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JVP AND SOME OTHERS DON'T WANT THE COUNTRY TO PROGRESS
-JUSTICE MINISTER ALI SABRY

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OBSERVER SCHOOL CRICKETER OF THE YEAR 2020

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PUBLIC SHOULD ADHERE TO NEW HEALTH GUIDELINES

- DR. SUDARSHINI FERNANDOPULLE



By **Uditha Kumarasinghe**

State Minister of Primary Health Care, Epidemics and Covid-19 Disease Control Dr. Sudarshini Fernandopulle said the Government has not taken a decision to go for a lockdown but called upon the public

to strictly adhere to new health guidelines and restrict their movements.

Right now, there is no indication to go for a total lockdown but it would be more appropriate at least to restrict all parties, meetings and other social gatherings as the number of Covid-19 cases is increasing rapidly. According to the current epidemiological situation after the New Year, some restrictions need to be im-

posed to reduce the risk of transmission, the State Minister told the *Sunday Observer* yesterday.

She said the State Ministry of Primary Health Care, Epidemics and Covid-19 Disease Control has issued guidelines until May 31 specifying the minimum number that could be permitted to take part in public activities. We have to take precautionary measures to contain the Covid-19 pandemic, she said.

The State Minister said, "We request people to strictly adhere to the new guidelines until May 31. Thereafter, we can review and relax them. We imposed strict guidelines at the onset of the Covid-19 but thereafter we reviewed and relaxed them when the number of cases dropped.

Therefore, we expect people to give their fullest cooperation until May 31 by refraining from organising... **SEE PAGE 2**

42nd OBSERVER - SLTMOBTEL SCHOOL CRICKETER OF THE YEAR

SUNDAY OBSERVER
April 25, 2021

Navod Paranavithana
Mahinda College Galle

42nd OBSERVER - SLTMOBTEL SCHOOL CRICKETER OF THE YEAR 2021

Collect the Observer Schools Cricketer of the Year Special Souvenir - a 16-page glossy paper collector's item with records of all past winners from 1979 plus the glorious moments of 42nd Mega Show! - with today's Sunday Observer!

The Observer - SLT - Mobitel School Cricketer Award Ceremony held at BMICH last Tuesday will be Telecast on ITN at 10.15 pm Tonight

Minority political parties seek PR system at PC polls

By **P. Krishnaswamy**

Political parties representing the minorities have reached a consensus on the need to hold Provincial Council polls under the Proportional Representation system (PR) to ensure a democratically fair representation of the minorities, leader of the Up-country People's Front (UPF) MP Velusamy Radhakrishnan said.

They held discussions among the three constituents of the Tamil Progressive Alliance (TPA) - the UPF, National Union of Workers' (NUW) led by... **SEE PAGE 2**



Former Sri Lanka captain and ex-Chairman of Selectors Sanath Jayasuriya was the chief guest at the 42nd Observer-SLT Mobitel School Cricketers of the Year mega awards ceremony at the BMICH last Tuesday. Here Jayasuriya and his son Ranuk being welcomed to the venue by ANCL Chairman W. Dayaratne PC, along with Director Operations Canishka G. Witharana, Director Finance Janaka Ranathunga, Director Legal and Administration Rakhitha Abeygoonawardhana, Editor-in-Chief Dinesh Weerawansa, Director Editorial Dharma Sri Kariyawasam (partly covered) and Acting General Manager Sumith Kothalawala. Although a couple of competitive similar award shows had begun in recent times, their sponsors abandoned them following the Covid-19 pandemic last year, making SLT Mobitel and the *Sunday Observer* the only combination to reward school cricketers during the last season. **Pic: Chinthaka Kumarasinghe**

INDIA COVID-19 SURGE

Hospitals send SOS as record deaths registered

NEW DELHI, April 24. (BBC) - Indian hospitals said that their patients are dying because of a shortage of oxygen as Covid-19 case numbers and deaths set new records for a third day running. India has recorded nearly a million infections in three days, with 346,786 new cases overnight into Saturday. At the Jaipur Golden Hospital in Delhi, 20 people died... **SEE PAGE 2**

"POACHERS, A THREAT TO LIVELIHOOD OF LOCAL FISHERFOLK"

Navy told to apprehend Indian fishing vessels - Douglas Devananda

By **Ananth Palakidnar**

Minister of Fisheries and Eelam People's Democratic Party (EPDP) leader Douglas Devananda who is adamant to prevent the infiltration of Indian fishing vessels into Sri Lanka's territo-

rial waters in the North has directed the Navy to apprehend Indian fishing vessels which remain a constant threat to the livelihood of the local fisherfolk.

Minister Devananda told the *Sunday Observer* that the livelihood of the Northern... **SEE PAGE 2**



GMOA warns against politicising Covid-19

By **Nadira Gunatilleke**

The Government Medical Officers' Association (GMOA) yesterday warned against politicising the Covid-19 pandemic in the country. Sri Lanka has requested a second dose of the vaccine to cover all health staff and others who are directly involved in controlling the Covid-19, the GMOA Assistant Secretary Dr. Navin De Zoysa said. **SEE PAGE 2**



FOREIGN JOB INDUSTRY REACTS IN SHOCK

Sri Lanka caught up in Saudi travel ban

By **Leon Berenger**

Saudi Arabia has restricted the number of arrivals from Sri Lanka, Pakistan, India, Indonesia and the Philippines, the Saudi aviation authority said on Friday but this will not interrupt flights of the national carrier SriLankan Airlines to that

desert kingdom, an official said. He said those hoping to travel to Saudi Arabia will be permitted to enter that country if their visit has been authorised by the officialdom in Riyadh.

He added that selected categories such as diplomats, Government officials, VIPs and... **SEE PAGE 2**

Police to recruit more Tamil men and women in North

- **DIG Ajith Rohana**

By **Ananth Palakidnar**

(DIG) and Attorney-at-Law Ajith Rohana.

A significant number of young Tamil men and women would be recruited to the Police Department in the future to strengthen law and order in the North, said Police Spokesman, Deputy Inspector General

He was addressing a workshop held in the North on Thursday (22) attended by senior police and Government officials. The workshop was conducted to discuss the possibility of recruiting... **SEE PAGE 2**

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News

Stick to health guidelines to prevent a tragic situation – Army Commander

BY MANJULA FERNANDO

Dismissing prospects of a long term lockdown of country due to impending threats posed by a revived Covid-19 wave, Army Commander General Shavendra Silva said people should strictly adhere to health guidelines spelt out by the Ministry in the coming days to prevent a tragic situation like in India.

“Sri Lankans have a good understanding of how to stay safe from Covid-19 pandemic”, he said speaking to media at a special press briefing at the Information Department, Colombo on Friday.

“However, we are in a time where the situation in our immediate neighbor India has gotten worse. The country recorded its highest of over 330,000 new cases per day last week. More than 2,000 people die every day, in the Europe and elsewhere are no different,” he said. The Army Commander said until New Year the country successfully contained the new Covid daily figures to 150 - 200. But by April 18 the number went up to 300 and by yesterday it has risen up to 900.

The vast majority of the Covid-19 infections were recorded from Kuliya-pitiya Ganewatte, Wattala and the Diwulapitiya areas.

Colombo, Gampaha, Kurunegala, Kalutara, Galle, Anuradhapura, Puttalam, Jaffna, Hambantota, Kandy, Trincomalee districts had higher numbers comparatively. Going by these disturbing developments we expect the Covid-19 cases will increase within the coming few days.

People celebrated Avurudu with little regard for health guidelines. “We did not impose strict regulations during the festive season but issued guidelines with strict advice to comply. The Health Ministry advised people to celebrate New Year at home but it seems people have paid little attention to these warnings”, he added.

Packed shops and public transport during the last few days would have contributed to the spike in new cases, the Army commander observed.

We are recording higher numbers of Covid-19 cases in places where *Avurudu uthsawa* were organised with large numbers taking part. It is very unfortunate, the Army Commander said asking for cooperation from the masses to contain a possible third wave.

Professor at the Department of Immunology and Molecular Medicine at Faculty of Medical Sciences of Sri Jaywardenapura University Nileeka Ma-

lavige speaking at the Information Department media conference on Friday said, “By February India had successfully contained the spread of the deadly pandemic, recording only 11,000 cases per day. This was a very positive situation for a country like India.

Then there were cricket matches, and election rallies and people relaxed. I do not need to say the situation there today. We must ensure that Sri Lanka will not face a similar tragedy. We have to be extremely careful and strictly adhere to health protocols to reverse the current trend in the country.”

“Not only are the numbers increasing after the New Year but there is a new variant spreading in the country now. We have identified that this new variant is dangerous than the variant we saw in the first and second waves. We will be able to say more about this variant in the near future.

So far it is known that a patient with the new Covid variant can infect about 5-6 people. Earlier it was limited to about 1-2 people.

The fear over contracting the virus has currently waned. It is justified in a sense that 90 percent of the people who contracted the earlier variant of the virus were asymptomatic. But with the new variant, even the young

patients show symptoms and in India, death rate among young patients have increased.

Prof. Malavige warned that this new variant is airborne unlike the old Covid-19 respiratory virus which is transmitted by droplets of saliva or discharge from nose.

“To explain more, if I remove my mask and speak with people the virus that I will put out can float in the air for about 90 minutes. If someone comes in to this place and removes his mask for few minutes, the virus can infect that person even if he did not speak to me directly. That is the danger.”

Therefore, wearing the mask indoors is very vital, especially when you speak to friends and associates to protect them as well as you.

“This virus will transmit and contract at crowded places so everyone must avoid such places until the threat clears. The virus density can go up if there are more than one Covid patient in such a closed environment,” she explained.

By Friday Sri Lanka recorded over 99,500 Covid-19 cases and over 634 fatalities. The day accounted for over 900 new patients, a drastic increase from a daily figure of 150 cases before April 12.

S-Drop Covid-19 virus detected in Sri Lanka

BY NADIRA GUNATILLEKE

The S-Drop (S gene dropout) Covid-19 virus was detected for the very first time in Sri Lanka in last November from a patient from Wellawatte. The second such case was detected from a patient in last December, the Chief Medical Officer of the Colombo Municipal Council Dr. Ruwan Wijayamuni told the media in Colombo.

Eight Covid-19 patients with S-Drop Virus were found a few days ago, he added. According to Sri Jaywardenapura University’s Immunology and Molecular Medicine Department Director Dr. Chandima Jewewardara, researches are now being conducted to ascertain the present variant of the Covid-19. It looks like the variant found in the United Kingdom.

Meanwhile, University of Sri

Jaywardenapura Department of Immunology and Molecular Medicine Professor Prof. Neelika Malavige said a new variant of Covid-19 has arrived in Sri Lanka and the details will be announced in the next few days.

It is spreading rapidly and infecting five or six people but in the past the Covid-19 virus did not spread fast and infected only one or two persons. The new variant found in Sri Lanka is airborne and it can infect a person within around one and half hours once released to the air inside a building by an infected person.

Therefore, it is essential to wear a proper mask accurately covering both nose and mouth whenever entering into a building. The risk of not wearing a mask inside a building is very much greater than not wearing a mask outside a building, she added.

CID detains former Minister Rishad Bathiudeen and his brother

BY UDITHA KUMARASINGHE

The Criminal Investigation Department (CID) has obtained permission to detain former Minister Rishad Bathiudeen and his brother Riyaj Bathiudeen who were taken into custody in the early hours of yesterday (April 24) for allegedly aiding and abetting the Easter Sunday bomb attackers. The two brothers will be detained and interrogated for 72 hours under the Prevention of Terrorism Act (PTA).

The former Minister was taken into custody at his residence in Baudhaloka Mawatha in Colombo while his brother Riyaj Bathiudeen was apprehended in Wellawatte. The two brothers were arrested for allegedly aiding and abetting the suicide bombers who carried out the deadly terror attacks on Easter Sunday in 2019.

A media release issued by Attor-

ney at Law Rushdhi Habeeb, appearing for the two brothers stated, “Having evaluated the evidence, the Easter Commission found no evidence of any one of the Bathiudeens having aided or abetted the suicide bombers in the Easter Sunday bombings. Their arrest without any justifiable material is in violation of the rule of law.” Police Spokesman DIG Ajith Rohana said legal action will be sought against the duo under the provisions of Prevention of Terrorism Act. Rishad and Riyaj Bathiudeen were taken into custody based on the direct, circumstantial and forensic evidence uncovered during the investigations, he said.

DIG Rohana in a media release issued yesterday stated that 702 suspects have been placed under arrest over the Easter Sunday bomb attacks. He said 202 of them are currently in remand custody while 83 others have been detained for interrogations.

To meet second jab requirement

Indian vaccine to arrive in small batches – President’s Senior Advisor

BY MANJULA FERNANDO

The President’s Senior Advisor Lalith Weeraratna said despite the tragic situation in India he was hopeful the remaining AstraZeneca vaccine from the Indian producer would arrive in small batches to meet the second jab requirement domestically.

He said Sri Lanka placed an order for 1.5 million doses from the Serum Institute, India and 500,000 doses of this order arrived on January 28 as a grant from the Indian Government.

“We are hopeful the remaining order will arrive in time for us to complete the second shot,” he said adding that however, the Government has already begun discussions with other countries producing the AstraZeneca to secure a consignment of vaccines until the situation in India eases.

It is hoped that India would issue

the remaining one million doses even in small quantities, like 250,000 at a time.

Under the state vaccination program 925,242 have been vaccinated so far. According to medical experts we need to vaccinate 13 million of our 21 million population to counter the effects of the virus.

Weeraratna said 356,000 doses have been preserved so far to begin the booster shot for those who have already received their first shot.

Initially, it was agreed that the second dose should be given after four weeks, but further research has now established that giving the second dose within 12-16 weeks is more effective.

He said since the second dose is to be given within 12-16 weeks we have three months to bring down the



vaccines for the second round.

In addition, the Government is awaiting approvals from the NMRA to administer the Chinese Sinopharm Vaccine.

“We received 600,000 doses of the Chinese Covid-19 vaccine Sino-

pharm. There was a request to give 5,000 doses of it to the Chinese workers in Sri Lanka.

Already it has been administered and we have not come across any side effects,” Weeraratna said.

NMRA granted approval to bring it down but we need to get specific approval to give it to our people.

We expect that within the next two to three weeks, the World Health Organization (WHO) will also approve the Sinopharm vaccine. If so, we can use it on our people. The details of the Synopharm vaccine program will be conveyed to the people in the coming days.

The Health authorities will commence administering the second dose of the AstraZeneca by the first week of May.

Navy told to apprehend Indian fishing... From page 1

...fisherfolk which was in dire straits for the past several years due to the battle against terrorism in the North will not be allowed to deteriorate further and all measures would be implemented to revive the fishing industry in the region and in the country, at large.

Minister Devananda said that the festering issue regarding Indian poachers in the country’s territorial waters should be handled at diplo-

matic levels between the two countries and decisions should be taken in the best interest of safeguarding local fish workers.

“Adverse comments have been made against me over the Indian fishing vessels. Of course, I clearly understand the problems faced by the Northern fishermen due to the Indian poachers.

My Ministry is in contact with the Indian officials regarding this

issue. I have even directed the Navy in the North to be vigilant over the Indian fishing vessels entering the Northern waters and apprehend them so that legal action could be instituted against them”, Minister Devananda said.

He added that measures have been taken to develop the fishing harbours in the North which had been neglected for past three decades.

Sri Lanka caught up... From page 1

businesspersons will not be affected by this recent travel restriction provided that their visit has been officially sanctioned by the authorities in the host country.

“SriLankan Airlines will continue to remain in the Saudi Arabia sector since the national carrier does not only handle passengers but it also transports cargo”, he said.

The overseas job industry re-

acted with shock at the sudden announcement saying it had not been informed earlier.

“This is new to us, simply because even yesterday, a batch of Sri Lankan workers left for Saudi Arabia on a scheduled flight”, President of the Association for Foreign Employment Agencies (ALFEA) Farook Marrikar told the *Sunday Observer* yesterday.

The kingdom has barred its citizens from travelling to these countries as well.

However, Saudi nationals and Iqama-holders may return to the kingdom in the next 72 hours. Thereafter, no passenger will be permitted to enter the country.

Previously, Canada, Oman and the UK had restricted Pakistanis from entering their countries

Police to recruit more Tamil... From page 1

...more young Tamil men and women to the Police Department to serve in the North as well as other predominantly Tamil-speaking areas in the country.

DIG Ajith Rohana said he was confident that there would be a good re-

sponse from eligible candidates to take this opportunity and enter the Police Department.

He added that the successful candidates will also be provided an opportunity to serve in their own districts.

“Over the past few years some

10,000 young men and women have been recruited to the Police Department throughout the country.

Another 24,000 young men and women are expected to be recruited to the Police Department over the next two years”, DIG Rohana said.

GMOA warns against... From page 1

He told the media in Colombo yesterday that the GMOA has already helped the Government in connection with strategies to be employed in managing the current situation.

It is the duty of all Government Ministries to put those decisions into practice. For example, when a recommendation was made by the Government to transport passengers according to the number of seats available, all state and private offices should offer flexible working hours for their staff to adapt to this request.

According to Dr. De Zoysa, no

matter which variant of the Covid-19 comes to Sri Lanka and how powerful it is, it is the same old set of health guidelines which protects everyone from the pandemic.

Therefore, it is essential for everyone to follow all given health guidelines all the time. No event should be permitted to be organised without following instructions from health officials.

Dr. De Zoysa said that if undetected Covid-19 asymptomatic patients could travel around the country during the holidays, and the situation could become very serious

and similar to India because contact tracing will be impossible.

Dr. De Zoysa said that nothing could be done without changing the attitude of people in controlling Covid-19.

Since it is a global issue and neighbouring India is connected to Sri Lanka through various ways such as illegal migrants, illegal activities using the sea, the country is in danger.

At present, all three stakeholders, the Government, health service and the people should act united, he added.

Public should adhere to new health... From page 1

...and attending events which will have large gatherings.”

State Minister Fernandopulle told the Task Force meeting on Friday (April 23) that they proposed to restrict inter-provincial movements at least during long weekends and also to close schools for a month as still Covid-19 clusters are emerging here and there.

However, that was just only a suggestion and it was not approved considering the difficulties faced by the people. The Government will have to reconsider whether the schools will have to be closed or not in keeping with the ongoing situation.

She said perhaps it may pave the way to increase the number of Covid-19 cases as the public disregard-

ed the health guidelines during the Sinhala and Tamil New Year.

In addition, the variant that is spreading now may infect more people. Even Prof. Neelika Malavige, Head of the Department of Immunology and Molecular Medicine at the University of Sri Jaywardenapura said that they have detected a new virus trend from the random samples that they have tested. That could also be a reason why the present trend has become very infectious.

Public transport is only permitted to transport seated passengers under the new health guidelines issued.

Private taxi services should limit the maximum number of passengers to two for cars and trishaws.

Hospitals send SOS as record deaths... From page 1

...overnight because of a lack of oxygen, an official said.

The Government said it is deploying trains and the air force to transport supplies to hard-hit areas.

The number of deaths across India rose by 2,624 in the 24 hours to Saturday, up from 2,263 on Friday.

The World Health Organization (WHO) said the situation in India was a “Devastating reminder” of what the coronavirus could do.

Earlier this year, the Indian Government believed it had beaten the virus. New cases fell to 11,000 by mid-February, vaccines were being exported, and in March the Health Minister said India was “In the endgame” of the pandemic.

However, since then, a new surge has erupted, driven by the emergence of new variants, as well as mass gatherings, such as the Kumbh Mela festival, where millions of pilgrims gathered earlier this month.

Hospitals in Delhi have warned they are at breaking point. At the Holy Family Hospital, intensive care units are full and there is no room for any more beds.

“Almost every hospital is on the edge. If oxygen runs out, there is no

leeway for many patients,” Dr Sumit Ray told the BBC.

“Within minutes, they will die. You can see these patients: they’re on ventilators, they require high-flow oxygen. If the oxygen stops, most of them will die.”

Another hospital had put out an SOS message for oxygen, saying it was down to 30 minutes’ supply. The Moolchand Hospital, which has 135 Covid patients on life support, said all the hospitals in the area were in a similar situation.

“We have retained all our night staff to make sure we save as many lives as we can,” Moolchand’s medical director Madhu Handa told the NDTV news network.

“We hope the supply comes in time but we’re keeping our fingers crossed, and this is a never-ending thing; it happens every day.”

The hospital had stopped admitting patients until the situation was resolved, she said.

At the Jaipur Golden Hospital, a doctor told the BBC that the Government had allocated 3.6 tonnes of oxygen, to be delivered by 17:00 on Friday.

However, the supply - a fraction of what was promised - only arrived at midnight, he told the BBC.

For other types of vehicles, it is limited to transport seated passengers only.

Government and private sector offices have been asked to function with a minimum number of staff required and others to work from home where feasible.

The schools, pre-schools and day care centres have been asked to adhere to 50 percent of the capacity while higher education centres including universities have been closed.

Tuition classes are not permitted and weddings can be held with a maximum of 150 guests adhering to the given instructions. In addition, indoor and outdoor parties, events and other public gatherings are not permitted.

On Friday, Delhi’s Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal pleaded for oxygen supplies on live TV, a news agency reported.

“All of the country’s oxygen plants should immediately be taken over by the Government through the Army,” he said.

Desperate families have been appealing for oxygen on social media. The BBC’s Soutik Biswas was among those receiving appeals.

The BBC is not responsible for the content of external sites. A virologist at the Christian Medical College in the city of Vellore in Southern India, Gagandeep Kang, told the BBC more action was needed to stop the spread of the virus.

“We need to ensure that there are no non-essential activities taking place. You know what Indian weddings are like, and restricting the size of gatherings, whether it is for family reasons, other social reasons or for business or for political rallies.

All of that really needs to stop,” she told the BBC. “I don’t think a national lockdown is required, but I think that in places that are showing a rise in cases, we do need to intervene with greater stringency than we have done in the past.”

Import of chemical fertiliser will be stopped completely - President

"Lives are more valuable to me than a high yield"

President Gotabaya Rajapaksa stressed that the import of chemical fertiliser will be completely stopped in the near future.

The use of chemical fertilisers leads to a better harvest. However, the negative consequences caused on human lives through pollution of lakes, canals and groundwater due to the chemical fertiliser outweigh the profit.

The health sector has pointed out that the effects of chemical fertilisers have led to a number of non-communicable diseases, including kidney diseases. The expenses to treat these patients and the impact on human lives caused by these chemical fertilisers remain high.

To produce a healthy and productive citizenry, the government must ensure the right of the people to access a non-toxic and balanced diet. President Rajapaksa said that measures will be taken to ensure that only organic fertiliser would be used in the agriculture sector in the country in the future.

The President shared these views at a meeting held with the heads of state corporations and statutory boards at the President's House this week.

All parties should intervene to increase the production of organic fer-



President Gotabaya Rajapaksa

tiliser in the country. The President said that organic fertiliser will be provided in lieu of the concessionary fertiliser package for farmers. The President highlighted that the annual sum of USD 400 million spent on fertiliser imports could be used to uplift the lives of the people.

The President said that the people expected a change in policy by electing him into the Office. President Rajapaksa said that the support of

everyone is needed to fulfil those aspirations for the country.

Lanka Sugar Company (Pvt) Limited which incurred continuous losses has made a profit of Rs. 1,100 million following the ban on ethanol imports. The Chairman of Lanka Sugar Company said that about 2,500 employees who were on contract basis for about some 20 years have been made permanent and given promotions and bonuses from the profit.

The Chairperson said that the President's program has helped in transforming many loss-making institutions into profitable ones.

The "Vistas of Prosperity and Splendour" National Policy Framework clearly sets out the goals that the institutions must achieve.

The progress that the institutions under the purview of Cabinet and State Ministries have also been clearly enumerated in the National Policy Framework. President Rajapaksa told the chairpersons to work with collective responsibility and commit to achieving the policy change that the people aspired.

Secretary to the President P.B. Jayasundera, Senior Adviser to the President Lalith Weeraratunga and Finance Ministry Secretary S.R. Attygalle were also present at the occasion.

Teacher run over by truck fleeing police

JAFFNA: A female teacher was run over by a speeding tipper truck that was fleeing police with a load of illegally mined sand at Vadamarachchi, Jaffna on Thursday.

The victim was riding a motorcycle when the incident took place shortly before dusk.

Earlier, the tipper truck was signalled to stop at a police checkpoint but the driver opted to ignore the sign and instead sped off and in the ensuing melee crashed on to the teacher.

The truck was later found abandoned along with the load of sand.

The vehicle has been registered in the Sabaragamuwa Province and a hunt is on to arrest the driver and whoever else was in the vehicle at the time of the incident.

The victim is currently undergoing treatment at the Jaffna Teaching Hospital.

Sixteen buffaloes die in bizarre Omanthai train collision

OMANTHAI: A herd of 16 buffaloes was mowed down by a speeding express train that was heading for Colombo from Jaffna earlier this week.

The bizarre accident took place at a location in Omanthai when the herd was attempting to cross the rail track towards a nearby wooded area.

The animals died on the spot according to residents of the area.

In a related incident on the same day a man was seriously injured after he was knocked by a speeding train at Thandikulam in Vavuniya.



Koswatte police station closed in Covid-19 scare

KOSWATTE: The Koswatte Police Station in the Chilaw Division was forced to shut down earlier this week after an officer tested positive for Covid-19 leading to a major scare.

As a precautionary measure some 40 other officers at the same station were placed under quarantine while the functions of the police station were moved to the nearby Koswatte Wijeyesundarama Buddhist Temple.

At least 23 policemen of all ranks have tested positive for Covid-19 in the Jaffna Division and the number is expected to rise, regional health officials said.

Drug dealer held in police 'sting' operation

WENNAPUWA: A 28-year-old man was arrested along with one and a half kilograms of heroin at a safe house in Wennappuwa on late Friday.

The suspect was taken into

custody in a sting operation by sleuths from a special Anti-Vice Striking Unit with the Chilaw Police Division. The heroin has a street value of some Rs. 10 million, according to police.

Initial investigations have revealed that the suspect is a close associate of local drug lord identified only as Sameera and currently domiciled overseas.

Public help sought to trace missing couple

POLICE HQ: The police this week sought the assistance of the public to help trace a couple that has gone missing since April 19.

The man was identified as I. M. S. Kumarasinghe aged 62, 5.4 inches in height and fair in complexion. The man's wife was identified as Carmen de Silva aged 62, five feet in height and fair in complexion.

The couple are residents of Kambikotuwawatte in Wellampitiya. Information regarding their whereabouts could be provided to police on the following telephone numbers. 0112421414-0112436258

Muthurajawela sanctuary to be a national park

Environment Ministry Secretary Dr. Anil Jasinghe said that a Cabinet paper has already been drafted to convert the Muthurajawela Sanctuary to a National Park.

Dr. Jasinghe said that at the Committee on Public Accounts (COPA) chaired by Prof. Tissa Vitharana held in the Parliament complex recently. He said that a joint committee has been appointed inclusive of all parties responsible for the conservation of the Muthurajawela Sanctuary as recommended by the previous COPA meeting. The COPA Committee drew its attention to the fact that the Governor of the Western Province had passed a resolution in the Gampaha District Development Committee on January 27 stating that over 600 acres of all private lands in Muthurajawela Eco-Sensitive Zone by the Government. Its legitimacy was discussed at the committee.

COPA also drew its attention towards the complaints received by the Sri Lanka Land Development Corporation, the Central Environmental Authority, the Urban Development Authority and the Department of Agrarian Development pertaining to

the unauthorised filling of lands in Muthurajawela Eco-Sensitive Zone and its failure to take formal action on a number of such complaints pertaining to the said concern.

While the Auditor General directed his attention towards the complaints received regarding unauthorised constructions taking place in the Muthurajawela Wetland Zone were not properly investigated by the relevant Government agencies, he also stated that an audit inquiry is already under way regarding the recent reclamation of six hectares. It was also emphasised that in the absence of proper intervention by Government institutions, unauthorised landfills and constructions are thus being encouraged.

Attention was drawn to the process of making Colombo the world's first wetland capital in 2018 and the presentation of data related to the survey conducted by the Urban Development Authority on the current situation in the Muthurajawela wetland and the surrounding area on the instructions of the Prime Minister also took place at the committee.

It was emphasised that 15 percent of the Muthurajawela Wetland Zone

and Muthurajawela Sanctuary have been destroyed due to various reasons and the remaining areas are also at risk of being destroyed and therefore the conservation process should be initiated with immediate effect.

The Committee focused on the importance of protecting the Muthurajawela Wetland Zone as a Ramsar Wetland and its conversion into a National Park in accordance with the Ramsar Convention reached by Sri Lanka on October 15, 1990 while officials pointed out the feasibility and plan of action of the Urban Development Authority, the Sri Lanka Land Development Corporation and the Department of Wildlife Conservation in working together for this purpose.

According to the Gazette notification of Muthurajawela Sanctuary No. 947/13 of 1996, the Committee was informed by the officials that the identification and demarcation of the boundaries of the Sanctuary has already commenced. The feasibility of using the Urban Development Act to strengthen the acquisition of illegal constructions and landfills in the Muthurajawela Sanctuary was also discussed.

Advertisement

Hi-tech workaholic to boost local harvest!

AgStar introduces world-renowned combine harvester

In a move symbolic of Sri Lanka's entry into a new era of agriculture, AgStar PLC has introduced what experts tout as the most advanced combine harvester to enter the local market. The Agriunion Combine Harvester, a Chinese pedigree workaholic comes packed with power, dexterity and multi-faceted use guaranteed to take the Sri Lankan farmer to the cutting-edge, says Mr. Ashan Ratwatta, Director New Business of AgStar PLC.

The Agriunion answers a compelling need for a lightweight harvester tailor-made not just for large fields but also suited for tight-corners in smaller fields without getting bogged down with dual-powered tracks giving the combine harvester the feel of a nimble tank that harvests through the most demanding terrain with subtle ease. It's an engineering marvel that harvests and sort paddy - all on the go, introducing cultivators to a new world of productivity and profits, says Mr. Danushka de Zoysa, Head of Agri Tech Division of AgStar PLC.

Agriunion is the first 3rd Generation harvester Introduced in Sri Lanka and quite naturally, the

initial investment requires forward thinking as the eventual long-term returns far outweighs the capital expenditure, says Mr. de Zoysa who goes on to illustrate how this modern agricultural marvel handles all kinds of paddy fields from muddy and soggy to hard terrains with all controls at the comfort of the operator without getting off his seat, a welcome change from the current experience.

Yet another welcome sign for local cultivators is the Agriunion's ability to efficiently harvest wind or rain-swept crops which lumbers downward, a task beyond the grasp of traditional combine harvesters. Agriunion also comes purpose-built to handle other crops like maize and wheat. Agriunion may be new to Sri Lanka but is a proven-performer in China and around the world, says Mr. de Zoysa.

Sri Lanka's ability to ensure efficient and sustainable use of existing farmlands assuring higher yields hinges on how quickly our cultivators embrace new technology. Stepping in as farmers' one-stop agent of prosperity is the country's new trend setter in agriculture AgStar PLC which is

credited with introducing the most technologically-advanced combine harvester to enter the local market.

Farm mechanization is the need of the hour in bringing agriculture out of its conventional trap which sees farmers across the country burdened with devastating low produce. AgStar is leading from the front when it comes to farm mechanization solutions to local farming community to help growers overcome labor scarcity, retain modern-day youth in farming, manage costs and quality of the harvest while achieving potentially optimal crop yields, says Mr. Pasad Weerasekera, Managing Director of AgStar PLC.

Scientific and sustainable practices in land preparation, selecting high quality seed and planting materials, practicing good nutrition applications, water and crop care management, as well as, latest harvesting techniques are the pillars of success in agriculture. AgStar offers a wide range of state-of-art machinery solutions for many of these stages at the moment and will keep finding more solutions to fulfill every stage as we go along, says Mr. Ratwatta.




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“NO REASON TO WORRY ABOUT COLOMBO PORT CITY BILL”

JVP and some others don't want the country to progress

-JUSTICE MINISTER ALI SABRY

“THE WHOLE IDEA IS TO CREATE A ONE STOP SHOP”

By
**Uditha
Kumarasinghe**



Minister of Justice Ali Sabry, PC said the Janatha Vimukthi Perumana (JVP) and some others don't want the country to progress. This is just like some people did their politics over the past 20 to 25 years harping on the Northern and Eastern issue by using it as a 'beggar's wound'. The Minister in an interview with the *Sunday Observer* said some of these people know when the country progresses and achieves its true potential and accelerate its economic growth that is the end of their so-called divisive, backward, outdated policies and politics.

So, naturally they need to find a way to sabotage the whole progress of the nation and to create a ghost out of nothing. Minister Sabry said there is absolutely no reason for us to unduly worry about the Colombo Port City Economic Commission Bill.

He said if the Supreme Court by any chance gives us instruction that these particular areas of the Bill would be problematic or unconstitutional, we will take that into consideration and we will go ahead with it. The Minister said however, he doesn't personally see that there is anything which is unconstitutional in the Port City Bill.

Excerpts

Q. Samagi Jana Balawegaya (SJB) Parliamentarian Champika Ranawaka has said that the Colombo Port City is not a turning point and it would pave the way to divide the country. Would you like to respond to this claim?

A: It is absolutely callous and dissatisfied. This shows the bankruptcy of the Opposition itself. How can the Port City pave the way for any separation? When Champika Ranawaka was the Megapolis and Western Development Minister, he himself in one of the Cabinet papers had suggested that the 51 percent be owned by the Chinese and 49 percent for us. That is what his Ministry had suggested to the Attorney General. But we are suggesting that the entire thing is owned by the Government. So, how could it divide the country?



OF COURSE, WE KNOW THE NUMBERS OF COVID-19 CASES HAS INCREASED. SO, THIS IS A VERY CRUCIAL PERIOD. WE DON'T WANT TO GO FOR A THIRD WAVE BECAUSE THE ENTIRE WORLD HAS SUFFERED IMMENSELY THROUGH THE THIRD WAVE. WE HAVE SEEN THAT IN THE USA, EUROPE AND VERY PATHETIC SITUATIONS IN INDIA AND BRAZIL. IT IS THE DUTY OF ALL CONCERNED TO STRICTLY ADHERE TO THE HEALTH GUIDELINES AND CONTINUE TO EXERCISE CAUTION WITHOUT GETTING INTO UNNECESSARY TROUBLE

The land belongs to the Government of Sri Lanka and it will be operated by the Commission. The Commission is appointed by the Sri Lankan President. Then it will be audited by a qualified auditor with the sanctions of the Auditor General of the country.

Any laws which will be applicable here will be the common Sri Lankan law. Just like when we had in 1978 when we introduced the BOI special laws with regard to operation aspects of the business, that will be governed by the Commission and there are tax reliefs. That is even there now under the BOI law. Without the tax relief, no one will come and invest here. Therefore, the allegation levelled by the Opposition is absolutely false.

Q. Twenty-one petitions have been filed at the Supreme Court challenging the Port City Economic Commission Bill. Your comments?

A: There is nothing wrong in that. The people have the right in terms of the Constitution to go to the Supreme Court as the apex court of the country to look into the constitutionality of it. So, if the Supreme Court goes through that and suggests it has to be done with two thirds or this particular process has to be done with a referendum, we will take that into our consideration in strategising the future course of action.

The present Government will always act in accordance with the Constitution of Sri Lanka and will not go against the Supreme Court rulings.

Q. How do you view the recent comment by the US Ambassador to Sri Lanka and the Maldives Alaina B. Teplitz that the Colombo Port City paves the way for money laundering?

A: It is very regrettable. We will not allow that to happen. The normal Sri Lankan money laundering law will apply

and there is no problem with that. Because the criminal law is the Sri Lankan law. We have the money laundering act and it has been repeatedly updated. Money laundering is not a problem here. Money laundering is a problem in the so-called Western world. If you look at the investments from Cayman Islands in the US alone, it is US\$ 1.8 trillion. In addition, there is US\$ 1.3 trillion investments from Luxembourg in the US.

That is where the monies are parked and reinvested. I think there is absolutely no substance in that statement and we will not allow that to happen. The Financial Intelligence Unit of the Finance Ministry is constantly monitoring these kinds of transactions. So, there is no truth in that statement.

Q. The JVP and some others say the Colombo Port City Economic Commission Bill would make the Port City a Chinese colony. Your views?

A: I think they don't want the country to progress. This is just like some people did their politics over the past 20 to 25 years on the northern and eastern issue by using it as a 'beggar's wound'. Some of these people know when the country progresses and achieves its true potential and accelerate its economic growth that is the end of their so-called divisive, backward, outdated policies and politics. So, naturally they need to find a way to sabotage the whole progress of the nation and to create a ghost out of nothing.

Q. Can you assure the Port City Bill doesn't contain anything which is detrimental to the Constitution or the existing law in the country?

A: Actually, we have done more or less similar to what we have in this country, Greater Colombo Economic Commission Law No: 04 of 1978 through which we established these Free Trade Zones. This is a progress of

that and this is in line with many other special Financial Zones all over the world.

There are thousands of them. Unless, you give them some exemption and tax relief, no one is going to come and invest here. They have so many reasons to invest in different areas. So, that is the way we can actually attract investments. Sri Lanka cannot move forward without foreign investment. The competition for investment is high at present. Therefore, we decided to establish this Port City project to get down more investors and fast track investments. Our main intention is to bring in more Foreign Direct Investments to the country.

How do we address the issue of constitutionality? We drafted the Port City Bill and gave it to the Attorney General and he has given his opinion that this is constitutional. Thereafter, the people can go to the Supreme Court and it will revive it. We have taken the usual procedure which will be taken to enact a Bill. So, there is nothing less or nothing more. Therefore, there is absolutely no reason for us to unduly worry about it. If you remember, with regard to the 20th Amendment, the Supreme Court on four areas said if you want to enact them, you need to go to a referendum.

We took the advice of the Supreme Court and dropped those four areas. Similarly, if the Supreme Court by any chance gives us instruction that these particular areas of the Bill would be problematic or unconstitutional, we will take that into consideration and we will go ahead with it. But, personally speaking on the basis of the Attorney General's advice, I don't see there is anything which is unconstitutional in the Port City Bill.

Q. Is there any truth in the Opposition claim that the Colombo Port City has been removed from the purview of the Colombo Municipal Council?

A: Yes. That is correct. The whole idea is to create a one stop shop which means like an event manager. Earlier, when somebody had a wedding in the past, they had to go to different places and somebody had to source the bridal, coat, band, venue and flower arrangements. Today what most of them do is they go for a one stop shop or an event manager and they provide you everything. That is how it is.

If you want to get international investors to come and invest in your country, you can't expect them to go behind the local authorities, surveyors, electricity board, environmental authority, central Government and other places for a hundred days. So, all those

FACT-FILE
Ali Sabry



▶ 1970: Born in Kalutara as Mohamed Uvais Mohamed Ali Sabry to M.S.M. Uvais and Zareena Uvais. Educated at Kalutara Muslim Central College and Zahira College, Colombo. Entered Sri Lanka Law College, served as General Secretary of the Law Students' Union and leader of the Sinhala Debating Team.

▶ He was the Treasurer of the Bar Association of Sri Lanka and Chairman of the Junior Bar Committee of the Bar Association of Sri Lanka. Qualified as an Attorney at Law, Sabry served in several top legal positions in Sri Lanka and represented many international conferences and diplomatic missions.

▶ 2012: Appointed as a President's Counsel. He is the first President's Counsel to serve as Minister of Justice after M.W.H. de Silva, QC, Minister of Justice in the Cabinet of S.W.R.D. Bandaranaike.

▶ 2020: Entered mainstream politics and became a member of the Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna (SLPP) and chief legal adviser and President of the Muslim Federation of the SLPP.

▶ 2020: A National List Member of Parliament from SLPP.

▶ August 2020: Minister of Justice in the Cabinet of President Gotabaya Rajapaksa

Source: Internet, Graphic: Mahil Wijesinghe

things will be cumbersome. What we have done is that all these laws will apply but that will be applied through the Commission not individually. So, the idea is when someone comes as a busy world-class investor, he will be given an efficient service which is on par with the others or better than the others in the region. So, they have a reason to come. It is just like an event

manager or wedding planners' job. For example, earlier we had to go to vegetable vendors to buy vegetables, fish vendors to buy fish and fair to buy coconuts. Do the people have time to do that now? They just walk into a Supermarket under one roof or one stop shop and buy everything and leave. This is also a similar kind of thing. I don't understand as to why they are so jealous and callous about the country's progress.

Q. Government lawmakers have raised concern on the recent controversial remarks by SLPP Parliamentarian Wijeyadasa Rajapaksa on the Port City Bill. Will the SLPP resort to any disciplinary action against him?

A: I also feel that he could have first raised that issue within the party and discussed it before he publicly made those comments to the media.

Q. Religious leaders on Wednesday had a peaceful march demanding to expedite the ongoing investigations to bring the masterminds of the 2019 Easter Sunday attacks without any further delay. Could you explain?

A: Actually, all the investigations are going on. Now the extracts have been given to the Attorney General and he is reviving them one by one to start filing the cases.

The Government cannot get involved in filing the cases. It has to be done by the Attorney General. So, he has got all the extracts and investigation notes and he is in the process of preparing it. I don't see any delay or lapse on the part of the Government and the investigations are continuing.

Q. The health authorities have warned of the emerging third wave of Covid-19 as the public disregard the health guidelines especially during the Sinhala and Tamil New Year. Your views?

A: Of course, we know the numbers of Covid-19 cases has increased. So, this is a very crucial period. We don't want to go for a third wave because the entire world has suffered immensely through the third wave. We have seen that in the USA, Europe and very pathetic situations in India and Brazil. It is the duty of all concerned to strictly adhere to the health guidelines and continue to exercise caution without getting into unnecessary trouble. It will take a little bit of time for us to get over this. There is a danger. But I think the way we have acted particularly during the first wave with extreme caution, we can get over that.

Economic prosperity through education

By
**Dr. Thilan U.
Hewage**



“Economic growth without investment in human development is unsustainable and unethical” - Amartya Sen

Economies of countries around the world have become more productive and have shown significant improvements as the education level of their citizens increases. Economic systems and their developments are essentially connected with the educational systems since knowledge is the basis of every other contributory factor to the economy. Nobel Prize winning economist Gary Becker dedicated his time researching the economic aspects of various social issues such as education, crime and punishment and family relations.

Improving human capital

He introduced the concept of 'human capital' in 1964 with his book by the same name where he viewed education not as a form of consumption that represents a costly expenditure for the Government but as an investment that improves the economic worth of

individuals (e.g., human capital) and thereby raises a country's overall productivity and global competitiveness. Systematic investment in human capital was not considered as an important factor contributing to the economy until the latter part of the nineteenth century. Expenditures on schooling, on-the-job training, and other similar forms of investment were quite small. This began to change radically during the twentieth century with the application of science and information technology to the development of goods and more efficient methods of production in developed countries.

Since then education, skills, and the acquisition of knowledge have become crucial determinants of a person's and a nation's productivity. One can even call the twentieth century the 'Age of Human Capital' in the sense that the primary determinant of a country's standard of living is how well it succeeds in developing and utilising the skills and knowledge, and furthering the health and education of the majority of its population.

It is easy to see that no country has achieved constant economic development without making a considerable investment in its human capital. Accumulation of human capital is promoted through basic education, research, training and aptitude building through

higher education. Providing equal opportunity to access education also matters in the process of equal distribution of human capital through different communities of a country.

As the ancient Chinese proverb attributed to Lao Tzu says: "Give a man a fish he will have food for one day. Teach a man to fish he will have food for a lifetime." knowing how to fish will sustain life through a longer period than that of survival by eating just one fish and then waiting for the next with a lot of uncertainties and anxieties. The man who knows how to fish may keep some for his food and then trade the rest for any other good and or service he needs. The man who knows how to fish brings more value to the human capital of that society than the one who just awaits someone else's contribution for his survival.

