated 18.02.2021	Value of Bid Guarantee Rs.	Validity Period of Bid Guarantee	Non Refundable Tender Form Fee Rs.
01. Construction of a two storied building with the New Public Market, Gonagala, Bentota. (SP/G/BTPS/2021/001)	C4 or C5 only (For Buildings)	500,000.00	24.08.2021	2000.00
02. Repairing the Bentota Pradeshiya Sabha Building (SP/G/BTBS/2021/002)	C5 or C6 only (For Buildings)	250,000.00	24.08.2021	2000.00

02. Bid Forms could be obtained from the Bentota Pradeshiya Sabha Office up to **3.00 p.m. on 28.04.2021**.
03. Contracts will be awarded to Contractors registered at and approved by the Construction Industry Development Authority.
04. Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding (NCB). Since the estimated value of work to be performed under this Procurement (excluding VAT and other Taxes) is below Rs. 50 Million, Regional preference and CIDA Grade preference shall apply as stipulated in Public Finance Circular No. 04/2016(iii).
05. Further details concerning this Procurement could be obtained on working days of the week during office hours from the Bentota Pradeshiya Sabha Office.
06. A Bid guarantee as shown in the above column should be submitted on behalf of every bid. This Guarantee should be obtained upon a bank approved by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka and it should be unconditional and payable on demand. This Bid Guarantee must be in the Form of No. 09 of the Bid Document.
07. The name of the work should be mentioned on the top left-hand corner of the envelope containing Bids. Bids should be prepared in two copies and marked as original and duplicate and enclosed in separate envelopes and thereafter, these covers should be inserted in a single envelope and submitted. The Bidders or an authorized representative could be present at the Bid opening.
08. Bids are valid for 90 days.
09. A Pre Bid Meeting will be held at **10.00 a.m. on 21.04.2021** at the Bentota Pradeshiya Sabha Office.
10. The decision of the Chairman of the Procurement Board is final.

Chairman - Bentota Pradeshiya Sabha **Tele : 034-2275419**
Procurement Committee Chairman, **034-3029531 / 034-3029530**
Bentota Pradeshiya Sabha **Fax : 034-2290646**
Bentota. **Email : bentotaps@yahoo.com**

09.04.2021

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST ECOSYSTEM CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT PROJECT (ESCOMP)

MINISTRY OF WILDLIFE AND FOREST CONSERVATION

Credit No. 5792 LK, Project ID: P156021

Hiring of Two National Consultants for Nature Based Tourism Planning (To Support the International Consultants)

1. The World Bank has extended a credit to the Government of Sri Lanka (GoSL) for the Ecosystem Conservation and Management Project (ESCOMP) with the aim of improving the management of sensitive ecosystems in selected locations for conservation and community benefits. The Ministry of Wildlife and Forest Conservation (MoWL&FC) executes the project through a Project Management Unit (PMU) in coordination with the Forest Department (FD) and the Department of Wildlife Conservation (DWC) for implementation of the project activities.
2. The Project Management Unit (PMU) now invites eligible Consultants with proven experience to undertake the assignment to:
- Support the International Consultant for preparation of 1 Nature-Based Tourism Plan and Update 4 existing Nature-Based Tourism Plans of protected areas in Sri Lanka.**
Project sites include;
 - Sinharaja Forest Reserve (FR) and Knuckles Conservation Forest (CF) which are managed by FD and Udawalawa National Park (NP) and Bundala NP which are managed by DWC (for which 4 NBPTs have been prepared previously); and
 - Galawila Ecopark which is managed by FD (a new site).
 - Preparation of Composite NBTP for Hurulu-Kawudulla-Kanthale Landscape in Sri Lanka.**
Project sites include;
Hurulu Forest Reserve (FR), Galoya Forest Reserve (FR), Chundakadu Forest Reserve (FR), Kawudulla National Park (NP), Minneriya National Park (NP) and Somawathie National Park (NP) within the Hurulu-Kawudulla-Kanthale (HKK) Cluster.
3. The intended Contract Period is 5 months (full-time)
4. Interested experts should provide a proposal with sufficient proofs indicating that they are qualified to perform the consultancy in complying with the ToR given in the web site www.escamp.lk (The full TOR of the consultancy and other information are uploaded in the website for references).
5. The expert will be selected based on professional qualifications and experiences in the relevant field and the procedures set out in the World Bank's Consultancy Guidelines : Selection and Hiring of Individual Consultants by World Bank Borrowers January 2011, revised July 2014.
6. Interested Experts may obtain further information from the Procurement Specialist, ESCAMP,

Email: anushaseneviratne1987@gmail.com
Telephone: +940112888 / 425-428 Fax: +94-11-2888577

7. Expression of Interest with a project proposal must be delivered in duplicate to the address given below, not later than **1100 hrs on 30th April 2021**. Envelope containing the Expression of Interest should be marked "EOI - National Consultant
..... NBT - ESCAMP". (Indicate the relevant consultancy accordingly).

**Project Director,
Ecosystem Conservation and Management Project,
Project Management Unit,
No. 82, "Sampathpaya", Rajamalwatte Road,
Battaramulla,
Sri Lanka.
Telephone: +940112888 / 425-428, Fax: +94-11-2888577
09th April 2021**

Employment Opportunities

**Public Service Commission
Southern Province – Calling for Applications**

**Open Competitive Examination for Recruitment to the Posts of
Sales Manager (Non Technical Management Assistants Category 2)
Grade III for the Department of Industrial Development
of Southern Province – 2021**

Method of application

Candidates who are eligible as per the announcement of Open Competitive Examination for Recruitment to the Posts of Sales Manager (Non Technical Management Assistants Category 2) Grade III for the Department of Industrial Development of Southern Province – 2021 published on the Official Website of the Southern Provincial Public Service Commission (www.psc.sp.gov.lk), should apply online on or before 30.04.2021.

Examination Fees

The examination fee is Rs. 600.00. should be credited from any Bank of Ceylon branch to the current account of the Secretary, Public Service Commission, Southern Province, Account No. 87262909, Bank of Ceylon, Galle Fort Branch. And the National Identity Card number of the applicant and the examination code number OC21602 of this examination should be mentioned in the cash deposit slip

Gamini Weerawickrama
Secretary

09.04.2021

NOTICE

Public Service Commission - Southern Province

**Recruitment to the post of Additional Provincial Director under the
Department of Animal Production and Health - Southern Province -2021**

Applications are hereby called from the eligible applicants in Grade 1 of the Sri Lanka Animal Production and Health Service for the post of Assistant Provincial Director under the Department of Animal Production and Health - Southern Province.

Notice for calling applications and the specimen application for the above post is published in the Daily News dated 30.04.2021 and website of the Public Service Commission in all three languages. (www.psc.sp.gov.lk)

Gamini Weerawickrama
Secretary
Public Service Commission, Southern Province

The Office of the Public Service Commission, Southern Province
6th Floor,
District Secretariat Building,
Galle .



Old stamps coins and bank notes fair conducted by Sri Lanka Independent Philatelic Association will be held on April 9,10,11 at the Entrance Hall of Colombo Public Library. 0779785111 Jagath. 024873

Replies to Classifieds & Casual Advertisements published C/o the Daily News should only be sent by ordinary post. Replies sent under registered cover will not be accepted.

**PLANTATION MINISTRY
SRI LANKA PLANTATIONS CORPORATION
VACANCIES**

Applications are called from qualified citizens of Sri Lanka for filling following vacancies in the Sri Lanka State Plantations Corporation