Strengthening the family economy

Families are the major promoters of values in a society. Economics is often defined as the subject that studies the way humans make or perhaps ought to make choices in consuming limited resources available on the planet to fulfill their unlimited needs and wants. These decisions, more often than not, are made

as families than as individuals. Even the decisions made by individuals are mainly based on the value system and the upbringing one has been subjected to within one's family structure. Parents are concerned about their children and try with whatever resources they have to promote their children's education. In addition to the formal education a child is exposed to the ethical and moral value system, in which he or she would base the decisions, that is also heavily influenced by the family and the society in which that individual grows up in.

Families make plethora of decisions starting from the number of children they should have to the level of education to acquire. Studies show that the economic and educational status of the parents make a major contribution to such decisions.

Some countries have shown that on average educated families, particularly educated women, have 1.4 children and uneducated families have 5.1 children. Some underdeveloped economies have recognised that it is helpful to reduce the rate of population growth in order to improve their economy and also education is one of the main ingredients to achieve that. More educated parents tend to invest more in their own health and the health of their children.

Education may be the single most

important determinant of a person's health and life expectancy. Though each country in the Union is responsible for its education and training systems the European Union (EU) plays a key supporting role by encouraging cooperation and the exchange of good practices between member states.

That certainly is an important support system to supplement national efforts and reforms. According to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) 20% of the EU workforce displays serious lack of skills, including low literacy and low numeracy skills and 25% of adults cannot make efficient use of information and communication technologies.

Understanding that developing necessary skills to succeed in the global labor market is one of the key factors in improving economic growth and employment in EU as they set two main targets for member states to achieve by 2020. 1. Reduce early school leaving below 10%. 2. Ensure that at least 40% of 30 - 34 year olds have completed tertiary level education. Education was found to be the main factor in preventing poverty and social exclusion.

After experiencing a couple of terrorist attacks in member nations, the EU agreed on the need to: ensure children and young people acquire civic and in-

tercultural competences, enhance critical thinking and media literacy, foster education of disadvantaged children and promote intercultural dialog. The best example of the impact that education can have on development of economies is, that of South Korea where 78% of citizens were illiterate when the Korean war ended in 1950s. World Bank considered that country as a high risk borrower in 1960s. Per capita income was less than US\$ 200 in the 70s. The country focused on overhauling schools and became committed to educating its children well. With smart innovative Government policies and a vibrant private sector, the country has become a model for others to emulate with a 98% literacy rate and a US\$ 17,788 per capita income by 2020.

Education is not only important for economic growth and prosperity but also for promoting peace and social cohesion. As the twelfth century philosopher IbnRushd has said: "Ignorance leads to fear, fear leads to hatred and hatred leads to violence". A kind of violence in a society not only would destroy the economy but also would slow down the progress of that society in all aspects.

The writer has served in higher education sector as an academic over twenty years in the USA and fourteen years in Sri Lanka and he can be contacted at thilanh@gmail.com

Myanmar: Military chief makes first foreign trip since coup

The head of the Myanmar military is set to meet international leaders on his first known foreign trip since the army took power in a coup on 1 February.

General Min Aung Hlaing is to attend a summit of the South East Asian regional body Asean in Indonesia.

The military seized power after claiming there had been voter fraud in the 2020 general election. Since then, more than 700 people have been killed in protests against the military government. The talks in the Indonesian capital Jakarta will be the first international effort to address the crisis. Leaders and foreign ministers from the 10-member Association of South East Asian Nations (Asean) will take part. Activists have called for demonstrations in Jakarta to coincide with the general's appearance there. -BBC



Brazil cuts environment budget despite climate summit pledge

Brazil's President Jair Bolsonaro has approved a cut to the environment ministry budget a day after he vowed to boost spending to tackle deforestation.

At a US-led climate summit, he promised to double the money reserved for environmental enforcement and to end illegal deforestation by 2030. But the budget signed off on Friday did not include his spending pledge, or additional proposals made by Congress. His government has weakened protections and wants to develop protected areas.

Critics said the President's promises on Thursday were linked to a controversial deal Brazil is negotiating with the US to receive financial aid in return for protecting the Amazon, the world's largest rainforest, and other areas. The 2021 federal budget includes 2.1bn reais (£280m; \$380m) for the environment ministry and agencies it oversees.

Late on Friday, Environment Minister Ricardo Salles said he had requested the economy ministry to review the numbers and fulfil the pledge made by President Bolsonaro at the virtual climate summit hosted by US President Joe Biden. -BBC



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News Feature

Previous regime mixed up political agendas with national security - Prime Minister

Chief Government Whip Minister Johnston Fernando told Parliament that the Government will never use the Easter Sunday attacks as a means to an end. He said, "We never mix politics with the Church. We have never even asked for a preferential vote in the Church. I ask the Opposition not to use the Easter Sunday tragedy for political purposes." The Minister said the Opposition should make a public apology for causing the Easter Sunday carnage. Instead, they are simply wearing black as a publicity stunt.

Minister Fernando was responding to a speech made by SJB Parliamentarian Manusha Nanayakkara regarding the Easter Sunday attacks in Parliament on Wednesday (April 21). The Minister was critical of the MP and the Opposition for making 'false statements' on the Easter Sunday attacks as an attempt to mislead the public.

He said, "The Government will not spare anyone who is responsible for the tragedy. The President and the Prime Minister believe that the culprits of the Easter Sunday carnage must be brought to justice. If the Opposition is keen on doing the same, I request them to go before the CID and give statements. Every move made by the Government concerning this tragedy was made as per the instructions given by the Attorney-General."

Tense situation

Parliamentary proceedings were adjourned for ten minutes on Wednesday (April 21) following a tense situation that erupted over the issue of the initiation of the debate on the Report of the Presidential Commission of Inquiry to investigate and inquire into and obtain information pertaining to alleged political victimisation against public officers, public servants, members of the Security Forces and the Police from January 8, 2015 to November 16, 2019. The parliamentary session resumed after being adjourned for 10 minutes.

An argument broke out in the House when Chief Opposition Whip MP Lakshman Kiriella said it was the Opposition that called for a debate on the report of the Presiden-



THE REPORT OF THE PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION OF INQUIRY APPOINTED TO LOOK INTO THE EASTER SUNDAY ATTACKS AND OTHER DOCUMENTS HAVE BEEN SENT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL TO INSTITUTE LEGAL ACTION - PRIME MINISTER

tial Commission of Inquiry on Political Victimisation and therefore, it is the Opposition that needs to open the debate. However, Leader of the House Minister Dinesh Gunawardena told Parliament that at the Party Leaders meeting it was decided that the ruling faction will produce the report first and then proceed with the debate.

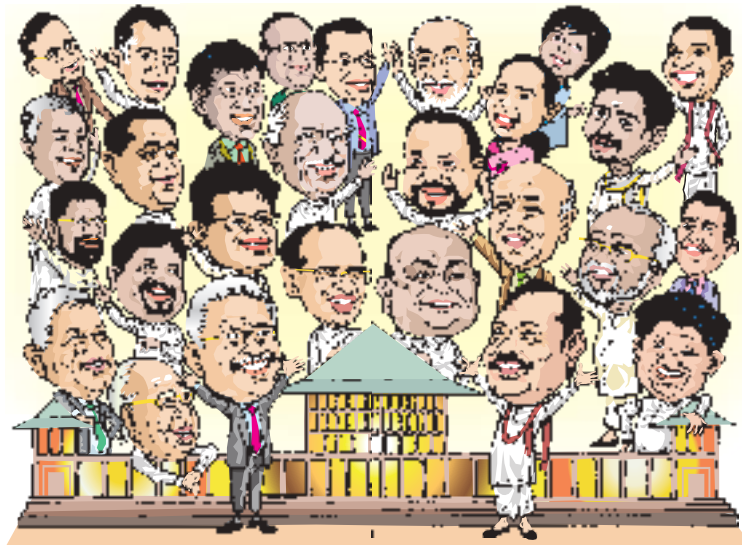
Minister Gunawardena said supporters and associates of the ruling party were subject to political victimisation and the present Opposition worked on taking revenge on them. However, MP Kiriella said it is the present Chief Justice, the then Attorney General who filed action mentioned in the PCoI report.

The argument took a tense turn when Opposition lawmaker Nalin Bandara slammed the Government for showing a lack of interest in the PCoI report on the 2019 April attacks, while showing a keen interest in the PCoI report on Political Victimisation.

MP Bandara said, "If there were proper interest on the report by the PCoI on the April 21, 2019 attacks, the real perpetrators and killers could have been identified." Chaos ensued in Parliament thereafter, forcing the speaker to adjourn the session for a short period. Footage shared by Opposition MPs on Facebook showed MPs from both sides in the well of the House in a heated confrontation.

A minute's silence

Parliament on Wednesday (April 21) observed a minute's silence to remember the victims of the Easter Sunday terror attacks. Following the special statement by Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa at the commencement of Parliament, he requested Speaker



University of Politics

By Prof. Backbencher

Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena to permit a minute of silence in memory of the victims.

Thereafter, the Government and the Opposition Members observed a minute's silence. Opposition lawmakers presented themselves at Parliament on April 21 wearing black in commemoration of the Easter Sunday attacks. They displayed posters of Easter Sunday attackers in Parliament, following which proceedings were adjourned by the Speaker Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena for ten minutes.

Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa told Parliament that all those responsible for the brutal Easter Sunday terrorist attacks on April 21, 2019 would be brought to justice. He said the Government has taken all possible measures to prevent such an unfortunate situation from reoccurring. He said that the report of the Presidential Commission of Inquiry appointed to look into the Easter Sunday attacks and other documents had already been sent to the Attorney General to institute legal action.

The Premier said, "Innocent people had to pay with their lives and limbs for the criminal neglect and evasion by the previous Government. They mixed up their political agendas with national security. Parties responsible for the attack are spreading various lies, influencing investigations and diverting social attention even to date.

"We feel sorry for such groups. While remembering all those who died, we as a Government are taking every step to prevent such an unfortunate situation from ever recurring. I would like to state that we will bring to justice all those responsible for this heinous attack." He said even though we do not wish to intervene with the judicial process, as a Government we are ready to provide any assistance required for the success of those actions.



Education system

President Gotabaya Rajapaksa said the changes to the country's education system will be introduced soon. He said that the objective of the Government is to endow a future generation that is productive and able to directly contribute to the economy.

The President was speaking during the Certificate Awarding Ceremony of the first phase of the National Program titled *Ratak Watina Pothak* (A book that is worth a country) to author ten thousand books, which was held at Temple Trees on Wednesday (April 21).

The President said that 100 selected creations are expected to be printed and the writers presented state awards. The President symbolically awarded certificates to 30 students representing the nine provinces. President Rajapaksa said that it is essential to make the children read more books with the intention of making them as productive citizens who love the country and the world. The President emphasised that a country can be developed only through quality education.

Useful tool

Archbishop Malcolm Cardinal Ranjith said that the authorities have failed to conduct an impartial, comprehensive investigation into the Easter Sunday terror attacks that left the country in shock on April 21, 2019. He was addressing a ceremony at St. Anthony's Church, Kochchikade on April 21 in commemoration of the victims of the near-simultaneous blasts two years ago. The Cardinal said this is a result of corruption and power struggles.

He said that players in global geopolitics and their local agents find religious extremism a useful instrument to achieve their goals. He also urged the authorities not to sweep the truth under the carpet, while noting that political reasons

have stalled some of the investigations.

The Cardinal said people have defeated the attempt made by various political and other forces to create animosity between the Christians, the Sinhalese and the Muslims. "We are happy that we have not reacted in a way that could have led to such disasters. We have to remember that we have always advocated that we must not hit back at our detractors because that would lead to violence and unnecessary, uncontrollable situations."

He said it is important that we work together as religions and not one against the other. "Even though we wish to forgive all these things, we would like to know what really happened. We should know who did it, and whether they repent about their actions and whether they are worthy of receiving our pardon."

Exchange of words

A tense situation arose in Parliament on Friday (April 23) after concerns were raised by the Opposition lawmakers on the attempt to arrest SJB Parliamentarian Harin Fernando over a statement made in connection to the 2019 Easter Sunday attacks.

Opposition Leader MP Sajith Premadasa told Parliament that there is an attempt to arrest MP Fernando under the Prevention of Terrorism Act (PTA) over statements he had made in Parliament. This led to a heated exchange of words between the ruling party and Opposition MPs over the matter. Chief Government Whip Minister Johnston Fernando assured the Opposition that the Government and ruling party MPs had not requested for MP Fernando to be investigated.

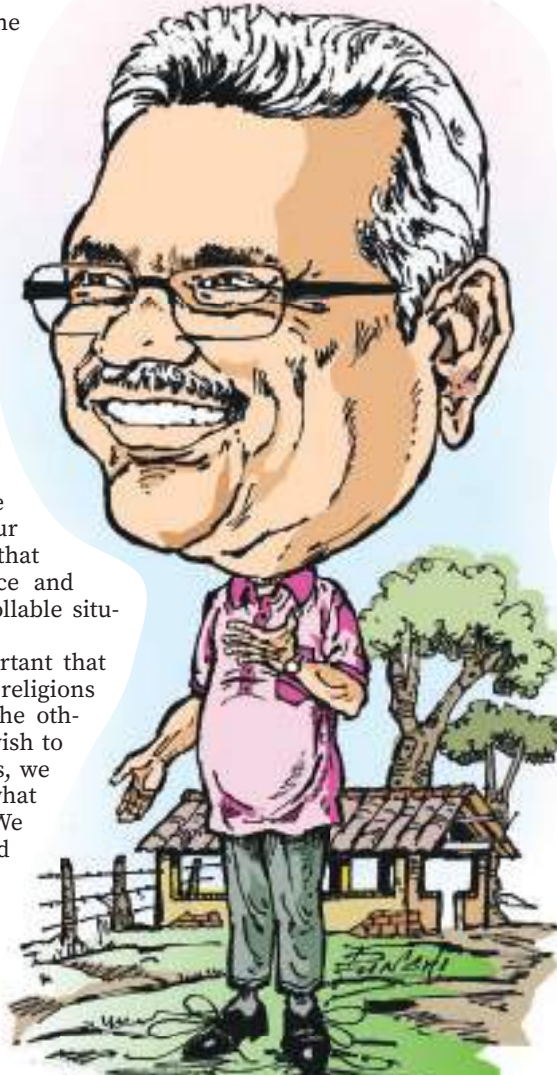
The Minister said that MP Fernando has been summoned by the CID for making contradictory statements in connection with the Easter Sunday attacks. He said MP Harin has been found to have made the contradicting statements while speaking to the CID on a previous occasion and later during the debate on the Presidential Commission Report on the Easter Sunday attacks. However, a tense situation arose again with the Opposition and Government MPs engaging in a heated argument over the statement.

SLPP National List MP Jayantha Weerasinghe said the former Yaha-palana Government led by the UNP victimised their political opponents in a grave manner than ever before in the political history of the country. He was seconding the adjournment debate on the report by the Presidential Commission of Inquiry appointed to probe incidents of Political Victimisation moved by SLPP Parliamentarian Nalin Fernando in Parliament.

He said that the priority of a newly appointed Government is to formulate laws for the betterment of the country and public whereas the Yaha-palana Government gave priority to a Gazette similar to Hitler's Gestapo policy to victimise its political opponents.

It contained background to set up the Financial Crimes Investigation Division (FCID), which was totally illegal and it was moved as their first Gazette published 12 days after the election. He said that the former Yaha-palana Government outdid Hitler and Idi Amin by taking vengeance from the family members of their political opponents. They remanded the family members as well. The illegal FCID was set up within a month of their election.

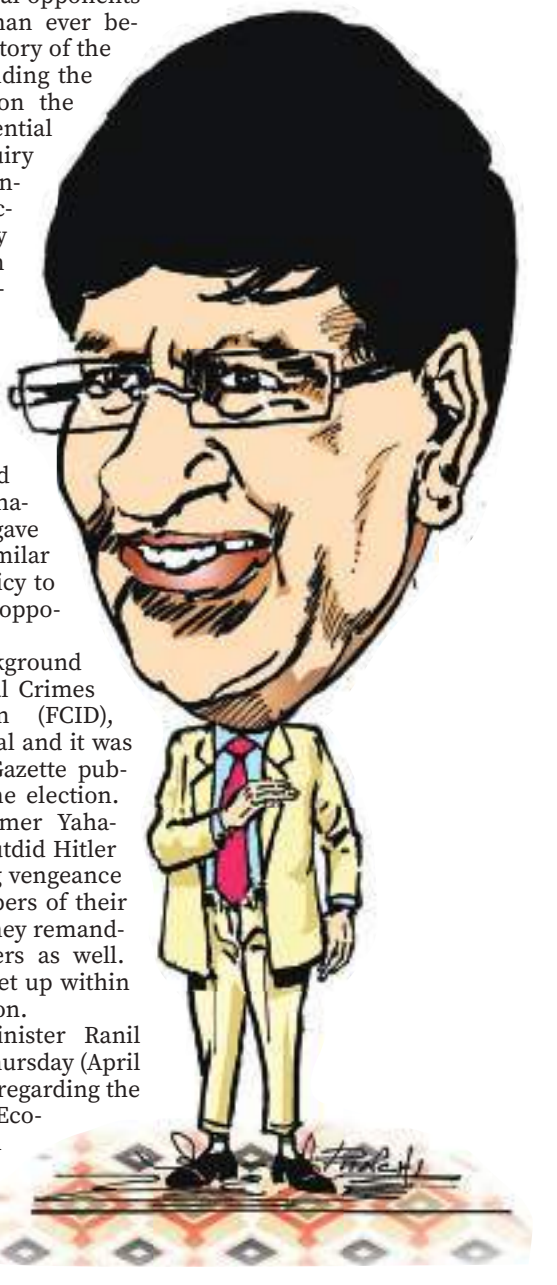
Former Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe on Thursday (April 22) issued a statement regarding the Colombo Port City Economic Commission Bill and urged the Government to discuss the matter with all parties and safeguard



THE OBJECTIVE OF THE GOVERNMENT IS TO ENDOW A FUTURE GENERATION THAT IS PRODUCTIVE AND ABLE TO DIRECTLY CONTRIBUTE TO THE ECONOMY - PRESIDENT

the powers of the executive, the legislature and the judiciary. Wickremesinghe said that in 2016 he proposed the creation of an international financial centre in Colombo to the Cabinet of Ministers and that they also decided to set up this centre in the Port City.

He said that laws were drafted for this financial centre as it was Government's responsibility while developing the infrastructure of the Port City and other affairs was the company's responsibility. "We have also safeguarded that." However, he said that this new draft bill introduced by the incumbent Government is much more dangerous and that the powers of the legislature, judiciary and the Cabinet have been completely stripped. Wickremesinghe said, "No such thing has occurred in any other country adding that they would like to know as to why this is being done."



PLAYERS IN GLOBAL GEOPOLITICS AND THEIR LOCAL AGENTS FIND RELIGIOUS EXTREMISM A USEFUL INSTRUMENT TO ACHIEVE THEIR GOALS - CARDINAL





KNOW YOUR COLOMBO PORT CITY

Colombo Port City is designed to be a competitive business and lifestyle destination in the region. The proposed Colombo Port City Economic Commission Act 2021 was drafted to create an enabling environment via a Single - Window Facilitation Centre to attract global investors, ensuring ease of doing business and state oversight over Colombo Port City, while minimising the government's funding commitments.

Claim: Port City will not generate any revenue for Sri Lanka

Reality: 99% of leases from the government's marketable land area and all area taxes and levies will be credited to the Government's Consolidated Fund.

Claim: Colombo Port City isn't governed by the laws of the land

Reality: The CPC is governed by Sri Lankan law, subject to exemptions designed to improve the ease of doing business, given the nature of the special economic zone, similar to BOI and economic zones around the world.

Claim: The Municipal Council has been shunned

Reality: Similar to other zones worldwide, common facilities will be provided by an Estate Management company. A special area, like Colombo Port City, requires special expertise, at costs that the government doesn't have to subsidise.

Claim: Port City is a Chinese Colony

Reality: The Commission will market Port City to investors across the world to become a truly global hub. Port City was built by China Harbour Engineering Corporation, a Fortune-500 entity, which will invest USD 1.4 Bn in the project. Much of the workforce during the construction phase has been Sri Lankan.

Claim: Port City doesn't belong to Sri Lanka

Reality: The entire reclaimed land area was annexed to the Colombo District as State Land and vested with the UDA in October 2019. Once the Act is passed, the land will be vested with the Colombo Port City Economic Commission.

Claim: We will need visas to enter Port City

Reality: Sri Lankan residents can freely access Port City to live, work, shop and enjoy themselves, while transacting in Rupees.

Claim: Local authorities have been robbed of oversight

Reality: The Commission has been designed, as a "single-window facilitator," for ease of doing business. On all matters, the Commission will work with relevant local authorities.

Claim: Commission members will run a rogue state

Reality: The President will appoint and can remove members to the Commission; they are answerable to Parliament and are accountable to Sri Lanka's Courts of Law.

Claim: Sri Lanka's Police will have no control over CPC

Reality: The Sri Lanka Police will be in charge within the Port City, and all related cases will be tried within the local judicial system. Associated cases will be given priority at Court, while a Commercial Dispute Resolution Centre is to be established for greater speed and consistency to improve investor confidence.

Claim: Sri Lankans can't use local currency at Port City

Reality: Transactions in Sri Lankan Rupees are allowed within the Port City, but will be subject to a small tax, in order to provide a level playing field to those vendors and businesses operating outside of Port City.

Claim: Port City is not answerable to Parliament

Reality: Parliamentary oversight has been built in to the Act - every regulation made under the Act must be gazetted and approved by Parliament.

Claim: The Commission will be a burden on the government

Reality: The Commission is initially funded with capital from the project company and will be self-funded via 1% of lease sums of properties sub-leased by CHEC Port City.

Claim: Sri Lankans can't invest within Port City

Reality: Any Sri Lankan can invest in Port City, as long as such funds have been raised outside of Sri Lanka, in keeping with the objective of Port City to raise foreign direct investment.

Claim: Foreigners will buy up all of CPC

Reality: Land within CPC can only be leased subject to restrictions in the Land Act. Therefore, no transfer on freehold basis is possible. Leases are open to Sri Lankans and foreigners.

Claim: Port City will be a Money Laundering hub

Reality: All salient features of Sri Lanka's Banking Act, Prevention of Money Laundering Act, Financial Transactions Reporting Act and Convention on the Suppression of Terrorist Financing, are applicable to Port City.

Claim: CPC will be a tax haven

Reality: As per the Inland Revenue Act, earnings of off-shore companies are already exempt from corporate tax. So, there will be no different tax treatment on export earnings, whether a company operates within or outside the Port City.

Claim: Port City will be isolated from the rest of the country

Reality: Both physically and through all networks, CPC will be very much a part of Sri Lanka and its economy. Any Sri Lankan resident or business can provide goods and services to those within the Port City.

Claim: Port City will only employ foreigners

Reality: Employment opportunities of every category are open to Sri Lankan residents, who will be paid in foreign currency. This is a great opportunity for Sri Lanka to reduce brain drain, as well as to offer more at-home opportunities to blue-collar workers.

SUNDAY OBSERVER

A new phase in the Covid-19 battle

The Covid-19 pandemic is not over yet. That is the simple message that should be drilled into the mind of every Sri Lankan. Yet, the vast majority of people in the country behaved as if we had seen an end to the contagion, over the past few months and especially this month.

Despite the acute and frequent warnings of the Government and health authorities, the people celebrated the Sinhala and Tamil New Year as if it was a normal year sans a pandemic. They went shopping, travelled en masse to villages, organised mostly maskless leisure trips and Avurudu festivals and generally disregarded all health precautions and guidelines issued by authorities.

Now it looks like we are reaping the whirlwind, with a spike in Covid-19 cases in most areas. There is no doubt that asymptomatic travellers from Colombo had spread the disease in outstation areas such as Kurunegala and Nuwara Eliya, which were relatively unscathed by the earlier waves of the disease.

The Government did randomly subject some of these travellers to Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) and Lateral Flow Tests (LFTs) such as Rapid Antigen Tests (RATs), but many infected persons would have slipped through this net as not all vehicles could be stopped.

The people could not celebrate the Sinhala and Tamil New Year, Vesak and Ramadan on a grand scale under the very strict lockdown that prevailed in 2020, as they were confined to their homes. Thus the Government did not seek to impose the same harsh conditions this year as well.

Nevertheless, it did warn that the battle against Covid-19 was not over yet by any means and advised people to follow all guidelines including social (physical) distancing, avoiding large crowds, wearing face masks, washing hands frequently with soap and water or sanitiser and being at home if Coronavirus symptoms are apparent.

To cite just one example, the teeming crowds at Pamunuwa, Maharagama, a suburb of Colombo, that had converged from all parts of the country to buy textiles and garments for Avurudu, were enough to convince anyone that the people had thrown caution to the winds.

There was absolutely no social distancing - leave alone one metre, there was not even one centimeter between two shoppers in Pamunuwa. Many did not even have masks on and no one bothered with washing hands. Overwhelmed by the crowds, the Police and PHIs could not control the situation. Much the same happened with leisure trips - half the vehicles in Colombo were seen in Nuwara Eliya over the Avurudu holidays.

Needless to say, many Covid-19 cases have now been reported from among the Pamunuwa shoppers and Nuwara Eliya trippers. This was the inevitable result of carelessness. As one eminent doctor said "You have to choose what is more important - clothes for your family or your very lives". It seems that many had chosen the former. There is no medicine for foolishness and carelessness.

However, none of this would have happened if the people looked beyond our border to neighbouring India, which is now grappling with a ferocious third wave of the disease. Just like here, the people in India were overcome by a triumphalist attitude that they had somehow overcome the virus.

This proved to be their undoing. There were massive religious gatherings, election rallies and even sports events (attendance at one cricket match exceeded 130,000 mostly maskless fans) where health guidelines were simply ignored. The result is that India is now experiencing around 300,000 cases daily with around 2,000 fatalities per day on average, with the entire health system on the verge of breakdown.

It took just a few weeks for this tragedy to unfold.

One striking fact about what is happening in India and even in Sri Lanka, is that younger persons (those below 50) are catching Covid-19 whereas earlier it was mostly the elderly (those above 60) who fell prey to the virus. It is a dangerous trend as this age group is economically active and significant.

The proliferation of double mutant and other highly transmissible variants of the Coronavirus could be one reason for this new status quo. It is therefore important that young people give up any sentiments to the effect that they are "immune" to Covid-19. They should follow the health precautions like everyone else.

Yet, the situation in Sri Lanka is not beyond salvation. While there certainly is a surge in positive cases, it can still be controlled without facing a "third wave" per se if we collectively follow the relevant health guidelines outlined above.

This is exactly why the Government has not opted to go for full lockdown this time around even in the midst of an increase in cases. Instead, certain areas could be isolated depending on the severity of the spread. As experienced in 2020, lockdowns can be economically devastating, especially to the underprivileged sections of society and also to segments of the economy such as transport. It is not a long-term solution in any case.

Instead, we should redouble our efforts to restrict unnecessary movements and follow the health guidelines, develop our free healthcare system further (with more ICU beds and ventilators, for instance), vaccinate all eligible Sri Lankans against Covid-19 as soon as possible and seek access to the latest medical treatments for Covid-19.

Our universities such as the Sri Jayawardenepura University should enhance their research capabilities vis-à-vis the Coronavirus and its multiple variants and join global efforts to stop the contagion in its tracks. Only a whole-of-society approach can defeat this once-in-a-century pathogen that has virtually held the entire globe hostage for more than one year.

How Port City detractors give new meaning to the word sovereignty

by
Rajpal Abeynayake



Those who are in a frenzy agitating against the Colombo Port City Commission Bill, first up, did not get the memo. They quite apparently did not get the jot pad note that there are Special Economic Zones (SEZs) all over the world, and that they all operate that way because they are Special.

If they were not special, and there is a new city emerging in such a not so special context, there is just one thing to do. You just have to name the new city and move on, period.

If the Colombo Port City was not a Special Economic Zone, one thing and just one thing would have been done by now. Somebody would have said "do you see what I see?" The other person would have replied, yes, abracadabra, I see a new land mass. The first person would have then said, "What's so special about that, let's do what we have to with it."

So, they would have said, pronto, we are going to call that Colombo 16. 15 zones subdivide Colombo, and all that reclaimed territory the entire 269 hectares of it, would have been named Colombo 16. Has a nice ring to it. At the most sixteen candles would be lit on a cake by the ever smiling Rosy Senanayake, and maybe just as the icing on the cake she would make a speech in which she quips "does anybody here want to exchange your Colombo seven address to a brand new Colombo 16 address?"

But the problem with that simple and linear scenario is that the Colombo Port City is a Special Economic Zone, and in addition an International Financial City. There are 5400 SEZs in the world, out of which a 5000 were established in the last five years. There are at least 15 international financial cities (IFCs) in the world, of which most are regional and some are offshore, such as the Caymen Islands.

EARTHSHAKING

There are three islands for instance that comprise the Caymen Islands. Grand Caymen is the Enterprise City. It's special of course. No bright spark in that part of the Caribbean decided it's not going to be a special zone, and decided simply to call them all Caymen One, Caymen Two and Caymen Three respectively, as the British first named Colombo into zones One, Two and Three and so on, right up to 15.

If anybody is so desperate to have a Colombo 16 with that sweet 16 ring to it, we should all be happy with splitting Colombo Seven in two and calling one part 16, but that being just an aside, it is apparent the Offshore Financial Enterprise City concept is not about business as usual (BAU).

Sadly, the assumption has been that the country should get on with business as usual. But we have had that since 1948 - BAU in perpetuity. It's the same Business as Usual that led to the youth uprisings commonly referred to as the JVP uprisings of 1971 and 1989.



Pic: Lake House Media Library

But nobody thought to appoint a daylight-robber Governor of the Central Bank who is also a foreigner, until that Yahapalana UNP government did. There have been foreigners whose performance in Sri Lankan enterprise has been judged as good by the same opposition detractors of the Port City project. For instance, there was Peter Hill who ran SriLankan Airlines

This year, we remember the 50th anniversary of the first of those uprisings, the Wijeweera putsch for power in 1971, when we as a country initially lost our innocence.

With the second uprising in 1989, which was an orgy of bloodletting the likes of which are very rarely paralleled in any part of the world, there was the national bout of soul searching with the appointment of a Youth Commission and a desperate search for the identikit of the typical boy next door turned terrorist.

Why did the young men and women turn against the State? Polite society was scandalised how Business as Usual was disrupted so trenchantly in one bloody blistering attack on the Establishment. After the Commission report was slid into the Inbox after months of conscientious deliberation, something happened. It was earthshaking.

You guessed it. They went back to Business as Usual. It means years afterward, the youth demographic in particular is still plagued in pockets with unemployment, or under-employment.

The International Finance City, or the Enterprise City or the special Economic Zone - whatever you may call it - that is the Colombo Port City seeks to shore up job numbers, and also boost the economy in general which will in turn also shore up job numbers.

Imran Khan is doing it in overdrive in Pakistan, and if we don't get out act together we will be left hopelessly behind considering that there are nine new SEZs in the pipeline in Pakistan that are a joint venture with China as a sub-project of the One Belt One Road initiative.

LEGISLATED

Premier Khan has been getting some of the same flak as the Port City is getting in Colombo, but he hasn't baulked. He isn't the type for that, with stubborn determination as his hallmark; he struggled for 22 years after forming his new party, to become the PM.

Here in Sri Lanka, the detractors want to suppress the jobs for youth, and stanch the progress because they say there is an attack on the sovereignty of the country. But how so?

For instance, they say that foreigners can be appointed to the Port City Commission. But those who support the kind of politics that seek to halt the Port City project on those grounds would remember it is their leaders in government that appointed Arjuna Mahendran as the Governor of the Central Bank. The point is that foreigners can be appointed to many posts in the country because simply, everything cannot be legislated away.

But nobody thought to appoint a daylight-robber governor of the Central Bank who is also a foreigner, until that Yahapalana UNP government did. There have been foreigners whose performance in Sri Lankan enterprise has been judged as good by the same opposition detractors of the Port City project. For instance, there was Peter Hill who ran Sri Lankan Airlines.

The current opposition types often blame - not praise - the then SLFP government for getting rid of him. They say he was a great Executive success, and that Sri Lankan Airlines did brilliantly under him and Emirati management. He was sent packing for various reasons, but that's not the

point. Does the current opposition not want foreigners such as Hill and his ilk whom they call experienced and qualified achievers who are good managers, to be in the Port City Commission? They want to legislate away that possibility?

Wouldn't that be ridiculous from an opposition and the current opposition type political camp to suggest that good foreign managers be kept out of the Port City Commission under legislative fiat?

This from those who think Peter Hill was brilliant and blamed the then SLFP for getting rid of him? Was that a breach of our sovereignty, using and the celebrating Mr. Hill? That would have been curious indeed.

TERRITORY

The point is that foreigners have served Sri Lanka in different capacities in the past, and they still could in some posts perhaps - because that option of hiring a foreigner has not always been legislated away.

But nobody thought of appointing a crook such as Mahendran until the then UNP government did. The point is that with or without legislation on employing foreigners, some governments botch things up. It's in the execution, not in the legislation.

Everything cannot be written into legislation. If that's so, it's an invitation to cause administrative rigour mortis. There was no legislation stating that governments could not enter into ceasefire agreements with Velutillai Prabhakaran's LTTE, that bartered away control to the LTTE, parts of our sovereign territory. But the then UNP government signed such pacts anyway. Irrespective of whether there was legislation against it or not, a crook such as Arjuna Mahendra was hired to head the Central Bank. No other government did it before or after because they simply wouldn't do an idiotic thing like that, period.

It takes leaders in government to breach sovereignty, and the current opposition types specialised in it. Now they want to effectively legislate against the draft Port City Bill citing breach of people's sovereign rights? Surely, they must have given new meaning to the word sovereignty?



Colombo Port City - a boost for Sri Lankan economy

BY PROF. A. RAMEEZ

The Colombo Port City Economic Commission Bill is a hot issue that surfaced in Sri Lankan politics in recent times. This city will undoubtedly meet the need to restructure the worst-affected Sri Lankan economy, despite being politically entrenched and hotly debated. This article discusses some of the facts regarding the Port City and its benefits to the nation and draws the attention on the criticism on the above bill. Sri Lankan Government initiated its efforts to establish a Colombo Port City in 1998.

The project was a large-scale land reclamation project funded by China Communication Construction Company. This is the flagship project of the Mahinda Chinthana and China's Maritime Silk Road. Through this project, both countries seek to enhance the economic development and infrastructure of the western metropolitan areas of Sri Lanka by constructing the Colombo Port City.

In November 2013, the China Communication Construction Company and Sri Lanka Investment Authority signed the Colombo Port City Plan Agreement. As per the agreement, China Harbor Engineering Co. Ltd., solely owned by China Communication Construction Company, was responsible for the first phase of the port city project. The first phase was subjected to three-years. It involves an investment of 1.4 billion. The second phase aims to attract more than \$13 billion in investment. The project will reclaim 276 hectares of coastal land and create more than 5 million square meters of building space. A high-quality urban development plan will be executed to integrate business, finance, tourism and residential activities through this project.

Abandonment of project

The Government that came to power in 2015 suspended the Colombo Port City project on 4th of March 2015 in the name of reconsidering



the environmental impact. The China Communication Construction Company suffered a direct economic loss of \$380,000 every day as the Sri Lankan Government suspended the project.

The Government faced a severe financial crisis and had to rejoin China. On March 8, 2016, the report of the Central Environmental Authority was approved by the Cabinet for the Port City project and the contract was extended for a further period of six months. The Government of Sri Lanka announced that the conditions for the resumption of Port City construction had been met and that the Chinese Companies could begin construction immediately. Subsequently, the project was renamed the Colombo International Financial City and was incorporated into the Western metropolitan plan of the Government of Sri Lanka.

Chinese companies are currently in the process of expediting the completion of the Colombo Port City project. This project will play a significant role in the future economic development of Sri Lanka. With the completion of this project, there are opportunities for direct foreign investment in Sri Lanka, increased employment opportunities for locals, knowledge transfer and more.

Transforming Colombo

President Gotabaya Rajapaksa's election manifesto had included the proposal to transform Colombo into a business and financial hub through the Colombo Port City. We all know that the importance of business and financial inflow is crucial for the de-

velopment of a country. With the realisation of the above fact, the current Government already initiated the Colombo Port City project, one of the most important projects for Sri Lanka to attract international investment. In such circumstances, a special regulatory system which is conclusive for business to operate faster productive is essential to run such a city in international standards as the current economic regulation for business and investment is cumbersome.

That is exactly what the Government is trying to do by introducing a bill namely Colombo Port City Economic Commission Bill. Sri Lankan citizens also mandated executing such a port city development plan in the 2019 Presidential Election.

Structure and economy

The Port City includes five grounds - the financial district, central park living, island living, the marina and the international island - offering office, health care, education, retail and entertainment facilities, as well as hotels and restaurants. When this plan comes into effect, there will be better employment opportunities for Sri Lankans across the country. This city will serve as a hub for access to finance and service with the most successful modern facilities. The city will also be a hub for absorbing future generations of Sri Lankans into the modern world. It can also be seen as the largest project to connect Sri Lanka with the Middle East, East Africa and the Asia Pacific region.

The most important crisis facing Sri Lanka in recent times is how to manage the economy. The country's

economy has been hit hard by the impact of the political instability and Covid-19, resulting in a slump in GDP and currency.

The current economic crisis has affected more than twenty million people of this country. The Government has a responsibility to expedite the recovery of the country. In this context, establishing a financial city will be a factual instrument to revitalise the Sri Lankan economy.

The city can create employment for millions of Sri Lankans, and it will undoubtedly serve as a hub for creating an international market for domestic products.

The establishment of such a city is necessary to improve the tourism sector of the country. Many of the world's most economically developed countries have succeeded in adopting such approaches. The establishment of such a city must be seen as essential for Sri Lanka to lead today's internationally competitive economy.

The Government has embarked on an effort to implement such an important project. Building and operating a world-class business and financial city is a daunting task. Attracting foreign investors to carry out the project within the strict legal framework currently in place in the country is not an easy task. The Government has embarked on an effort to create a separate legal framework for governing the city.

We can see that the financial cities like Singapore and Dubai have been thriving economically in implementing such mechanisms. When a special economic zone is established, the maximum benefit can only be achieved by creating separate legal

administrative arrangements for it.

In today's world of complexity, special laws become inevitable to govern areas that are crucial for developing a country. Otherwise, there will be failures in managing such a unique financial city. Those who make significant investments do not want to operate within a tight framework. In this context, where Sri Lanka's traditional legal system calls for substantial reforms, it is impossible to stand within the legal framework and manage a progressive financial city aimed at the purely economic benefit.

Port City Economic Commission

There has been a lot of controversy over the Colombo Port City Economic Commission, which is the body that the Government wants to set up to govern the city and thereby the Government has recently proposed a Parliamentary Bill. We must first understand that these counter-arguments are political and not in the national interest.

The above Bill attempts to create a special economic zone and not to create a separate State. The Sri Lankan Parliament will pass the bill and if it warrants amendments, it could be done. Thus, the city will be governed by an Act of Parliament of Sri Lanka. Unlike other cities in Sri Lanka, this city needs to have a different legal framework only because of the international standard and a city to attract increased foreign investment.

As it is a unique city, it can be governed separately. Sri Lankans can also learn lessons concerning development experience through it. The city can be used as a model to identify shortcomings in Sri Lanka's administrative practices. The commission will be set up by the President elected by the people of Sri Lanka and thus the commission members are not appointed by anyone else. In this way, we can understand that the sovereignty of the people of Sri Lanka will not be challenged.

The port city is a special financial city and has been given special

financial powers. That is the purpose for which the city is to be created. Otherwise, the financial city will become useless. If a power structure similar to other ordinary cities is created there, the purpose for which the city will be established will not be achieved. By granting special financial powers to the particular city, Sri Lanka can manage the city properly and reap the appropriate economic benefits.

When looking at matters related to tax concessions, it is essential to note that the country's economy can be boosted by providing adequate tax concession for investors and importers. It is in this context that the bill has proposed to provide tax concession in the city. Expected investments will be unattainable without tax concession. In such cases, we will face huge losses through the Port City.

The legal sources related to the port city need to be discussed within the political and social realities mentioned above. Any Government in power in Sri Lanka would have tried to come up with and implemented such a law.

This is how the project has been framed and the draft plan has been designed to give the city with a special status. Modern financial cities are governed by special arrangements in many countries that have implemented such schemes.

There is no doubt that the Port City plan will be beneficial for the country's rapid development and economic prosperity. Everyone has a responsibility to lift the Sri Lankan economy, plagued by war and other casualties.

The Government has attempted to execute a noble task to boost the country's economy. Therefore, it is unwise to compare this plan with a separate State and lead the country's economy to fall back into disrepair. It is also incumbent upon us to extend our fullest support to the present Government to implement the port city project to boost our economy.

(The writer is a Professor in Sociology at South Eastern University of Sri Lanka)

Challenges, solutions and leadership

by
Hemantha
Kulatunga



The 2021 Sinhala and Tamil New year was celebrated by Sri Lankans almost similar to pre-Covid-19 years, amidst the still prevailing threat. Despite continuous warnings by the health authorities and the Police, most of the cities were inundated with shoppers. The lower figures of Covid cases officially announced by the authorities seem to have immensely influenced the general public to drop the guard. Hence, gross disregard to the health guidelines was seen in many crowded places throughout the country, specifically in urban areas.

Challenges to Government

President Gotabaya Rajapaksa, fifteen months into the Presidency is facing one cataclysmic crisis after another, perhaps confronting more issues than any of his predecessors. The strong Government with a two-thirds majority is in an uphill battle to find solutions to the escalating public issues and to counter disinformation.

The biggest setback for the President and the Government was the emergence of the Covid-19 pandemic that created a devastating effect on the country. Many countries in the world are still struggling to cope with the damage caused while Sri Lanka has controlled the second wave creditably.

The initial decisive steps were taken by the Government under the strong leadership of the President, including getting the government machinery aligned was the main reason for the success.

Despite the arbitrary and unreasonable criticisms by the politically influenced groups, the distribution of the AstraZeneca vaccine was managed efficiently by the health authorities. Due to the high world demand for the vaccine, the quantity received was limited, but the distribution was far better than many other countries as so

far close to a million Sri Lankans have been given the first dose.

The issue of the importation of contaminated cancer-causing coconut oil has created a public outcry discrediting the Government. The critics have completely forgotten that the companies that are involved have imported the same products for many years. However, the opposition that attempts to cling on to any incident to attack the Government has made a heyday out of the incident, completely ignoring the timelines.

During the previous regime as well the said companies have imported the same product but the test results never came to light. However, the upside is that all future food imports will go through a tooth comb as the responsible institutions will take more precautionary actions in testing samples.

President's decision to ban the importation of palm oil in the aftermath of the contaminated coconut oil incident also faced mixed criticism.

It must be noted that at the initial stages of President Gotabaya Rajapaksa's 'Dialogue with the village' program, at several venues he was requested by stakeholders, environmentalists, and scientists to ban palm tree cultivation that is immensely damaging to the environment.

The oil palm cultivation is banned across the European Union. However, at the request of bakers, the Government has declared that a special system with specific permits to import palm oil for bakery products.

The issue of rice price also is another critical challenge the Government is confronting since their inception. To a layman, the Government seems to have given in to a few large-scale rice millers. For reasons not clear to the country, the Government so far was unable to tackle the situation. The alternative methods deployed by the two Ministries, Trade and Agriculture, have met with some success but inadequate in the long run. A permanent action plan to break the 'rice mafia' is expected by the entire citizenry without further delays.

Another pressing issue is the public outcry about the environmental hazards, particularly the felling of trees illegally.



Whilst some public claims are completely justifiable, many others are politically motivated to bring the Government into disrepute. The biggest problem is that the general public has no other method to verify these claims other than the highly unreliable Sri Lankan social media platforms.

The Government, since the beginning was weak and lame in public communication. Most often, the ex-

planations about environmental issues, positive or negative, came long after the accusations are leveled at the authorities. Most often, the official announcements about the facts are given after the erroneous information is settled in the public mindset. Even the powerful Presidential media division does not seem to understand the behaviour of Sri Lankans as yet.