Post	- 1. MANAGER LEGAL 2. INTERNAL AUDITOR
Qualifications	- 1. Manager Legal (a) External Candidates Attorney-at-Law AND A minimum of three years post qualifying experience in the legal field after having oaths as attorney-at-Law with good knowledge in labour law and handling legal matters well (b) Internal Candidates Having obtained the qualifications required by the external candidates above. 2. Internal Auditor (a) External Candidates (1 or 2 or 3 below) 1. A Bachelor's degree in Accounting/ Finance Management/ Management / Commerce which is recognized by the U.G.C. AND A minimum of three years post qualifying experience in the relevant field to the Post, after obtaining the first degree . 2. Having passed the Intermediate Examination of a recognized professional Chartered Institute, of which the subject area is relevant to the post AND A Minimum three years post qualifying experience in the relevant field to the post. 3. Having passed the HND in Accountancy of Sri Lanka Technical College or Institute of Higher Technical Education of Sri Lanka. AND A minimum three years post qualifying experience in the relevant field to the post. (b) Internal Candidates (1 or 2 below) 1. Having obtained the qualifications required by the external candidates above. 2. Completion of minimum five (05) years satisfactory service in a post in the Junior Manager (JM) category, in the subject area relevant to the post in Sri Lanka State Plantations Corporation.
Salary Scale	- As per the Management Service Circular 02/2016 a Salary Scale of M M 1-1 - 2016 Rs.53,175- 10 x1,375- 15 x 1,910 - 95,575 is entitled for the above Post.
Recruitment Procedure	- On the results of a Structural Interview conducted by a panel appointed by the appointing authority. Structural Interview ● Relevant experience 30 Marks ● Relevant additional educational qualifications 30 Marks ● Other achievements 15 Marks ● Performance at the interview 25 Marks <hr/> 100 Marks
Age	- Should be not less than 22 years and not more than 45 years. The upper age limit will not apply to internal candidates.
Other	- All recruitments to this category will be strictly in compliance with the provision of this Scheme of Recruitment.
Extra Benefits	- Facilities under Indoor and Outdoor Medical Insurance Scheme. Contribute to the Employees' Provident Fund or to the Ceylon. Planters' Provident Society a minimum of 10% of your salary to such Provident Fund and the SLSPC contribution to such Provident Fund will be a maximum of 12% and 3% to Employees' Trust Fund of your salary.
Applicants	- Should forward their applications together with all details and copies of Birth Certificate, Educational Certificates and Experience to reach the below mentioned address under registered post with the post applied for written on the top left hand corner of the envelope. Applicants who are in Government/ Corporations/Statutory Boards should forward their applications through their Heads of the Departments with the recommendation of him.
Closing Date of Receiving - Applications	- On or before 30.04.2021 to reach the below mentioned address

**Chairman
Sri Lanka State Plantations Corporation
No 21, BCC Premises
Meeraniya Street
Colombo 12
2021.04.09**

VACANCY

With over 20 years of experience and competency in power distribution and control systems for export and local market, combined with a portfolio of world renowned brands, over 1000 employees, EMP is an industry leader. EMP has won many awards in both international and local arena, for manufacturing of superior quality low voltage power distribution boards that are designed to meet the most stringent quality standards.

POWDER COATING CONSULTANT

Tasks
He should be capable of powder coating system designing and specifying, preparation of specification for pretreatment chemicals & powder material specifying & selections, process quality improvements, process control, cost reduction and train the team of engineers & operators.

Qualifications
B.Sc. Degree with minimum 15 years experience in the field of powder coating as a consultant.

Attractive and negotiable remuneration package awaits the right candidate

Forward your resume with contact details of two non - related referees to reach the following address, or email to careers@emp.lk within 10 days.

Human Resources Department
Electro Metal Pressings (Pvt) Ltd.,
No. 26, Templesburg Industrial Estate,
Panagoda.
Web : www.emp.lk

We excite the pulse of the nation



www.adz.lk

it's what you want



**NATIONAL POLICE COMMISSION
Invitation for Applications to
fill vacancies**

Applications are invited by the National Police Commission from retired Officers possessing relevant qualifications for the post mentioned below. Officers who applied in response to the previous newspaper advertisement dated 03.03.2021 need not reapply.

- No. of posts of Provincial Director will be (02 posts for the Western Province and one each for other Provinces).
- Relevant qualifications :-
 - Should be a retired officer who served in any post of Grade I or special grade in Executive Service Category of the public service.
 - Age should not have exceeded 67 years on the date of recruitment.
 - Knowledge of English / Tamil apart from the Sinhala language will be considered as an additional qualification.
 - Experience in investigation activities will be a special qualification.
 - Will be appointed on contract basis for a period of one year.
 - Preference will be given to applicants who are permanent residents of the area applied for.
 - An all inclusive allowance of Rs. 60,000/= will be paid monthly.
- Interested applicants should submit applications containing the bio-data by registered post addressed to the Secretary, National Police Commission, Block No. 09, BMICH Premises, Colombo 07 to be received on or before 30.04.2021. The name of the post applied for should be marked on the top left hand corner of the envelope containing the application.

**Secretary,
National Police Commission,
Block No. 09,
BMICH Premises,
Colombo 07.**

**OBSERVER
JOBS**

BREAKING
BOUNDARIES

THE COUNTRY'S
LARGEST
RECRUITMENT
DATABASE

FOR
JOBSEEKERS

www.observerjobs.lk