A fair amount of the environment-related incidents reported recently

seems to be development-linked forest clearing and most of them were inevitable. This writer, in the previous week's article pointed out that the clearing of a vast area of natural forests took place to complete the accelerated Mahaweli Project that has subsequently provided a massive amount of long-term benefits.

Disappearing forests

With the growing population and diminishing forest cover, the authorities must be concerned about environmental protection. Also, they must make the public aware of the actual situation of the scheduled development programmes.

The culprits who willfully damage the natural resources must be punished comprehensively regardless of their social standings whilst proper assessments of pros and cons must be done before the commencement of any development project.

Another damaging scenario currently emerging to the ruling party is the visible disharmony in the ranks. Some of the ruling party alliance partners openly criticized their own members creating doubts among the public about the Government they have voted to power.

Sustaining team spirit and harmony among the followers is one of the most important tasks of leadership. Therefore, the country expects the President who knows about leadership more than many existing politicians to take appropriate action to control such indiscipline among his team members. Seemingly, these disgruntled partners seem to be creating or causing issues inside their own Government.

The best example of effective leadership this writer can cite is the efficiency displayed by the late President J.R. Jayewardene during his entire tenure. Some of the tactics he has used came into criticism at the time. Nevertheless, he has held his team together as a tightly knitted bunch.

The opposition reaps the biggest harvest from the open disagreements among ruling party members. Whenever an unhappy associate makes a critical statement, he or she adds rea-

sons to the seemingly feeble opposition to make a big uproar and create mayhem. This behaviour can provide the biggest assistance to the competition in politics.

With the lowest national vote base of once-powerful United National Party and heavily unreliable opposition sans intellectual inputs gets the best opportunity to attack with said internal conflicts of the ruling party.

Most of the speakers who appear on behalf of the opposition make their presentations based on hearsay and not facts, with malicious intentions. Most of the accusations can be countered easily if the Government media machinery is efficient.

In an extremely optimistic and timely move, the Government has made a bold decision to hand out Rs. 5,000/- to an estimated 2.7 million needy families as a special donation to celebrate the New Year. The move came under cautious criticism by opposition politicians as an election gimmick. Nevertheless, it was an immensely helpful gift to the masses at these difficult times.

Port City Commission

The proposed Colombo Port City Economic Commission has come under strong criticism by almost all opposition political parties and some other NGOs. However, the State Minister of Finance in a press briefing presented facts to counter the opposing claims.

He categorically refuted the claims that the Colombo Port city becomes a colony of another country and that the Commission will have legal immunity. However, the general public is not aware of the full facts until the Bill is taken for debate in Parliament.

Despite the customary accusations by the political opposition that the general public is in dire straits without food and other essentials, the media reported that the citizenry celebrated the New Year festival joyfully.

The festive shopping was at the highest level throughout the country and the celebrations were impressive. The public has immensely enjoyed the New Year holiday season after the absence of festivities for over a year.

Two years on, lest we forget

Catholic church commemorates Easter Sunday terror attacks



Catholic priests and nuns carry photos as they remember the victims killed in the 2019 Easter Sunday bombings. The walk to remember the terror victims began at Maris Stella College, Negombo at 3.00pm on Wednesday (21) and ended at the Katuwapitiya Church.

Pix by Sulochana Gamage and Saman Sri wedage

BY MANJULA FERNANDO

The Catholic church on Wednesday commemorated the second anniversary of the Easter Sunday terrorist attacks with a series of events including memorial services at the three churches targeted by the suicide bombers.

Relatives and family members of the victims of the coordinated suicide attacks in 2019 gathered at St. Anthony's Shrine in Kochchikade Colombo, St. Sebastian's church in Katuwapitiya as well as the Evangelical Zion Church in Batticaloa to remember the loved ones who perished and bless those who were maimed and continue to suffer from their injuries to date.

Buddhist bikkhus and leaders of other faiths took part in the memorial service at St. Anthony's Shrine in Kochchikade led by the Archbishop Malcolm Cardinal Ranjith. At 8.45am a two-minute silence was observed nationwide to remember the terror victims.

In the evening, the Archbishop joined a special walk and a memorial service at St. Sebastian's Church in Katuwapitiya where he blessed the injured, some who were still in wheelchairs and stretches unable to walk or sit up. Earlier he visited the two grave yards where over 100 innocent victims who happened to attend Holy Mass at Katuwapitiya church on the fateful day are buried.

Among the dead on that Easter Sunday were seven members of the same family leaving only a middle aged mother to outlive the blasts. In another case three young children and the mother had perished leaving the father to embrace a lonely and a sorrowful future. "I think all five of us died that day, they buried all others but me," the father who is still waiting for answers as to why it happened says.

Many others lost their brothers, sisters, mothers, fathers and daughters and sons while some were badly injured.

So far the police had arrested nearly 700 suspects, in connection with the attacks on the churches and elsewhere which claimed 269 lives and injured over 590 - including foreign tourists. Over 50 Sri Lankans living overseas have been repatriated and detained in connection with the



Religious dignitaries at the Kochchikade church



case.

The Government proscribed many Islamic organisations in the immediate aftermath and a week ago 11 more organisations including the Islamic State (IS) and Al Qaeda were banned under the Prevention of Terrorism (Temporary Provisions) Act.

Of the 676 persons arrested in

connection with the terror attacks, 202 are currently in remand custody, 66 have been detained for questioning and 408 were released on bail, yet investigations are continuing, State Minister Sarath Weerasekera told Parliament a few weeks ago.

He said 26 investigations have been completed so far and the At-

torney General is expected to initiate court proceedings into these cases shortly.

However, delivering a speech at the Second Year Remembrance of Easter Attack held at St. Anthony's Shrine, Kochchikade Archbishop Malcolm Cardinal Ranjith expressed dissatisfaction at the pace the investigations were continuing and said, "Even though we wish to forgive, we like to know who did this carnage, for what purpose and at whose bidding."

He said, "We should know whether they repent their actions and whether they are worthy of receiving our pardon for whatever they have done. The faith that Jesus Christ gave us also requires us to know the truth because Jesus said that 'he is the truth'. He noted this attack caused the death of people of all religions, races, languages and groups including foreigners.

"It is a fact that Zaharan Hashim blasted himself, not in a place where only Catholics were present, but in a hotel where people of different faiths were present. We have to examine why, instead of a church, he chose to detonate himself in a hotel killing not only Catholics and Christians but so many others including Muslims and Malays.

"He said, therefore, it becomes clear that all these attacks are not necessarily what they appear to be." I wish to make a special appeal to our Muslims brothers. Understand the global politics in such organized crimes that they are not in your interest. Rise up to defend yourselves from those who manipulate even Islam for their own purposes."

He urged the Government to implement the recommendations in the Presidential Commission of Inquiry on the Easter Sunday terror attacks and to wipe out religious extremism and prevent a recurrence of a similar incident.

The Archbishop said he will not abandon the 'perished and the suffering' of the Easter carnage adding, 'We will continue our struggle until a comprehensive investigation is conducted and those responsible are brought to book'

Ven. Omalpe Sobhitha thera also delivered a speech at the event while veteran songstress Nanda Malini sang a song specially scripted for those killed and affected in the attacks.



Families light candles and place tributes at St. Sebastian's Church burial grounds, Katuwapitiya where their loved ones rest in peace. The church recorded the highest number of casualties, over 100, in the terror attack.



Archbishop Brian Udaigwe, Apostolic Nuncio extended the blessing of Pope Francis to the Easter Sunday victims

"On this second commemoration of the Easter Sunday tragedy, I bring you words of consolation from the Holy Father Pope Francis. He gives his Apostolic Blessings to you and your families, and particularly to the families of the victims of the attack.

You have had many services in Colombo, Negombo and some other parts of the country over the last two years to bring to mind the hundreds of people who lost their lives and those who got maimed by the dastardly attacks, both in churches and hotels. These included, in great numbers, Sri Lankans, but also some foreigners. I greet the representatives of those foreign countries here with us today...

Being in the Easter season, we are still reflecting on the events of the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus, as narrated in the Gospel. We are called to be a people of hope, hope brought to us by Jesus' resurrection.

As it is said, the blood of martyrs is the seed of growth of the Church. This gives us hope. The Lord always strengthens us. Jesus prayed from the cross, imploring the Father to forgive those who persecuted and killed him. While the Church prays and encourages justice to take its rightful course, it also forgives the culprits and implores for the repentance of those still harbouring similar malice. Pope Francis recalls in his recent Encyclical Letter on Fraternity and Social Friendship, Fratelli Tutti, "Those who truly forgive... choose not to yield to the same destructive force that caused them so much suffering. They break the vicious circle; they halt the advance of the forces of destruction. They choose not to spread in society the spirit of revenge that will sooner or later return to take its toll.

Revenge never truly satisfies victims. Revenge resolves nothing." (Fratelli Tutti, October 3, 2020, No. 251).

This is why we acclaim the efforts of those who laboured diligently to avoid vendetta after the attacks. It is indeed good to note that this commemoration is dedicated to prayer, several days of prayer, in different forms, for the victims of that attack and for the large number of families that were directly affected, and also for the perpetrators.

In the name of the Holy Father Pope Francis, I salute and thank the Bishops of Sri Lanka, particularly His Eminence Cardinal Malcolm Ranjith and his assistants, for these initiatives; appreciating also the unwavering efforts of the authorities, through the services of security agents, to control and ensure that there is no repeat of such incidents. Once again, I extend prayerful sympathies to the families and relatives of the victims. May the God of all consolation be your strength and guide!"

Hope fades for Indonesian submarine

Indonesia's Navy yesterday said items were found from a missing submarine, indicating the vessel with 53 crew members had sank and there was no hope of finding survivors.

Navy Chief Yudo Margono said rescuers found several items from the 'KRI Nanggala 402', which disappeared after its last reported dive Wednesday off the resort island of Bali, including parts of a torpedo straightener, a grease bottle believed to be used to oil the periscope and prayer rugs.

"With the authentic evidence we found believed to be from the submarine, we have now moved from the 'sub miss' phase to 'sub sunk,'" Margono said at a press conference in Bali where the found items were displayed.

Officials previously said the submarine's oxygen supply would have run out early Saturday. Indonesia had considered the submarine as just missing.

An American reconnaissance plane, a P-8 Poseidon, landed early Saturday and was set to join the search, along with 20 Indonesian ships, a sonar-equipped Australian warship and four Indonesian aircraft.

Singaporean rescue ships were also expected later Saturday, while Malaysian rescue vessels were due to arrive Sunday, bolstering the underwater hunt, Indonesia military spokesperson Djawara Whimbo said earlier Saturday. He had said Indonesia's hydrographic vessel was still unable to detect an unidentified object exhibiting high magnetism that

was earlier detected located at a depth of 50 to 100 meters (165 to 330 feet).

There had been no signs of life from the submarine, but family members held out hope that the massive search effort would find the vessel in time.

"The family is in a good condition and keeps praying," said Ratih Wardhani, the sister of 49-year-old crewman Wisnu Subiyantoro. "We are optimistic that the Nanggala can be rescued with all the crew."

Indonesian President Joko Widodo had ordered all-out efforts to locate the submarine and asked Indonesians to pray for the crew's safe return.

The search focused on an area near the starting position of its last dive where an oil slick was found but



there was no conclusive evidence so far the oil slick was from the sub.

Margono, the navy chief, had said oil could have spilled from a crack in the submarine's fuel tank or the crew could have released

fuel and fluids to reduce the vessel's weight so it could surface.

The navy however, believes the submarine sank to a depth of 600-700 meters (2,000-2,300 feet), much deeper than its collapse depth of

200 meters (655 feet), at which water pressure would be greater than the hull could withstand.

The cause of the disappearance is still uncertain. The navy has said an electrical failure could have left the submarine unable to execute emergency procedures to resurface.

The German-built diesel-powered KRI Nanggala 402 has been in service in Indonesia since 1981 and was carrying 49 crew members and three gunners as well as its commander, the Indonesian Defense Ministry said.

Indonesia, the world's largest archipelago nation with more than 17,000 islands, has faced growing challenges to its maritime claims in recent years, including numerous incidents involving Chinese vessels near the Natuna islands. - Agencies

Ghislaine Maxwell makes first US court appearance

Ghislaine Maxwell has appeared in court on new charges of sex-trafficking, her first appearance since her arrest last summer.

She attended the New York court in person on Friday for arraignment on new charges filed against her last month.

Ms Maxwell, 59, pleaded not guilty to the new counts. The British socialite is accused of helping convicted paedophile Jeffrey Epstein recruit, groom and sexually abuse girls.

Ms Maxwell, the daughter of media mogul Robert Maxwell, was in a relationship with Epstein in the 1990s. She allegedly introduced him to wealthy and powerful figures including Prince Andrew of the British Royal Family and Bill Clinton. She now faces six counts including sex-trafficking of a minor and sex-trafficking conspiracy. She also faces a further two charges relating to allegations of perjury in 2016.

The two new charges relate to allegations that Maxwell recruited a 14-year-old girl to provide Epstein with sexualised massages between 2001 and 2004. The girl was then paid hundreds of dollars in cash in return and was encouraged to recruit other young women.

The entire proceeding on Friday lasted less than 10 minutes. Maxwell only spoke three times to answer the judge's question about whether or not she had received a copy of the indictment.

Jury selection is set for July 12 but the judge is considering a request to delay the trial.

Ms Maxwell had previously denied all of the charges. If convicted on all charges, she faces up to 80 years in prison.

Epstein killed himself in 2019 as he awaited trial on sex trafficking charges, more than a decade after he was convicted for soliciting prostitution from a minor. - **BBC**



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The Managing Director of On'ally Holdings PLC (Unity Plaza) invites sealed bids from those who want shop space on rent at Ground Floor, Unity Plaza Building.

UNIT NO	SPACE AVAILABLE (SQ.FT.)
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203	520
204	520
205	520



Bids should be submitted on a separate form available at On'ally Holdings PLC, Unit No. 603, 4th Floor, Unity Plaza Building, No. 02, Bambalapitiya (Galle) Road, Colombo 04 and can be collected between 9.00 a.m. and 4.00 p.m. on any weekday from 27/04/2021 to 07/05/2021 by making a cash payment.

Non-refundable tender fee - Rs.10,000/= (Inclusive of taxes)

The envelopes containing the bids should be sent to the address mentioned below and clearly mentioning the following - "THE BID FOR TENANCY OF UNIT NOS. 202-205, GROUND FLOOR" at the top left - hand corner of the envelope. Sealed bids should be sent either by registered post to reach on or before 10/05/2021 or deposited in the Tender Box maintained for this purpose at On'ally Holdings PLC,

The bids will be opened on 12/05/2021 at 11.30 a.m. (subject to unforeseen events or circumstances that may cause any delays) and the bidders or their representatives will be allowed to be present at the time of opening.

On'ally Holdings PLC reserves the right to accept or reject any application received in this regard and the decision of the Tender Board will be considered as the final.

Managing Director,
ON'ALLY HOLDINGS PLC
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News/Obituaries

Palestinian election: Leaders face reckoning as rare vote looms

Palestinians are preparing for their first general election in a decade and a half. Many hope for a democratic revival after years of stagnation and splits. The pot of Palestinian politics is being stirred. But that's also awakening anxieties.

It was the clumsiness of childhood that saved Najwa Odeh's life. The nine-year-old Palestinian knocked her spoon off the din-

East Jerusalem from Arab armies. Fighting had erupted outside her family home in the neighbourhood of Silwan.

Israel later annexed the eastern half of the city, whose population is overwhelmingly Palestinian, in a move not recognised internationally. It remains in control to this day across what it sees as its undivided capital. Palestinians want East Jerusalem as the

her luck in that childhood near miss.

"After that I decided I don't want to go anywhere. I have to be in Jerusalem all my life... I cannot be quiet," she said.

Now she is running to be an MP for the party of President Mahmoud Abbas in the first Palestinian general election in 15 years. "This is my right - it's democracy," she says. "The Israeli people went to the election four times in two years. Why it's not allowed for me?"

Jerusalem is always at the heart of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. So too now. Agreements with Israel give Palestinians in East Jerusalem the right to vote for their West Bank-based parliament, but their political institutions can't operate in the city.

"We need new blood, a new generation to come and solve the problems. We need... to renew our legitimacy," says Ms Odeh.

The parliamentary and presidential polls were announced last year by the ageing Palestinian leader after days of talks with



other parties in Cairo. Few thought the elections would really happen given similar past promises and the unresolved, bitter rivalry between the two main factions - his secular Fatah movement, and their Islamist opponents Hamas.

A bloody conflict broke out between them in 2007 after Hamas unexpectedly won the last national vote. The fighting saw the armed movement take full control in the Gaza Strip. It was isolated by much of the international community which, like Israel, views it as a terrorist group.

President Abbas was effectively left in charge only in parts of the occupied West Bank. The parliament - the Palestinian Legislative Council (PLC) - was mothballed. Abbas issued laws by decree and his four-year term should have ended over a decade ago.

"It was devastating," said political scientist Dr Ghassan Khatib of Birzeit University, when asked about the fallout from 2006. "The absence of any election or political checks and balances is the reason for... the growing gap between the Palestinian public and the Palestinian leadership."

This vacuum has added to a popular sense of fatigue. Asked which of their parties they trust the most, nearly 40% of Palestinians said "none", according to a poll released this week by the Palestinian media research group JMCC.

The factions' deal to hold new elections shows their "need for legitimacy", says Dr Khatib.

'Don't give up on us'

But there are more reasons. Many in the international community - especially European countries - have for years pushed Mr Abbas to get fresh democratic backing for the Palestinian institutions some of these countries help fund.

And Palestinians are eager to vote, according to the early indications.

More than 93% of an eligible 4.5 million voters have registered, according to the Central Elections Commission. There are 36 political parties and lists slated to run.

"This is overwhelming in a way that reflects the interest in the Palestinian [political] scene", says Sabri Saidam, a senior official in Fatah, which dominates the internationally-backed Palestinian Authority (PA).

He believes his movement, founded by former leader Yasser Arafat, still reflects the best hope for Palestinian nationalism, based on the Western-backed formula of a "two-state solution" of an independent and sovereign Palestine alongside Israel.

But he admits that the high numbers registering to vote includes "people who have given up on us".

For some in the West Bank, the poll amounts to a first flourish of democracy amid what they see as dual obstacles - living in areas of limited self-governance under an ossified Palestinian leadership within Israel's military occupation.

French police station stabbing: Terror inquiry into Rambouillet knife attack

A female police employee has been killed in a knife attack at a police station south-west of Paris.

Anti-terror prosecutors have taken over the inquiry, and the killing is being treated as a possible terrorist attack. The attacker, who reportedly came to France from Tunisia several years ago, was shot dead by police. President Emmanuel Macron led tributes to the 49-year-old victim, and said France would never give in to "Islamist terrorism".

The stabbing took place in the secure entrance to the police station in the commuter town of Rambouillet at 14:20 (12:20 GMT).

Witnesses said the attacker had been seen walking around while on his mobile phone outside the police station and seized his chance to go in as the woman - an unarmed administrative officer - went through the security doors.

He reportedly lunged at the officer, stabbing her in the



neck. Her colleagues then opened fire on him. Anti-terrorism prosecutors said they took over the investigation because of the way the attack had unfolded, remarks made by the attacker and the fact that he targeted a police official.

Sources close to the inquiry told media outlets that the man had shouted "Allahu Akbar" (God is greatest) during the attack.

Officials said the attacker, 36, was not previously known to security agencies. Local outlet BFM TV reported that he had lived in the country illegally before obtaining a residency card, which was due to expire later this year. Three people were arrested following the attack, according to reports. A judicial source told AFP news agency they were part of the suspect's "entourage".

What has the reaction been? In a Twitter post following the attack, Mr Macron said the victim's name was Stéphanie. "The nation is by the side of her family, her colleagues and security forces," he wrote.

Her full name has not been released, but local media reports describe her as a mother of two. Prime Minister Jean Castex and Interior Minister Gérald Darmanin went straight to the scene, in the large Yvelines area to the west of the capital. Mr Castex said the country had lost an "everyday heroine" and condemned what he described as a "barbaric act of boundless cruelty".

"Our determination to combat terrorism in all its forms is as resolute as ever," he told reporters. Valérie Pécresse, president of the Paris region, said the attack had been against a "symbol of France". The police, she said, were "the face of France".

Far-right leader Marine Le Pen - seen as the strongest challenger to Macron in next year's presidential election - tweeted condemnation of Friday's attack before details of the suspect's identity had been made public.

"The same horrors come one after another, the same infinite sadness as we think about the relatives and the colleagues of this female police employee who has been killed, the same type of person guilty of this barbarity, the same Islamist motives," she wrote. - BBC

Obituaries

JAYAWARDENA - JAYANTHA (JAVA)
- Born in Pethiyagoda, Sri Lanka on 26 March 1944. Died in Ottawa, Canada on 24 March 2021, aged 76. Son of the late Indra and T M Jayawardena, brother of Nimal (Lakshmi), Nalini (late Keerthi), late Mahinda (Tilaka), darling daddy of Ione, survived by Vinitha (mother of Ione). Cremated at Beechwood Cemetery Ottawa and his ashes will be laid to rest in Kandy, Sri Lanka at a later date. ione.jayawardena@gmail.com 029796

3rd Year Remembrance



In Loving Memory Of Our Beloved Daughter **THILINI NIRASHA FERNANDO** (Director of Samagi Group & Architect)

Called to eternal rest on 25th April 2018.
For all you were to us in Life And all the joy you brought,
Your memory is with us in every single thought.

You are still our inspiration
Darling Daughter,

Your love surrounds us everyday and your memory keep us strong
We will be together again;

Until then, our love will always be with you.

Ever Loving Father, Mother, Sister, Brother, Brother in law
Sister in Law, Daughter Shenaya and all the staff of Samagi Group

54th BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE 25.04.2021



**Wing Commander
Thilina Chandima Kaluarachchi**
RSP, RWP, qhi
Pilot of Sri Lanka Air Force

On your fifty fourth Birthday
You are remembered with Undying Love,
Affection, Respect & Honour

**MAY YOU ATTAIN THE
SUPREME BLISS OF NIBBANA**

Fondly remembered by Parents,
Family Members, Friends and
Relations

8th Year Remembrance

"Pithu Paadan Namami"



Late Deshamanya M.A. Gunathilake

(Founder Chairman, The Kandy Tyre House (Pvt) Ltd,
Mag City (Pvt) Ltd, Mr. Paint (Lanka) Pvt Ltd & CARS (Pvt) Ltd)

On account of our beloved father's 8th death anniversary we built and donated a well equipped SANGAAWAASA for the Mahasanga who are based in a Monastery at Nithula, Amunukole, in Mahawa, followed by an almsgiving to Mahasanga on 09-04-2021 to invoke blessings on him.

MAY YOU ATTAIN THE SUPREME BLISS OF NIRVANA

Fondly remembered with deep love, honour & gratitude
by Wife, Children, Grandchildren,
relatives and the staff.

72/33 A.B. Damunupola Mawatha, Anniawatta, Kandy.

3RD MONTH REMEMBRANCE



Dr. H. W. PERERA
26th July 1922 - 15th January 2021
(Former Superintendent of the
Anti-Tuberculosis Campaign)

Devoted husband, loving father and doting
grandfather,
beautiful memories keep you near,
Always loved and missed forever,

Your loving wife Doris, children, daughters &
sons-in-law and grandchildren.

Tel: 011-2852407 / 0763551749

He reportedly lunged at the officer, stabbing her in the



MARGOT MENDIS

It is with deep regret that we wish to announce the passing of Margot Mendis, who was called to rest on 12th April 2021

Beloved wife of Camillus, much loved mother of Karenza & Timon, Kisara & Deepthie, Nadira & Indica, adored grandmother of Thikshana & Ishara, Akshina, Anjalie, Avinash, Kalith and Kavan, cherished great grandmother of Gusheen & Meghan.

The funeral was held on 17th April 2021, in the presence of close family and friends in accordance with her wishes. We, the family, would like to thank Rev. Fr. Noel Dias, Dr. Channa Perera of Ja-ela Ragama Hospitals, and family and friends from Sri Lanka and around the world. We deeply value and appreciate every gesture of comfort, care and support during our time of grief.

Margot is dearly loved and will be greatly missed.



Covid-19 in India

Why second Coronavirus wave is devastating

Rajeshwari Devi, 58, died on Sunday after waiting for two days to get uninterrupted oxygen, an ambulance and a bed in a Covid-19 hospital.

She kept waiting and gasping but it was too late by the time help arrived. She was taken to a hospital emergency room on April 16 after her oxygen saturation level dropped. Her CT scan showed that she had developed severe pneumonia.

But without her Covid report the hospital refused to admit her. She spent around 36 hours in the emergency room on oxygen support in the Northern Indian district of Robertsganj. The staff there told her family they were running out of oxygen and she needed to be moved to a bigger hospital but there was no ambulance or any promise of a bed.

The desperate family took her in their car to a hospital where a bed had become available after the intervention of a politician. She had no oxygen support in the car, she died minutes before she could be admitted to hospital.

Ashish Agrahari, her son, said his mother "would have had a chance at survival if treatment was given in time".

Heartbreaking stories such as this are coming in from across India as a second Covid wave wreaks havoc. Data suggests that this wave is proving to be more infectious and deadlier in some States.

But the county's healthcare system is crumbling amid the surge in cases - doctors say it's hard for them to see any kind of hope.

Sharp rise in cases

The rise in case numbers has been exponential in the second wave.

On June 18 last year, India recorded 11,000 cases and in the next 60 days, it added 35,000 new cases on average every day.

On February 10, at the start of the second wave, India confirmed 11,000 cases - and in the next 50 days, the daily average was around 22,000 cases. But in the following 10 days, cases rose sharply with the daily average reaching 89,800.

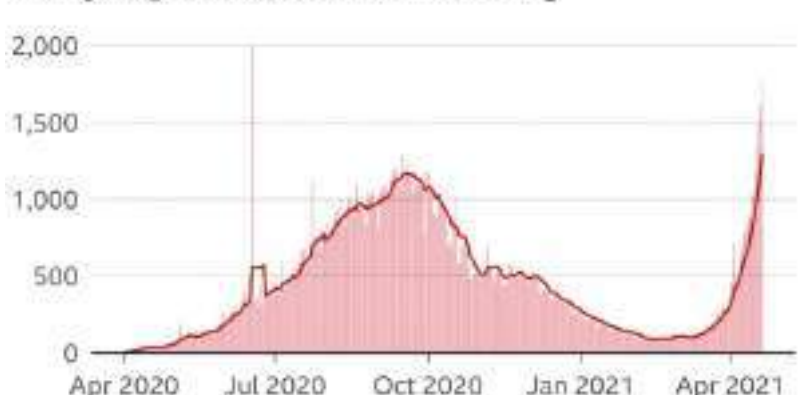
Experts said this rapid increase shows that the second wave is spreading much faster across the country. Dr A Fathahudeen, who is part of Kerala state's Covid task force, said the rise was not entirely unexpected given that India let its guard down when daily infections in January fell to fewer than 20,000 from a peak of over 90,000 in September.

Big religious gatherings, the reopening of most public places and crowded election rallies are being blamed for the uptick. Dr Fathahudeen said there were warning signs in February but "we did not get our act together".

"I said in February that Covid-19 had not gone anywhere and a tsunami would hit us if urgent actions were not taken. Sadly, a tsunami has indeed hit us now," he added.

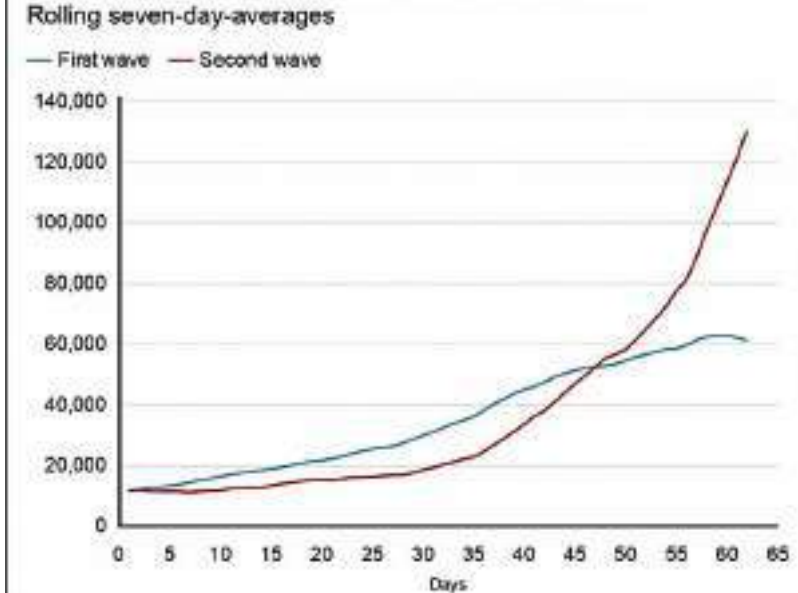
"A false sense of normalcy crept in and everybody, including people and officials, did not take measures

Daily reported deaths are rising



Deaths on 17 June include historic deaths reclassified with coronavirus as cause. Source: Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, data to 19 Apr. BBC

Cases have risen faster in the second wave



First wave: June-Sep 2020, second wave: Feb-April 2021. Source: Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. BBC

to stop the second wave".

Shortage of beds

Many Indian cities are reporting a chronic shortage of hospital beds. It's also evident in the desperate cries for help on social media platforms. Disturbing reports of people dying without getting timely treatment are coming from all over the country.

Several State Governments said they are creating new facilities but experts said it's going to be hard to keep up with the pace of the rising number of infections.

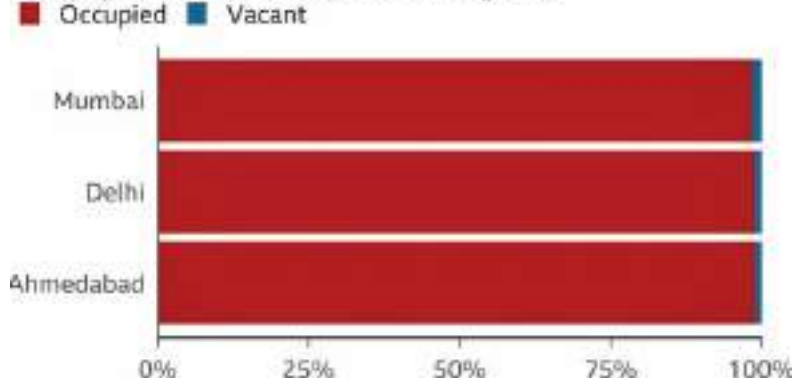
India has been consistently reporting more than 150,000 cases for days now. It reported 273,810 cases on Monday - the biggest daily spike since the pandemic began.

Badly affected cities like Delhi, Mumbai and Ahmedabad have almost run out of hospital beds.

The situation is not very different in other cities, such as Lucknow, Bhopal, Kolkata, Allahabad and Surat. Public health expert Anant Bhan says officials did not use the lean period to boost facilities.

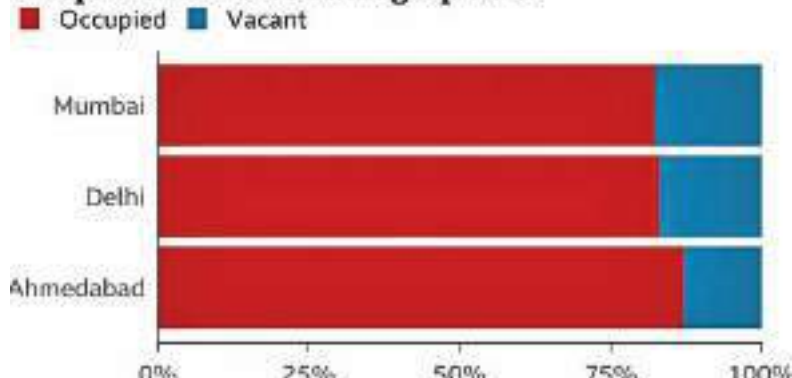
"We didn't learn any lesson from the first wave. We had reports of some cities running out of beds even in the first wave and that should have been a good enough reason to be prepared for the second wave," he said.

Nearly all ICU beds are occupied



Note: Only private hospitals' data available for Ahmedabad. Source: States' hospital beds dashboard, data to 19 Apr. BBC

Hospital beds are filling up fast



Note: Only private hospitals' data available for Ahmedabad. Source: States' hospital beds dashboard, data to 19 Apr. BBC



lar discrepancies in how deaths were being reported.

Experts say there are several reasons for this. One of them is that many people are dying at home because they are not getting hospital beds or they are not being able to get tested for Covid-19. So, they don't find a place as a Covid-19 patient in the database managed by different states.

Bhan says testing facilities are still poor in smaller towns and even in some cities and "it's possible we are missing many Covid-19 related deaths in these areas".

He adds that there seems to be an issue with recording Covid-19 deaths in some states. There have been reports about administrative oversight as well but officials deny the allegation.

"We need more transparency in numbers as it helps in managing the situation and also clearly tells you how severe the situation is," Bhan adds.

Variants in play

India on March 25 announced that a new 'double mutant' variant of the Corona virus had been detected from samples collected from different states.

Virologist Shahid Jameel explained that a "double mutation in key areas of the virus's spike protein may make the virus more infectious and allow it to escape the immune system".

He said the change in the virus is the only 'logical explanation' behind the surge. Health officials in the UK are now investigating whether a double mutant spreads more easily and evades vaccines.

Dr Jameel added that India started looking at mutations 'fairly late'. "By December, India had done genome sequencing of only 5,000 samples. It wasn't a concentrated effort".

In January, India put together a group of labs to speed up sequencing and these labs started functioning in February. "But unfortunately, the second wave started and the vision of sequencing roughly 5% of the total samples did not come through." Sequencing becomes impor-

He added that there appears to be a lack of co-ordination between States and the Federal Government over the supply of oxygen and essential drugs. "We need a consolidated response and resources should be shared between States."

The situation is much more dire when it comes to ICU beds. Several cities have just a few dozen ICU beds left and they are now frantically trying to build extra capacity in hotels and stadiums.

But getting ICU beds up and running quickly is not easy. Dr Fathahudeen says adding beds alone is not enough. "We need to ensure that most of these beds have oxygen facility. We need more doctors and nurses to manage extra ICU beds," he adds.

He says it's going to be a "daunting task" for the Government to get such facilities up and running and ensure good quality of care in a short span of time.

Unreported deaths

The number of daily deaths has risen sharply in the second wave. India reported 1,761 deaths on Monday, taking the toll to over 180,000 since the pandemic began.

Crematoriums have been running day and night in several cities, and people have to wait for hours to get the deceased cremated or buried.

Experts said this shows that the actual number of deaths could be much higher.

Sanjeev Gupta, a photo journalist based in the central Indian city of Bhopal, reached one of the city's crematoriums for what he thought was a usual assignment last week.

Bhopal had reported only four Covid-related deaths on that day. But Gupta was surprised to see dozens of funeral pyres burning. Additionally, several bodies were lined up to be cremated in the electric furnace.

Gupta said he was moved when a young man asked him to photograph the smoke coming out from the chimney of the electric crematorium.

"He said the smoke represented his mother. It's the most heartbreaking thing I have ever heard."

Another photo journalist in Lucknow, which is the capital of Uttar Pradesh State, told the BBC that he counted nearly 100 funeral pyres burning at one of the city's crematoriums in the city on April 14. The official death data for the whole state on that day was 85.

"The sky had turned orange near the crematorium. I still get chills thinking about it. We are definitely not getting the right death data from the Government," he said.

Another photo journalist the BBC spoke to in Varanasi city in Uttar Pradesh State also talked about simi-

tant in a pandemic as it allows scientists to monitor changes in the virus. "If you can catch a more infectious variant early on in a region,

you can quickly put in public health measures to stop it from spreading wider in the community," he explains. - BBC

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INVITATION FOR BIDS

SUPPLY OF OFFICE AND ICT RELATED EQUIPMENT

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka (CA Sri Lanka) invites sealed bids from interested suppliers to provide necessary equipment for the new building of the School of Accounting & Business of CA Sri Lanka located at No. 411, 411/25 and 411/2, Galle Road, Bambalapitiya, Colombo 4.

The School of Accounting & Business conducts the BSc. Applied Accounting Degree which has been approved by the University Grants Commission and the Ministry of Higher Education.

The Building Construction Review Committee of CA Sri Lanka invites sealed quotations from prospective suppliers to submit their bids on the following categories:

- Furniture & fittings, office equipment and cafeteria equipment
- ICT related services and equipment
 - Implementation of data and voice (telephone) network including all related accessories.
 - Supply, installation, and configuration of data center equipment including servers, firewall, network equipment and other related accessories.
 - Supplying, installation and configuration of PABX system and related accessories.
 - Supply and installation of online uninterrupted power supplies (UPS's).
 - Supply of laptops and desktop computers.
 - Implementation of surveillance (CCTV) system including supplying, installation and configuration of all related equipment and accessories.
- Fire safety equipment

Bid documents can be collected from the cashier point at CA Sri Lanka, No. 30A, Malalasekera Mawatha, Colombo 7 from **29th April 2021 to 7th May 2021, between 9:00 am to 3:30 p.m** on working days by paying a non-refundable deposit of Rs. 2,000/-.

Required competencies and experience of the supplier:

- Possess extensive and a proven mix of skill and expertise in the relevant fields on similar projects.
- Minimum of 10 years professional experience in a similar field.
- Ability to deliver within the specified deadline.

Interested suppliers should submit their duly completed bid documents in separate sealed envelopes as per the instructions mentioned in the bid documents to CA Sri Lanka on or before **4.00 p.m. on 10th May 2021.**

Finance Department
CA Sri Lanka

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka
30A, Malalasekera Mawatha, Colombo 07.

www.casrilanka.com

SPORTS

No-show of captains and coaches at Royal-Thomian launch

BY PRANAVESH SIVAKUMAR

The 142nd Battle of the Blues launch between Royal College and S. Thomas' College took place with none of their captains or coaches present at the BMICH this week which made it an absurd affair.

It marked the first time in the history of the 142-year-old series that the big match between the

two schools had none of the team's officials or at least important figures of the team.

When the Sunday Observer raised the question the organisers said players, coaches and team officials were already in different bio-secure bubbles in Colombo and that it was decided against having their presence.

An official from Royal College

went on to say that coaches were irrelevant in the context of today's affairs.

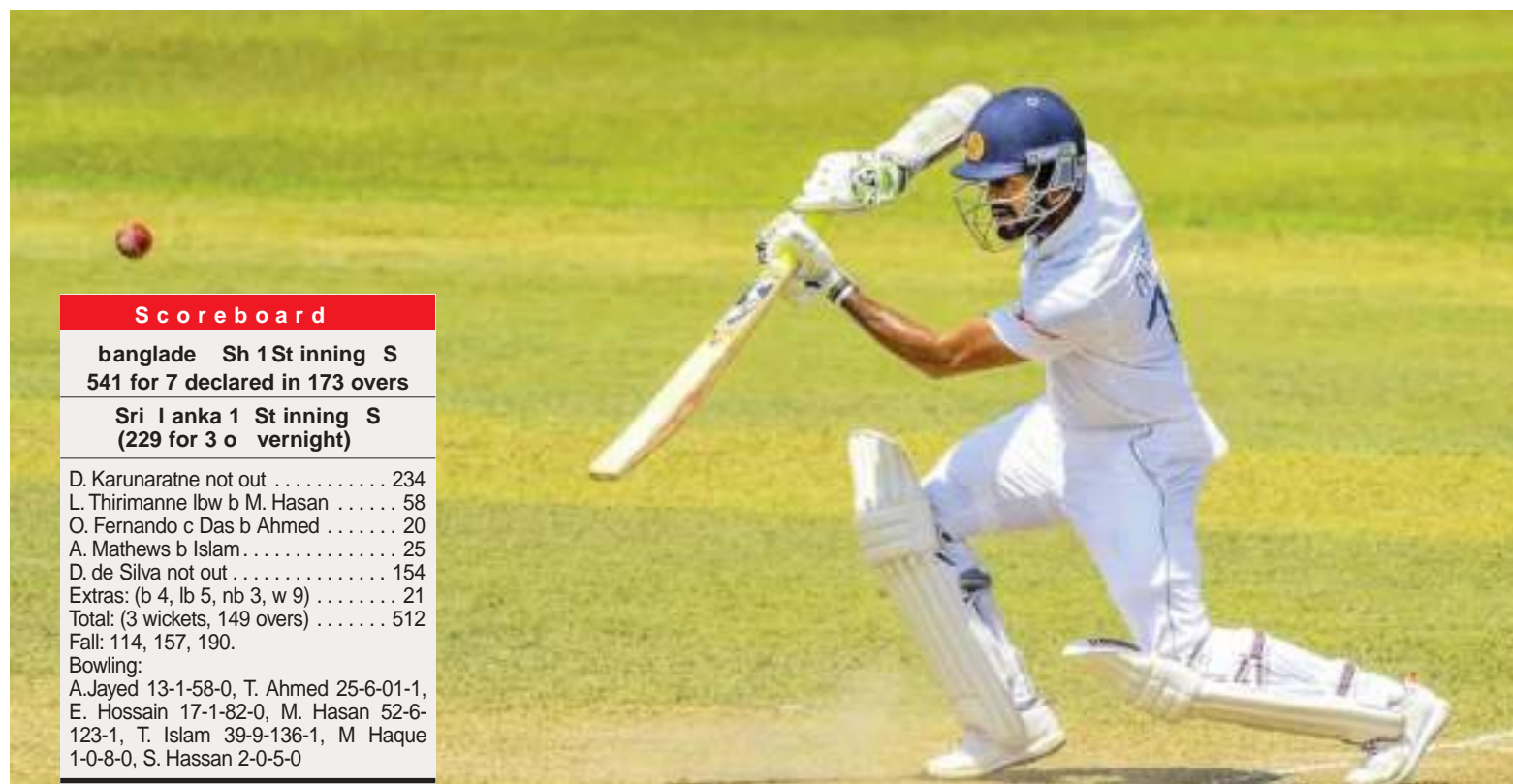
The absence of captains and coaches, the most important representatives, made the media launch an incomplete procedure and instead, only the head prefects of both the schools posed with the DS Senanayake Shield that they play for.

However, the cream-of-the-crop encounter is all set for the show to be played behind closed doors at the Mahinda Rajapaksa International Cricket Stadium in Hambantota on May 6, 7 and 8 marking the first-time in the century-old tradition that the match will be outside Colombo.

As an exception solely for this year, the T20 returns replacing the

50-over Mustangs match as the situation has failed to facilitate the latter. Accordingly, the three-hour quick-burst entertainer will be on May 10, at the same venue.

For the Thomians, the current Shield holders, it would be their opening batsman Shalin de Mel and for the Royalists their explosive batter Ahan Wickramasinghe leading the sides.



Dimuth Karunaratne raises his bat after reaching a double century

Batting merry-go-round at Pallekelle

Sri Lanka finished the day on 512 runs for just three wickets, a deficit of 29 runs in reply to 541 for 7 scored by Bangladesh, when bad light halted play on the fourth day of their first Test match being played at Pallekelle Stadium in Kandy yesterday.

Skipper Dimuth Karunaratne had taken his score to 234 runs inclusive of 25 boundaries while his partner Dhananjaya de Silva was also still unbeaten on 154 runs with 20 hits to the ropes. The pair had batted with a mixture of caution and aggression to put on 322 runs in an unbroken partnership for the fourth wicket.

The faced little threats from a the bowlers who could little on a placid pitch made for batting.

Earlier, Sri Lanka converted their good start of the day into total dominance of the Bangladesh attack. Their 3.70 run-rate was easily the highest in a session in this Test, as they reached 442 for 3 by tea, with Dhananjaya de Silva reaching his seventh Test hundred and Dimuth Karunaratne



unbeaten on 184.

The pair added 252 runs, the highest fourth-wicket stand by Sri Lanka against Bangladesh, and were closing in on the highest partnership for any wicket - 258 between Michael Hussey and Shaun Marsh - at the Pallekelle International Stadium.

The dominance was complete when the pair added 61 runs in the first ten overs after lunch.

They picked up eight boundaries as Taskin Ahmed and Ebadat Hossain were hammered, while Mehidy Hasan Miraz and Abu Jayed also couldn't contain the pair.

During these exchanges, de Silva reached his century with a strong pull shot off Taskin, after he had set a field targeting to bounce him out. Bangladesh's plan to bowl short at de Silva seemed ill-conceived.

Karunaratne and de Silva slowed down slightly for the following 20 overs but there weren't too many occasions when it looked like the visiting bowling attack had a say in the proceedings. Karunaratne survived a caught-behind chance on 166 although the Taijul Islam delivery just had to stick into Liton Das' gloves.

Sri Lanka had a great first session too. Dimuth Karunaratne had reached his eleventh century while Dhananjaya de Silva sauntered to a fifty as they added 102 runs in the 31 overs. They hardly provided any opening to the Bangladesh bowlers who were reduced to waiting for the batters to make mistakes.

Karunaratne started slowly, taking 30 balls to move from 90 to 100. But he attacked Taskin Ahmed immediately afterwards, hitting him for three fours in an over. It allowed de Silva to also push up the scoring, as they finished the session without offering a single chance.

Karunaratne, Sandakan added to Sri Lanka Test Squad

BY CHRIS DHAMBARAGE

Sri Lanka Cricket (SLC) National Selectors yesterday recalled left-arm wrist spinner Lakshan Sandakan and fast bowler Chamika Karunaratne for the second Test against Bangladesh scheduled to begin next week.

The pair has been added to the 18-member Test squad following the injury to their key bowler Lahiru Kumara who broke down with a hamstring injury while fielding on the third day of the first Test on Friday.

The 24-year-old paceman will be sidelined for the remainder of the series as a precautionary measure after yesterday's MRI scans confirmed the

presence of the injury.

"We will not take a risk with Lahiru Kumara's injury at the moment and he will bat in the first Test only if the situation is really needed," an official close to the team told the Sunday Observer yesterday.

Meanwhile, Karunaratne has played just a solitary Test against Australia in 2019 but continues to impress in domestic cricket and was among the wickets during the recent SLC Major Club Limited Over Tournament.

Sri Lanka's bowling attack was fully exposed by the Bangladesh top order during the first Test as the visitors rattled up 541 for seven - their

second highest total against the islanders.

Leg-spinner Wanidu Hasaranga went wicketless for 111 runs from his 36 overs while off-spinner Dhananjaya de Silva conceded 130 runs for his solitary wicket in 30 overs.

Sandakan's presence in the squad could be mainly due to the lack of variation in Sri Lanka's bowling attack in the first Test.

Sandakan of course, played his last Test against England in 2018 but his record at the Pallekelle Stadium may have prompted the National Selectors to be included for the second Test. The second Test will commence on April 29 at the same venue.



Chamika Karunaratne



Lakshan Sandakan

No tests for Parliament media, tests for cricket media

Sri Lanka Cricket (SLC) has gone back to its game of playing hide and seek with the media this time making it mandatory for media personnel to be subjected to PCR tests to cover the Bangladesh Test series.

It is in contrast to media personnel covering Parliament who do not have to subject themselves to PCR tests.

Media personnel have been told that they should subject themselves to four PCR tests during the two-Test series at a cost of Rs.35,000.

Media manager of SLC Prasanna

Rodrigo said that they were only following Health Ministry regulations.

But the ruling by SLC is also appallingly hypocritical as no PCR tests were conducted on media personnel that recently covered four of their media launches and press conferences.

SLC is currently under a sports ministry appointed interim administration after the most controversial set of office bearers in the history of the sport was replaced two weeks ago.

Sri Lanka badminton denies standards have declined

Sri Lanka Badminton has denied they did anything that paved the way for a decline in the standards of the sport.

Their reaction comes in response to a report published on the Sunday Observer of April 4 under the headline 'Badminton still struggling to hold elections.'

However their reply does not refer to the elections that they have not held but only stresses on the development work they are carrying out.

"If you have had the opportunity to read some of the articles that

have been published concerning the excellent work that has been done to improve not only the standard of badminton of the junior and senior players, but that of the umpires and technical officials, we are sure your article too may have differed after having confirmed the contents of the said article.

"We at SLB welcome constructive criticism, but would urge you to do so, by following the rules of natural justice," said the Secretary of Sri Lanka Badminton Mohan Wijesinghe.

Trinity-Antonian fixed for May 15 and 16

BY HAFIZ MARIKAR

The date has been finalized for Kandy's Battle of Blues cricket match between Trinity College and St. Anthony's College to be played on May 15 and 16 at Katugastota without spectators for the first time.

The match was not played last year due to the coronavirus.

This will be the 103rd encounter between these two cricket rivals and is the sixth oldest big match in the country played for the John Halangoda Memorial trophy.

The trophy is awarded to the team that manages to win the match by means of an outright win or failing that, a first innings win.

It was introduced in 2005 in memory of the former Trinity Col-

lege cricketer and coach who later became the coach of St. Anthony's College and guided them to a win in 1948.

In the series Trinity College leads the overall tally with 23 wins while St. Anthony's College has won 11.

Trinity's last win came under the captaincy of Niroshan Dickwella in 2012 where they broke a 25-year hoodoo to win by an innings and one run.

The Antonians are yet to win an encounter this century with their last win recorded in 1991 under the captaincy of Umesh de Alwis.

It is the Trinitians who have dominated the series in the early years to such an extent that they won the big match a record eleven times in a row from 1918 to 1928.

Badminton to develop young players in all districts

As part of its long-term strategy, SLB is to benefit from its Regional Development Committees (RDC) that has embarked on the establishment of Regional Development District Pools that will identify and develop 20 young men and women in each district as a feeder to the Junior National Pool.

This ambitious program is directed by the RDC in collaboration with the Provincial Associations who overlook District Activities. Accordingly, coaches, assistant coaches and coordinators were nominated from the Provincial Structure in collaboration with the District Associations to conduct these training pools in all districts within the nine provinces that would produce future top talent for the sport.

These Provincial units needed to acquire a model development program which RDC thought was important to put in place. With this

in mind, RDC conducted an intensive two-day residential workshop for 55 Provincial coaches, assistant coaches and coordinators drawn from the districts at its Stadium covering a gamut of important disciplines from basic administration to district pool training fundamentals, physical wellbeing, exercise routines, sports nutrition and preventive medical interventions.

The expert subject specialist panel comprised Dr. Thushan Wijesinghe (Sports Medicine and Nutrition) Pradeep Welagedara (National Coach) and Ashoka Jayasundera (Physical Trainer).

The fifty five participants represented 19 Districts namely Jaffna, Mullaitivu, Mannar, Vavuniya, Killinochchi, Ampara, Batticaloa, Trincomalee, Polonnaruwa, Anuradhapura, Kurunegala, Puttalam, Kalutara, Matara, Galle, Kegalle, Matale, Badulla and Moneragala.

RDC Chairman, VP Roshan Gu-

wardana led the program with the wholehearted support of SLB President Rohan de Silva and a host of SLB officials, medical and subject experts who shared their experiences and put together a well-knit planning, training and implementation mechanism targeting the age group of sixteen years and below, that will stand in good stead as the Regional Development District Pool Administrative plan unfolds over the next several months.

RDC intends covering all 25 Districts during 2021. In doing so, this would provide a feeder of 500 talented new badminton players into the junior national pool, greatly enhancing the skills set laying the foundation to graduate in to the senior and National Pool with the absolute focus required to move into high performance and international competition thresholds.

U-19 Inter-Schools Division Two Tier A Tournament

St. John's advance to semi-finals

St. John's College Panadura advanced to the semi-finals of the Under-19 Inter-Schools Division Two Tier A Cricket tournament conducted by Sri Lanka Schools Cricket Association (SLS-CA) yesterday.

St. John's College beat Siri Piyarathana MMV Padukka by 56 runs at the Galle International

Cricket stadium.

St. John's will meet Lyceum International School Wattala in the semi-final at De Zoysa Stadium Moratuwa tomorrow (26).

Sri Sumangala College will meet Holy Cross College Kalutara in the other semi-final at Thurston College ground tomorrow (26).

Scores:

St. John's Panadura: 156 (42.2) (Amila Thuruvan 31, Chathushka Shamod 26, Yasiru Sandeepa 23, Tharindu Chamodya 4/40, Madushan Pieris 3/28, Omesh Udara 2/13)

Siri Piyarathana Padukka: 100 (39.4) (Yasiru Dineth 24, Saven Dewmina 14, Tishan Achintha 4/14, Sumudu Udara 3/10) (YK)

42nd Observer SLT Mobitel School Cricketer of the Year 2020



Captain of the Best School Team of the Central Province St. Anthony's College is presented with their award given by ANCL Director Editorial, Dharma Sri Kariyawasam



Group Chairman of Sri Lanka Telecom Rohan Fernando presenting an award



Captain of the Best School Team of the North Western Province St. Sebastian's College, Katuneriya is presented with their award given by ANCL Director Legal and Administration, Rakhitha Abeygunawardhana



Group CEO, Sri Lanka Telecom, Lalith Seneviratne presenting an award



Captain of the Best School Team of the Northern Province St. John's College Jaffna is presented with their award given by ANCL Director Finance, Janaka Ranatunga



CMO Sri Lanka Telecom, Prabhath Dahanayaka presenting an award



Captain of the Best School Team of the Southern Province St. Thomas College, Matara is presented with their award given by ANCL Director Operations, Canishka Witharana



CMO Mobitel, Shashika Senarath presenting an award



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APRIL 25, 2021

42nd Observer SLT Mobitel School Cricketer of the Year 2020

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Observer-SLT Mobitel Schoolboy Cricketer of the Year 2020 Navod Paranavithana from Mahinda College receives his award from former Sri Lanka captain Sanath Jayasuriya



Division One Schoolboy Cricketer of the Year 2020 Pawan Ratnayake receives his award from Media and Information Minister Keheliya Rambukwella



Captain of the Best Schoolgirl Team of the Year 2020 receives the award from Chairman of SLT Mobitel Rohan Fernando



Observer-SLT Mobitel Schoolgirl Cricketer of the Year 2020 Kavsha Dilhari from Devapathiraja College receives her award from Sanath Jayasuriya



Best batsman Navod Paranavithana of Mahinda College accepts his award from ANCL Chairman, President's Counsel W. Dayaratne



Captain of the best up-and-coming girls school Princess of Wales College receives the award from Media and Information Ministry Secretary Jagath P Wijeweera



Best schoolgirl team runners-up Ratnaveli Balika Vidyalaya Gampaha get their award from SLT Mobitel Group Chairman Rohan Fernando in the presence of Media and Information Minister Keheliya Rambukwella, Ministry Secretary Jagath P Wijeweera, ANCL Chairman W Dayaratne PC and the Editor in Chief of the Sunday Observer Dinesh Weerawansa



From left: Dinesh Weerawansa (Editor in Chief Sunday Observer), Shashika Senarath (CMO SLT-Mobitel), Lalith Seneviratne (GCEO SLT-Mobitel), Thilak Watthuhewa (President-Sri Lanka Schools Cricket Association), Kavsha Dilhari (Observer-SLT Mobitel Schoolgirl Cricketer of the Year), ANCL Chairman and President's Counsel W. Dayaratne, Chief Guest and former Sri Lanka captain Sanath Jayasuriya, Keheliya Rambukwella, Minister of Media and Information, Rohan Fernando, Group Chairman of SLT Mobitel and Schoolboy Cricketer of the Year 2020 Navod Paranavithana

Pix: Chinthaka Kumarasinghe, Rukmal Gamage, Thilak Perera and Sudath Malaweera

More Pictures of Observer SLT Mobitel School Cricketer of the Year 2020 on pages 15, 23 & 24

IMPACT

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APRIL 25, 2021

Lanka's success as a global model for reconciliation

By
Frances
Bulathsinghala



In May 2009 Sri Lanka ended one of the bloodiest chapters in its history when it completely defeated the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) classified the world over as a terrorist organisation. What Sri Lanka did soon after, has been conveniently forgotten by the international community and the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC). It is indeed mind boggling how the world should have missed the fact that Sri Lanka remains the only country in the world to have completely defeated terrorism and immediately after, in swift and clear decision making, instead of arresting and jailing, pardoned all LTTEers numbering to over 12,500 who surrendered.

Thereafter alongside legal processes as needed all these surrendered LTTE members who were for years carrying out terrorist activities, were put through a process of making available education and training opportunity aiming at re-integrating them with society. This re-habilitation process of disarmament and de-radicalisation used by Sri Lanka has been ranked as one of the best in the world alongside the model of Singapore and Saudi Arabia.

According to the length of time served in the LTTE and other factors used to gauge their level of radicalisation, these former LTTEers (hereafter referred to in this article as rehabilitated beneficiaries) spent differing amounts of time in the rehabilitation centres, ranging from three months to around two years. In the rehabilitation process they were treated as normal citizens and the brainwashing of the LTTE, which used young women as human suicide bombers and forcibly recruited young children for terror acts, were reversed.

Rehabilitation

The rehabilitation process was humanistic to the extent that when one Western country providing rations to the rehabilitation centre abruptly stopped doing so at the height of the success of the rehabilitation program, the government military had volunteered to share their meals with the beneficiaries which had further strengthened peace time integration.

All rehabilitated beneficiaries who had potential and wished to continue their education in diverse fields were encouraged to follow through their aims.

Jobs were provided at the newly established factories in the North-East but the continuation of the provision of jobs and entrepreneurship facilities was thwarted and remains seriously hampered by the diversion of focus by the Tamil diaspora and the international community whose only objective is keeping the past alive instead of motivating the world to invest in money and energy to stabilise Sri Lanka's the future.

"In the last phase of the fighting in 2009, these LTTEers and their families listened to my voice and fled to army led areas as I gave them the assurance, communicated through radio, that they will be treated humanely by the government," said the current Governor for the North, P. S. M. Charles, an ethnically Tamil officer of the Sri Lanka Administrative Service, who in 2009 was serving as Vavuniya Government Agent and coordinating the humanitarian services, supervising the administration of the Manik Farm camp for the internally displaced persons.

Sri Lanka remains a unique case



study where even at the height of fighting between the LTTE and the military, the government provided dry rations to the North without neglecting its Tamil citizens caught in the hostilities.

This is another salient factor missed by the UN and the international community. Charles was the government officer based in the North who coordinated this humanitarian service and who was the main official voice providing confidence for the Tamil civilians to enter government areas and working round the clock to ensure their wellbeing.

"After the civilians in LTTE areas fled the last stage of the fighting and came to the military, the ex-LTTE members who arrived with them were fearing that they will be identified and arrested.

However, as an example to the world, Sri Lanka became a country which set in motion a swift plan to rehabilitate them," said the current Governor of the Northern Province. She narrates how she effectively defended the UN's initial allegations on Manik Farm including its sanitation facilities, resulting in the UN removing the said points from their reports.

She also said that the 127 persons currently jailed on suspicion of being connected to the LTTE are not those who were fighting in the battlefield, but those who have at various time frames been taken in on diverse charges involving aiding and abetting a terror organisation.

One of the Tamils officials recruited by the government to assist in the de-radicalisation process notes:

"I am a Lankan Tamil with a long history in witnessing first-hand, how the LTTE rose from being nothing more than a bunch of disgruntled killers. As someone who in the 1980s and 1990s actively prevented the plantation Tamils from joining the LTTE, I was one of the officials who was called to be at the rehabilitation centres set up after May 2009, to help these misled youth to resume their life without reverting to terrorism," he said on condition of anonymity.

Following a very detailed and completely impartial research based visit to the North of Sri Lanka undertaken by this writer, covering even the most rural of areas in Vavuniya, Killinochchi, Mullaitivu, Mannar and Jaffna, it is clear that the ideologies represented

'WE ARE THE ONES WHO FOUGHT AND SUFFERED. NOT THEM AND THEIR CHILDREN. WE FOUGHT FOR WHAT WE THOUGHT THEN AS RIGHT. LOYALTY WE HOLD IN HIGH ESTEEM. WE REALIZE WE WERE LOYAL TO A FALSE CONCEPT. NOW WE UNDERSTAND THAT ALL THIS DRAMA THAT IS NOW PLAYED OUT ARE MACHINATIONS BY THOSE WHO DO NOT LIVE OUR LIFE. NOW NO ONE, ABSOLUTELY NO ONE CAN MAKE US SUPPORT TERROR ONCE AGAIN'

by Western nations that dominate the discourse of the UN, Tamil politicians and the Tamil diaspora are absolutely nowhere near the expectations of the Tamil people.

As per the analysis of this writer who has since the 2002 peace process to date researched and written on the North-East and its challenges from multifarious angles, Sri Lanka currently needs an urgent international communication strategy to rectify this situation and counter diaspora led propaganda that harms primarily the wellbeing of the Tamil people of Sri Lanka's North-East.

Exemplary citizen

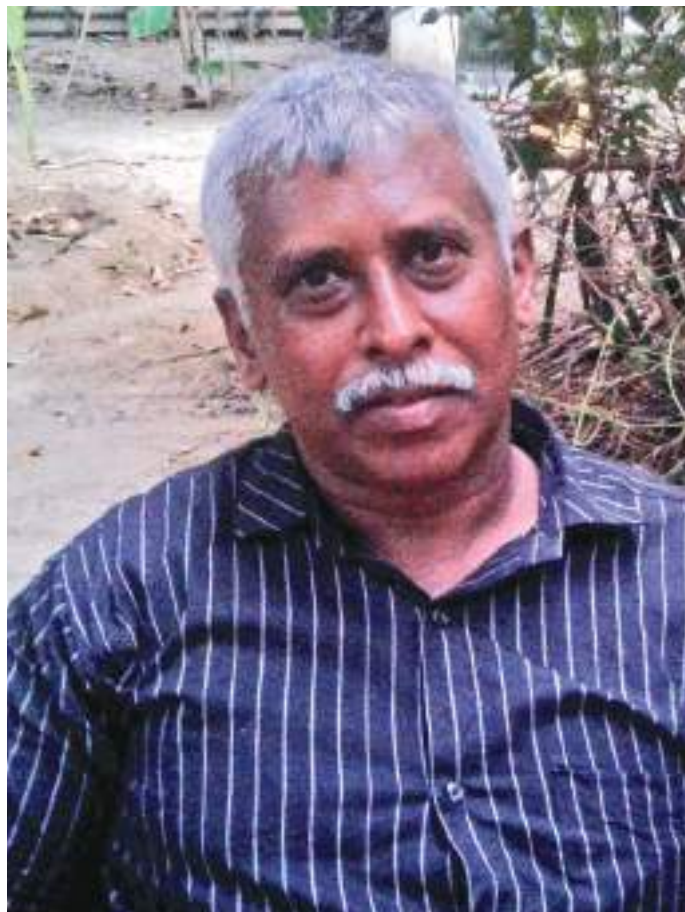
"My daughter is today in university and my son is sitting for his Ordinary Level exam. My youngest daughter is in grade 5," says 47-year-old Sivakumar living in Killinochchi. He is a former LTTEer. Today he is an exemplary citizen loyal to Sri Lanka.

"We who were earlier with the LTTE are today alive and looking after our families because the Lankan government pardoned us.

We joined the LTTE because we believed it was a sign of loyalty to the land we live in. Almost all of us although alive, have lost our limbs or live with bullets in our body. Today we will be the first to defend this country against anyone who tries to create destruction here again," he says.

He and his wife live in a half-built house and engage in agriculture and chicken rearing to survive. However, he possesses extraordinary skills in areas linked to electrical engineering and has designed two electricity driven egg hatching machines.

"We cannot explain in words how hard we strive to educate our children to ensure that they do not have the destructive youth we had.



the Lankan authorities prevent at least two diaspora connected plots to seriously destabilise Sri Lanka. Spending many hours in his humble home and sharing a meal prepared by his wife and mother I listen as he explains how money is used by foreign based Lankan Tamils who never lived under the LTTE to try and create unrest again in the minds of Lankan Tamils.

Loyalty

"I am in constant contact with the Tri Forces. I know what to do in such cases," he said and when asked whether he is not fearing retaliation of any sort for his loyalty to his country, this Sri Lankan, a man of few words, merely points to the Pujara room where the Hindu pantheon of gods are present. His wife answers for him and says the gods never let down the rightful.

Soon after we are joined by thee to four children; the nephews and nieces of this couple. They rattle on about their school and what they like to study. In every Northern family that was exposed to the past terror trauma, what is clear is a tenacious clinging to the current normal life and children and youth, the next generation of Sri Lanka help to give a solid foundation to this normalcy.

In the village of Kaively in Puthukudiyiruppu, Mullaitivu, 48-year-old ValliThayaparan, a father of two boys aged seven and 12 had joined the LTTE at the age of 21 and surrendered to the military at the end of the last phase of fighting in May 2009. Today he lives the life of a civilian whose priority is loyalty to his country and his family.

Thayaparan maintains around an acre of land belonging to his parents and has turned it into an impressive agrarian and animal farm replete with cows and goats. He is self taught in techniques of organic agriculture. Through frugal management of resources and money he gets by fending for his family, prioritising the education of his children.

His 37-year-old wife Komeli, speaks fluent Sinhala having grown up in a Sinhala village, Manampitiya. She points to the jackfruit tree in their garden and says she can cook 'Sinhala polos curry' and regrets that my visit was sudden and not allowing her a chance to prepare such a meal. The two children can be seen attending to the management of the farm. They respond in English when spoken to in that language.

Thayaparan's explanation of the intrigue involving Sri Lanka's so called human rights violation drama played out internationally and amidst the Tamil political sphere is succinct.

"We are the ones who fought and suffered. Not them and their children. We fought for what we thought then as right. Loyalty we hold in high esteem. We realise we were loyal to a false concept. Now we understand that all this drama that is now played out are machinations by those who do not live our life. Now no one, absolutely no one can make us support terror once again," he said.

"We know how the Tamil people of the North are given packets of rice and Rs. 500 and bussed back and forth to protest against the government on issues such as 'missing persons.' We know that people out of abject poverty and lack of opportunities being created in these areas are falling prey to such things. We know about death and dying. We know people die in the battlefield and that those who died can be categorised as missing. We have moved on. But those who have no idea of the reality we faced do not want this."

He said, "None of these people who claim to shout for Lankan Tamils want the North developed and for the Lankan government to know about our issues. They know that if this happens the government will be popular with the people. They do not want this."

"We who once served the LTTE and who are re-habilitated and resettled in society have exemplary relations with the armed forces. There is not a single fault we can blame them for. It is we who know. We are the ones who constantly live amongst them now. They are here in the North because we all know the diverse threats that exist in reality."

Thayaparan calls for an alternative development plan for people of the North struggling to rebuild their lives. As scarcity of private owned agrarian land is a major problem, he and all those spoken to in the North unanimously call for the vast amount of State owned land to be systematically distributed to the Northern people following a clear policy.

"Land is crucial for us. Agriculture is the only thing that the majority of the population here have skills for. But what can we do when we do not have land? We need not want free money from the government. If a systematic loan scheme is given to the people of the North-East alongside entrepreneurial boosting assistance and job development, people like us who are truly committed to our people can assist the government to monitor such programs," he asserts.

Everywhere one travels in the North, the view that is repeated is that human development in the North is purposely - both overtly and subtly prevented. This makes it extremely arduous for dedicated government officials such as the Governor of the Northern Province who hold their official positions for the genuine reason of serving the people.

Hence Tamil citizens of the North call for an identification of other genuine Tamil North serving government officials who could plan and honestly, without subverting, carry through a government resurgence of Northern economic opportunity as phase two of what was commenced in 2010.

This is pointed to be a strengthening factor for Sri Lanka to achieve the unanimous support of the North based Tamil people to actively contest dubious war crimes allegations by Western nations and assist in human development that will interlink the North with all districts of Sri Lanka and thereby further holistically support national reconciliation.

Meritorious act by Karuna Trust during Vesak

Five-hundred cataract surgeries for needy patients

The Karuna Trust has made arrangements to do 500 cataract surgeries to the needy cataract patients who live in far remote villages. The patients will be from Anuradhapura, Kegalle, Ratnapura, Galle and Hambantota districts.

The surgeries will be done on the Saturdays and Tuesdays in May, the month of Vesak.

Patients who were scheduled for surgery on Saturday the May 1, were re-scheduled for yesterday.

Arrangement have been made for the clergy of any religion, to get their cataract surgeries done under this program. For further



details, contact 0702807400.

Of the 500 surgeries, 150 have been allocated for estate workers. There are thousands of estate women who cannot earn their daily living by tea plucking as they are full or semi

blind due to cataracts in their eyes. They are a set of innocent people who have been neglected by everyone.

Anyone who wishes to participate in this meritorious activity please contact 0702807400. karunalanka.org

No LPG shortage, says Litro

There is no LPG gas shortage in the country, a media release from Litro Gas Lanka stated.

The release in full: We regret to note that those with vested interests are spreading false information that there is a shortage of gas in the country.

As the national LPG provider, we categorically affirm that there is absolutely no shortage of gas in the country, with LPG made available to customers via over 14,000 sales channels throughout the island.

Litro Gas Lanka possesses a proud heritage of over 150 years in the energy industry as the LPG pioneer in Sri Lanka; we constantly seek to add value to our customers with new and innovative products

that meet their expectations.

Accordingly, the Litro Gas Premium Hybrid 18 Litre Cylinder was introduced to the market as a product that meets international standards - the new product delivers a higher level of efficiency and delivers better energy utilization, assuring easier handling and storage.

This product contains 18 litres of LPG, sufficient for a family of 4 for a month and is priced at Rs. 1395.00.

Our standard regular cylinders are also available without a shortage in the market.

Customers may order their LPG requirements by dialing 1311 or via the Litro Gas Home Delivery App. Please be assured that all cate-

gories of Litro Gas Lanka cylinders are available to consumers without any shortage.



Sri Lanka's newest Army contingent leaves for Mali



Sri Lanka Army's newest contingent of 243 professionally-trained Army personnel in the Combat Convoy Company (CCC), well-prepared to serve in the United Nations (UN) Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA), left the country for Mali on April 21.

General Shavendra Silva, Chief of Defence Staff, Commander of the Army and Head of the National Operations Centre for Prevention of Covid-19 Outbreak (NOCPCO) together with a few senior officers was at the airport to see the Sri Lankan CCC comprised 212 Officers and Other Ranks, representing 12 Regiments of the Army, off to the landlocked West African country.

At first, the Commander at the airport spoke to Lieutenant Colonel Dinesh Bulathsinhala, Commanding Officer in the Mali-bound CCC, Major L Udagedara, 2nd in Command of the CCC and members of the CCC.

General Shavendra Silva shared a few thoughts with them and extended his best wishes to the CCC at the airport after a brief military formality before boarding process commenced.

Earlier on April 10, the Mali-bound CCC presented a formal military salute to the Commander of the Army at the Institute of peacekeeping Support Operations Training Sri Lanka (IPSOTSL) premises at Kukuleganga.

The CCC includes Army Officers and Other Ranks of the Gajaba Regi-



ment (GR), the majority in the contingent as well as members of the Sri Lanka Army Service Corps (SLASC), Sri Lanka Armoured Corps (SLAC), Sri Lanka Engineers (SLE), Sri Lanka Signal Corps (SLSC), Corps of Engineer Services (CES), Mechanized Infantry Regiment (MIR), Sri Lanka Army Ordnance Corps (SLAOC), Sri Lanka Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (SLEME), Sri Lanka Corps of Military (SLCMP), Sri Lanka Army Medical Corps (SLAMC) and Sri Lanka Army General Service Corps (SLAGSC).

A group of 31 Army personnel, belonging to the same CCC are expected to leave after a few days due to logistic requirements. In the meantime, 240 members of the CCC troops (Phase II) already serving Mali having completed their peacekeeping roles will return home soon under two phases.



A monument for the Zion Church victims



BY SIVAM PACKIYANATHAN

A monument commemorating the attack on Zion Church, Central Road, Batticaloa on 21, April, 2019 was unveiled at the New Kallady Bridge along the Batticaloa-Kalmunai highway on Wednesday evening (21).

The monument was declared open by the Pastor of the church Roshan Maheshan where Batticaloa Additional Government Agent (Land) Navarubaranjani Mugunthan, Chief Engineer Road Development Authority R. Sasinathan and Coordinator Children Emergency Relief International (CERI) S. Dharshan as well as relatives and friends of the victims placed light oil lamps and paid floral tributes.

The monument records the martyrdom of 31 devotees including 14 children belonging to 83 families.

It is to express the thanks of the Zion Church to the Batticaloa community who supported them irrespective of ethnic, religious and language differences.

They also remember their Catholic brethren at Kochchikade and Katuwapitiya and those who lost their lives in the luxury hotels.



The good news is that the US failed to achieve consensus on Sri Lanka

– Tamara Kunanayakam

BY MANJULA FERNANDO

In an exclusive interview with the *Sunday Observer*, former Ambassador/Permanent Representative to the UN and Ex-Chairperson, UN Working Group on the Right to Development Tamara Kunanayakam explains the pluses and negatives of the recent Geneva Resolution on Sri Lanka and shares insights on how best to handle it.

Q: Why is Sri Lanka still a major concern at the UN Human Rights Council, in fact the battle against LTTE terrorism ended more than a decade ago?

Behind the relentless persecution of Sri Lanka at the UN Human Rights Council (HRC) is Washington. Its actions can be traced back to the December 2009 US Senate Foreign Relations Report, "Sri Lanka: Recharting US Strategy after the war" (Kerry-Lugar Report), prepared less than six months after the historic defeat of the LTTE. The report was categorical - the US "cannot afford to lose" Sri Lanka, because of its geostrategic importance to it. Accordingly, a new approach was recommended to "catalyse much-needed political reforms that will ultimately help secure a longer term U.S. strategic interests in the Indian Ocean".

Washington's priority thus shifted to increasing leverage over the country, expanding the tools necessary to catalyse radical neo-liberal transformation of the Sri Lankan State to bring it permanently under its control.

US strategic goals have since been articulated in the 'Indo-Pacific strategy' to combat China as the principal adversary and obstacle to its ambition for a unilateral world order under its leadership. The Biden Administration has intensified the campaign for a global 'coalition of the willing' that will also engage militarily through greater involvement in NATO and the US-led QUAD, which includes India.

Since terrorism ended in May 2009, Washington has been directly or indirectly responsible for every resolution against Sri Lanka. Human rights are the weapon to coerce it into submission, OHCHR the catalyst.

Q: Do you think Sri Lanka did the right thing in Geneva by refusing to become a co-sponsor of the Resolution L.1 Rev.1?

The right thing Sri Lanka did was to prevent Washington from achieving the consensus it sought by calling for a vote through its friends on HRC, China and Pakistan.

Initially, however, although the Government refused co-sponsorship, it was ready to negotiate a consensus, which could only have been obtained by compromising on sovereignty.

The controversial 'Responsibility to Protect' (R2P) doctrine that demands sovereignty be surrendered permeated the US-UK text. It was also the logic that prompted the High Commissioner to use R2P language in her conclusion that the

Government has demonstrated 'its inability and unwillingness' to protect its citizens from "international crimes and serious human rights violations".

The reference here is to war crimes, genocide, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity. It implied Sri Lanka was a 'failed State' and had hence surrendered its sovereignty to external forces, along with the associated state responsibilities. It is this notion that justified the interventionary recommendations to expand the scope of universal jurisdiction, apply sanctions, and equip OHCHR with prosecutorial functions.

The good news is that the US failed to achieve consensus. Sri Lanka has not been disarmed. The vote signified its rejection of the new rules unilaterally determined by Washington, a denial of consent for the interventionary measures, a reaffirmation of international co-operation as a condition for the promotion of human rights and a refusal to place its natural allies before a fait accompli.

Q: If the Foreign Ministry handled Geneva differently, could we have defeated the country specific Resolution on March 23, 2021 by convincing the member states to vote with Sri Lanka?

It is impossible to predict the outcome of a battle not yet undertaken. The question that must be answered is whether Sri Lanka's independence and sovereignty is worth fighting for.

It is crucial we understand that HRC decisions are not technical or about human rights, but essentially political. Composed of member States, they reflect the reality of the world outside and the balance of power at any given moment, which means it can be influenced by mobilising allies on the basis of common interests. Members of the Non Aligned Movement (NAM) have a sizeable majority both in HRC and the General Assembly.

The Government's biggest error was to misunderstand the nature of the HRC and to confuse adversary for ally and ally for adversary. It is this blindness that led to its initial acceptance of the request from hostile countries to negotiate a consensual resolution. The Government should have realised that the desire for consensus revealed a lack of confidence on the part of the sponsors of winning a vote. It should also have understood that negotiating would neutralise Sri Lanka's potential allies by conveying the message that it was ready to compromise. Countries of NAM and the Global South do not interfere in bilateral negotiations.

Q: Should we fear the actions proposed under the Resolution, if yes, why? (We have been told that the resolutions at the UNHRC are not legally binding.)

It is true UN resolutions are only recommendations that are not legally binding, except decisions by the Security Council under Chapter VII of the UN Charter (the Charter).



Tamara Kunanayakam

BEHIND THE RELENTLESS PERSECUTION OF SRI LANKA AT THE UN HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL (HRC) IS WASHINGTON. ITS ACTIONS CAN BE TRACED BACK TO THE DECEMBER 2009 US SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS REPORT, "SRI LANKA: RECHARTING US STRATEGY AFTER THE WAR" (KERRY-LUGAR REPORT), PREPARED LESS THAN SIX MONTHS AFTER THE HISTORIC DEFEAT OF THE LTTE. THE REPORT WAS CATEGORICAL - THE US "CANNOT AFFORD TO LOSE" SRI LANKA, BECAUSE OF ITS GEOSTRATEGIC IMPORTANCE TO IT. ACCORDINGLY, A NEW APPROACH WAS RECOMMENDED TO "CATALYSE MUCH-NEEDED POLITICAL REFORMS THAT WILL ULTIMATELY HELP SECURE A LONGER TERM U.S. STRATEGIC INTERESTS IN THE INDIAN OCEAN"

However, politically motivated resolutions, irrespective of whether they are adopted by consensus or without the consent of the State concerned, do not prevent coercion and interventions by the West from continuing. In our case, they may take the form of financial and other support for prosecutorial functions by OHCHR that it has no authority to carry out under the Charter, the initiation of criminal proceedings in national courts by expanding the scope of universal jurisdiction that has been rejected by the majority of States, and even threats of sanctions or sanctions not authorised by the Security Council.

Coercion and threats will continue until sovereignty is surrendered, but since that is not an option for nations that value freedom and dignity, Sri Lanka must be prepared for the long struggle.

Q: Do you think the funding for the proposed mechanism to gather evidence on Sri Lanka, to be used in the future - US\$ 2.8 million, can be justified?

The issue is not whether or not the budget is justified, but whether it is legitimate. The size of the budget is irrelevant.

The Security Council alone has the authority to decide on universal jurisdiction by ICC or ad-hoc tribunals and on sanctions, which can in no way be used as a preventive measure in instances of violation of international law, norms or standards. Member States have

also rejected attempts to expand the scope of universal jurisdiction to include human rights.

Q: The decision to establish a 'mechanism' with prosecutorial functions within OHCHR to support criminal investigations is a blatant violation of international law and the Charter. Even the General Assembly cannot create a mechanism that has more powers than itself and HRC is only a subsidiary.

Besides, international co-operation is essential for the promotion of human rights and consent, an unquestionable rule in international law - a State is bound only by those international legal obligations to which it consents.

Q: How best can we manage the bad effects of the Resolution?

The vote clarifies the debate and equips us with the political wherewithal to continue to resist with renewed energy, without ambiguity and with our friends and allies at our side.

Consensus would have increased Sri Lanka's vulnerability to US pressures, accorded a semblance of legitimacy to interventions in its internal affairs or wherever US strategic interests are involved, and would have isolated Sri Lanka from its natural allies.

Sri Lanka should communicate in writing to HRC and the General Assembly reiterating and explain-

ing its position. Later this year, it should make every effort at the General Assembly to have all references to the 'mechanism' removed from the proposed program budget for 2022, because its inclusion will legitimise an illegitimate mechanism.

Not only will all UN member States, including Sri Lanka, be financing such a mechanism, but they will also be financing illegal criminal proceedings in countries allied to Washington.

At this September's session of HRC where the High Commissioner will give an oral update, Sri Lanka should seek to reverse the damaging resolution. It will have other opportunities at HRC's 49th and 50th sessions in 2022 at which a written update and a comprehensive report are envisaged.

An essential condition for success is political will to mobilise our natural allies within the framework of NAM to ensure that the balance of power is in our favour as was achieved in September 2011, when I represented the country in Geneva under the leadership of the then President Mahinda Rajapaksa, forcing the US to withdraw a resolution hostile to Sri Lanka.

Q: Since we are not a party to the resolution and have taken a stand to reject it, there will not be a chance for FM to ask the OHCHR to refer to favourable evidence such as British HC dispatches by Colonel Gash. In those classified cables he talks about casualty figures during the final phase of the conflict.

Denial of consent to the new 'mechanism' does not prevent Sri Lanka from raising the issue in a legitimate forum - at HRC, in a treaty body where it is under consideration, or with a special procedures mechanism.

The latest resolution has taken the struggle to a qualitatively higher level and Sri Lanka must be able to rise to the new challenges it poses.

Q: The UK, the chief proponent of the Resolution against Sri Lanka is accused of suppressing evidence that could shed light as to whether war crimes were committed during the last phase of the war in Sri Lanka. BHC's war time despatches were revealed as a result of a Freedom of Information request by Lord Naseby. Your comments?

It goes to prove that human rights is only a weapon in the hands of the West to achieve strategic goals.

Q: The US is to make a re-entry to the HRC, what will this latest development mean as far as SL is concerned?

The only difference is the additional leverage it will have over the votes of others through its own voting power. We have seen how even without being a member, it can flex its muscle through its Western allies and bilaterally in the capitals where decisions are taken.

The situation, however, is not static, the global reality is changing and US hegemony is under challenge with the emergence of a multipolar world, the systemic crisis of capitalism, the acceleration of de-dollarisation as more and more countries become victims of US sanctions, and rising domestic challenges within its borders and inside the European Union.

Sri Lanka must seize the opportunity and cure itself of its foreign policy ambiguity, taking a principled stand on issues that concern developing countries actively engaging in strengthening NAM. It must rid itself of its damaging reputation as a 'single-issue country', going beyond vote-seeking at UN fora to building sustainable co-operation with its natural allies at bilateral, regional, and multi-lateral levels, based on solidarity, co-operation and complementarity.

Q: During the vote on Sri Lanka, a number of countries including China, India, Russia, Pakistan and the Philippines, cautioned against actions that could lead to politicise the UNHRC mandate. Your comments

They reflect a common concern of the Global South about the increasing weaponisation of human rights and the selective targeting of developing countries for reasons other than human rights. Like its inglorious predecessor, HRC has become a space for political confrontation, double standards, manipulation and punitive action rather than a platform for dialogue and co-operation.

In view of the growing alarm at the dangerous trend that undermines the principles of universality, impartiality, objectivity and non-selectivity, Sri Lanka may wish to consider a larger initiative within the framework of NAM to consider ways and means to rescue the central objectives of co-operation and dialogue by which HRC body should be governed.

George Floyd's death

What we know about the ex-policeman

BY SCOTTIE ANDREW, CNN

(CNN)Derek Chauvin worked for the Minneapolis Police Department for more than 18 years.

In the span of nearly a year, he was filmed kneeling on George Floyd's neck for more than nine minutes, fired from the police department and convicted of murder and manslaughter in Floyd's death.

Throughout it all, protesters in Minneapolis and across the country demanded justice for Floyd and accountability for Chauvin.

Here's what we know about the officer convicted on April 20 in Floyd's murder.

He had 18 prior complaints against him

Before he knelt on Floyd's neck, Chauvin was the subject of 18 prior complaints filed with the Minneapolis Police Department's Internal Affairs. Police confirmed the complaints were filed but didn't detail why they were filed or what they en-

tailed. Only two of the 18 complaints were "closed with discipline," according to a MPD internal affairs public summary. In both cases, Chauvin received a letter of reprimand.

According to Communities Against Police Brutality, a Minnesota nonprofit that created a database of complaints against officers in the state, Chauvin received oral reprimands for using a "demeaning tone," "derogatory language" and other language that merited discipline.

Neither the nonprofit database nor the Minneapolis internal affairs public summary include dates or descriptions that incited the complaints. Former officer Tou Thao, who was also involved in Floyd's arrest, had six complaints filed with internal affairs, one of which was still open, the summary said.

The other five were closed without discipline.

The other two former officers, J. Alexander Kueng and Thomas Lane, had no complaints filed, according to a MPD internal affairs public summary.



He and George Floyd once worked security shifts at the same nightclub

Both men worked security at the El Nuevo Rodeo club, down the street from Minneapolis' Third Precinct, former club owner Maya Santamaria told CNN. Floyd worked some Tuesdays as extra security. Chauvin worked as an off-duty police officer for the club for nearly 17 years, Santamaria said.



"I wouldn't characterise them as knowing each other," she told CNN's Josh Campbell in an interview. But, she added, "We all worked together certain nights and they would have crossed paths." Santamaria said she couldn't believe what she was seeing when she watched footage of the two employees, one under arrest and one face down on the pavement.

"I kept yelling at my phone, telling Chauvin to get off of him. It's

horrible. It's absolutely beyond words," she said.

"And having known Chauvin, I can't believe he didn't have the humanity to listen to this poor man begging for his air and his life."

His wife had filed to dissolve their marriage

The day after Chauvin's arrest, an attorney for his wife Kellie filed for a dissolution of marriage.

"This evening, I spoke with Kellie Chauvin and her family. She is devastated by Floyd's death and her utmost sympathy lies with his family, with his loved ones and with everyone who is grieving this tragedy.

"She has filed for dissolution of her marriage to Derek Chauvin," a statement from Sekula Family Law office read.

"While Ms. Chauvin has no children from her current marriage, she respectfully requests that her children, her elder parents, and her extended family be given safety and privacy during this difficult time."

The pair owns a townhouse in Windmere, Florida, Orange County property records show.

Peaceful protests were held there before Chauvin's arrest when it was rumored Chauvin had left Minnesota to hole up in Florida.

The Orange County Sheriff's Office said he wasn't in the home and had no plans to be, and shortly thereafter, he was arrested in Minnesota. - CNN

Features

Haritha TV inaugurated while the agricultural policy is declared

By
Sarath
Wijesinghe



"Not a drop of water goes unused to mankind" - Parakramabahu the Great

Haritha TV - as the name itself signifies, was inaugurated at the 'Gangaramaya' Temple as the official head office on March 31 by President Gotabaya Rajapaksa and a large number of supporters of the temple from all walks of life, parties, leading business magnates and common men of the country with the theme development, prosperity with a disciplined and orderly society on agriculturally based economy with modern and developed models and developments worldwide.

Being the brainchild of Podiham-oduruwo - the head of the cluster of temples, workshops and estates offered by the people for development goals whilst the scheme is based on a long-term concept harnessing the resources and the goodwill of the powerful network of supporters and devotees with aims of development goals on the basis of loving kindness to all races, religions as human beings. It is a multi-religious cluster with Archbishop Most Rev Malcom Cardinal Ranjith' and all other religious groups led by all sects of the Buddhist sectors constituted. All signatories from all religions were present at the event. According to Rev Assagie, special emphasis will be given to the North East and Dry Zones in the South in need of advice and assistance on correct agricultural policies and expert advice.

Temple as the centre

The temple has proved itself a hub of technical education in Colombo and a large number of estates are managed as training centres and agricultural models, donated by the Dayakayas from time to time. Rev. Dr Kiranda Assaji is the current pioneer and the head of the organisation dedicated to environment protection and agriculture, based on concepts aiming at a friendly, educated, pro Sri-Lankan motto with direct participation of all religions, ethnicities and all Provinces including North and East.

The project is aimed at interactions of past, present and future based on agriculture and irrigation on par with modern technology. This shows the trust endowed on the temple by the devotees and supporters to be an active hub of professional social activism. Going back to the past glory, the historians agree that Sri Lanka has been a most successful agricultural nation based on 'agriculture-based culture' with the most developed water networks connecting to small and large man-made tanks with direct links with catchment areas and the water resources with 103 long rivers, 26 small rivers and waterfalls starting from all over country on hills and forests.

Our water resources

Water reservoirs countrywide were used for agriculture with the smooth water flow throughout the network with the classical saying of King "Parakramabahu" the Great in 1153-1186 CE that "let not even a drop of rain water hereafter let not go to the sea without benefiting the mankind" which was a golden era of our history with diplomatic and trade links with Middle East, Burma and many other countries on trade and religious sectors. Agriculture was given priority and the irrigation systems were scientific amusing engineers worldwide even today on distributing of water to long miles on higher slopes.

We are fortunate to have plenty of water unlike other nations with less water resources. Namely some of our most famous rivers and tanks are; Danduru Oya, Gal Oya, Gin Ganga, Kalu Ganga, Kelani river, Kumbukan Oya, Maskeliya Oya, Puswala Oya, Kirindi Oya, Maduru Oya, Maha Oya, Mahadu river, Malwatta river, Manik Ganga, Walawa river, Yan Oya, Akarayam Oya, Kankariyam Oya, Kuduppan Aru, Mavil Aru, Nau Aru, Nilwala river, Parakrama Samudra, in addition to 202 major rivers, small rivers and waterfalls, when in the UK, being such a huge country has the most polluted Thames River running across London with only a few more rivers in the country when they had to turn to other alternatives are such as power generated water resources.

True to the word and adage water was collected, preserved and used with utmost protective measures. Sri Lanka has been an agricultural nation reached peak on agriculture on technological advances that surprise even the modern scientists, yet neglected it and depended on the culture of import of commodities depending on other sources of income which are not static



and alien to us neglecting our agriculture, especially paddy cultivation encouraging cheap imports with drastic health effects.

UK is also an agricultural nation mixed with technology like New Zealand, Australia, even India and China - large countries with industries exporting us many products and machinery when our agriculture based economy was destroyed by British Colonial masters by destroying our forest cover and agriculture-based economy forcibly, buying land in 1800, that belonged to peasants for few shillings per acre under the Crown Land Act to grow tea as a commercial crop for the Colonial masters in their estates, now a liability to us. Clearance of land, our jungle for tea, cocoa and rubber changed the entire agriculture and climatic pattern in the nation with reduced forest cover infested with pesticide polluted water in large scale which spread to the entire country disturbing the catchment areas of rivers and water falls.

Going back to our past

It is now time for us to revert back to our traditional agriculture again and it is timely that 'Gangaramaya' has given the leadership to the nation for the revolutionary transformation of the new agriculture based economic model that is different to the government model which is very technical and academic, prepared on ivory towers. We may not achieve the same glory of the past but we can have the glory in the modern way with digitalised era when we are at the door steps of digitalisation.

The awakening at the Gangaramaya is a need of the day to regain our lost glory in the modern way indeed. Regaining of the past glory has become an arduous task due to destruction of environment, including 'raping' of our forest cover which is fast running below 18% from 70% we had during the colonial regime when forest was converted to tea estates and were even about to make 'Sinharaja' also a tea estate prevented due to the intervention of a gentleman colonial ruler then to our fortune.

When tiny Israel a world power today has reached top on agriculture with 95% agriculture on technology, also advising big powers such as India and China why not we tie ourselves with them on agriculture and technology? Finland has the forest cover of 73% being the happiest nation and we in 173rd position dwindling the forest cover fast due to idiotic destruction of environment by ourselves. It is timely that the governance is little bit concerned on agriculture, environmental protection and to be strict on those engaged in major scale of sand mining, and deforestation.

Israel as an example

Israel is the size of one-third of Sri Lanka and initiated their nation in a barren land with lot of deserts with no water and no resources except for human resources, which they made the maxim use of. They had only one 'Galali River' to be shared with the neighbour so they tactfully agreed into an agreement to share giving away a part of land. Then they started pumping water using modern techniques to save and invested on desalination of sea water which is an expensive process with the co-operation with Jews worldwide (who are united worldwide) to elevate the nation to a world power and to become one of the best countries on agriculture advising world powers on agriculture and technology.

It is noteworthy to mention that in Israel's 95% of agriculture is technology and following our 'King Parakramabahu' saying they too save every drop of water including rain water and sewage in underground reservoirs. They are amazing, hardworking and intelligent people who are very friendly with Sri Lankans? They do not water the soil in agriculture like we do instead they water the root with treated fertiliser. We use excessive amounts of fertiliser



but they do not.

They are true to nature and always use natural ingredients with scientific knowledge. Should we not learn from us when India and China are learning from them? India is seeking advice and Israel is using India as a centre for Israel technology to spread worldwide. Israel is a world nuclear power and a leader on agriculture and connected fields yielding the highest milk portion form a cow superseding Australian and New Zealand technology at times. Israel's cattle is more compatible with Sri Lankan conditions unlike the cattle imported from the cold countries which mostly do not survive the difficult weather conditions in hot countries. Israel exports flowers, vegetables, fruits, and many consumer items in addition to innovative computer accessories and war accessories for which they have become experts living in the midst of enemies. Today they export water to her neighbours as a leader in water technology and many other innovations including modern methods of agriculture such as drip irrigation.

President Rajapaksa visited Israel to have a close dialogue with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and there were a number of Trade Missions from and to Israel. While learning from our past glory we must learn from the strong and amazing Israelis who are ever willing to work with us. They had to go through eternal battles with all the neighbours and had to face 178 UN resolutions against Israel which they successfully resisted. We are grateful to them for having helped us to end the bitter war with their technology and munitions. Agriculture policy research and technology plays a pivotal role in agriculture which is based on technology.

The Universities are geared to the development of agriculture and the advancement of technology giving top priority to innovations and innovators where in Israel almost everybody is an innovator. It is timely to consider how a leader like Israel is reacting on agricultural policy and adaptation on the developments in national policy, which are as follows (1) increased environmental awareness (2) fresh water supply (3) waste water (4) pesticide applications (5) land area (6) fertiliser (7) and plant protection as priorities whereas we have not considered these areas as priority areas.

Agriculture is not only the growth of paddy, vegetables and fruit. It goes far beyond on dairy farming, fisheries and many other areas other agriculture nations are experts on. Many South Asian countries have gone beyond us on modern agriculture developments. Vietnam battered by USA in the war has emerged victorious as a leading agriculture and industrial country based on advanced technology and modern methods. Why are we still lagging behind is a sorry state when we have University faculties and Institutions on agriculture teaching academic excellence inside class rooms when Israel agriculture is taught in open, mainly based on technology and practical experience true to the word that 95% Israel agriculture is technology.

National agricultural policy and Haritha TV

Haritha TV was set up with the experience and background of social services by the existing set up of 900-acre

land converted to an agro training centre with plantations, dairy and training of small-time agriculturalists to be converted to environmentalists who will be in the team of farmers converted to small time entrepreneurs as in Israel and technicians through the training centres conducted for a long time with the assistance of the State training centres. Six lacks of plants are scheduled to be planted and 12 milk centres with dairy milk is to be supplied to the Government collection centres which is a very ambitious program.

Training centres and schools provide training to individual entrepreneurs and jobs are provided direct and via State institutions. 'Haritha TV' is the most modern venture with plans to diversify the agriculture schemes in compatible with the National Agricultural Policy which is submitted for observations and comments of the public which is the guiding force and guidance of Haritha TV launched with the auspicious of the President, and the channel with supplement the programs launched by the State on agriculture.

There were many agriculture models prepared previously which have been utter failures and we hope same fate will not fall to the set of proposals on the table fortunately with some vestiges of Israel model described above.

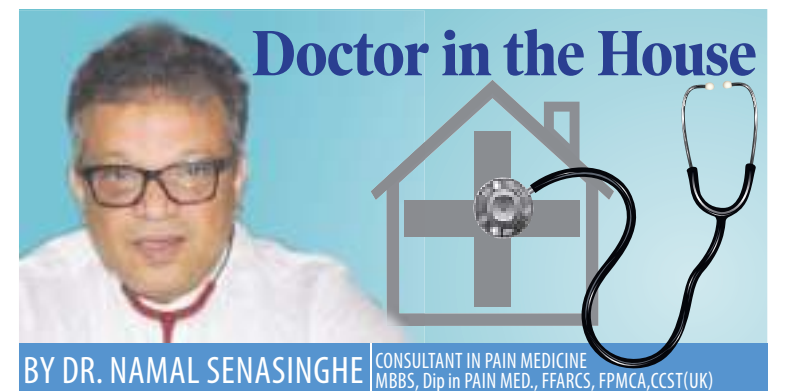
According to the policy statement, the topics are categorised on implementation as follows which deals with somewhat progressive and proactive topics, (a) Promotion of agriculture products deals with promotion of new products to the market which is an important factor, (b) Seeds Plants and marketing with new seeds introduced and experiments (c) Fertiliser which is an important component for which priority is given, (d) Pesticides to be taken careful consideration in terms of soil preservation, (e) Agricultural machinery which is an important segment of the agricultural system, (f) Irrigation and water management a main ingredient on agriculture (g) land use is the most important component in agriculture on land management and connected affairs, (h) Soil conservation includes soil management and management, (i) Agri erosion is to be considered important, (j) Agro Insurance is an important need for the, (k) youth involvement and (l) Export are an integral part of the process and these are observations and comments on the National Agricultural Policy which is being considered by the State.

This is the modern agricultural policy for the present generation in the modern way. To what extent we have achieved the targets are yet to be known when considering that the Israel giving a large portion of research and the portion of research as for Sri Lanka's apportioned is hardly sufficient is hardly surfeiting for the needs of the nation.

The current policy statement was published on one full page in an English paper for English readers who are the expert agriculturists. There appear to be no attempts of seeking views from those who are dealing in agriculture and the dedicated agriculturists. Submitting a proper agriculture policy and a program is the need of the day which should be a research-based program for a research-based agriculture policy as in Israel policy where a major portion is given to research. Agriculture cannot and will not succeed in isolation.

A joint effort of many groups and organisations need to work together starting from schools and students onwards who are today very enthusiastic on agriculture. The initiative and involvement of Haritha TV is timely and appropriate and of course on the correct note, with the blessings of the State, opposition, religions and media of all groups with one voice, with the main aim of the promoting of agriculture using Haritha TV as a vehicle.

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BY DR. NAMAL SENASINGHE CONSULTANT IN PAIN MEDICINE (MBBS, Dip in PAIN MED., FFARCS, FPMCA, CCST(UK))

A Case Report

A 73-year-old woman from the Western Province came to see me in clinic a week ago. She had severe lower back pain with shooting pain down the right leg. This has been going on since the year 2010. She had lived in England during that time. Her X ray of the spine has shown a spondylosthesis at L3 and L4 vertebrae. Spondylosthesis is slipping of vertebrae over another vertebrae. In her case the upper vertebral column is slipping over the 4th Lumbar vertebrae (L4).

X ray evidence of the skip. Contour marked in black

She had been to a neurosurgeon and appropriately the surgeon has carried out spinal surgery in 2020 and stabilised the spine to prevent further injury. Stabilisation was done inserting 2 metal screws. This would prevent further injury particularly the spinal cord getting pressurised. But her symptoms of lower back pain and Sciatica did not get better with surgery. Pain persisted hence visit to consultant in pain medicine.



X ray with metal screws

I did examine her in my consulting suite I found that her Lumbar facet joints and the right sacroiliac joint were tender. I diagnosed facet joint arthropathy of the lumbar spine and right sacroiliitis. Her sciatic leg pain on the right leg is coming from L4/L5 discs with pressure on the Right L5 nerve root.



I carried out a procedure last Thursday. It was L2/3 L3/4 L4/5 L5/S1 facet injections on both sides and a right sacroiliac joint injection under X ray guidance.

Caudal Epidural

To treat her sciatic pain I did carry out a caudal epidural with an Epidurogram (with contrast into the epidural space). What was evident from the X-ray picture was that her right side has a block and the contrast could not penetrate the right side. This is why she has pain in the right leg which is due to the tightening and pressure on the right L5 nerve.



This is an important bit of evidence which cannot be seeing in the MRI scans. If she is due to have any more spinal surgery the surgeon would know where to concentrate.

Eudurogram

All the procedures were carried at the same time in an operating theatre with the aid of a continuous X-ray.



This was the procedure and not an injection as some call it. Injection is where a needle is introduced to a muscle or a joint. But this kind of procedure is called an interventional



MRI Scan of the spine. Degenerative spine

procedure which is more complex than a simple injection. But we do not use a scalpel and cut any muscle or tissue. We use probes and spinal needles which are much longer.

We have to wait and see how this lovely woman is going to respond. I have to say she is a fantastic patient with good communication skills. All pictures given to the patient in a CD.



Prasanna Fernando - Co-Chairman, Royal-Thomian Joint Match Committee, V.M.S Gunatillake the Acting Principal of Royal College, Rev. Marc Bilimoria the Warden, S. Thomas College, Sandra De Zoysa - Group Chief Customer Officer, Dialog, Navin Pieris - Vice President, Enterprise Business and Large Enterprise Sales, Dialog and Roshan Adams - Co-Chairman, Royal-Thomian Joint Match Committee

All systems ready for Royal-Thomian

Sri Lanka's longest rivalry in schools cricket comes alive as Royal College Colombo and S. Thomas' College Mount Lavinia, will battle it out once again for the 142nd uninterrupted cricket encounter, the 'Battle of the Blues' played for the prestigious DS Senanayake Memorial Shield, from May 6 to 8 at the Mahinda Rajapaksa International Cricket Stadium Hambantota.

The 142nd Battle of the Blues cricket encounter will be broadcast LIVE on Dialog Television channel number 72, and will also be available via LIVE stream on the ThePape.com and the Dialog Viu app. The limited over "Mustangs Trophy" match will be played in a T20 format on the May 10, 2021.

Sri Lanka's blue-ribbon annual cricket encounter will break from tradition and will be played for the first time in its 142-year-old illustrious history, out of Colombo and the teams, coaches and support staff along with umpires and match officials will follow bio secure environment (BSE) protocols, in line with health guidelines under the supervision of Southern Province and Hambantota Regional health services.

In the 2021 edition of the 'Battle of the Blues' the boys from Mount Lavinia will be led by all-rounder Shalin de Mel, while the lads from

Reid Avenue will play under the captaincy of elegant stroke-maker Ahan Wickramasinghe.

"The Royal-Thomian has a rich and colourful history spanning across 142 years and is also the second longest uninterrupted cricket series played in the world, second only to the annual encounter played between St. Peter's College, Adelaide and Prince Alfred College, Adelaide, Australia, that began just a year earlier and the Australia versus England Ashes Series just two years before.

In 1880, the first match in which only the boys took part was played on Galle Face Green, the present location of the Taj Samudra Hotel. This was the start to the centenary series. Both teams are said to have rowed their boats across Beira Lake to play the match.

The tally between the two schools at present stands at 35-35 wins with the highly-debated match in 1885, where Royal College was all out for nine runs with no play on the second day which was considered a win by S. Thomas' and considered a draw by Royal as shown by the respective souvenir books of the two schools.

The Shield at present sits, akin to the crown jewels, among the silverware in the Warden's trophy cabinet at S. Thomas' College after

putting up a superb performance in 2019 under the captaincy of Sithara Hapuhinna, which will be challenged by a determined Royal XI, this year, who racked up impressive wins during the COVID-19 impacted calendar. The boys from Reid Avenue last won the coveted Shield under the stewardship of Geeshanth Paditharatne in 2016.

The 142nd edition of the Royal-Thomian will be the thirteenth year that the match is sponsored by Dialog. Sri Lanka's premier connectivity provider, Dialog Axiata has also made a pledge to contribute Rs. 1,000 for every run scored and 10,000 rupees for every wicket that fall.

Last year's exciting encounter contributed Rs.1,008,000 to the 'Play for a Cause' pledge. The proceedings were directed in consultation with the Principal of Royal College and the Warden of S. Thomas' College to support and empower deserving schools in the country. Since the inception of the 'Play for a Cause' pledge, Rs. 6,151,000 worth of cricket gear was donated to ten deserving schools.

The two schools have formed a bond of mutual respect, camaraderie, sportsmanship, and friendly adversaries on and off the field, which has stood for almost one and a half centuries.

Two athletes qualify for World Junior meet

BY DHAMMIKA RATNAWEERA

Seven athletes are tipped to achieve the qualifying standard to take part in the World Junior Athletic Championship which is scheduled to be held from August 17 to 22 in Nairobi, Kenya.

According to a senior official of Sri Lanka Athletics (SLA), Isuru Kaushalya Abeyardena of Ananda Sastralaya, Matugama and Shanika Lakshani of Holy Cross, Gampaha have already achieved qualification for the World Juniors in the 400 and 800 meters respectively.

Both of them achieved their target during the recently concluded Athletics Trials at the Sugathadasa Stadium. Isuru finished with 47.24 seconds and passed the qualification standard of 47.35 seconds while Shanika finished the race in two minutes 07.02 seconds ahead of the qualifying standard of two minutes 08.70 seconds.

Meanwhile at the first selection trial meet held by SLA at the



Shanika Lakshani

Sugathadasa Stadium for the Tokyo Olympics and World Juniors, Dilshi Kumarasinghe set a Sri Lanka record in the women's 800 meters while Ovini Chandrasekera of Bishop's College broke the shot putt junior national record. These are good signs for the forthcoming major Games according to the SLA.

In addition Sri Lanka junior athletes could achieve qualification for the world event in the boys' triple jump and long jump events and the girls' shot putt. At the World Junior Championships Sri Lankan junior athletes could at least make it to the final eight of each event.



Isuru Kaushalya Abeyardena

"It is too early to say whether the Sri Lankans would win medals or not but they will do their best to fulfill their task," added a senior official of SLA.

Another six athletes are close to achieving qualification for the Olympics. They are in the 3000m steeplechase (women), 800m (women), 200m (men) and 4x400m relay (men).

Since both the Junior and Senior National Athletic Championships will be held prior to the Olympics and World Juniors, SLA expects more Sri Lankans would qualify for these international events.

Three vie for top post at netball election

BY DHAMMIKA RATNAWEERA

Three candidates are expected to compete for the top post of the Netball Federation at an election which is scheduled to be held on May 25.

Former Sports Director General Ranjani Jayakody, Gampaha district MP Kokila Gunawardena and former Sports Director Padma Beddewela have submitted their names for this top post.

Both Jayakody and Gunwardena will contest the Netball election for the first time.

However the Netball election committee will consider objections for the nominations until April 27.

Former Supreme Court Judge Upali Abeyratne former Education Ministry Sports Director General Sunil Jayaweera and former Sports Director Pathma Siriwardena are the Netball election committee members.

Ranjani Jayakody who is the present Chief Secretary of the

Sabaragamuwa Provincial Council, already holds the post of president of the Matale District Netball Association and president of the Government Services Sport Association.

Former Netball president Trixi Nanayakakra has come forward to support Ranjani Jayakody while former president Victoria Lakshmi made a last minute withdrawal of her nomination for the top post and has come forward to support MP Kokila Gunawardena who is presently member of the Gampaha District Netball Association and former athlete at the Holy Cross College Gampaha.

Padma Beddewela the former Selection committee chairman is also supportive of Kokila Gunawardena. Former players and officials have already begun to frown on the contest taking place saying some of the candidates are more keen on personal agendas than national interests.

"I expected all of them to come together for the sake of the coun-

try. But they are all divided," said one former player.

Following are the nominations of the Netball Federation election:

President - Ranjani Jayakody, Kokila Gunawardena, Padma Beddewela

Secretary - Champa Gunawardena, Subhani Udawatte and Kumudini Gomes

Deputy President - Padma Beddewela, Vajira Pushpakumari and Carril Tozer

Treasurer - Padmini Gorakage and Sanjeevani Pieris

Vice President (3 posts) - Champa Ranjani, Vajira Pushpakumari, Ranjani Vineetha Herath, TMD Kumarihami and Abhitha Narumaraja

Assistant Secretary - Subhani Udawatte, Champa Gunawardena, H.M Sapunthanthri, GMP Weerasuriya, RIA Seetharamani, IJ David

Assistant Treasurer - Vindana Dayaratne, Layani Renuka Kuruppu

Tournament Secretary - Shiroini Kuruppu, Anusha Mayurani

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SPORTS

PARIS 1924 marked sail past of the 30th anniversary of modern olympic games

By
Rear Admiral
Dr. Shemal
Fernando, PhD



The 1924 Summer Olympic Games, officially known as the Games of the VIII Olympiad, were celebrated in 1924 in Paris, France. It was the second time the city hosted Olympics after 1900 and precisely, after 100 years, Paris will host the summer edition in 2024. The Paris Games of 1924 were widely regarded as a major success. They marked a significant increase in the size and scale of the Games, with more NOCs and athletes taking part, and far more media coverage from around the world.

Moreover, a clutch of stars achieved feats that ensured their names would long be remembered. The return of the Olympic Games to the home city of the Founder of the IOC and the Father of the Modern Olympics Movement, Pierre de Coubertin was a source of great personal satisfaction. Indeed, Paris 1924 represented a poignant swansong for the IOC founder, as just a year later he would step down from his position as the IOC President.

These were the first Games to feature the "Olympic Motto" - "Citius, Altius, Fortius" three Latin words that mean, "Faster, Higher, Stronger." Coubertin took the motto from his friend Henri Didon, a Dominican Priest who had coined it during a speech before a Paris youth gathering of 1891. Also, for the first time, all the athletes stayed at an "Olympic Village." The Village comprised portable wooden houses complete with running water, and featured a post office, bureau de change, hairdressing salon and a restaurant.

At the Closing Ceremony, on July 27, 1924, the practice of raising three flags - one for the International Olympic Committee, one for the host country and one for the future host country of the Games, was instigated. It was also at Paris 1924 that the Olympic Art Competition reached its apogee.

The IOC Session held on June 2, 1921 in Lausanne, was historic for a number of reasons. It saw the award of two editions of the Olympic Games, as Paris and Amsterdam were named the host cities of 1924 and 1928 Games respectively. As Pierre de Coubertin wrote in his Olympic Memoirs in 1931: "The decision was made to move two Olympiads into the future, one that nothing could stop the IOC from making, even though it had never been done before."

Highlights of Paris 1924 Games

A solemn tribute was paid to Pierre de Coubertin on June 23, 1924 to mark the 30th anniversary of the birth of the modern Olympic Games.

French athlete Georges Andre took the Olympic oath at the Opening Ceremony, whilst the French President Gaston Doumergue declared open the games on July 5, 1924. A total of 3,089 athletes, 2,954 men and 135 women took part in 126 events of 17 sports under 23 disciplines. A total of 44 nations were represented with China, Ecuador, Haiti, Ireland, Lithuania and Uruguay attending the Games for the first time.

The 1924 Olympics were the first to use the standard 50m pool with marked lanes. In gymnastics, 24 men scored a perfect 10. Unexpectedly, the national team of Uruguay won the gold medal in football. France's Roger Ducret stole the show in fencing, winning five medals across all three weapons, including gold medals in the individual and team foil and the team epee.

The track and field athletes dominated the Games. Among the ath-

letes not featured, Morgan Taylor of the US won gold in 400m Hurdles whilst Douglas Lowe of Great Britain clinched gold in 800m. "Jonni" Myyra of Finland won his second successive gold in Javelin, having won his first in 1920.

The United States won 45 gold, 27 silver, 27 bronze - a total of 99 medals. Finland came second with 14G, 13S, 10B. France secured third place with 13G, 15S, 10B. The Great Britain came fourth with 9G, 13S, 12B.

Originally called the "Week of Winter Sports" and held in association with the 1924 Summer Olympics, the sports competitions held in Chamonix between January 25 and February 5, 1924 were later designated by the IOC as the I Olympic Winter Games.

The "Flying Finns" - Heroes of Paris 1924

The legendary Paavo Johannes Nurmi and Villa Ritola of Finland, known as "Flying Finns" were an intrinsic part of the long-distance running dynasty that held sway at the Olympic Games of 1920s. They won a clutch of gold medals in a period of dominance. At Paris 1924, Nurmi won 5 gold medals to finish as the "Most Successful Athlete" of the Games. He won 1500m, 5000m, Cross Country, 3000m Team and Cross Country Team.

Ritola, who was also part of victorious Finnish 3000m and Cross Country Team, also finished as runner-up to Nurmi in the 5000m and Cross Country, while adding individual gold in 10,000m and 3000m steeplechase, to secure 4 gold and 2 silver medals. At the end of Amsterdam 1928 Olympic Games, Nurmi took his overall tally to 9 gold and 3 silver medals whilst Ritola raised to 5 gold and 3 silver to etch their names in the Olympic annals.

Story of Abrahams and Liddell at Paris 1924

The film "Chariots of Fire" and its memorable soundtrack by Vangelis, spread the story of British sprinters Harold Maurice Abrahams (b. Dec 15, 1899) and Eric Henry Liddell (b. Jan 16, 1902), the respective Olympic champions in 100m and 400m at Paris 1924.

The 1981 film begins with a group of young British athletes running on a beach, to the sound of Vangelis' uplifting keyboards. Directed by Hugh Hudson and the winner of four Oscars - Vangelis' music won an Academy Award of its own - it tells the story of two athletes: Abrahams, an Englishman studying at Cambridge University, and Liddell, a devout Christian from Scotland who was working as a missionary in China.

Abrahams and Liddell were rival sprinters. Legend has it that they met once over 100m, with Liddell emerging the winner. The British duo were among the favourites at Paris Games. Yet, when Liddell learnt that 100m heats would be held on Sunday, July 6, he refused to take part as he was a devout Christian and was obliged to observe the Sabbath. He also withdrew from 4x100m and 4x400m, the finals of which were to be held on a Sunday. From that moment, he devoted all his energies to prepare for 400m. News of his refusal to compete in the 100m travelled around the world.

His decision is at the heart of the screenplay for Hudson's film, written by Colin Welland, in which the Scottish sprinter only learns of the event program when sailing across the English Channel in early July. Despite intense pressure to reconsider, he abides by that decision.

The heats in 100m thus took place without the Scotsman. Abrahams won his comfortably, as did



The "Flying Finns" - Paavo Nurmi and Villa Ritola

Charles Paddock of the USA and his compatriot Jackson Scholz. Abrahams, Paddock and Scholz also won their respective quarter-finals same day.

Taking up the story of what happened next in an interview with Roger Bannister, in the Olympic Review 1956, Abrahams said: "I can remember every millimeter of the semi-final. I went to Paris knowing that I was facing four expert American sprinters and really not regarding myself as having much chance of winning. In the semi-final, I was left at the start and I still managed to win. Many people think that that was the best effort I ever made and they tend to say, 'Well, what would have happened if you hadn't been left at the start? Wouldn't you have done a better time?' My answer is no, because I produced something that I never would have produced if I hadn't been left behind."

In 100m final on July 7, a confident Abrahams lined up against the four Americans: Paddock, Scholz, Chester Bowman and Loren Muchison. The Briton proved too fast for them all, winning from Scholz and Porritt in a new Olympic record of 10.6 to become his country's first Olympic 100m champion.

In the meantime, Liddell readied himself to take to the track, with his first appearance coming in the 200m, which began on July 8, and which also featured Abrahams. When the final came around, the two British sprinters found themselves up against five Americans, among them Scholz, who won in a time of 21.6 from Paddock, with Liddell taking the bronze and Abrahams finishing sixth.

After easing through the rounds in 400m, he was in for a shock when he came out for the final: he was handed the outside lane, which meant he would be running "blind." Liddell set off fast and maintained his speed. Speaking to the British newspaper The Guardian years later, he said: "I ran the first 200m as quickly as I could and, with the help of God, I ran the next 200m even more strongly." Liddell broke the tape at 47.6 an Olympic record and his tactics permanently transformed the 400m.

Following their exploits in Paris, Liddell and Abrahams went their separate ways. At Liddell's graduation, the University of Edinburgh capped him with a crown of wild olive and the now-famous words: "You have shown that none can pass you but your examiners." The congregation gave him an ovation, and afterwards he was chaired from the University to the High Kirk of St. Giles.

He returned to China, continued with his missionary work and died



Gold Medalists, Harold Abrahams

aged 43 in a Japanese internment camp.

Abrahams was forced by injury to give up his career in 1925. He captained Great Britain's Olympic team at Amsterdam 1928. Then worked as a journalist for 40 years and commented for the BBC on the Olympic Games. He also wrote several books on the Games. He died in 1978, aged 78, and his funeral provides one of the closing scenes of "Chariots of Fire," which ends where it begins.

Harold Osborn's Unique Double

When Harold Osborn sustained a severe eye injury as a teenager, it put a huge dent into his potential athletic career as he became unable to judge distances easily. It was a condition which made his later success in the decathlon, where skill, precision, endurance and raw speed are put to their most severe test, all the more surprising.

And for an athlete who finds it difficult to assess and perceive objects, it's hard to imagine a more difficult event to succeed in than high jump. Raised in an athletics-keen family, Osborn had always been encouraged to jump, run, and leap further and faster.

He enjoyed a successful collegiate career and went to Paris as the favourite in the high jump but as something of an unknown quantity in the decathlon. The high jump turned into a one-man show. He cleared every height using an accurately measured run-up which helped him assess the precise moment he should execute his leap.

In Paris 1924, he set an Olympic record of 6 feet 6 inches. Later in the week he faced the ultimate Olympic test; the decathlon. Spread over two tiring, hot days, Osborn



Eric Liddell and the Film "Chariots of Fire"

secured the gold. It was a world record of 7,710.775 points, and resulted in worldwide press coverage calling him the "World's Greatest Athlete." Osborn remains the only athlete to have won the Decathlon along with an individual event in the Games history.

Bud Houser Throws His Weight Around

There are some landmarks in the Olympic annals that the passage of time and the development of sport render a repeat almost unthinkable. One such feat was performed by American throwing legend Clarence "Bud" Houser who won Olympic gold medals in the discus throw in 1924 and 1928 and in the shot put in 1924. He remains the last man to win discus throw and shot put and it is difficult to picture the achievement being emulated in the modern era.

He was very much an innovator, and pioneered the rotation-style throw now used universally in the discus and he was also the first to see the benefits of the explosive, staccato throwing style in the shot. In Paris 1924, he first produced an imperious performance in the discus, winning the event with a throw of 46m with an Olympic record. Then, came shot put final and Houser again threw an imposing 49 feet 2.25 inches to enter his name to the record books.

Albin Stenroos's Glorious Marathon Gold

During the formative years of the modern Olympic Games only a few events such as the marathon raised much excitement. Its early years were mixed with tragedy and drama. Like many Olympic marathons that

had gone on before it, the race at Paris 1924 was contested in searing heat.

The start was delayed to allow the oppressive conditions to calm but even by the time the 58 athletes took the start temperatures remained stubbornly high. An array of improvised headgear and caps were on show. Refueling stations were a far cry from those of the modern era, with pales of water available for competitors to refresh their faces and wet rags handed out to appease the heat.

Albin Stenroos made his own mark on the sport's biggest stage at the age of 35, surging clear of the field and entering the Olympic stadium with an unbeatable lead. With a casual lift of his cap to acknowledge the standing ovation, he finished in 2:41.22.

Swimmer Weissmuller's Story as Tarzan

Johnny Weissmuller of the United States was crowned Olympic champion in 400m freestyle, 100m freestyle and 4x200m freestyle relay. He also took a bronze in water polo. The ululating cry invented by Johnny Weissmuller for the 1932 film, "Tarzan the Ape Man," which he used again in 12 other global box-office hits until 1947, transcended the decades that followed, appearing in animated film versions of Tarzan and countless live-action remakes.

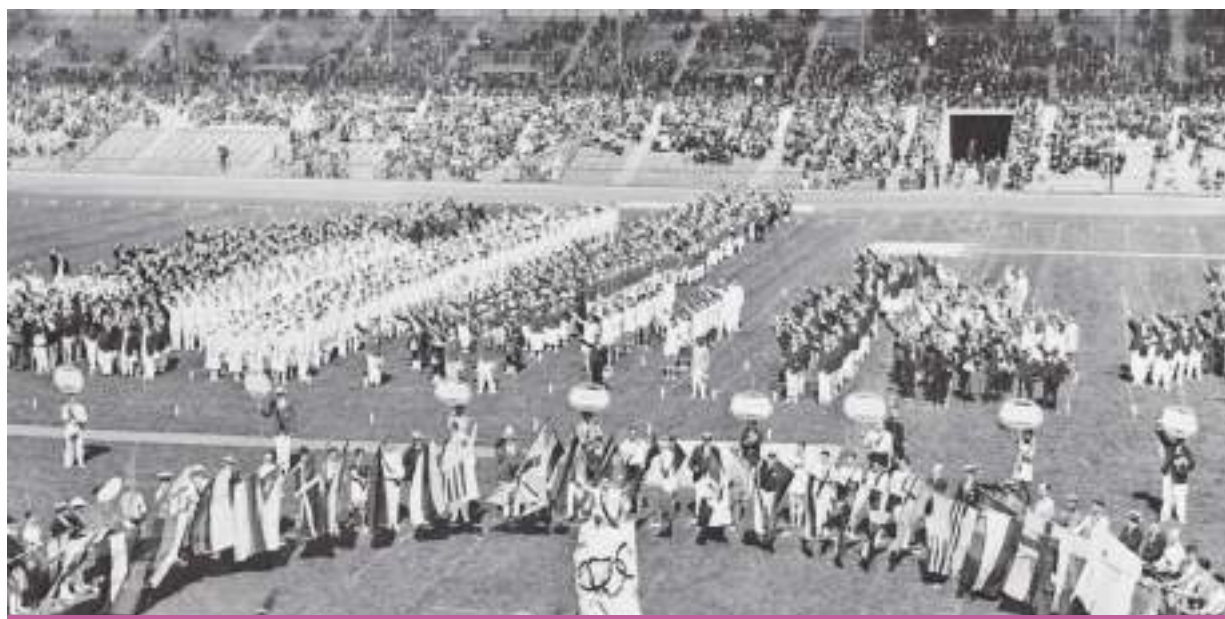
The legend of Weissmuller began in Paris 1924, before he became an actor, when he was a swimmer. At 9, he contracted polio, and his doctor suggested that he take up swimming as a way to battle the disease. As a teenager in Chicago, he was spotted by the coach, Bill Bachrach, and at 18 became the first to swim 100m under a minute, in a world-record time of 58.6 in 1922. He beat his own world record in 1924, clocking 57.4. In 1923, he became the first to swim 400m under 5 minutes, setting a new world record in a time of 4:57.0.

The first event at 1924 Games was 400m freestyle. "Out of all the Olympic swimming events, 400m was probably the one with the most tightly contested final. Much was expected of the meeting of three great champions in this Olympic competition: Johnny Weissmuller, Australia's Boy Charlie and Sweden's Arne Borg. And indeed, from start to finish, the contest between these true mermen produced an aquatic battle the likes of which we have seldom seen and might never see again," enthused Emile-Georges Drigny in the Official Report.

Weissmuller, aged 20, beat the Olympic record in the heats (5:22.2), smashed it again in the semi-final (5:13.6). In the final, he gave every last ounce of energy to clock 5:04.2 and shatter his own mark. The 100m freestyle brought the Olympic swimming program to a fitting end. Weissmuller, the future Tarzan, broke clear from the start and finished well ahead, his time of 59.0 broke one-minute barrier in the event, beating the Olympic record.

In 4x200m freestyle final, his team claimed a clear victory with a world-record in 9:53.4. Weissmuller was crowned Olympic champion in 100m freestyle and 4x200m relay in Amsterdam 1928, and was voted the greatest swimmer of the first half of the 20th century. He remained the only five-time Olympic swimming gold medalist until the exploits of Mark Spitz in 1972.

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



The Opening Ceremony on July 5, 1924 in Paris



The Founder, Baron Pierre de Coubertin with IOC Colleagues

42nd Observer SLT Mobitel School Cricketer of the Year 2020



Most Popular Schoolgirl Cricketer Nimesha Wijesundera of Marapola MMV receives her award from Editor-in-Chief of the Sunday Observer Dinesh Weerawansa



Division Two Best All-rounder Samith Isuru of Karadeniya Central College is presented with his award from Acting General Manager of ANCL Sumith Kotalawela



Best All-rounder - Division Three Hashen Lalindra of Loyola College, Negombo receives his award from Senior Deputy General Manager ANCL, Kamal Wijesuriya



Best bowler Division Three Shakthi Udara Jayathilake of Rajasinghe Central College, Hanwella gets his award Deputy General Manager, Finance ANCL, Virajith Bois



Best Wicket Keeper Division Two Bashitha Perera of Holy Cross College, Kalutara is presented with his award by Deputy General Manager, Establishment ANCL Narada Sumanaratne with DGM Sales Nath Adikri



Division Two best fielder Sithum Sanjana of Holy Cross College, Kalutara gets his award from Additional Deputy General Manager Advertising ANCL, Prasanna Jayasundara



The show presenters Sonali Perera and Clifford Richards



Division Three Best batsman Prabuddha Premalal of Ibbagamuwa Central College gets his award from Deputy General Manager Advertising ANCL, Waruna Mallawaarachchi



Division Three Best Fielder Sachin Dilhara of Madampa MMV Ambalangoda receives his award from Deputy General Manager Corporate Affairs ANCL Chandana Bandara



Pix: Chinthaka Kumarasinghe



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APRIL 25, 2021



SPORTSCOPE
BY ELMO RODRIGOPULLE

The SLC AGM Premier

The next Sri Lanka Premier League is a Special One!

It's the Annual General Meeting of Sri Lanka Cricket to be played out on May 20. Now that the Cricket Selection Committee has been finally named, the next eagerly awaited match that all sports people are awaiting is this AGM as the new team will be tasked to make the difference that is needed.

There is no doubt that SLC is the most watched sports body of all national sports bodies in the country.

Until the country attained Test status in 1982 and won the 50-over World Cup in 1995/96, SLC was then known as the Board of Control for Cricket. Its affairs were conducted with great responsibility and efficiency by the then Presidents and office bearers with no questions asked. Their names are too numerous to mention. Some are still in the land of the living, while most of them have gone to their eternal rest. They were examples worthy of emulation to all sports officials and bodies.

I know of some of the officials who when the Cricket Board was running out of funds, doled out their own personal funds for the cause of the game. They had no issues organizing meetings in their residencies or paying clubs to use their club house to host their meetings.

But with the attaining of Test status and winning of the World Cup, the dollars began to flood SLC and so began the decay and scramble to hold office. Some contested for status while others to enrich their lifestyles and hob-nob with the lords of the international game. Yet there were some eminent men who were courageous enough to dedicate themselves for the love of the game and its uplift.

Sadly the dollars that were flooding SLC was a great attraction never to be missed and so began the greed to hold office. Allegations and counter allegations continued to be bowled at parties contesting, some true, some false and the verbal fights that were going on reached a zenith till AGM day arrived.

Talking of the AGM the writer remembers one AGM when guns were pulled out and voters and their supporters threatened if they don't vote for a particular side. Maybe the guns that were pulled out did not contain live bullets, but voters were not going to be scared.

Seeing the scenes that were enacted reminded the writer of the famous Western movie that was running to crowded house at that time - GUNFIGHT AT OK CORRAL-. The favourite won the election, but the scars remained.

Sadly there were times when being voted to office belonged to those able to influence the voter offering tempting perks that were too good to be missed. And so began a new game called vote buying. Whether it still persists is anybody's guess.

There have been instances where clubs have nominated their men to represent them at AGMs and how they should vote and for which side. But at the AGM they go against the mandate given by the club and voted differently. Why they do that is obvious and needs no elaborating.

On vote buying at a recent meeting of the Committee of Public Enterprises - COPE - it was revealed that an outlay of Rs 60 million by Sri Lanka Cricket for the purchase of rollers for cricket clubs has been highlighted by the Auditor General as 'suspicious'.

A COPE opposition member who wished to remain anonymous alleged that the sum of Rs.60 million spent is suspected to have been with the objective of vote buying at the AGM to be held next month. The member further alleged that the Auditor General has expressed his suspicion on these expenses.

With several more allegations leveled at SLC it has been reported that SJB Member of Parliament Eran Wickremaratne a former left-hand opening batsman of Royal College who played in 1976 and '77 under T.M.S Saldin and Ashok Jayawickrema and offered a straight bat has suggested a proposal to study the systems which are followed in Australia and England to administer their respective cricket bodies. Serious note should be taken of Wickremaratne's proposal. Wickremaratne's opening partner was Kevin Baalthazar.

SLC also came out in poor light before COPE Chairman Professor Charitha Herath and the Parliament's Committee on Public Enterprise Committee who instructed Anurdha Wijekoon, Secretary to the Ministry of Sports to initiate legal action against members of the previous Executive Committee of SLC if they are guilty of irregularities. From the looks of it there are many other irregularities that SLC will have to answer.

While this is read the first Test between Sri Lanka and Bangladesh will be on its final day, that is if the game is not over much earlier than the intended five days it has been slated for.

Sri Lanka after their miserable showing against England and then salvaging some pride by holding the Windies in the two Tests will have to give a vastly improved performance against Bangladesh who are not expected to offer much opposition.

But with cricket being called a funny game and filled with the glorious uncertainties anything is possible. So the Lankans better not drop their guard.

With the return of the master Angelo Mathews, Wanindu Hasaranga and Lahiru Kumara the Lankans will carry more muscle. In the game today not many teams boast of a leg spinning all rounder. In Wanindu the Lankans have a match winner. We hope he will rise to the occasion and deliver in all aspects as we know he can and be a thorn in the visitors' flesh.

erodrigopulle@gmail.com

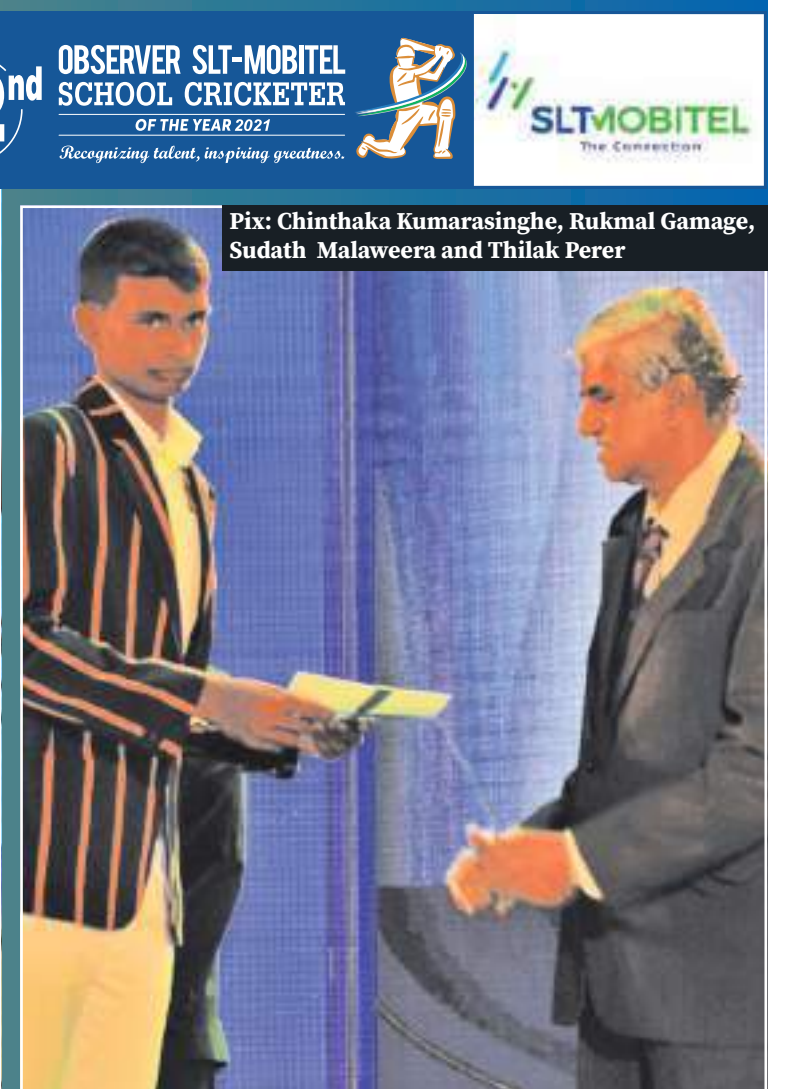
42nd Observer SLT Mobitel School Cricketer of the Year 2020



Observer SLT Mobitel Most Popular Schoolboy Cricketer of the Year 2020 - Anuda Jayaweera of Ananda College, Colombo receives his trophy presented by the Sunday Observer Editor-in-Chief Dinesh Weerawansa



Most Popular Schoolboy Cricketer of the Year 2020 runner up Ahan Wickramasinghe of Royal College receives his trophy from Senior Associate Editor, Sunday Observer Dudley Jansz



Pix: Chinthaka Kumarasinghe, Rukmal Gamage, Sudath Malaweera and Thilak Perer

Most Popular Schoolboy cricketer runner-up Ahan Wickremasinghe receives his cash award from Ranjeewa Seneviratne Sports Editor Daily News



Best schoolgirl bowler Janadi Anali of Anula College, Nugegoda receives her cash award from Chief Editor Daily News, Pramod de Silva



Best bowler Division Two Manuja Dulneth of Rahula College, Matara is presented with his award given by Chief Editor Dinamina, Gamini Jayalath



Best batsman Division Two Sandaruwn Chintaka receives his cash award from from Chief Editor Silumina, Dharman Wickremaratne



Best all-rounder girls Kaveesha Dilhari of Devapathiraja College, Ratgama receives her award from Chief Editor of Thinakaran T. Senthilvelavar



BUSINESS

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PAGE 29 AN EFFECTIVE PROSPECTING METHOD

PAGE 29 INVESTMENT FORUM

BIZ SNIPPETS

Copper, lithium to gain prominence



London (CNN Business) - For decades, crude oil has been at the centre of global commodities markets. Demand has served as a crucial metric of economic health, and price spikes have had major ramifications for gas-guzzling consumers.

But as countries around the world try to combat the climate crisis, oil could take a backseat, while metals such as copper and lithium gain prominence. "The critical role copper will play in achieving the Paris climate goals cannot be overstated," Goldman Sachs analysts said in a recent research note titled "Copper is the new oil." Setting the scene: Copper is an essential component of systems that allow wind, solar and geothermal energy to be tapped and transmitted for applications like heating homes, the analysts noted. And the market already looks tight.

Inflation up in March



Headline inflation as measured by the year-on-year (Y-o-Y) change in the National Consumer Price Index (NCPI, 2013=100) increased to 5.1 percent in March from 4.2 percent in February this year.

This was due to the statistical effect of the low base that prevailed in March 2020.

Meanwhile, Food inflation (Y-o-Y) increased to 8.8 per cent in March 2021 from 6.9 percent in February 2021 and Non-Food inflation (Y-o-Y) increased marginally to 2.0 percent in March 2021 from 1.9 percent in February 2021.

The change in the NCPI measured on an annual average basis decreased to 5.3 per cent in March 2021 from 5.5 percent in February 2021. Monthly change of NCPI recorded at -0.48 per cent in March 2021 due to price decreases observed in items of the Food category.

Niftron raises Rs. 21 m from Angel Fund



The Angel Fund has made a Rs. 10 million investment in Niftron, a blockchain-as-a-service (BaaS) platform that aims to make blockchain simpler and more affordable for businesses at all levels and industries.

The Angel Fund was established by the Lanka Angel Network (LAN) with the support of ecosystem development partner Ford Foundation and aims to catalyze the growth of Sri Lanka's startup ecosystem. Niftron is one of the first investments made by the Angel Fund since its launch last year. Niftron has raised a further Rs. 11 million from Angel Fund investors based in Singapore, Sri Lanka, UK and USA.

A well-structured strategic plan

LANKA POISED FOR A DECADE OF GROWTH - BOI CHIEF

- Policy changes, tax incentives and Eravur fabric park, Hambantota pharma zone to boost investments
- Aims at USD 2 b in FDI's this year

By Lalin Fernandopulle



Sri Lanka is well-poised to usher in a decade of growth with a sound strategic plan launched to create a business-friendly investment climate in the country, said BOI Chairman

Sanjaya Mohottala striking an optimistic note that the economy will be on a growth trajectory soon with a host of plans to woo in domestic and foreign direct investments in the pipeline. Focusing on immediate near term plans, the chief of the country's investment body said a top priority of the BOI is introducing policy reform on the back of tax incentives given to strategic sectors, getting the Eravur fabric park running while

expediting work on the Pharmaceutical manufacturing zone in the South and building new zones for rubber, agri processing and electronic goods assembly.

The fabric park in the East will enable Sri Lanka to save over USD500 million in import substitution while resuscitating the region's dormant...

TO PAGE 28



Sanjaya Mohottala

Fight against Fall Armyworm

Good progress, but more efforts needed - FAO

Rome - The Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations, Qu Dongyu, has hailed progress in the fight against one of the most destructive pests jeopardising food security across vast regions of the globe - while urging renewed drive and scaling up of efforts.

Qu was speaking at the latest virtual meeting of the Steering Committee of the Global Action for Fall Armyworm (FAW) Control, attended by over 40 participants including FAO Members, international experts and key research partners. Fall armyworm - known in Latin form as frugiperda, or "lost fruit," for its crop-wrecking potential - has dramatically spread eastwards from the Americas in the....

TO PAGE 28



Daily paid workers face enormous challenges today to eke out a living and keep their family fires burning due to the drop in demand for goods, triggered by a surge in prices. Here nattamis transporting vegetables in Pettah. Pic: Rukmal Gamage

Tourism: learning from the Maldives, the key

- Dr. Doering

The Maldives made headlines recently with an approach to ease entry for foreign tourists by offering Vaccination on Arrival (VoA) enabling visitors to travel freely and enjoy a hassle-free holiday.

Such strategic moves should be an eye-opener for Sri Lanka which is struggling to attract visitors to a destination which has vast attractions, said tourism industry expert and social scientist Dr. Dietmar Doering.

He said the Maldives recorded over 250,000 tourist arrivals between January and March this year, local media citing data from the Ministry of Tourism reported last Monday, which in comparison outperforms...



TO PAGE 28 Dr. Doering

WindForce to expand local and overseas footprint

Targets three projects this year

WindForce Limited, a pioneer in the renewable energy sector will add around three projects locally and abroad bringing the total renewable energy projects operated by the company to 30 this year, said a top official of the company on the sidelines of the bell ringing ceremony to mark its listing on the Colombo Stock Exchange last week.

The company operates 27 power plants with an installed capacity of 218 MW of which 55.4% of the capacity (120.8 MW) is based in Sri Lanka while the rest is based internationally. It is the first Sri Lankan company to set up solar plants in Pakistan, Uganda

and Ukraine. "We will not hesitate to expand our local and global footprint in the renewable sector when opportunity arises," WindForce Chairman Ranil Pathirana said. WindForce according to Pathirana, plans to commission a wind power plant in Mannar no sooner all operational procedures are finalised.

The company is at an advanced stage in developing an energy project in Sen-



Ranil Pathirana

gal, a solar power project plant in Cameroon and is looking at Bangladesh and Africa which has immense scope for renewable energy development in the region. The shares of WindForce Limited commenced trading on the Main Board of the Colombo Stock Exchange (CSE) last week following a successful Initial Public Offering (IPO) this year. The strong showing of the shares on the opening day of trading highlighted the investors' confidence in Sri Lanka's biggest and fastest growing producer of renewable energy. The WindForce Limited IPO of...

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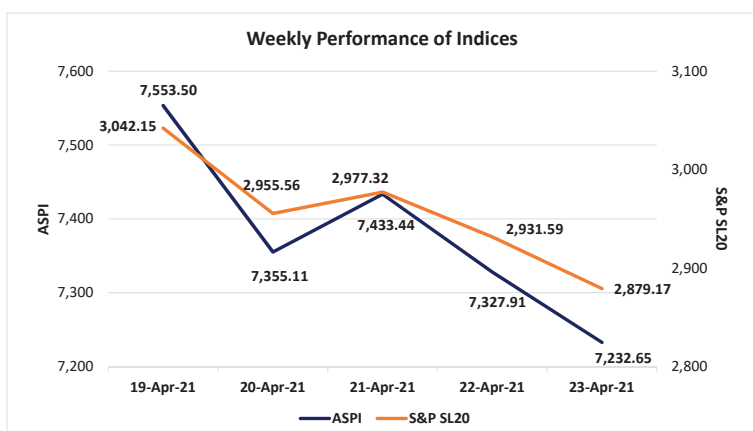
Fisheries bodies to present industry predicament soon

A meeting comprising all fisheries association heads and representatives to raise concerns and present the state into which the fisheries industry has fallen into will be held shortly. All Ceylon Fisheries Association President Aruna Roshantha told the Sunday Observer Business during a media visit to view the state of the Negombo lagoon last week.

He said there is no use in funding artificial prawn farming when the entire freshwater fisheries industry is in jeopardy.

"People of this country have consumed freshwater fish which is far more nutritious than the prawns from farms. Measures should be taken to develop the local fisheries industry looking into the plight of the fisherfolk who have fallen from the frying pan to the fire," Roshantha said. Local fisheries associations have been irked by moves to grant a licence to Indian fishermen to enter Lankan waters which will give them...

TO PAGE 28



Courtesy: The Colombo Stock Exchange

	EXCHANGE RATES				
	US Dollar \$	Euro €	Japanese yen ¥	Pound sterling £	Chinese Yuan ¥
Apr 19 - Apr 23					
Monday	191.97	230.20	1.7718	266.15	29.816
Tuesday	195.21	235.91	1.8115	274.04	30.291
Wednesday	200.90	242.60	1.8863	283.08	31.109
Thursday	199.39	240.94	1.8680	280.60	30.936
Friday	198.48	239.49	1.8610	277.38	30.677



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Business

Make yourself happy first to make others happy



BIZ TALK with Kishu Gomes

Another traditional New Year has passed and you must be brimming with new hopes and resolutions in line with our traditional thoughts. We all have one common goal that is to look for greater success in everything we do.

Success is the ultimate goal in every activity we embark on a daily basis; be it job related or otherwise. When success is achieved; doesn't that motivate you further to do better? Ask yourself. In any activity the success gets measured by yourself first and then by the others. So what is important is to make you happy with your performance first.

Work for yourself to meet your own optimistic goals placed above the goals given to you by the employer. Celebrating your success is not the same thing as rewarding yourself. A reward suggests that you reached the end of a process. You have met your goal and earned your

prize. Celebrating is about appreciating the process. Though that distinction is subtle, understanding the difference — and then doing both — allows you to take advantage of two different types of motivation.

The first and the most important thing you need to do to celebrate your progress is to acknowledge it. If you are not acknowledging that you have poured in the effort and you are not feeling good with your hard work, nothing you do will ever make you feel happy. Acknowledging your progress requires a switch in your thinking.

You need to change your mindset so that you will feel good with all the action you have taken. Little successes progress and graduate to be big ones over time. Most people have a habit of waiting for big successes to feel good about or to celebrate. When they don't come your way you get frustrated and you even give up achieving little successes.

Then the consistent failure occurs and you make yourself a person without success and then the downward performance trend takes precedence. Sometimes people don't realise that they've achieved a certain measure of success.

Often success is not celebrated correctly, and you just keep working without actually giving yourself time to pat yourself on the back. Most people have no idea how important it is to congratulate themselves, and celebrate each step they succeed to their ultimate goal. Of



course you also need to take the time to thank others for their contribution and help whenever that happens.

Big wins

Others will only recognise your big wins that have value to them or to your organisation. And you know that they are rare given the level of toughness or competition relative to

performance expectations. The time gap between big successes is always longer but you know well that people need regular or frequent motivation to keep performing well.

On the contrary, celebration of little successes has its own benefits for those who aspire to be successful in every activity they lay their hands on. Psychologically, you feel

Celebration of little success has its own benefits for those who aspire to be successful in every activity they lay their hands on. Psychologically, you feel that you are a winner and you can continue to do well. This then becomes conviction and you start to believe in your inner power and competence

that you are a winner and you can continue to do well. This then becomes conviction and you start to believe in your inner power and competence. The feeling of success is something you shouldn't let go of as it stimulates and persuades you to keep on succeeding. This helps you tap into the maximum capacity you possess. Do you now see the cyclical effect of celebrating little successes?

Simple pleasures

Learn from what you see around you and what you subconsciously do. How have you motivated your child as a parent, uncle or an aunt? Pause for a moment and close your eyes, do you now see the images of what you do and how you motivated a baby or a toddler to shape the behaviour?

All humans have a basic need for frequent simple pleasures to enjoy life and it's you who can look for and get these simple pleasures to further motivate you. Celebration helps 'recharge your batteries' for a

longer and more successful journey with the sense of satisfaction you get.

The workday events that ignite their emotions, fuel their motivation, and trigger their perceptions are fundamentally the same. When we think about progress, we often imagine how good it feels to achieve a long-term goal or experience a major breakthrough.

These big wins are great — but they are relatively rare. The good news is that even small wins can boost inner work life tremendously. Celebration is all about being happy or feeling good about what you have achieved and it's not about partying which we are well known for, as a nation.

Instead, thinking about success, sharing the success story with someone who is close to you, writing it somewhere, taking a chocolate home for your spouse or kids and going to a place of worship are means of celebration to motivate you to achieve frequent success. You learn to enjoy it; it will naturally motivate you to do better in life.

At the end of the day, we all need to feel as though we have achieved something — big or small.

This sense of achievement is what drives us forward, and helps us to continue to plan and negotiate our goals. Without celebrating the small wins, we would fail to recognise how much we have grown. And growth is something that should always be celebrated.

ComBank turtle protection project releases over 8,000 hatchlings

Thousands of turtle hatchlings were released to their natural habitat under an initiative supported by the Commercial Bank of Ceylon to protect these endangered mariners and promote biodiversity.

In the past eight months alone, 8,490 hatchlings from 70 protected turtle nests in Panama in the Ampara District, were returned to the ocean through the Bank-funded marine turtle conservation project of Wildlife and Ocean Resource Conservation (WORC) of Sri Lanka, a project Commercial Bank has supported since 2019.

The immediate objective of the project is protecting the nests and eggs of sea turtles within the identified territory from predators such as pigs, foxes, mongoose, spotted iguana, and dogs. With Commercial Bank's participation, WORC expanded its efforts to three kilometres of

previously unprotected beach last year and to another three kilometres this year.

The initiative benefits four species of turtles including the Videlicet Green, Olive Ridley, Loggerhead, and Leatherback turtles that call this stretch of beach their home. The success of the collaborative conservation activities last year inspired the Bank and WORC to extend the term of the MoU governing the project.

Commercial Bank's support was instrumental in protecting seven turtle nests in September 2020, eight nests each in October, November, and December 2020, and 25, 29 and 25 nests from January to March this year.

The protection of nests persisted despite interruptions to night patrols, owing to frequent leopard visits at night in the past few months, according to the nest protectors.

People's Leasing opens sales outlet in Malabe

People's Leasing & Finance PLC activated a sales outlet for the benefit of people at Malabe Family Cars premises.

A new wing incorporated to Family Cars premises that faces Kaduwela-Malabe road has a capacity to accommodate over 125 vehicles. People's Leasing having a sales outlet here provides the convenience of facilitating financial requirements of clients who visit the sale for their vehicle requirements.

CEO and GM, People's Leasing, Shamindra Marceline, Senior DGM Lionel Fernando, DGM, Marketing,

Laksanda Gunawardene and Chief Manager, Marketing, Vajira Ramayake were present.

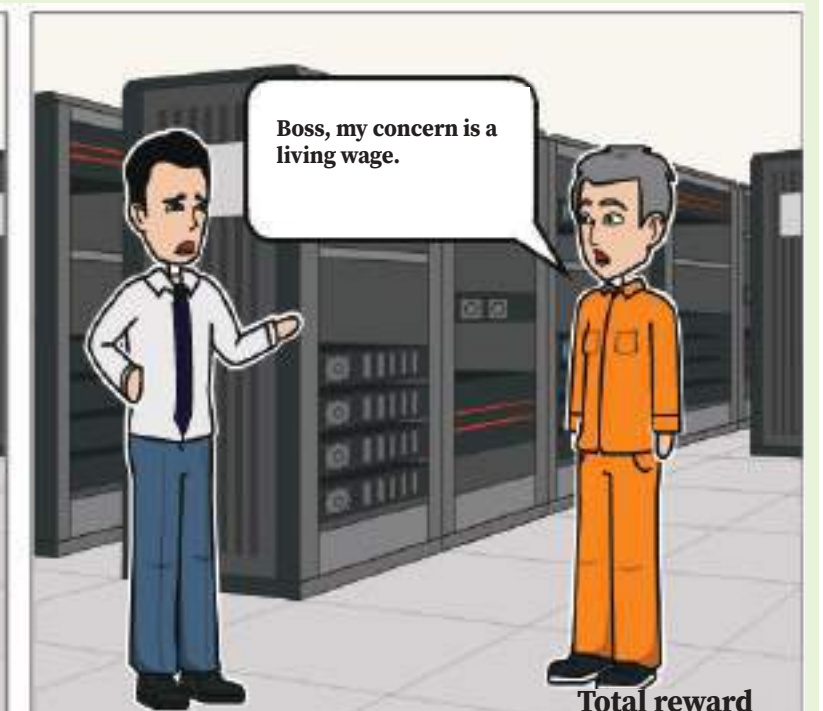
Customers who visit the sales outlet will be astounded by an array of value added services that PLC is ready to offer such as, lowest interest rates prevailing in the marketplace, facility to reduce the instalment amount by paying a portion of the capital, flexible monthly instalments according to the need, extended repayment period of seven years and facility to apply for a separate personal loan along with the vehicle loan, a company spokesman said.



The opening of the People's Leasing sales outlet in Malabe

Everyone knows HR

Low wage earners are more concerned about monetary rewards (salary, O/T, incentives) than non-monetary rewards such as career development, learning opportunities, work-life balance.



Total reward

By Janaka Kumarasinghe

Prime Group launches luxury villas

Property developer, Prime Group has launched Digana - Scottish Island — a collection of 28 luxury holiday villas in Kandy.

"Prime's Digana - Scottish Island was created for those looking to retreat to a peaceful, luxurious space among the misty and lush green hills of the central highlands that makes daily life an absolute pleasure. Digana is a sought-after location for holiday villas with its scenic landscapes overlooking the Victoria reservoir and rare

views of the surrounding mountain range. Each home is fitted with every modern comfort using material of the best quality, and is in close proximity to the proposed central expressway and numerous other highlights Kandy is famed for," said Prime Group Co-Chairperson Sandamini Perera. "This again proves that our strong financials and expertise accredited by ICRA Lanka allows us to curate only the finest living experiences for those looking to invest in luxury homes or villas," she

said. Nestled among the central mountains, Digana - Scottish Island is inspired architecturally by cottages in the Scottish Highlands, and expertly designed to suit cool climes of Kandy in a way that celebrates waterfront living in a unique manner, Perera said. Reservations are now accepted for its two, three and four-bedroom villas sitting within the tranquil confines of a carefully landscaped compound stretching from 20 to 50 perches land area.



Sandamini Perera

StrEdge Group launches solutions to mitigate Covid-induced challenges

StrEdge Group has introduced several service packages through its companies to mitigate Covid-induced business risks faced by local businesses.

This includes introduction of new governance models and interventions in bridging gaps in multiple businesses in terms of business strategy, processes, human resources, technology and finance.

Director and CEO of StrEdge Advisory, Sumedha Wijesekera said, "We have taken stock of short, mid and long term strategies which will not only mitigate risks but also ensure sustainable growth of businesses. The approaches also help banks and lending institutions that work with these businesses in terms of use of credit



Sumedha Wijesekera



Udaya Samaradivakara



Janaka Epasinghe

proceeds through proper channels. Our approach has become a risk mitigation tool for both the lender and the borrower."

Director, StrEdge Advisory, Janaka

Epasinghe said that holistic solutions StrEdge offers from 'people, process and technology' perspective are geared to enrich the product and service proposition of diverse business-

es. "Especially in the present challenging business environment, managing businesses internally and externally is crucial and as solution providers, even during the most turbulent times as the pandemic hit, we have been able to create results."

Director, CEO, StrEdge Tech, Udaya Samaradivakara said, "This user-friendly tool is designed to create visibility on business operations and decision-making for business owners and the management."

The solution also helps strengthen customer relationship management, employee productivity, proper planning and projection- all of which will ultimately lead to continuous sales growth and profits."

Living with hope: adversity as an adventure



STRATEGIC STRIDES
by

Prof. Ajantha Dharmasiri

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PIM Alumni

Had a refreshingly relaxed Avurudu holidays and watched a blockbuster Hindi movie after a long time. The movie 'Dil Bechara' (Helpless Heart) has not only a heart-breaking story to tell but also a head-boggling history behind it. In this context, the sad demise of the dedicated Director of Apeksha (Hope) Hospital, Maharagama, Dr. Wasantha Senanayake, the surprised suicide of Sushant Singh Rajput, the glowing Bollywood star last year; the struggling millions having terminal illnesses around the globe; the success of John Green with his best-selling novel titled "The fault in our stars", may appear like seemingly disconnected. In combining all those, this column is a managerial perspective of what I would like to call, "a leap of hope".

Overview

"The most beautiful people I've known are those who have known trials, have known struggles, have known loss, and have found their way out of the depths", so said Elizabeth Kübler-Ross, the well-known psychiatrist. The movie 'Dil Bechara' is an ample proof of it. It is a creation of Mukesh Chhabra, a debut director as an adaptation of John Green's best-selling novel "The fault in our stars".

The film marks the final appearance of Sushant Singh Rajput with the debutant Sanjana Sanghi as terminal cancer patients. The film released posthumously, makes poignant references to Sushant who died as a suspected suicide on June 14, 2020.

The filming of the movie was in Jamsheer, Ranchi, and Mumbai with a special scene in Paris, France. It was another musical treat by veteran A. R. Rahman, with lyrics by Amitabh Bhattacharya. The creative cinematography and editing were performed by Setu and Aarif Sheikh, respectively. It was interesting to note the multiple challenges they have to overcome due to COVID-19 and the surprise suicide, resulted in a much-delayed release.

A leap of hope

"It is difficult to say what is impossible, for the dream of yesterday is the hope of today and the reality of tomorrow" so said Robert H. Schuller. The movie magnifies a leap of hope of two suffering human beings. Kizie Basu, 21, fights thyroid cancer and has to carry an oxygen cylinder (which she fondly calls Pushpinder, my companion), wherever she goes.

She strangely meets twenty-three-year-old Immanuel "Manny" Rajkumar Junior, who has previously suffered from osteosarcoma and is in remission, with an artificial limb. Manny and his friend Jagdish "JP" Pandey, who is suffering from glaucoma and is blind in one eye, are making a film together. Manny is inspired by well-known actor Rajinikanth and plays the

leading male role. As the story unfolds, Manny invites Kizie to play the lead female role. A bond begins to be formed because of his love for Rajinikanth's films and her love for Hindi music. There was a reference to an incomplete song by retired songwriter Abhimanyu Veer.

Kizie and Manny lovingly get closer as they shoot scenes for Manny and JP's film. Interestingly, they make 'Seri', the Tamil word for 'Okay', their secret word, with the positive intention that everything will be okay in life. Despite the optimism, JP loses sight in his second eye after a needed operation for survival, making him completely blind.

The story takes us to Paris where the veteran musician Abhimanyu lives, who, after several email correspondence, states that he will answer all her questions if she is able to visit him in Paris. Despite medical challenges, they together with her mom, as advocated by the doctors, go to Paris to visit Abhimanyu. Contrary to the expectations, he does not offer any conclusive answers and no reason for not finishing the song, to the much disappointment of Kizie. Manny promises to complete the song for her, highlighting the need to have self-reliance.

The vacuum continues and all of a sudden, Manny informs Kizie that his cancer has reactivated in a rapid manner. As Manny's health deteriorates, Kizie convinces him and JP to finish the film.

There is a poignant scene of Manny's mock funeral where he invites JP and Kizie to deliver prepared eulogies as a rehearsal. Amidst the laughter, the lingering pain could be seen in all of them. Manny dies two days later, leaving a loving letter for Kizie, with the good news that he has completed Abhimanyu's song for her.

The final scene takes us to an open-air theatre, where amid a heartwarming response from the crowd, the film is shown. Kizie slowly walks towards the screen, and see how as a close up, Manny directly speaking to her, in inviting her to live life to the fullest, and she solemnly replies, "Seri" (Okay).

Fault in our stars

In moving beyond the Bollywood fantasy, the truth of "joyful suffering" by millions is meaningfully portrayed here. It is, in fact, an impactful adaptation of The Fault in Our Stars, an American romance film based on a novel by the same name.

The film stars Shailene Woodley who plays the role of Hazel Grace, a sixteen-year-old cancer patient who is forced by her parents to attend a support group, where she meets and subsequently falls in love with Augustus Waters, another cancer patient who is an ex-basketball player and amputee, played by Ansel Elgort.

The Fault in Our Stars is the fourth novel by John Green, published in 2012. According to him, the title is inspired by Act 1, Scene 2 of Shakespeare's play Julius Caesar, in which the nobleman Cassius says to Brutus, "The fault, dear Brutus, is not in our stars, but in ourselves, that we are underlings." Despite the tumor-shrinking medical treatment that has bought her a few years, Hazel has never been anything but terminal, her final chapter inscribed upon diagnosis. But when a gorgeous plot twist named Augustus Waters suddenly appears at Cancer Support Group, Hazel's story is about to be completely rewritten. It is all about being positive in living in possibilities.

"John Green deftly mixes the profound and the quotidian in this tough, touching valentine to the human spirit", was a comment appeared in the Washington Post about this best-selling novel. New York Times described it as "a blend of melancholy, sweet, philosophical, and funny" It further said, "Green shows us true love...and it is far more romantic than any sunset on the beach.

Power of hope

"The key aspiration of the story is how adversity can be turned into an adventure with the power of a positive mind. Having all the reasons to be negative and depressive, it is one's own choice of life over death in living the limited time available meaningfully. For me, this is the power of hope.

It reminds me of what Napoleon

I have personally faced many challenging situations where I had to motivate my team in convincing them to move beyond adversity. It is sad to observe, some leaders become destroyers of hope rather than dealers of hope, shattering the wee bit of expectation their teams might have of a better future

Bonaparte once said, "a leader is a dealer in hope." It is the leader who should generate hope in the face of adversity. His statement in the military context where the leader has to encourage the troops to face daunting tasks is much relevant in the managerial context as well.

I have personally faced many challenging situations where I had to motivate my team in convincing them to move beyond adversity. It is sad to observe, some leaders become destroyers of hope rather than dealers of hope, shattering the wee bit of expectation their teams might have of a better future.

"I love those who can smile in trouble", so said Leonardo da Vinci. In the contemporary world, we hear from Oprah Winfrey who invites us to "turn your wounds into wisdom". In fact, mega achievers in multiple fronts all over the world have one common trait.

They have hope for a better future. They in fact have a leap of hope in creating that. As Eleanor Roosevelt advocated, "the future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams". The survival to success as individuals and institutions alike depends on such power of hope.

In the Anguttara Nikaya, the Buddha teaches us that there are three kinds of people in the world: "The hopeful, the hopeless, and the one who has done away with hope." It is the hope for life's meaning in search for truth towards emancipation.

Paradox of hope

In the Bible, we see in St. Paul's Letter to Corinthians, "and now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love". All great religions overwhelmingly emphasise the power of hope. Yet are we aware of the value of it amid complexity is a pertinent question.

As we can clearly see, hope is so fundamental for living. From the birth to death, from parenting to retiring, it is very much connected to our daily needs and deeds. As someone casually mentioned, when we lose hope, "we might need a rope".

This was paradoxically true for young, upcoming, and award-winning Indian actor Sushant Singh Rajput. Last year, he was found dead, hanging from the ceiling fan at his home in Bandra, Mumbai. The Indian Express reported, quoting Mumbai Police, that the actor had shown symptoms of clinical depression and was consulting a psychiatrist.

"Times Now" reported that medical papers and anti-depressant pills were found in his house. I enjoyed watching his brilliant role-playing in 'Dil Bechara' and heard many other such feats. Where is the energetic enthusiasm shown in the silver screen with regards to real life? Where is the advocating of adversity as an adventure, the way we saw in Manny, the jubilant amputee (Sushant's last act)? It leaves us more questions than answers. I am not qualified enough to offer a deep psychological discourse of why people commit suicide. It is not the intention of this sharing as well. Yet, one key reason, many experts attribute is depression. Severe depression is always accompanied by a pervasive sense of suffering as well as the belief that escape from it is hopeless. The pain of existence often becomes too much for severely depressed people to bear. The state of depression warps their thinking, allowing ideas like "everyone would all be better off without me" to make rational sense. Often people suffer with it silently, planning suicide without anyone ever knowing. This is where a friend in need becomes a friend indeed.

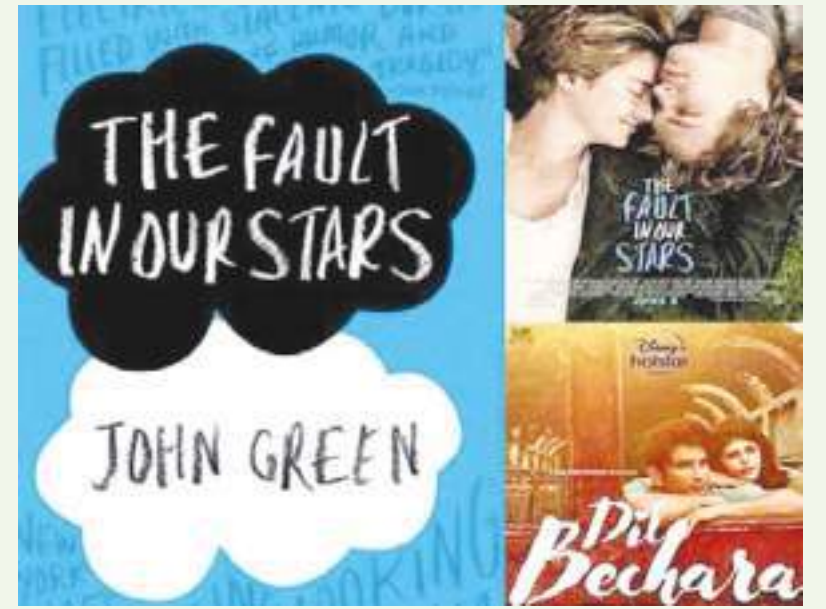
Way forward

"In the depth of winter, I finally learned that within me there lay an invincible summer", so said Albert Camus. I began with a movie and moved along with myriad information and insights. I have met many "joyful sufferers"

in my life including an artist who was moving around with her oxygen cylinder, producing prolific portraits.

How cheerful she was, knowing very well that her days were numbered, shows us a ray of hope about the value of life. As we have often heard, "Yesterday is history, tomorrow is mystery and today is very precious; That is why we call it the present".

As leaders, managers, and administrators alike, we need to deal with hope in advocating adversity as an adventure.



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Business

NCE and Lankan US Embassy to boost Lanka's access to US market

The National Chamber of Exporters of Sri Lanka (NCE) is partnering with the Sri Lanka Embassy in Washington DC (SLEMB/DC) to better inform Sri Lankan exporters regarding evolving trends in the US market and strategies that could help navigate challenges and overcome bottlenecks.

At a webinar recently, over 40 Sri Lankan exporters, engaged with 10 business entrepreneurs identified by SLEMB/DC, following its State level interactions of the recently constituted Overseas Sri Lankans (OSL) Network.

The event was also live streamed through social media. It was agreed to conduct sector specific dialogues, where the Sri Lankan exporters will be provided the opportunity to engage in discussion with the business community of the particular sector, to foster mutually beneficial trading relationships.

A separate event is proposed as a dialogue to enhance long-term trade relationships between the two coun-

tries. Sri Lanka's Ambassador to the USA, Ravinatha Arayasinha said, while increasing the value of apparel exports to the US, a concerted effort is presently being made to diversify the export product basket to US.

He said while the USA has remained the largest single buyer of Sri Lanka's exports since 1979 and in 2019 had a share of 26.3% of all exports, the products basket to the US had seen very little diversification. Apparel has been the dominant export item accounting for 74.5% of the total value, and did not benefit from GSP facility. The rest which enjoyed GSP, were mainly rubber based products which accounted for 7%, and the other products included tea, iron and steel articles, activated carbon, precious and semi-precious stones and sea food.

The Embassy was reaching out to the OSL community in the US and to Americans interested in doing business with Sri Lanka and helping them in identifying the products which they

could import from Sri Lanka to the US. The discussion that followed led by Chairman of the NEC, Shiham Marikkar, focused on obstacles faced by importers when importing from Sri Lanka and the need to adapt to e-commerce marketing strategies to increase exports.

SLEMB/DC Minister (Commercial) Sumedha Ponnampereuma shared insights on the introduction of the US market, import system and current trends.

Sri Lankan professionals residing and doing business in USA shared insights regarding the current market conditions and the opportunities available.

The discussion also focused on the prospects for collaboration between the NCE and the reactivated US-Sri Lanka Chamber of Commerce. Dilan Ariyawansa of the US-Sri Lanka Chamber, elaborated on the role they proposed to play in the future in the furtherance of two-way trade and invest-

ment between the US and Sri Lanka. Some of the key highlights of the discussion were:

- * The US is a highly competitive market due to the size of the market and the prominence in the world economy, therefore the businesses often dominate the trading terms. It is important for exporters to understand this background when negotiating their business, and be well prepared to face challenges.

- The Customs system and the import structure is complex. Importers operate separately from the vendors.

- Importers face challenges when importing from Sri Lanka due to issues arising in quality, commitment and seriousness of exporters. Lack of knowledge on the regulations in the US market was also highlighted.

- Discussing the GSP scheme, it came to light that the US GSP for Sri Lanka has expired on December 31, 2020 and currently the US Congress is

in the process of deciding the next phase of GSP Scheme for all countries. Sri Lankan exporters are requested to submit their suggestions to be included in the GSP eligible product list, when it comes for review of the scheme later this year.

More people prefer online shopping to physical stores and USA is a price sensitive market with high competition from China and Bangladesh. However, consumers are concerned regarding purchases from China, and this could be a positive opportunity for the Sri Lankan exporters in the sector. Another noteworthy change that has occurred in this sector is the reduction of stock turn-around time, as the consumers change their preference rapidly, unlike in the past.

- Focusing on logistics, strategically locating businesses activities are important to ensure delivery on right time in right quantities, hence focusing on the timing and direction.

The East Coast is one of the convenient areas to reach the market, given the times and the convenience in reaching from Sri Lanka.

The USA cities are connected with a rail road; therefore, it takes three to 10 days generally. For exporters hoping to expand in e-commerce, the 19 to 20 days' transit time has to be considered and for exporters of smaller shipments, especially LCLs, it is important to select transit locations wisely to reap the best benefits of market opportunity. The NCE is coordinating with all Sri Lankan Missions and their trade officers to create awareness on new market needs. Plans have been made to conduct a series of webinars, to provide valuable informative insights to the exporters and connect them to stakeholders.

The Chamber invites exporters to team up with the chamber's initiative to expand market access.

Interested exporters could contact the chamber via nce@nce.lk.

Colombo Port City Economic Commission Bill

Beyond the powers and accountability of Parliament - *TELO leader*

BY P. KRISHNASWAMY

Mannar Parliamentarian Selvam Adaikalanathan, the Leader of the Tamil Eelam Liberation Organisation (TELO) which is a constituent of the Tamil National Alliance (TNA), commenting on the controversial Colombo Port City Economic Commission Bill said that they opposed the Bill on the grounds that it was beyond the powers and accountability of Parliament.

Powers proposed to be vested on the Economic Commission under the Bill are greater than the powers of the Provincial Councils and the Economic Com-

mission will not be within the jurisdiction of the Colombo Municipal Council, he said.

The Port City, with the powers to be vested on it, will be under the domain of the Government of China and Sri Lanka cannot afford to do it because it depends on economic interaction and support from many countries of the world, especially countries in the region, Adaikalanathan said.

Countries in the region will be antagonised over acceding to another country dominion status to an area within Sri Lanka, he said. Getting a two-third majority to pass the Bill will also be

difficult because there is opposition to the Bill within the ruling party, he said. Meanwhile the Supreme Court on Thursday instructed the Attorney General to inform the court on the amendments to be made to the Bill that has been presented to Parliament.

A number of opposition parties, civil society organisations filed petitions in court against the Bill alleging that it undermines the country's sovereignty, the constitution and labour rights. The Colombo Port City Economic Commission Bill was gazetted on March 23 and tabled in Parliament last week.



Selvam Adaikalanathan

Sino Lanka Power Gen to install solar power plant at seafood plant

Sino Lanka Power Gen has entered into a partnership with Taprobane Seafood to supply and install a one-megawatt solar photovoltaic (PV) system at their plant in Dankotuwa.

This is the first of a two-phased project with the second megawatt to be installed in two years.

Director of Sino Lanka Power Gen, Dhiren Kundanmal said, "Combating climate change has become critical and we are delighted to team up with Taprobane Seafood to be a part of their solar expansion strategy. Our approach is fivefold i.e., improve yields and plant performance, reduce downtime, holistic monitoring, skill transfer, and finally minimising their liability and risk." Taprobane's Managing Director Timothy O'Reilly said, "Shifting to solar ener-

gy is an important step in our sustainability journey and we believe Sino Lanka is the right partner for us given their expertise in the renewable energy industry." Sino Lanka Power Gen's vision is to support the government's initiatives on the "Soorya Bala Sangramaya" policy statement that sets a target of meeting 70% of the country's total electricity demand from renewable energy sources by 2030. Sino Lanka Power Gen is a joint venture between the Sino Lanka Group - an Asian enterprise with investments in real estate, hospitality, chemicals, healthcare, financial services, and rooftop solar, among others, and the Atman Group, an investment holding company with investments in renewable energy, hospitality, real estate, and agriculture.

Tourism: learning... Continued from page 25

... Sri Lankan arrivals which has been around 10,000 so far this year. According to statistics, the Maldives received an average of 3,222 tourist arrivals per day, spending an average of eight days in the country. The top sources of tourist arrivals this year are India and Russia, representing 23.8 percent and 21.7 percent of all arrivals. Comparing with Sri Lanka and during the past three months, the Maldives generated in three days more tourist arrivals than Sri Lanka in the entire three

months from January to March 2021. Sri Lanka's tourist arrival statistics are devastating with year-to-year comparison and decreasing arrivals by over 90% (see the chart below). Tourist arrivals in Sri Lanka are significantly lower, though both countries are more or less located in the same region, exposed to similar weather patterns, Dr. Doering said.

Sri Lanka received 9,629 foreign tourists during the same period. Sri Lanka's stringent travel restrictions are

one reason that foreigners hesitate to visit the country. It might be necessary to adopt new and more relaxing measures to enhance Sri Lanka's attractiveness again without compromising safety standards.

VOA (Vaccination on arrival) with free travel thereafter could be the right step at the right time. The tourism industry in Sri Lanka is heading towards a major disaster if steps are not taken to allow foreign tourists to visit the island under near to normal condi-

tions. The Maldives is a good example like other neighbouring countries such as Thailand, Malaysia, Vietnam who are outperforming Sri Lanka's arrival data by far.

As all these countries are keeping stringent standards to prevent the spread of Covid-19 avoiding setbacks for their own native populations, Sri Lanka too should follow this line and to prevent a total collapse of tourism at home, which is waiting around the corner.

Fisheries bodies... Continued from page 25

...the green light to carry out bottom-trawling.

"At this rate the local fisheries industry will die a natural death very soon as fishermen have lost hope which is the worst thing that could happen to someone," Fernando said.

Heads of Fisheries Associations have been insisting that there should be a proper national plan to develop the industry.

"How could there be a proper plan when people who are clueless about fishing are manning the desk and holding key positions in the Government. There has to be people with practical knowledge of the industry to steer it. If they lack expertise they

should see the support of those who are knowledgeable," Fernando said. The need to protect marine life and the ecology was stressed during the visit which was an eye-opener to the environmental destruction to the Negombo lagoon which has been a ground for discharging factory sewage and other effluents.

Lagoons and all freshwater resources should be protected first before farming," Fernando said, adding that at the rate marine resources are being exploited and destroyed within the country and outside and the absence of a consistent national policy to protect the industry fishermen will have to bid farewell to fishing

soons, according to fisheries associations. The National Fisheries Association convening a media briefing recently called on the authorities to launch speedy action to put a halt to foreign vessels encroaching on our waters and exploiting resources.

The Association said it was aware of moves by Sri Lanka to enter into a program with Indian authorities to allow Indian fishermen to fish in Sri Lankan waters.

The association noted that encroaching Lankan waters by foreign vessels has been a practice for centuries but the use of sea-bed destroying technology and exploiting our resources is alarming.

Bottom trawling, which was made an offence through the amendment of the Aquatic Resources Act in 2014, causes severe destruction to the ocean floor resulting in the depletion of aquatic resources.

A maximum prison term of two years and a maximum fine of Rs. 50,000 was imposed on bottom trawling. However, what agitates the fisheries community is banning bottom-trawling by local fishermen while giving the green light to foreign vessels to exploit the country's marine resources. The fisheries sector comprises over 300,000 direct and over one million indirect beneficiaries contributing around 1.5 percent to the GDP.

Good progress, Continued from page 25

... past five years Having established itself in most of Africa, and large swaths of Asia, it has lately been reported in Australia and parts of Oceania. Over 70 countries are now affected; there are fears that the Mediterranean fringes of Europe could be next.

Thriving in warmer climates, FAW primarily feeds on maize crops - but also on wheat, sorghum, millet, sugarcane, vegetables and cotton. The pest's voracious appetite means that in many parts of the world, food, fuel and fibre are at severe risk.

FAO estimates that FAW has contributed to worsening food security for 26 million people. While the bug cannot be eradicated, managing it is vital and possible through a coordinate approach.

In his address, the Director-General commended the steps taken to date: Eight "demonstration" countries have been chosen as hubs for the Global Action, one for each geographical zone where the threat is most acute - China, India and the Philippines in Asia; and in Africa - Egypt, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Kenya and Malawi. All have set up National FAW Task Forces, and are developing detailed work plans for monitoring, technology evaluation and

capacity building. FAO's Technical Cooperation Program has been a "catalytic force to support a number of these efforts," Qu told participants.

The integrated pest management packages are based on the Organization's guidelines. He added that "it is thanks to the excellent network among key stakeholders in the different countries that we have achieved these results together."

Apart from the institutional level, FAO has been working to assist those whose livelihoods are most directly threatened. In 2020, despite limitations posed by the Covid-19 pandemic, nearly a million and a half African farmers were trained on scouting and monitoring the appearance and spread of FAW. They also learned about using bio-pesticides and pesticides, as well as nature-based solutions for FAW management. Those benefitting from this outreach include farmers such as Cyril Nzagumandore, in Rwanda's Nyamagabe district. "Before, from this 10-hectare marshland, we used to harvest 5 to 6 tons," he explained.

"But in 2017, this dropped to 3.5 tons. We did our best to fight the worm, but had nothing to show for it. When the

FAO project came, we understood more about FAW and the technologies it takes to fight it. The FAW mobile phone application I received allows me to collect and share information. Then the agronomist comes and inspects the field. Production has gone back up. Today, from our 10 hectares, we're harvesting 7 tons."

The app on Nzagumandore's phone is part of the digital tools FAO has put forward to tackle the FAW challenge. Available in 29 languages, it analyses manually entered data and photos, and uses a mix of artificial and human intelligence, to detect the presence of the worm and offer guidance.

Current proposals are to enhance the system with a predictive capacity: this would warn of impending invasions by combining more sophisticated data, ranging from meteorological patterns to insect reproduction cycles to the presence of other host plants in the vicinity. In Sri Lanka, crop scientists and agri-sector experts have been warning of dire consequences if the country loosens the grip on the battle against the killer pest due to inadequate funding, research and resources to fight the worm.

Lanka poised... Continued from page 25

...economy. "The apparel zone in the East will be a fillip to employment creation and a shot in the arm to the local economy which is yearning for fresh life lines," Mohottala said.

On the pharma zone in Hambantota the BOI chief said work on the strategic initiative comprising stakeholders of key institutions under the Presidential Task Force. "Currently over 80% of the country's pharmaceutical needs are met via imports while the rest is supplied by local manufacturing plants including the State Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Cooperation with an estimated value of Rs. 18 billion annually," he said.

Pharmaceutical expenditure has shown a rapid growth during the past years and it is expected to reach a value of US\$ 750 million with the growth rate expected to accelerate with more patients relying on private healthcare and expensive but needed interventions.

This dedicated pharmaceutical zone's objective is to meet around 40 percent of the local demand for pharmaceutical products while creating the path way to a US 1 billion independent export vertical by 2025.

WindForce to... Continued from page 25

...Rs. 3.2 billion, the largest at the CSE since 2011, attracted 1,654 applications amounting to a value of Rs. 25.7 billion. The company offered 202,615,341 shares at Rs.16.00 per share and was oversubscribed by nearly eight times on the initial day.

WindForce has been issued a [SL] AA- (stable) credit rating by ICRA Lanka, which is the highest rating given to a corporate in Sri Lanka at the time of the issuance by ICRA Lanka Limited.

Incorporated in July 2010 to promote and handle all aspects of renewable energy developments, WindForce Limited is the pioneer in wind power generation in Sri Lanka and one of the first players in solar power generation locally.

Today, the company has state-of-the-art wind, solar and hydro power plants across the island providing green electricity to the national grid.

As a result of its proven expertise and experience in conducting Feasibility Studies, Design and Engineering Management, Procurement, Commissioning, Construction, Erection, Operation and Maintenance of power plants, WindForce is able to handle the entire life cycle of a power project.

Over the years through its investments in the renewable energy space, the company has transformed to become the largest IPP in the renewable energy sector in Sri Lanka and has expanded operations globally.

WindForce plans to allocate a sum of Rs. 2,310 million as the equity investment for a wind power project in Mannar and a solar power project in Senegal.

Remaining funds of Rs. 932 million will be used for future projects the company plans to undertake in Sri Lanka or in other countries.

The total installed capacity of the company will increase from 218MW to 263MW with the completion of the projects in the immediate pipeline which would further strengthen the company's position as the largest renewable energy Independent Power Producer (IPP) in Sri Lanka and one of the largest in the region.

WindForce has been in the forefront of introducing new technology in power generation to Sri Lanka through its world-class engineering team. The team is continuously engaged in innovative projects broadening the team's engineering horizons and adaptation of new technology.

Declared as a "Strategic Development Project" the zone is to be set up on 400 acres in Hambantota and will be implemented in two stages of 200 acres each.

The apex body for investment targets USD 2 billion in foreign direct investments this year up from last year's USD 750 m in realised investments. "Last year's realised FDI stood at around USD 700 million. Another USD 700 million was invested by BOI companies achieving USD 1.5 bn in capital formation which was a commendable achievement given the challenges. "Companies reinvesting means that they are expanding and strengthening their operations, to take advantage of supply chain shifts. This is the acid test that any new investor should be considering," Mohottala said.

However, everything is not hunky dory according to Mohottala who outlined moves such as re-drafting the BOI Act, fast-tracking approvals for investments outside EPZs, among a host of critical initiatives that will ensure clarity and certainty from start to end of the investment process. He said that improving a coun-

try's Ease of Doing Business (EODB) ranking is critical to drive investments. Sri Lanka's EODB ranking has certainly notched up but there is still room left to excel in the indices. The tax concessions granted in the 2021 Budget as part of a strategic move to attract investments is something noteworthy. "State Minister of Money, Capital Markets and State Enterprise Reforms, AjithNivardGabraal and the BOI with key stakeholders are working on boosting the country's EODB rankings," Mohottala said.

The BOI, the key investment promotion agency of Sri Lanka was set up in 1992 expanding the scope of the Greater Colombo Economic Commission set up in 1978.

Sri Lanka is considered an attractive destination for investment due to its strategic geographic location at the crossroads of major shipping routes to South Asia, the Far East and the continents of Europe and America, making the country a convenient port of call for shipping lines and airfreight services. Sri Lanka's proximity to the Indian sub-continent positions the country as a gateway to a market of 2.1 billion people.

Endless chain: an effective prospecting method

by
Hemantha
Kulatunga



The endless chain method, also known as sales referrals or referral selling is one of the most effective and successful methods in the prospecting element of the sales process. Regardless of the size of the business or the image of the products, salesmen use this method efficiently to increase the all-important prospect base.

The endless chain process begins when an existing customer provides the contact information of another prospect, usually an acquaintance, to a salesperson. The customary method is to ask for a referral after a sale is closed. However, my personal opinion is that a salesperson can ask for a referral any time during the selling process, after the approach stage.

Referral selling is simply asking current customers to refer your product or service to another company or an individual. The salesman leverages the trust built with the existing customer to obtain the information of the new prospect. In my first-hand experience, I can confidently state that sales referrals not only can be the top source for new hot leads but also it has a higher closing rate than leads generated by other prospecting methods.

Referral leads are considered to be better than other methods due to two key reasons. First and foremost, the customer is most likely to know others who run similar businesses, making the lead automatically pre-qualified. Secondly, the salesman is introduced to a new prospective buyer by a satisfied acquaintance, creat-

ing a benefit of trust at the beginning of the relationship.

Single lead

Asking for a referral from the customer immediately after the close of a sale is best. Your customer has made a buying decision based on the facts submitted by you. This means the customer trusts your presentation. He is most likely to give you even a single lead after the hot decision he has made. A significant portion of new customers will help you while a few others may say that they will use the product and provide referrals later. Either way, if it persists, most likely you will get referrals sooner or later.

Referral sales are a warm outbound lead generation growth engine. I have persuaded thousands of salesmen during training sessions to pursue this method, and most of them have implemented the method with great success. In fact, there is no failure in this unless the customer is unhappy about something even after the sale.

The important point is that your prospect base will keep getting better day after day if you consciously try. Any professional salesman knows the common saying among the fraternity that emphasises 'more prospects more sales'. The worst thing that can happen is that a customer may be reluctant to refer you to others for personal reasons. However, it takes conviction to keep trying for referrals even if customers say no at first. Just like everything else in selling, the salesperson needs emotional stability to face rejection or failure.

Reluctant

For reasons unknown, sometimes salesmen are reluctant or shy to ask for referrals from a customer. Most salespersons give up after the first attempt rather than pushing it a bit further. Most often, customers say



that they will think of someone and revert later.

If the referral details are not taken then and there, just after the closure of the sale, trying on a later date may not be as effective. Perseverance, one of the most important traits of a professional salesman, should come into effect in these situations. In my experience, more than 50% of the customers will give referrals if the salesman attempts more than twice.

Emphatically thanking the customer who gave you a referral or referrals in writing can pave the way to obtain more leads. Hence, it is imperative to write an e-mail or even an SMS as early as possible, thanking them for the act. When the salesperson goes the extra mile, the customer not only is extra happy but also tends to give more referrals.

Sales referrals are very effective because they help build trust between the salesman and the referred prospect. Research says that people are four times more likely to buy when referred by a known party. In the absence of a referral, the salesman is a stranger to the customer without a

basis for trusting except the salesman himself.

Key element

The new prospect has more confidence when the salesperson appears in front of the customer with recommendations. In this instance, customers move into the purchase process much faster than any other method used to prospect.

The strength of the relationship with the customer is a key element in getting a productive referral. Although the salesperson can ask for a referral from any stage of the sales process even at the first call, the effectiveness of the response is far better when the customer is emotionally connected. For customers who possess a good and understanding relationship with a salesman, his referrals can be strong and even the customer himself may communicate with the prospect, making it more effective.

As discussed earlier, salespeople are often uncomfortable asking for referrals. A probable reason may be that they fear rejection, a common characteristic of even skilled sales-

men. Depending on each sales situation, the salesman is permitted to ask for referrals, but it is best to engage the customer on referrals after a friendly conversation.

In practice, the best time to ask for a referral is after the customer has benefitted from your product or service, particularly, if you feel that he is happy about the purchase. At the end of a purchase, asking for a customer's referral as help for the salesman is also effective. Personally, when I was a salesman long years back, I had been very successful in this timing belt and most of the time I have succeeded as my customers were happy to 'help' me.

Companies across the world practice referral marketing successfully to obtain new customers for their respective businesses. In this strategy, your customers become advocates to the business as they recommend your product or services to many others they know. In marketing strategy, referral marketing is one of the best to expand the customer base.

While the endless chain method predominantly is subjective to a sales-

In practice, the best time to ask for a referral is after the customer has benefitted from your product or service, particularly, if you feel that he is happy about the purchase. At the end of a purchase, asking for a customer's referral as help for the salesman is also effective

person who finds new prospects through direct customer engagement, referral marketing plays a broader strategic role in prospecting. As a marketing tactic, usually, the existing customer is offered an incentive to refer the business entity to an acquaintance, making it a win-win for both parties if the conversion takes place.

Cost-effective

In Sri Lanka, Credit Card service providers use this strategy successfully. Referral marketing is identified as one of the most powerful and cost-effective sales strategies that can bring in large numbers of new customers to a company.

Businesses struggle to build up the trust of the customers despite the proliferation of the new media boom. Low-cost social media platforms are inundated with relentless appearance marketing messages. This noise produced through the media increases the competition tremendously confusing customers in buying decision making. According to Nielson, the American-British market measurement firm, the trust in marketing has dipped considerably during the past five years due to the relentless advertising.

Therefore, whether it is the endless chain method practiced by salesmen on the ground or referral marketing strategies done at the drawing board, referred customers always bring more value to your organisation with higher lifetime value than prospects generated by other methods.

SL Investment Forum to feature over 50 investment opportunities

Themed "Sri Lanka - Asia's Next Growth Haven", the Sri Lanka Investment Forum (SLIF 2021) organised by the Board of Investment (BOI), the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce and the Colombo Stock Exchange will be held from June 7-9 on a virtual platform.

SLIF 2021 will showcase to the world Sri Lanka's attractiveness as an investment destination through the exposition of a blend of mega projects, strategic investment initiatives, private equity opportunities and portfolio investment propositions of public listed corporates listed on the Colombo Stock Exchange. The forum will attract direct and portfolio investors including sovereign wealth funds, private equity funds, development finance institutions, MNCs, High Net Worth Individuals, and all other investor classes from across the globe.



Sri Lanka's leading policy-makers, sector experts and industry leaders featured as keynote speakers and expert resource personnel will showcase Sri Lanka's Investment Proposition to the Global Investment Community.

The forum will feature a wide

spectrum of expert keynotes and discussion forums covering key aspects of Sri Lanka's investment proposition including but not limited to foreign investment policies, capital markets, Ease of Doing Business Measures, facilitating legislation and incentive regimes. SLIF 2021 will accordingly

empower institutional, corporate and individual investors and businesses with a comprehensive set of information with respect to Sri Lanka's FDI and portfolio investment environment.

The three-day forum presents a first of its kind opportunity for the Corporate Sector and State Owned Enterprises (SOEs) to explore partnerships with participating investors.

The event will provide listed companies with an opportunity to reach out to foreign portfolio investors and likewise, Project and Strategic Initiative promoters from across the Public and Private Sectors to showcase Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) opportunities. Investment banking and advisory firms and private equity promoters, consultants and stock broking firms will be key participants.

Investing in Virtual Currencies poses risks - CB

Considering the recent inquiries on virtual currency use in the international and domestic markets, the Central Bank of Sri Lanka (CB) informs the public of the risks associated with investing in Virtual Currencies.

"Virtual Currencies (VCs)" are digital tokens created by private entities that can be obtained online through mining, Initial Coin Offerings (ICOs) or through Virtual Currency Exchanges. VCs are also commonly referred to as cryptocurrencies.

Popular VCs include Bitcoin, Ethereum, Litecoin. While VCs have their own value denominations such as bitcoins for Bitcoin and ethers for Ethereum, they are usually valued in VC Exchanges in currencies issued by Central Banks, e.g., US dollar (USD), and Japanese Yen. However, it is important to note that VCs are not issued by Central Banks and are also not generally backed by underlying assets. Therefore, their values are determined by speculation of the public on VC Exchanges.

There are no regulatory safeguards relating to the usage, investment or dealing in VCs in Sri Lanka. Therefore, investing or using VCs in Sri Lanka poses significant risks such as:

- Users/investors will have no regulatory or specific legal recourse in the event of any user or transaction related issues or disputes.
- High volatility of the value of the VCs, as it is dependent on speculation, exposing the investment of VCs to a risk of making losses.
- High likelihood of VCs being



associated in financing terrorist activities and used by criminals to launder criminal proceeds.

d) Violation of Foreign Exchange Regulations. As VCs are traded as assets in Exchanges, purchasing VCs from abroad would lead to a violation of Foreign Exchange Regulations, as VCs are not identified as a permitted investment category in terms of the Foreign Exchange Act No. 12 of 2017 (FEA).

Electronic Fund Transfer Cards (EFTCs) such as debit cards and credit cards are also not permitted to be used for payments in foreign currency related to virtual currency transactions, in terms of the Foreign Exchange Regulations in Sri Lanka. The public is, therefore, warned of the significant financial, operational, legal, customer protection and security related risks posed by investments in VCs to the users and to the economy.

The public is also informed that CBSL has not given any licence or authorisation to any entity or company to operate schemes involving VCs, including cryptocurrencies, and has not authorised any ICOs, mining operations or Virtual Currency Exchanges.

How reduced tobacco consumption benefits the economy

A new IPS study offers empirical evidence that the net impact on the output of the national economy due to decreased tobacco consumption is positive because of increased spending on non-tobacco goods and services.

On average, a tobacco-user household spend Rs.2,000 per month on tobacco, constituting 4% of the household budget.

Spending on tobacco can drive out other critical household expenditures including basic needs such as food, education, health and housing. This 'crowding out effect' is greatest for poor families, affecting not only the smoker but the rest of the family as well. Based on the Household Income and Expenditure Survey (HIES) data of the Department of Census and Statistics (DCS) and the Economics of Tobacco Toolkit of the World Bank, a new IPS study provides empirical evidence that the net impact on the national economy's output from decreased tobacco consumption is positive.

The IPS study reveals that a 20% reduction in tobacco consumption will lead to a 30% net benefit to the economy through increased con-

sumption of non-tobacco goods and services.

Accordingly, based on the output approach, the study offers compelling evidence that reduced tobacco consumption will yield net positive gains on national income through increased consumption of non-tobacco goods and services.

The above estimates are based solely on the output approach and do not take into account economic benefits associated with reduced tobacco use such as reduced health-care costs, reduced environmental costs and other positive gains linked to increased non-tobacco consumption; all of which accrue benefits not just for tobacco users, but for the country as a whole.

Furthermore, the study shows that household spending on basic needs is negatively affected by tobacco-related expenditures. Poor families spend nearly 60-70% of their income on food, reflecting budgetary constraints for other basic needs such as education, health and housing. Notably, among the poorest 40%, tobacco-user households allocate a lower budget share on food, health, education and

housing compared to tobacco non-user households. This implies that household budget allocations are constrained by tobacco expenditures.

Despite the threat of tobacco to human health, many governments have not taken sufficient action on tobacco control, partly due to concerns about the undesirable consequences on national income. The fear of a negative impact on national income by reduced tobacco production is due to a lack of information.

This IPS study offers empirical evidence to support effective tobacco control policies in Sri Lanka.

The findings show that implementing tobacco control policies to reduce smoking will enhance household welfare and the national economy will also benefit as a result of the released tobacco expenditure being diverted to other non-tobacco goods and services. The study, therefore, is important evidence for Sri Lankan policymakers in support of stronger tobacco control measures including higher tobacco taxation.

The report has been authored by Priyanka Jayawardena and Harini Weerasekera.

ComBank's ATM network sets record

The automated teller machine (ATM) network of Commercial Bank of Ceylon dispensed Rs. 8.818 billion on April 9 and 10, shattering the previous records for the highest and second highest cash disbursements for a 24-hour period, as Sri Lanka's leading private bank facilitated the celebration of the Sinhala and Tamil New Year.

The disbursements of Rs. 4.498 billion on April 9 and Rs 4.320 billion on the following day represented a substantial increase over the single-day values recorded in previous years.

In total, Commercial Bank dispensed Rs 41.748 billion via its ATM network between April 1-15 at an average of Rs 2.783 billion per day, reaffirming the reliability and robustness of the network. On seven of these 15 days the network dispensed more than Rs. 2 billion a day, and on five days disbursements exceeded Rs. 3 billion a day, a Bank official said.

Amana Bank teams up with Bata

Amāna Bank has tied up with Bata Sri Lanka to offer a 15% discount for the Bank's Children's Savings Account holders to purchase 'B.first' brand of shoes coinciding with the reopening of schools which were closed for over five months due to the pandemic.



Amana Bank and Bata officials after signing the agreement.



Weeklong Avurudu Festivities at Amaya Resorts & Spas

The Sinhala and Tamil New Year 2021 was celebrated across the Amaya Resorts & Spas properties during the Avurudu holiday week. Guests at Amaya HillsKandy, Amaya LakeDambulla and Amaya Beach Passikudah enjoyed a range of Avurudu games and indulged in seasonal goodies. The fun activities included Spotting the Eye of the Elephant (Aliyata Eha Thabima), Striking the Clay Pot (Kana Mutti Bideema) and the Sack Race (Goni Pancema). Amaya Resorts & Spas is part of the Hayleys Leisure Sector and adheres to stringent safety protocols. It has the 'Safe and Secure Tourism' Compliance Certificate from the Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority.



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Business

SLT-Mobitel introduces year-round 'Laptop Fiesta'

SLT-Mobitel is on a mission to empower Sri Lankans by rewarding their loyal customers with laptops, with their 'Laptop Fiesta' campaign.

SLT and Mobitel customers are eligible to enter the giveaway throughout the year through bill payments and reloads and stand a chance to be the lucky winner of 15 laptops every week.

SLT-Mobitel recognises the importance of providing their loyal customers with the opportunity to win a laptop as the country's digitalisation drive gains momentum. This will enable access to limitless information across various online resources; and provide the opportunity to broaden their horizons.

Chief Marketing Officer of Sri Lanka Telecom, Prabhath Dahanayake said, "The pandemic has resulted in

many of our customers staying at home and purchasing online. As their needs increasingly turn digital, the 'Laptop Fiesta' promotion genuinely addresses their needs, strengthening our relationship further."

"SLT-Mobitel understands that digital technology is reshaping the world around us, and we want to ensure that this future is inclusive, so that our customers benefit and are able to turn a crisis into an opportunity while staying fully connected in today's intelligent world," he said.

The 'Laptop Fiesta' rewards program was launched to celebrate the loyalty of SLT-Mobitel customers. Each time an SLT-Mobitel customer recharges or reloads Rs. 50, their chances of entering the draw are multiplied from the number of years they

have been connected with the brand. Customers can then dial #151# to find out their total number of entries which will be counted towards the draw that picks 15 laptop winners every week.

Chief Marketing Officer of Mobitel, Shashika Senarath said, "With learning and working from home in the post-pandemic world being the new normal, the requirement for ICT infrastructure in the household has become an essential need. We wanted to continue our commitment to uplift the nation through this promotion, with prizes that will empower Sri Lankans to evolve, explore and thrive."

The eligibility criteria for the 'Laptop Fiesta' promotion has been set at very simple levels to ensure that any-



one from anywhere in the country can benefit. The 'Laptop Fiesta' campaign will impact households enabling adults and children to integrate better to the new normal.

Repatriation of export proceeds - rules eased

The Monetary Board, having considered the requests made by exporters, has amended Rule No. 2 of 2021 as published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2218/38 dated 09.03.2021 to reflect the following:

(a) To reduce the percentage of mandatory conversion requirement of export proceeds of goods into Sri Lankan Rupees from twenty-five (25) per centum to ten (10) per centum, and (b) To extend the number of days

given to exporters to convert the export proceeds of goods into Sri Lankan Rupees, as required in (a) above, from fourteen (14) days to thirty (30) days, provided, however, that such date of conversion shall not be a date later than One Hundred and Eighty (180) days from the date of shipment.

For more details, please refer to Gazette Extraordinary No. 2222/60 dated 09.04.2021.

Hapag-Lloyd Lanka wins award

Hapag-Lloyd Lanka, a subsidiary of Aitken Spence PLC and the local representative for Hapag-Lloyd AG-Hamburg was awarded the Best Customer Service Provider for the Europe Trade at the awards ceremony organised by the Institute of Chartered Shipbrokers (UK) - Sri Lanka Branch recently.

This award is a direct result of

several customer-centric initiatives led by Hapag-Lloyd Lanka over the recent years, to align its competitive strategy with Hapag-Lloyd strategy 2023.

Hapag-Lloyd strategy 2023 focuses on high-quality service to customers, increasing the efficiency of its business processes and increasing organisational agility.

Finance Houses Association revises Self-Regulation Code

Introduces Sustainability Mandate to contribute to UN Sustainable Development Goals



The presentation of the "Code of Conduct of Licensed Finance Companies Sri Lanka" by FHA Council members to Central Bank Governor Prof. W D Lakshman. Looking on are Deputy Governor Mrs. T. M. J. Y. P. Fernando, Assistant Governor J. P. R. Karunaratne, Addl. Director, Dept. SNBFI Mrs. R. M. C. H. K. Jayasinghe and Additional Director, Dept. of SNBFI Mrs. A. P. Liyanapatabendi.

The Finance Houses Association of Sri Lanka (FHA) the apex body of all Registered Finance companies has revised its Self-Regulation Code which has been voluntarily practiced by member companies over a long period, but has to be adapted to changing times.

The timely revisions to the Code were affected to maintain the highest standards on strategic and business operations in Sri Lanka's Non-Banking Financial and Leasing Institutions (NBFI) sector. The FHA collective of 39 Licensed Finance Companies (LFCs) is the driver of financial inclusion of Sri Lanka's MSME sector.

Titled "Code of Conduct of Licensed Finance Companies Sri Lanka" the updated instrument was presented to the Governor of Central Bank Prof. W. D. Lakshman and Bank officials by FHA Council members at the Central Bank premises recently.

Chairman of FHA, Niroshan Udage said, "FHA's time tested gentlemen's agreement that was codified some time ago needed revisions and updates as per the needs of today's changing times. The overall objectives of updating the Code was to comply with all regulatory and legal requirements while adhering to industry best practices. We take humble pride in the fact that the Code was not imposed on our sector by any authority but was self-introduced by all FHA members on their own will, which demonstrates the members' strong commitment to sectoral integrity and their social responsibility."

Members of FHA also presented their Sustainability Mandate to the Governor.

"The purpose of the Sustain-

ability Mandate is to serve as the guideline for the LFCs to integrate sustainability principles holistically into their businesses, enabling sustainable value creation through their own financing approaches, in line with defined sustainability guidelines that would ultimately contribute towards national sustainability agenda and UN Sustainable Development Goals," said Chairman Udage.

"As a growing number of financial institutions in the world are adopting policies, systems, and lending practices that reduce the environmental impact of their operational footprint, it is time Sri Lankan LFCs actively follow suit. We are making sure that financing practices for economic development shall not come at the cost of our ecosystems and our future generations," he said.

Romani de Silva, speaking on behalf of the FHA sub committee that overlooks Sustainability, said, "Adopting the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) would be significant to every finance company operating in Sri Lanka's NBFI sector. The good news is that many members of FHA already subscribe to at least three SDG guidelines by default; the SDGs are 'No Poverty', 'Zero Hunger' and 'Good Health and Well Being' through their activities in serving customers at the base of the pyramid. Therefore, Sri Lanka FHA has 'already arrived' towards SDGs to some extent. Such facts as our member companies already serving the MSMEs and the Bottom of the Pyramid market and some even investing in Sri Lanka's Social Enterprises also testifies to FHA members' active engagement with Sustainability."

Trade deficit narrows in Jan-Feb

The increase in exports to the pre-pandemic levels, the notable increase in workers' remittances and the relative stability in the domestic foreign exchange market supported Sri Lanka's external sector in February 2021.

The trade deficit in February 2021 broadly remained unchanged at the level reported a year ago. In the financial account, both foreign investment in the government securities market and the Colombo Stock Exchange (CSE) recorded net outflows in February 2021.

The SAARC Finance swap facility of US dollars 400 million obtained from the Reserve Bank of India in July 2020 was repaid in February 2021 upon maturity. Net inflows to the domestic foreign

exchange market eased the pressure on the exchange rate during the month and the regulatory measures enabled the Central Bank to absorb foreign exchange on a net basis, to build up gross official reserves.

The deficit in the trade account in February 2021 amounted to US dollars 572 million and broadly remained unchanged, compared to the deficit recorded in February 2020. Both exports and imports were slightly lower in February 2021, compared to February 2020. Meanwhile, the cumulative deficit in the trade account during January - February 2021 narrowed to US dollars 1,227 million from US dollars 1,304 million recorded over the same period in 2020.

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Advertorial

AIA - Sri Lanka's Best Life Insurance Company

Global Banking and Finance Review

AIA Sri Lanka is proud to be recognised as the Best Life Insurance Company in Sri Lanka for the second consecutive year, by the internationally acclaimed Global Banking and Finance Review. (Awarded for 2019 and 2020) This prestigious recognition followed a detailed assessment of key performance indicators by the UK-based media powerhouse, that analyses the financial industry and the global economy. The award is testimony to the significant contribution made by AIA Sri Lanka to the life insurance industry.

AIA has many attributes that contributed to this award, including having the strongest Capital Adequacy Ratio (CAR) in Sri Lanka's insurance industry, making it the best disposed to withstand risk or crisis.

This was most evident during the recent Covid 19 pandemic during which AIA was able to stand strong, honour all claims and continue business uninterrupted. AIA's stability is



supported by a prudent investment strategy and high quality of investments.

AIA Sri Lanka has always exceeded expectations with a track-record of paying better than promised policyholder dividends for over 30 years. The company's innovative digitalisation efforts and focus on ease-of-doing business has strengthened its reputation of being a truly customer focused

insurer. Keeping a keen eye out for customer needs and addressing them ahead of time is something AIA does well, as with the case of pioneering the introduction of telemedicine services in the industry, well ahead of the pandemic.

In fact, AIA's groundbreaking efforts to move away from being just an insurance provider to a partner in their customers' wellness journey is

rooted in its brand promise of helping people live healthier, longer, better lives. The ultimate goal is to facilitate an entire eco-system that help customers become healthier, wealthier and happier. Most recently, the company announced the introduction of 06 free consultations with Sri Lanka Medical Council registered Wellness Specialists via the oDoc app, for all customers with an Annual Premium of above Rs. 100,000. AIA also continues to promote health and wellness through the AIA Vitality programme, which includes pioneering initiatives such as 'Sri Lanka's Healthiest Workplace Survey' which aids workplace wellness.

The company has also been recognised as a Great Place to Work® in Sri Lanka for eight consecutive years and as a 'Best Workplace for Women' in Sri Lanka for three years straight. These awards demonstrate the company's great workplace culture which encompasses equality, inclusivity and opportunity to grow.

Cargills teams up with CMC

"Let's Save a Tree for Colombo"



Cargills team members with Colombo Mayor Rosy Senanayake and the CMC Commissioner Roshanie Dissanayake at the Colpetty Food City outlet.

On April 22 - World Earth Day - Cargills (Ceylon) PLC, planted trees at its Colpetty Food City outlet in support of the Colombo Municipal Council's "Let's Save a Tree for Colombo" green project. Jointly initiated by the CMC and the Ministry of Environment, this tree planting program aims to improve Colombo's ambient air quality and also contribute towards curbing climate change.

Air pollution is a global crisis that carries adverse long-term health effects for people and predominantly originates from urban agglomerates. Urbanization comes with its own unique benefits and drawbacks, and Colombo being the

urban development hub of Sri Lanka, heavily contributes to the country's air pollution due to the city's rapidly increasing pollutant emissions.

A natural remedy to this growing concern is to simply plant more trees to improve the quality of air.

As a company driven by a strong commitment towards sustainability, Cargills extends its full support to the CMC in their effort to improve air quality.

To take this national cause forward, Cargills pledges to planting trees at other outlet car parks and will sponsor trees on major roads within Colombo.

Rata Purama LankaQR

BOC hosts LankaQR program in Matara

BOC conducted a LankaQR program on April 3, supporting the Matara-leg of CBSL's 'Rata Purama LankaQR' campaign which was kicked off with an event on the same day.

A country-wide promotion campaign commenced last year to introduce LankaQR as the norm for mobile phone and digital payments, CBSL's 'Rata Purama LankaQR' initiative has made steady progress in furthering the cause of a cashless, digital-based society alongside improved financial inclusion in Sri Lanka.

Hosted at St. Mary's Convent, Matara, BOC's 'Matara QR' event drew the participation of representatives from leading financial institutions associated with the LankaQR initiative, together with BOC officials including DGM Sales and Channel Management, Mr. Priyal Silva, AGM Southern Province, Ajith Karunaratne, and AGM Digital Products Promotion, Ms. K.P. Mallika. The BOC's 'Matara QR' effort, as with previous 'Rata Purama LankaQR' support initiatives held by



BOC in Colombo, Galle, and Kandy, focused on progressing the CBSL program's vision of introducing and promoting digital transactions as the new standard countrywide.

Developed by CBSL, LankaQR is a common Quick Response (QR) code

standard, and widely adopted by the country's leading banks and financial institutions following the CBSL-issued national directive last year, it will allow them to offer their customers quick, safe and low-cost digital payments to merchants and service providers,

using digital payment apps and platforms.

The improved payment conveniences facilitated through QR-based digital payments will enable a range of benefits to individual customers and businesses as well.

DPMC launches Bajaj spare parts promotion

A raffle draw titled 'Parts Dala Dinanna - Bajaj Genuine Parts Cash Back' for Bajaj genuine spare parts customers was launched by David Pieris Motor Company (Private) Limited (DPMC), recently. The raffle draw will be active from 22nd March to 31st May 2021. Customers who purchase Bajaj Genuine Parts for the value of Rs. 2,500 or more from DPMC Spare Parts Outlets and its dealers are eligible for this draw.

To enter the draw, customers are required to WhatsApp a picture of the bill to 0765112111 along with their name, address and ID number.

Fifteen winners will be drawn weekly and will have their bills reimbursed up to Rs. 15,000/= each.

All customers who qualify for the weekly draw will be eligible for the grand draw too, which will

be held in June. The cash prizes of Rs. 500,000, Rs. 250,000 and Rs. 100,000 will be awarded to the first, second and third place winners of the grand draw.

Bajaj genuine spare parts can be identified easily through the Baby Elephant symbol and DPMC hologram sticker on the spare parts package which assures customers of its genuineness.

Customers can confirm the authenticity of the spare parts by scratching the bottom of the hologram sticker and texting the number that appears.

DPMC ensures availability of genuine spare parts for all Bajaj vehicles through its spare parts & accessories outlets and dealer network islandwide. More information on 'Parts Dala Dinanna - Bajaj Genuine Parts Cash Back' raffle draw could be obtained from 0114700600.

The merged entity will continue as AMF

AMF and Arpico Finance in landmark merger

Two of Sri Lanka's oldest finance companies, Associated Motor Finance Company PLC (AMF) and Arpico Finance Company PLC (AFC) joined strengths officially at the Colombo Stock Exchange (CSE) on April 1, 2021. The months-long process for this landmark merger was completed in full compliance with the protocols.

The merged entity will forge ahead as AMF, with the combined strengths of the two companies and a clear vision to rise high in Sri Lanka's financial services industry.

Speaking of this groundbreaking merger T.M.A. Sallay, Director and CEO, AMF said, "The merger of capabilities, strengths and expertise of two

esteemed finance institutes into one as AMF, gives us tremendous potential for the future. This also marks the opening of a new grand chapter for the valued stakeholders of both organizations whose best interest is always at our heart.

"Together, working as one passionate and dedicated team, we intend to revolutionize the finance industry through a progressive mix of products and services that always puts the interest of the customer first," he said.

"This gives AMF an edge over the competition and places the company in an advantageous position with a wider product portfolio, serving to a wider clientele," Sallay said.

The new AMF plans to diversify into three and four-wheel leasing categories by leveraging on Arpico Finance's expertise and geographic spread with 12 strategically located branches.

The company has made a concerted effort to partner fin-tech companies and technologies that design disruptive and path-breaking technologies that truly enhance convenience of customers.

This merger cannot be overstated as it will greatly strengthen the local financial sector, especially in a time of global crisis. It will also usher in a new standard of transparency and accountability.

People's Merchant Finance rights issue oversubscribed

People's Merchant Finance PLC (PMF) continues achieving strategic milestones in its transformational journey. The latest being the oversubscribed rights issue aimed at strengthening its core capital requirements to fully meet CBSL compliance requirements by March 31, 2021.

Post the rights issue, 78.55% shares of the Company are held by Sterling Capital Investments (Private) Limited (SCIPL), its major investor. The balance shares are held by People's Bank (10.36%), People's Leasing and Finance PLC (7.65%), and the public (3.44%). The Company recording Rs. 22.3 million as profit after taxation in the second quarter of the FY2020/21 after an extended 10-year period of losses followed by a second profitable and successful quarter ended December 31, 2020 which recorded Rs. 31 million as profits after taxation showcases the Company's resilience and true grit.

The rights issue raised Rs. 811.87 million with the issue of 115 million



Chairman Chandula Abeywickrema



CEO Nalin Wijekoon

shares for Rs. 7.00 per share at its conclusion.

The rights issue, which was mainly pursued to satisfy the CBSL core capital requirements, also improved the Company's internal funds position. This influx of funds will be utilised to follow through with its ambitious business expansion and product diversification.

According to Chairman Chandula Abeywickrema the rights issue

oversubscription points towards the improving financial stability and reliability of PMF and the Company's ability to move steadily forward with its five-year transformational strategic plan.

PMF's CEO Nalin Wijekoon said, "We are on a steady and stable path of growth and prosperity. The company made profits for the first time in a year where many organisations were negatively impacted."

Seylan teams up with Mintpay

March 1, marked the beginning of a revolutionary partnership between Seylan Bank and Mintpay, a platform that is the first to offer customers the option to Buy Now, Pay Later for any product or service offered by merchants powered by Mintpay's AI-driven payment platform.

While the market is used to instalment based payments through many financial service providers, where they're expected to either go to the merchant location and ask that their transaction be converted to an Instalment based plan or call their financial service provider to request for the transaction to be converted to an instalment plan. Mintpay is a bank agnostic and will eventually also be a merchant agnostic payment platform that will manage this process automatically.

This partnership opens up a host of opportunities for online shoppers in Sri Lanka, through the proprietary technology developed by Algoreedge (Pvt) Ltd, we can now provide merchants and consumers across the island with a novel online shopping experience.

Customers will be able to use the



From left: Manoj Wijewardane, Manager, Digital Commerce, Seylan Bank, Chaminda Senewiratne, Head of Digital Banking Channels, Seylan Bank, Urmila Chandrasekaram, CEO, Mintpay and Kukaraj Tharmasegaram, CTO, - Mintpay.

Mintpay payment platform with any of their merchant partners to split their shopping cost into 3 interest-free payments over a payback period of two months.

The solution typically allows the customer to check out at any online shop that is registered with Mintpay and use their credentials to log in and make the payment which automati-

cally converts their payment to an instalment plan.

Mintpay Chief Technology Officer Kukaraj Tharmasegaram said "The start-up" was inspired by the thought of hundreds of eager customers not being able to purchase goods due to the unavailability of credit at a time of need, hence not being able to use their debit cards.

Mega facilities for Colombo residents from RDB Nugegoda branch

The Regional Development Bank, Nugegoda branch celebrated its second anniversary on April 6, 2021 at their office premises on Nawala Road, Nugegoda with the participation of Regional General Manager Sisil de Silva.

Regional Development Bank invites you to obtain SME Loans, Commercial Loans and Business Loans and to obtain the RDB Door to Door service which facilitate to getting the bank service from your own business place.

RDB further invites you to deposit with Jaya Nidhana Savings Certificate which gives you the highest interest rate in Sri Lanka and join hands with them to enjoy their services from 276 branches islandwide.



SPECTRUM

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APRIL 25, 2021



Ulhitiya-Ratkinda reservoir



Historic Mahiyangana Chaitiya

Beguiling Mahiyanganaya

There is more to this flat land than the vast expanse of greenery

TEXT AND PIX:
MAHIL WIJESINGHE

Mahiyanganaya, located in the Badulla district in Uva Province, is not ideal tourist destination. Yet, it has many historical and religiously important places of interest that are worth visiting. Though the area predominantly known for Veddah or *Adhivasi* population, an indigenous group of people believed to be the original inhabitants of the island, Mahiyanganaya also has a strong Buddhist heritage.

Mahiyanganaya, also known as Bintenna, which means flat land, is located eastwards of the steep eastern falls of the central hills. The relative flatness of the area can be seen while driving from Kandy to Padiyatalawa across Hunnasgiriya, through the famous 18 hairpin bends.

During our visit to Dambana, an ancestral village of the Veddah community, we came across some interesting places around Mahiyanganaya, the most significant topographical feature being the mighty Mahaweli Ganga, which rises from Hortan Plains and drops down to the Hortan plateau.

The River gathers its strength from the many streams and rivulets down the mountains. From Minipe, the river flows into the plains beside the historic Mahiyangana Chaitiya which was



on the bank of the Mahaweli Ganga in Mahiyanganaya.

We drove across the bridge over the Mahaweli Ganga. While the clouds were heavy with impending rain, the water of the river had receded significantly. Our next stop was at the Mahiyangana Raja Maha Vihara, one of the Solosmasthanas important to Buddhist in the country.

The temple is said to be located at the site that the Gautama Buddha first visited the island. The Buddha had arrived in Sri Lanka to mediate a dispute between the Yaksha and Naga tribes. God Sumana Saman who had listened



Crafts of the Adhivasi

to the sermon of the Buddha, requested an object for worship, for which the Buddha had provided a lock of hair.

It is said that a collarbone plucked from the Buddha's funeral pyre was later added to an expanded dagaba together with the hair relic. Successive rulers, including King Dutugemunu in the 2nd Century BC and up to the present day, have improved upon the dagaba, covering it with layer after layer like a lily bulb, until it reached its present impressive proportions.

The entire Mahaweli plain was ir-

rigated in ancient times by the waters of the Mahaweli Ganga, which flows across Mahiyanganaya. A part of the North Central Province called System-C, under the Mahaweli Project, has already been supplied with Mahaweli waters. Some 71,000 acres around Mahiyanganaya have been made available for paddy cultivation. The majority of the people in this fertile area are engaged in agriculture, with paddy cultivation being the main economic activity.

To the North of Mahiyanganaya lies a placid man-made reservoir called Sorabora Wewa, considered a marvelous engineering masterpiece built during the reign of King Dutugemunu by the Veddah clan chief Bulatha.

The reservoir was created by damming up a small tributary of the Mahaweli Ganga. Visitors can get a guided tour Sorabora Wewa in a traditional canoe, if they are up for the adventure. Mahiyanganaya is among the most important places of veneration for the Buddhists.

Another Buddhist place worth



visiting around Mahiyanganaya is a serene forest hermitage in a rocky outcrop called the Mawaragala forest hermitage. It lies in the vicinity of Dambana, 20 kilometres away from Mahiyanganaya on the Padiyatalawa road.

The hermitage is haven to a group of bhikkhus who practise meditation and spend a monastic life there. Children from Adhivasi families have also been ordained as Buddhist Samaneras. For food, they gather Pindapatha every day.

The land of Bintenna to the South East of Kandy was once a mighty forest with an abundance of wildlife.



Fertile paddy fields in Mahiyanganaya



The placid Sorabora Wewa

THE BIG BAD WOLF ONLINE BOOK SALE

Returns to Sri Lanka bigger and better... ...and goes live for eight consecutive days starting from May 5



Panelists- On screen from left: Partner of Big Bad Wolf Books Sri Lanka, Dipak Madhavan, Co-founder of Big Bad Wolf Books, Jacqueline Ng, Co-founder of Big Bad Wolf Books, Andrew Yap. On Ground: Director Pro Read Lanka (Pvt) Ltd., Nishan Wasalathanthri

The most anticipated World's Biggest Book Sale event of the year, the Big Bad Wolf Online Book Sale, is returning to woo book lovers all over Sri Lanka, starting from May 5-12.

The second edition of the Online Book Sale was officially announced on the of April 20 during a press briefing that was officiated by Nishan Wasalathanthri - Director Pro Read Lanka (Pvt) Ltd. and Partner Big Bad Wolf Books in Sri Lanka, along with the Co-Founders of Big Bad Wolf Books, Jacqueline Ng and Andrew Yap as well as Dipak Madhavan - Partner of Big Bad Wolf Books Sri Lanka who joined in from Kuala Lumpur via video conference.

Director Pro Read Lanka (Pvt) Ltd. and Partner Big Bad Wolf Books in Sri Lanka, Nishan Wasalathanthri said: "The World's Biggest Book Sale returns to Sri Lanka again via online due to the unprecedented challenges brought about by the pandemic as most of the countries including Malaysia, where borders are still closed for travel. Despite these trying times, Big Bad Wolf

Books wants to ensure that we continue to serve our loyal customers and fans alike by offering them the option of shopping from the safety and comfort of their homes."

Co-Founder of Big Bad Wolf Books, Andrew Yap said: "We are very driven by our passion for wanting to provide access to quality English books at affordable prices so that everyone in Sri Lanka can benefit from it. As we return to Sri Lanka shores for the fifth time this year via our second Online Book Sale, we're indeed excited to be able to reach far more people online and continue on our mission to nurture the reading habit amongst children and adults alike."

Co-Founder of Big Bad Wolf Books, Jacqueline Ng said: "Big Bad Wolf Book Sale is synonymous for its epic discounts. As promised, book lovers can expect discounts up to 90%, free shipping for customers who spend a minimum net purchase of Rs. 9,000, contest giveaways and many more exciting deals. We understand that just as avid book lovers, other book and



An improved e-commerce website that will offer a smoother browsing experience

textbook users such as schoolchildren, university students, the youth, and teachers too are eagerly awaiting the start of Big Bad Wolf Book Sale to grab their reading materials."

Apart from the various discounts given, this year's Online Sale opens the Wolf fans to exciting offers - including a 10% discount for a minimum spend of Rs. 17,000.00 [capped at Rs. 1,700]

To the Adhivasi who made this land their home, the jungles near Dambana provided the traditional hunting ground. Under the Accelerated Mahaweli Development Project in 1980, the Adhivasi people were evacuated from their ancestral villages and given new settlements in Hennanigala. But still, there are a few places in and around Dambana, where the Adhivasi people make their living in a traditional manner.

At a *Warige Gedara*, the museum of Adhivasi, contains rare colour and black and white photographs of Ved-dhas and instruments they used to display for the visitors who come to see the life of the *Adhivasi* people in Dambana. The nearby reservoir of Ulhitiya-Ratkinda was constructed under the Accelerated Mahaweli Development Project in Hennanigala, where most of the Adhivasi community has been given new settlements.

The trans-basin canal has conveyed Mahaweli waters to the Ulhitiya reservoir and then to the Maduru Oya reservoir.

This reservoir benefits the Adhivasi settlers in Hennanigala, providing them a new lease of life in the agriculture and fishing industry.

There is much to see and do in Mahiyanganaya in the Uva province. Today, Mahiyanganaya has become a popular place of Buddhist worship with devotees making it a regular spot in their pilgrimage.

limited to the first 1,000 redemptions; the "buy 2, for the price of 1" and "buy any 3 for the price of 2" promotions.

Customers and fans can go onto the Big Bad Wolf Online Book Sale website at www.bigbadwolfbooks.lk starting midnight on May 5 - 12. The Wolf invites book lovers to stay tuned for the latest updates by visiting the Big Bad Wolf's official Facebook page.

SLAF swimmer who set a world record to swim across the Palk Strait



By
Nirosha Rajapakse



His abode is within the sight of the sea. His ears hear the sound of the breaking of the waves. The blue water, kissing shore is his glimpse. Dwelling near by the sea since childhood, his love has frequently been with the sea water; known to him is its beauty as well as that of its danger. He swims as if it were his way of life. He is none but Corporal Roshan Abeyundara of the Sri Lanka Air Force (SLAF) whose excellence and remarkable versatility in swimming made the island proud while making him the prestigious world record holder to have swam across the Palk Strait in the least time.

In an interview with the *Sunday Observer*, Roshan declared that his dismay over the constant and ever growing pollution of both the sea and the beach by the reckless disposal of polythene and plastic has consequently motivated his inner soul to be part and parcel in the event of fighting against the environmental degradation; notably the unheeded occurrence in the pollution within the beach and the sea. He further said that such eventualities paved the way for him to set an example of a promoter who extends the assistance and contribution towards a shining and picturesque beach which robs the eyes of the onlookers; and thus persuaded him to swim across the Palk Strait.

It is true that the accumulation of plastic in the seas and beaches has become a grave global crisis. Approximately 40% of the world's ocean surfaces are forced to carry billions of pounds of plastic. It is projected that by 2050, the existing rate of plastic would overweight every fish in the sea. The researchers declare that not a single square mile of ocean surface from the equator to the poles is found without plastic.

Currently, the floating plastic debris is considered to be the most destructive and the widely available marine litter. Roshan worries over the feculence and dirtiness on the beach while being genuinely concerned on its cleanliness. Meanwhile, in all the continents plastic is seen being dumped on the shorelines; a considerable quantity of plastic is frequently found near the popular tourist destinations and within the densely populated areas.

Barely at 12 years, while being a student at the Matara Central College Roshan's odyssey of swimming came off the carpet. He fondly de-



HE NOTES THAT HIS JOINING WITH THE SLAF IN 2008 WAS A MAJOR AND FRUITFUL BREAKTHROUGH WHICH OPENED AN ARRAY OF NOVEL AVENUES AND OPPORTUNITIES WHERE HIS KNACK AND INTRINSIC ABILITY OF SWIMMING GOT STRENGTHENED



clared his cheerful reminiscence on his establishment of the under 14 national record. He notes that his joining the SLAF in 2008 was a major and fruitful breakthrough which opened an array of novel avenues and opportunities where his knack and intrinsic ability of swimming got strengthened.

He gratefully appreciated the enormous encouragement and assistance extended to him by Air Marshal Sudarshana Pathirana, the commander of the SLAF. He also did not fail to have a

mention on Air Commodore S. N Fernandopulle, Director Sports, SLAF for the kind words of encouragement.

Roshan highlighted that following the humanitarian operation, he got selected into the SLAF swimming pool. He is also a swimming instructor at SLAF. He has also been a regular participant at open water events, competing two mile sea swim, annually organised by the Mount Lavinia hotel. Also he notes that he owns the 2014 Sri Lanka national level age group 4 meters and 2 meters swimming record. Commenting on his most crucial and historical record breaking event, he noted that he took the initiative in approaching with this specific highly talked about event while being based at the SALF base Anuradhapura.

He further said that during the run-up to the world, record he initially managed to establish a Sri Lankan record to have swam 25 kilometers in 10 hours and 34 minutes which later on he himself broke to have swam 49 kilometers in 23 hours. His record breaking adventurous swimming expedition got started at the crack of dawn around the 2.30 a.m. on the 10th of April 2021 from the Thalaimannar, Urumale Jetty, from where he swam up to Danushkodi in India, within 10 hours and 37 minutes. Afterwards, on the April 11 around 08.00 a.m. in the morning Roshan started to swim back to the starting point in the island which he completed within 28:44:37 across the Palk Strait. He also said that the former record holder was V S Kumar Anandan whose record was established in 1971 within 51 hours.

He did not fail to thank K W Yasarathna of the Polhena aquatic club who is his head coach. Roshan says that he is indebted to Dr. Wiranjith Thamugala, the proprietor of Ouro Lanka Private Ltd for the financial support extended in this endeavor. He affectionately recollects the unending love and kindness given by Nandasena Abeyundara and Mrs. Sriyani Sayakkarage, the parents, Ms. K M M Wijerathna, the spouse, the two siblings and the two young offsprings.

Last but not least Roshan highlighted on the enormous threat posed by plastics and polythene on the ocean health, human health and coastal tourism. Ingestion, suffocation and the entanglement of thousands of marine species are contributed by the careless and unlawful disposal of plastic into the beach and the sea. In that light he wishes to extend his cooperation for an event where at least a considerable number of dustbins are made available at the beaches of Polhena, Hikkaduwa and Unawatuna where polythene and plastic could be safely disposed.



The adventure of being alone - Food for thought

By
R.S. Karunaratne



Being alone and feeling lonely are two different mental states. Another word for being alone is solitude treasured by philosophers down the ages. When I think of the time I spent learning Latin, I sometimes wonder why the simple study of living was never considered a proper school subject. The appalling number of school dropouts, runaways and teenage suicides might indicate the need for children to know something about the fine art of being alone.

If you are living in the asphalt jungle, you will never find peace in solitude. You may have seen city dwellers flocking to public parks to enjoy peace of mind. But they will never succeed in their attempt to enjoy peace because there is so much noise and distractions even in a public park. Children, ice cream vendors, gram sellers and adults talking politics make a sound and fury in the atmosphere. Meanwhile women start exchanging information with others. You may call it gossiping, but there is nothing wrong with it.

My idea of a perfect place to live is a farmstead where I cannot see another house. As there are no such places in our tiny island, you have to spend some time in a jungle. Recently I had an opportunity to spend a week in the Wil-

pattu jungle. Even in a jungle you need some form of shelter, food and other necessities. As vehicles were not allowed to proceed into the jungle, I had to go along a footpath to reserve a room built in an old container. Although it was covered by trees, the room had all the basic facilities. There were a few other 'container rooms' in the jungle but they were not easily visible.

Footpaths

The few people who were staying there were seen walking along the footpaths during the day. They avoided the footpaths at night for fear of attacks by wild animals. Early in the morning birds started singing. As our rooms had no clocks, radio or television, we did not feel the time passing by. A river flowing by added extra beauty to the environment. I was happy because I could not see even a distant chimney that would shatter my sense of tranquillity. At night, however, I saw faraway lighted windows beyond the river like prying eyes watching me.

This is the ideal setting for a loner like me. Any writer would enjoy being alone in such an environment where he could talk to himself. Even a painter would find landscapes without the benefit of people to enliven the scene. This goes against the advice given to me by one of my editors.

He said, "Don't use pictures without people." It may be good to have pictures with people in newspapers. When I tried my hand at painting, my teacher



said something different. "Sloane seldom has people in his paintings." He virtually asked me to paint landscapes without people.

Young people do not know the value of solitude and they want to be surrounded by friends. They like loud music and dance. It is only when you mature that you come to know the value of solitude.

At one time when life was confusing and my mind lacked decision, I sought advice from other people. But now I have learnt that the answers are usually within my reach all the while. When I am perplexed, I seek seclusion and in

the eloquence of silence, I wait for the replies to arrive. And they do.

Jiddu Krishnamurti

I was introduced to being alone at an early stage in my life. My close association with Dr E.W. Adikaram's books and listening to Jiddu Krishnamurti's talks brought about a sea change in everything I did.

Today as you walk along a crowded street, you usually pass people without a glance. But when I was living in Wellawaya during World War II, I used to approach any solitary person and

exchange a few words with him. As we had no electricity, radio, television or telephone, life moved very slowly and happily. We had enough time to watch birds, count the stars in the sky at night and pick mangoes falling from trees.

Any writer is a hermit in the cave of his mind. He is often a lonely person. But now I have realised that loneliness can also be a sweet suffering. They say suffering makes you sincere. Such a sincere writer was Van Wyck Brooks who knew New England like the palm of his hand. He contended that materialism severely restricted the growth of culture in the United States. His most ambitious undertaking was the five-volume "Makers and Finders: A History of the Writer in America."

The first volume "The Flowering of New England" was awarded the prestigious Pulitzer Prize in 1937. He said, "Loneliness is particularly evident on the New England face; it is the American bittersweet of pain and pleasure. But those who live understandingly with it find it a tolerable and even exciting companion." Judith Orloff in "Emotional Freedom" recommends guerilla meditation to counter emotional overload. For this you have to find a private place to close your eyes. She suggests that a clean bathroom is the ideal place. You have to do two things while meditating. First, keep exhaling pent-up negative emotions - loneliness, worry, and more. Feel them dissipate with each breath. Second, put your hand over your heart and visualise loving-kindness permeating you from head to toe. These actions will

quickly relax you."

Final analysis

In the final analysis, solitude or aloneness has in it a sort of sadness, sorrow and a very deep peace and silence. It depends on how you look at it. If you are living in a city, it will be difficult for you to have your own space. When you are always engaged in various activities - personal affairs, worldly affairs, anxieties and plans for the future - you tend to live on the surface. If you can find time to be alone, you can sink inward.

When your mind is not occupied in anything, you will not feel the way you have always been feeling. If you love yourself deeply, you will be ready to love others even more deeply. Today we have been conditioned to seek happiness from others. So we move around and meet all kinds of people thinking that happiness comes out of being with others. In fact, this is not true. The happiness you derive from others is superficial and it will not last long.

When happiness comes out of solitude, you can enjoy it. You may have seen people singing softly to themselves or sitting silently waiting for something to happen. Such people are not unhappy souls. Once you have tasted happiness from the very depth of solitude, you will realize that all relationships are superficial. When there is nobody to share your happiness, you start sinking down in yourself. When the sinking goes deeper, you will feel a sense of stillness. In such a situation, contradictions will dissolve bringing you a sense of tremendous happiness.

“I don’t want to live with you”

SARAH'S BIGAMY



-The
Devastation
Revealed-



BY SANTHOSHYA JAYAMALI SENEVIRATNE

Episode 15

Sarah and Nicolas, the soon-to-wed couple bring Samara across the border, hidden in their vehicle as she's wrongfully accused of carrying illegal drugs. At the border, they pretend to be married, although they aren't, and Sarah is arrested for carrying an ornamental gold pagoda in her handbag. She's bailed out the following day, and a court case is filed. She wonders why Nicolas and Samara don't turn up to inquire after her, and learns later that they're in a secret affair, and they've betrayed her. She attends the court case alone, pays a fine and faces a suspended sentence of six months imprisonment. The following week, she flies to a city far away, finds employment there and settles down. She follows a university course to become a teacher. She coincidentally meets a young man (Sherman) and falls in love with him. He suggests Sarah be his niece's home-visiting tutor, and introduces her to his family. She gets negative vibes from his sister, Kumberlin, whose husband has faced a tragic death in the past caused by a sudden heart failure after learning that his wife has deceived him. The relationship continues between Sarah and Sherman. She moves in with him. Sarah is conceived, and on the same day she finds it out, she gets to know some corrupt doings of Sherman's brother, Jerad. She lies low about what she experiences with regard to Jerad. Her visits to the library in the convent become more regular, where she falls into a close association with Sister Priscilla. Sarah and Sherman get married, and on the same day, Sarah gets to know that the lawyer who represents her at her arrest is a friend of Kumberlin. Kumberlin learns from her friend about Sarah's arrest in the past and makes it a weapon against her. In an antique shop, Sarah coincidentally comes across the ornamental gold pagoda confiscated at the border. She visits the antique shop regularly, and Sherman is suspicious of her.

Sarah stood up briskly, dazed and weak. She looked into Sherman's eyes, having her mind mangle in the past - precisely how solvent he had been of the maze. Now she was trapped in another maze - a real maze, and she had to find her way out. It wasn't going to be easy, but she was going to do it!

"A paternity test?", she whispered, "a paternity test?", she said much louder, "a paternity test?"

Helpless, Sarah screamed in heartfelt grief, "get out of here! Leave me alone!"

Sherman stood stiff, fixed to one place. Sarah took her nightgown and exited the room to meet Kumberlin face-to-face, standing outside the door.

"He's wanting a paternity test", she muttered under her breath as she went past Kumberlin. Sherman came out right after.

"A paternity test? Why?", Kumberlin asked, and Sarah stopped.

"I've seen her with a man in an antique shop very often. She keeps visiting him, spends a long time there", Sherman said.

Sarah listened to him, lost for words.

"Oh, that could be. If you want to do a paternity test, you can definitely go ahead with it. But now you have to accept that you're the father of her child anyway, whatever the test results are."

Kumberlin had her mind over the frustration of losing her husband untimely, because of her own deception. Now, Sarah was her ideal prey. Sarah was simply going to be victimized by her bitterness. She sounded as if she was very kind, an angel who was ready to help Sarah and her baby! Well, she had just encouraged Sherman to accept fatherhood! Sarah was thunderstruck. She felt as if all her strength was sucked by the ground, but she was stiff. She had to find her way out of the maze now, and she was firm.

"When can I have the payment for tuition for the last six months? I never received it", she said.

Kumberlin burst into laughter. "What fees? You need to pay me for letting you conduct a tuition class in my house! Besides, you have lived here under our roof without even paying a rent! And you haven't been a saint. There are grounds for his suspicion. And go ahead and do the paternity test if you want to - Sherman!", she concluded, turning to Sherman, who stood there like a tame animal, docile and manipulable.

Sarah looked at Kumberlin. It was helplessness, nothing but helplessness, everywhere and all around. In a world of deception, she was loner. She spent the night in the same room that she used to sleep in when she first moved in. It was a sleepless night, and the next day dawned to everything beyond belief. Sarah hardly knew that a wonderful get-together had happened and she had been half asleep in her room. Sherman had opened his email account and passed it to Kumberlin, to write to Sarah following her sadistic dreams.

The next morning, the house was more than silent. Sherman wasn't home, but surely some others were. Sarah quickly got ready, and headed to her only consolation - Sister Priscilla. The nun visited the library by noon, so Sarah had ample time till then. She sat in front of a computer like she used to, and opened her email to receive the trauma of her life. There was no email in the inbox, but the spam folder had one, and she hit it. It opened. She read the email from Sherman, or perhaps the email read her.

The Biggest Deception - Sarah (Ms Disgrace)

My next letter will be from my lawyer. I will tell the police what you told me, what you did to cheat the immigration. All these people, including the police don't know your capabilities and corruption. Just like it shocked me, it will shock these people to know how you married me when you're already married to someone else. Remember the day you were arrested at the border, how you made a scene and tried to fool all the experienced officers? Veronica Williams if a respectable lawyer. She never wanted to get involved in your case. She represents innocent people, not con women like you.

But she was forced to do it. Stand in front of the mirror and see if you can see yourself, truthfully! The biggest fake in the world trapped in a woman's body! I'll see that I take my child, and not you. I have no plan to live with you. You'll ruin the baby's future, too. You're a hooker. You'll even sell your child if you want to achieve your needs. Scumbag! I am going to give all your true information to the government; I will take legal action against you.

You, sleepy, bogus woman! Silly idiot! I will take care of my child's expenses, not yours. You commit-



ted fraud long before I met you. Remember, because of that, you had to hide your true self from the authorities. I had to sacrifice a lot because of you. Shame on you! You were asking for tuition fees! You even lived here in our house without paying a rent. Don't pester me by asking for money! Then what about the rent you should be paying my sister for living here? You're a dangerous woman.

Manipulator! I don't want to live with you any-more. I need to change this lifestyle. Life has been hell with you. I had to hide a lot of things from my family because of you. You dragged me down many times. You are my only obstacle.

I will take the baby away from you. You're a mentally imbalanced woman. I don't want my child to suffer from your mental instabilities. You're insane. Don't think I'll let you take the baby. I'll get my baby for myself legally. If we have to, let's settle it in court.

Sherman

Sarah couldn't believe her eyes. Was she really reading it? She began to palpitate in horror. By the style of the language, she knew that the writer of the email was none other than Kumberlin. The two brothers, Sidney and Jerad were on a mission of finding out more details about Sarah's marriage that she was believed to have been in.

They made sure that they didn't leave any loophole in their search. While doing more fraud to banks and other financial institutions, Jerad carried on his investigation

on Sarah's bigamy; he was a master in it. Sidney saw to it that he visited the church and prayed to his lord before any exploration was done to drag her down and destroy her. All such research on Sarah had already begun when she was reading the email in the library. Grasping every word, trembling in terror, Sarah hurried outside, and sat on the bench under the same Sycamore tree.

Sister Priscilla spotted her, and sat next to her. She noticed the fear in her eyes, and she held her hands. Sarah divulged all the incidents, starting from the evening that passed, up until the email she received. The nun sighed. It looked as if she had been expecting everything as they were. Somehow, she succeeded in planting some strength in Sarah before she left.

She knew that Sarah hadn't eaten anything for the day. She took her to the kitchen of the convent, and made sure that she had food. Sarah didn't merely eat, she consumed food. She returned home. Standing in front of the gate, she opened her bag to take the key out, and realised she didn't have it. Well, it had been taken away from her! She wasn't family now anyway! She rang the bell, and the gate was opened. She had to ring the doorbell now, as she didn't have a key. It was horrible! And Kumberlin opened the door.

"Please get it now! A woman like you won't fear coming home late. But we're not here to open doors for you when you return after all your fraudulent dealings."

Sarah went into her room, dead

to what she heard. She had some of her belongings in her room to survive. Immediately after, Sherman entered her room, and almost threw a paper on her face. He left, and Sarah began to read the paper.

Divorce Agreement

Sherman Tilford and Sarah Tilford hereby fairly and accurately disclose to each other all financial matters listed below. Sarah has used Sherman's premises to conduct tuition classes. She has to make a rental payment for the time period she used it.

Sarah has to bear the cost of any damages that happened to the house during her stay.

Sarah has to contribute 50% of all of Sherman's bank loans.

Sarah was married before. I found that out even after she conceived with the baby, she told me she was married earlier. I know she married me without taking a divorce from that marriage. She can be charged for bigamy. She's a dangerous woman. Because of her adulteries, affairs with other men, I have doubts about fatherhood...

Sarah couldn't read anymore. She felt as if the whole world was moving around her. She felt her heart pounding fast, and her pulse had just begun to flutter. She was just going to be knocked down by dread, but she made herself to the bed.

To be continued next week (the final episode)

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'If misery loves company, misery has enough company'

Do you know which habits make you miserable?

Avoid these habits to improve your life

BY JOHN P WEISS

I was spoiled growing up. There's no sense denying it. My Dad was an administrative law judge and my mother a devoted homemaker. We weren't millionaires but quite comfortable. We lived in the hills of Los Gatos, California, with an amazing view of Silicon Valley. Every Christmas there were tons of presents under the tree. After opening my gifts, I used to phone my neighborhood buddy to compare notes on our loot. Then we'd meet up later to play with our new toys. My mother made all my meals, cleaned and folded my laundry, and chauffeured me to friend's homes and tennis matches. When I became old enough to drive, I was given regular access to one of the family cars.

What saved me from becoming a self-absorbed, entitled jerk were two things. First, the fatherly life lessons my Dad taught me. Second, the example of love and kindness my mother exemplified.

Thankfully, I grew up to appreciate how fortunate I was. I was also taught to avoid certain habits that are sure to make you miserable.

Self-absorption

We've all met people who are focused on themselves. They're the ones who look for their reflection in storefront windows, interrupt others in meetings, turn conversations back to themselves, and post endless selfies on social media. They also tend to be demanding and selfish.

We all have egos. We want to look good and be interesting to others. But the more we focus on these things, the



less happy we seem to be. The antidote to self-absorption is to start focusing on others.

People who help others and contribute to a better world tend to be far more interesting than people who constantly talk about themselves.

Procrastination

I put off writing this article for two days. I kept finding distractions, like a book I'm reading and emails to catch

up on. The more I put off doing the creative work that matters to me, the more miserable I become.

"Waiting is a trap. There will always be reasons to wait - The truth is, there are only two things in life, reasons, and results, and reasons simply don't count." - Robert Anthony

The author Steven Pressfield, in his book "The War of Art," defines our endless creative procrastination as "the resistance." That seemingly immovable thing that keeps us from our

work. People who procrastinate and put off important work end up miserable. To combat this, set up a reliable schedule and routines to make your important work a priority. Doing so will make you a happier person.

Addiction

There's a difference between healthy habits, obsessions, and addictions. When you become addicted to something at the expense of everything else in your life, that's a problem.

"Every form of addiction is bad, no matter whether the narcotic be alcohol or morphine or idealism." - Carl Jung

I've known people who were miserable because their addictions came first. For example, the workaholic focused on success ends up overlooking the needs of her spouse. Or the gym rat addicted to fitness may neglect his intellectual growth. My Dad used to say, "All things in moderation." There's a lot of wisdom in that, and it will spare you a lot of misery.

Blame

Throughout my professional career, I witnessed many promising people derail their success due to blame. Rather than owning up to their mistakes and taking personal responsibility, they blamed others.

Miserable people are always pointing fingers at others. The irony is that most of the time, everyone knows who's to blame. What's refreshing is when someone takes responsibility and fixes the problem. Even better is the person who's not to blame, but quietly fixes the problem anyway.

Shortcuts

When I was a boy, I used to visit a friend who lived up the hill from us. Our homes were surrounded by woods, and one day I found a short cut. It was off the well-tread deer path, and I had to crawl through some dense foliage.

What I didn't know is that the dense foliage was poison oak. The next day, my body was covered in an itchy rash. So much for shortcuts. I can't think of many shortcuts that enriched or greatly improved my life. There may have been a few here and there, but most of the stuff I'm most proud of in life is the result of hard work.

If you want to be the best at something, you've got to put in the work. Everyday. There are no shortcuts to any place worth going.

Drama

I was in a Starbucks once, enjoying a latte and drawing in my sketchbook. Across from me were two women gossiping. They were talking about a mutual friend, and the words were not kind.

"Can you believe she did that? Oh my God, I could have screamed," one of the women said. "Well I heard that Joe is cheating on her, and maybe that's what she deserves," the other said. The two women delighted in their gossip-filled drama. "And to what end?" I thought to myself. Neither seemed interested in helping their mutual friend. They were too ensconced in the drama.

Gossip can be entertaining, so long as the gossip is not about us. And getting sucked into the emotional drama of others seems to be a national past time. Look no further than TV shows

like 90 Day Fiancé and Catfish, which thrive on emotional pain and drama. If you want to be miserable, make drama a part of your life.

I used to let things clutter my living space. Books piled on the floor and art supplies around my desk. It was a bad habit. Then one day I started reading about minimalism, the idea that less is more.

Studying about minimalism taught me about the value of simplicity. I culled through my clothing, living space, digital files, and lifestyle. I learned how to travel with less. I sold, donated, and threw away things I didn't need.

The result of this dance with minimalism has been like a weight lifted. Removing all the extraneous stuff from my life made more room for the things that matter most. The clutter in your life, both physical and mental, will make you miserable. The more you can let it go, the more you'll be able to focus on the good stuff.

Self-doubt

Some of the most famous people in the world wrestle with moments of self-doubt. There are celebrity singers and actors who still experience butterflies before they perform. Your secret weapon against self-doubt is ACTION.

When we take action, we refuse to let self-doubt immobilise us. Remember that most people just aren't that focused on us. They're too busy thinking about their own lives and pursuits.

Misery loves company. To that end, be wary of hanging out regularly with people who engage in the above habits. (Originally published at JohnPWeiss.com)

Refuge: A Syrian story by a Sri Lankan author



By
Dilshan Boange

Among the new areas of fiction writing being explored by Sri Lankan writers, narratives that bring to light the ravages of war spreading through war zones like Syria certainly deserve attention. Sajla Anees is a Sri Lankan fiction writer whose debut novel *Refuge* explores a world torn asunder by the brutality of war. An Attorney-at-Law by profession, Sajla is a past pupil of Methodist College Colombo. In this feature, she discusses her work and what has guided her to become a novelist.

Q: At what point in your life did you decide to embark on the path to become a fiction writer, and what was your main inspiration?

A: I've wanted to be an author ever since I was a child. When I was schooling, I remember having books where I'd write down stories. It was only one that I completed - that too, a murder mystery. I even got it checked by a teacher but didn't go beyond that. Looking back, I'm glad I didn't, though I am

appreciative of my teacher taking her time for me.

As for inspiration to write fiction - I think it comes from the books I read, and encouragement of loved ones. I usually enjoy reading books that have a lot of depth to them - books that bring out the bitter truths of life, the heart-wrenching kind. I also like writing such content, sometimes with a touch of hope, as I personally find a lot of healing in doing so. When my readers find relatability in what I write, it motivates me to write more.

Q: Your novel *Refuge* is a story that is set in the tragic backdrop of the Syrian war. How did you, as a Sri Lankan approach this subject?

A: Syria is a Middle-Eastern country, and Arabic is the language spoken there, though there are variations in their dialects. As someone who's familiar with the Arabic language due to being a Muslim, I found it easy to include certain Arabic phrases used by us on a daily basis, in the book. The faith they practise is the same that I practise - Islam, which is something else I found easy, as there are references to faith in the book. The book revolves around how the main character Noora, finds strength through her faith. It wouldn't have been as easy had I chosen to write a book

based on a community whose native language and faith I wasn't familiar with.

As for their culture in terms of food, this was something partly new to me, as I had already tried out some of the dishes myself prior to writing the book; a friend of mine once made us Basbousa (a dessert) and I had the opportunity to try out falafels in Iran.

In watching video clips and reading articles, I was able to get an understanding of the surroundings; what the camps looked like, the inside of tents, the rocky mountains, etc. Again, since I've been to countries like Saudi Arabia and Iran, where the geography is quite similar, it helped me with my descriptions too.

Q: How did you gather material for this story, such as details and information related to people and locations in war torn Syria, to build up the background of the main characters and the landscape in general?

A: Something I struggled for quite some time with, was figuring out the locations to suit the timeline. My main character doesn't remain in the same location throughout the book. In fact, she has to keep moving from place to place for safety reasons. As I have included some of the real attacks that took place, I



had to ensure it fit in well with where she was at the time. After having researched on that, I got it checked by a media team there who cover news reports.

I was also able to get in touch with some UK volunteers via Instagram who worked at the camps to check my content and its authenticity. They even narrated to me some of the hardships the Syrian sisters they knew had to endure. And to this day, I will admit that *Refuge* does no justice to their real sufferings.

I even read books such as *The Girl*

from Aleppo (Nujeen Mustafa with Christina Lamb), news articles and watched documentaries to help build up the background.

Q: How long did it take you to build the storyline and narrative structure? How much planning went into this story before you began writing it?

A: It took me approximately one-and-a-half to two years to complete the book. I must admit I was a little all-over-the-place when writing the book. I had the beginning and end sorted out at first. It was the middle part of the story I struggled for long, with. Even though I didn't expect the book to turn out to be a novel, (since I'm an underwriter), it did turn out a satisfactory length! While writing the book, I was also planning out other chapters. So I can't say, I was the best at organising. At a point, to make things easier, I wrote down the timeline on a Bristol board with the events, character introductions, etc. I also had a separate book to write down research information so I could go back and check whenever.

Q: Do you personally feel that you can connect with any of the main characters that you created in this novel?

A: Yes, I do. Since the book is a first-person narrative, I felt less re-

stricted to write from the perspective of Noora. It was more like, 'what would I have felt or done had I been in that situation?'

As for many of the other characters, I must say they were inspired by the people I've met and known personally in life. I've even included dialogues from real-life conversations I've had with people.

Q: How has the response been to the book so far after publication? And have you begun work on your next novel?

A: I'm honestly very happy with the response to the book, all praise is to Allah. Sales may not have been as much as I expected, but no complaints! Covid-19 did take a toll on many, but I believe there's always great reason behind what happens, even if we can't always comprehend what it is. My family, the publisher-Jeremy Muller, friends and readers have been very supportive in promoting the book in their own ways.

As for my next novel, I haven't publicly made a statement regarding it. But since I am asked now, well yes, I have started working on it. I started working on it towards the end of November last year. It is something that requires research too, so I am taking my own time on that.

Magical realism is not unfamiliar in Sinhala literature - Mohan Raj Madawala

BY RAVINDRA WIJewardhane

Acclaimed, popular novelist Mohan Raj Madawala's new novel in Sinhala I.D., published by Biso, was launched for the past BMICH book fair, and unlike his other novels it deals with a contemporary theme identity in a fast moving world. The *Sunday Observer* spoke to him to discuss his novel and the issues with regard to book publishing. Mohan Raj who is a journalist in profession, has published six novels including this and, three collections of short stories.

Excerpts:

Q: This book deals with the contemporary life unlike your other novels?

A: Yes, my other novels set in historical background. At this moment, I think, our way of life has been changed so much that we cannot do our day-to-day activities without the mobile phone, especially facebook social media. So this book based on the life started from 1970s to the date.

Q: You, especially, focus on the role that television and mobile phone play in our life?

A: When we look back, at the 1970s we only have Black and White television. Then comes the Colour TV, and then FM radio comes. Subsequently, in late '90s we receive mobile phone and the computer. In 2000s we have Laptop and in mid 2000s, receive Smart mobile phone. Consequently in 2010s we receive Facebook and WhatsApp. So our life, our identity has been changed completely for the last fifty years because of the technology. Thus, I describe this life evolution in this novel.

Q: The title of this book is in English?

A: Yes, it is I.D. ID means identity. We have Identity Card issued by the government. We call it not identity card, but ID. We always call it ID,

and consequently ID applies to other areas such as our identification too. This is why I named it ID. Today our ID, our identification has almost been lost. Isn't it?

Q: This book was published in last September. What are the reader's responses?

A: You know, I have a readership, they always keen to read my books. So a substantial number of copies is been sold every time I publish a book, and here is also the same. And many readers call me and praise. But I am happy if more highbrow readers read it and tell their ideas about it.

Q: You are mostly criticised for your sexually explicit fiction. What is your response for it?

A: You cannot ignore the theme of sexuality when you discuss life. And I think, I can explore the subject more deeply if I write it in a magical realistic form. So sexually explicit is an essential characteristic in my fiction. But it is not unfamiliar in Sinhala literature. For instance, *Kav Silumina*, a classical Sinhala poetry book, discusses the sexual relations overtly. There are other books too that discuss the theme more openly.

As for my form of fiction, I don't consciously follow the magical realism. It naturally comes to my writing when I write. Besides, magical realism is not unfamiliar in Sinhala literature. *Saddharma Ratnavaliya* and *Jataka Stories*, classical Sinhala prose works have also some magical elements.

Q: Sexually explicit descriptions are more frequent in this book ID. Is there any reason behind it?

A: Today's life is more complicated than we think, and one can have a sexual relationship without meeting a man and a woman. With mobile phone technology you can have that experience in separate beds, separate rooms, separate countries too. Especially with the Phonography or phone sex or Live Sex websites you have this experience. When you write a fiction

based on this interaction, you cannot ignore this explicit description.

Q: The task of fiction is generally regarded as enlightening the reader or make understand him the subtly of life. In Sanskrit, this is called Anandayan Prgnawa or to Wisdom from Delight. Do you believe in that you can take reader to wisdom just overtly describing the sexual relationships?

A: It is not the theme of sexuality that is in my fiction. For instance, this novel I.D. has the theme of identity. I described sexual relations too when I explored the theme. All my books are like that. They have life themes, not sexual themes. But one can categorize them as sexual novels or obscene fiction if he is reluctant to read sexually explicit texts. And I don't believe in definitions of fiction too. I only accept the idea that fiction should enlighten the reader.

Q: Is there any books that influenced your form of writing?

A: Saddharma Ratnavaliya and Jataka Stories influenced me immensely. Other than that, folklore, myths and rituals of our people have also affected me. When I read foreign classics such as novels of Garcia Marquez, Isabel Allende, Paulo Coelho and Haruki Murakami with the knowledge of that Sinhala literature, a kind of different art of fiction was formed in me. That is what I believe about my art of writing.

Q: In this book there are some characters that are based on real people?

A: Yes, there are famous Sinhala film stars such as Vijaya Kumarathunge, Malini Fonseka too in this novel. I describe the change of our life, our needs and our love in it. You know, in '70s and '80s, we love by letters, not by phones. If we saw a girl who attracted us those days, we just gave her a piece of paper written our address, and then start to write love letters. Our heroes were also Vijaya and Malini.

We included some songs too in our love letters. Now this pattern has been changed so much that one

would not want to see a person in real to love him. That's why today some of our heroes are foreigners. A recent research has revealed that the first priority of our people now is to have a data card for their phone or laptop, not to take the meal or something. Rs. 100 data card is more valuable than Rs. 100 packet of rice for them.

Q: Though the society or life style has been changed, human values and standards that we value them are not changed?

A: No, it is an old idea. The standards that we use to judge present activities or values have been changed from old standards. Those days we considered as a morally bad thing to sit on a same height seat with a monk, but now that standard has been of no value. One can say that this is a degradation of values. But though it's degradation or not, we have to accept it. We cannot reject the new values. Once a politician said, we must reject Gmails, but without Gmails we cannot work. We cannot reject technology. We cannot hate science and its results.

Q: Your three books have been published into English. How do you see it?

A: One of my readers in Canada named Somasiri Munasinghe, a former journalist from the *Sunday Observer* translated two of my books - *Loveena* and *Victoria* - and another reader in Abu-Dhabi named Maheshi Weerakoon translated my short story collection. They were done without my mediation. When I participated the launching ceremony of my novels in Canada, I felt that virtually no one in the world knows Sinhala literature. We say we have great writers such as Martin Wickramasinghe, Gunadasa Amarasekara, Simon Nawagattegama, K. Jayathilake, but any of these writers are not come to world literature. Though some of their books have been translated into English, world doesn't know about us. In my view, it is very difficult to go into the world literature by writing in Sinhala. Initially, I had a feeling that three translations of my books would help



to introduce Sinhala literature into the world to some extent. But now I have no more such feeling.

Q: What kind of readers do you have? They are young or old?

A: It is difficult to answer that question. Sometimes young readers who associate popular fiction respond me, and sometimes people aged 70s also call me. Some of them are very highbrow readers who associate old classical literature. It is difficult to categorise them as young or old. I think, on the whole, they attract my different writing style.

Q: You published your book by your own publishing house named Biso Publication. Why did you choose to publish them by yourself?

A: You know, today a writer receive only a 10% royalty for a book when he publishes it via publishing house. But can you survive as an author with just 10% royalty? In this scenario a writer never financially goes up except goes down. This is why I chose to publish my books by myself. But it is a very difficult task as we have a publishing monotony in Sri Lanka.

Some three - four years back we sold our books via big publishers' bookshops, but now they deny selling our books. If they take other's books, they are only other big publishers' books - they have mutual agreement to sell each others' books. They deny

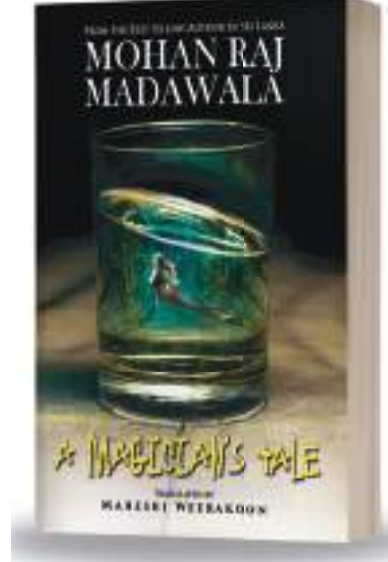
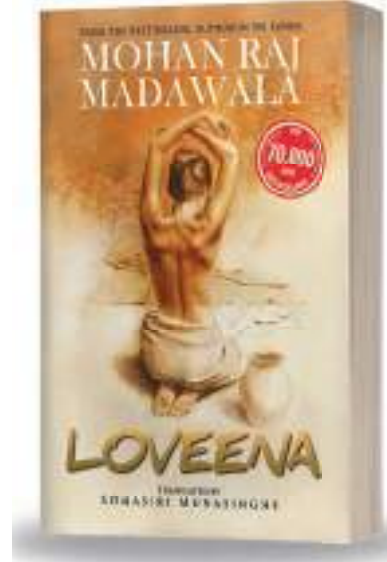
even our bestselling books. So it is very difficult to survive in this publishing world as a small publisher.

Q: Can't we change this royalty system?

A: I think we should have some monitoring system in the book publishing. We all know that if a writer gives his manuscript to a book publisher, he has no chance to see whether how many copies of his book have been printed. And publishers never inform about the second or third printing of the book too. So this has to be monitored, and an accepted royalty system should have been established for writers. When we take the world stage, we see such a system, writers live and earn only by their books. For instance, Isabel Allende has no other profession other than writing. Orhan Pamuk, though he works as a university lecturer, mainly writes. Garcia Marquez earned only by books. Unfortunately, in our country writers become poorer while publishers become richer. We should establish a system that a publisher maintains the reader.

Q: Do you work on another fiction?

A: Generally, I take two or three years to publish a book. So now I am without work. However, I have some ideas to a fiction. As I normally research for a book, I don't think my ideas would come out as a book next year or so.



MONTAGE

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APRIL 25, 2021

Colombo Art Gallery

Colombo Art Gallery: the newest venue for Colombo's art fraternity

By
Anuradha Kodagoda



'Odyssey' by the 2020 Group, the inaugural art exhibition at the Colombo Art Gallery at Gandhara Street is now open to the public.

With galleries shutting down around the world, it's easy to get dejected. As news of art fairs and online viewing rooms dominate the art sphere due to the 'new normal' world, prospects for new art gallery spaces seem grim. Yet, the news of the launch of the Colombo Art Gallery was welcome news for artists as well as art lovers, revealing that the prognosis for the art market in the country may not be so bleak and that dealers are still enthusiastic about developing fresh gallery programming and finding new business models.

The Colombo Art Gallery opened its doors yesterday with a reception at 6pm in a brand new space located at the new premises in Gandhara Street, the only Art Street in the country. This one of a kind, unique street is the curated mix of brands belonging to categories such as Fashion, Lifestyle, Wellness, Dining and Art-bring to life the first dynamic 'art street' in the island. It is a haven for art and design lovers, boasting an incredible array of creative talents; yet until now there has not been a Gallery dedicated to Art.

To celebrate this occasion, the Colombo Art Gallery presents 'Od-

yssey' a group exhibition by the 2020 Group consisting of 12 renowned, local artists until end of May 2021.

Brainchild

The brainchild of none other than Dian Gomes, the founder of Gandhara Street, the Colombo Art Gallery is the result of his long-standing passion for Art, consisting of his private collection from across the globe along with a fine curation of renowned local artists. Being a treasure trove for art enthusiasts, it contains Art from Argentina, Spain, countries in Africa and the world over; all in the heart of Colombo.

A significant segment of the space exhibits local talent, including paintings and sculptures from celebrated Sri Lankan artists. The addition of the 2020 Group marks a significant juncture in Sri Lankan Art history, as it is a commitment towards Representational Art, by some of the best in the field.

The Gallery itself has been designed in keeping with international standards and the highest quality in mind, while Dian's attention to detail is evident within the bright and airy walls; providing respite from the hustle and bustle outside.

Odyssey

"During my extensive tenure in the corporate world, art has remained a significant respite from the demands that entailed. For nearly three decades it has been about apparel and the industry growth in our country, a feat we no doubt attained. Yet from childhood to now, my true passion has always been art. Gandhara was my first endeavour with respect to this,



2020 Group: List of artists - 2020 Group: (Front row - from left) Dillai Joseph, Nihal Sangabo Dias, Charitha Lay, Brindley Jayatunga, Sunil Katugampola, Gunasiri Kolambage, Senani Senanayake, Basil Cooray. (Back row - from left) Anupa Perera, Shanaka Kulathunga, Wasantha Siriwardena, Sachith Graham De Silva

followed by Villa Republic embodying Geoffrey Bawa's signature architecture. Gandhara Street is no doubt a culmination of the same, created together with many like-minded people. Yet, Colombo Art Gallery has to be the most intimate celebration of art that I have experienced, because it contains work that has spoken to me from around the world," said Dian.

As he said, 'Odyssey' is a momentous step in the Gallery's journey, as its inaugural exhibition. What is more special about this would be the artists involved, the 2020 Group.

"These artists are some of Sri Lanka's greatest talent, who have come together for an even greater cause. Brush strokes on canvas will be timeless, yet there is a decline in prominence given to representational art due to a plethora of changes taking place in the world. A most recent occurrence being Crypt to Art, a digital art form that is able to prove authenticity, making waves globally with their popularity. The

world will no doubt keep evolving, and all art forms will dent their respective space for appreciation."

As a country rich in both history and talent, Dian believes that we should do our best in finessing strong points such as Representational Art. He also believes that this will be a strong footing in the global arena; where we represent our quality and skill together with the pride of a beautiful nation.

2020 Group

The 2020 Group comprise 12 senior artists of different disciplines, practicing distinctive styles of their own, Realism, Impressionism, idealism, Stylisation and Figurative Art. They formed the 2020 Group with a precise idea in mind. In today's world of uncertainty and change, digitalisation, symbolism and psychedelia, they believe that the purest of art forms are losing appreciation and acceptance which is unfortunately true of the art scene in Sri Lanka as well. The 2020 Group was formed to shift the spot-



Dian Gomes

light back to Representational Art.

"This exhibition is the start of that long journey. Titled 'Odyssey' followed by a carefully planned systematic approach to bring this form of practice in art to the forefront. They will follow international best practices and stay abreast of what is happening in representational art world wide, thus raising the bar for international acceptance locally," stated the 2020 Group.

They hope their initiative will hopefully inspire local artists as well as aspiring junior artists in Sri Lanka to engage in representational work and to know there is recognition in that sphere of art. Hence, it will encourage more people to take up representational work.

"The collective goal concerning the preservation and development of Representational Art in Sri Lanka, is the purpose behind this eclectic group of local artists coming together. We have produced and celebrated many old masters from the past in Sri Lanka, and the need to continue that practice was imperative. The 2020 Group of artists are passionate about their work, and are on a mission to create a culture for Representational Art in the island," said Curator and Co-Founder of the 2020 Group, Sunil Katugampola.

Katugampola believes this is a timely effort, as the need for representational art is more vital now than ever before. He firmly believes that this bold and notable event would be the turning point occurrence after eight decades; as that is the last time in history where a similar successful attempt was made by another group of committed local artists.

"I wish to offer my sincere gratitude to Dian Gomes for generously offering this venue as well as the assistance given in making 'ODYSSEY' come to life. The readiness with which he agreed to work with us as 'Partners in Progress', is the beginning of a long and eventful march towards re-kindling Representational Art in Sri Lanka. It is a great honour to be part of such a meaningful journey and this is only the beginning," he added.

Exploring the beauty of the mind through art therapy

A stress buster for all ages

By
Anuradha Kodagoda



Erandathie Damunupola is an artist who dabbles in many creative fields including drawing, painting, poetry, writing and illustrating children's stories.

By profession, Erandathie is a lecturer in English (attached to the DELT) at the University of Colombo. She is a mother of three and always looks for ways to inspire children to be more creative.

Erandathie had a keen interest in drawing since childhood, and she learnt her basics in life drawing and painting from Mrs. Nadine David, when she was a teenager. The confidence she gained from David led her to hold her first solo exhibition at the University of Colombo as an undergraduate.

In 2019, she held an art exhibition - Urban Greens, at the Lionel Wendt with the aim of increasing awareness among urban dwellers to protect the trees in their surroundings.

During the pandemic and the lockdown she found herself doodling and drawing anything that inspired her, but nothing to the standard of exhibitable paintings. She began thinking of taking her art in an affordable, useful form to the public and then she realised that a colouring book was the best medium to get others to engage directly with her art. And indeed it was a timely need due to the chaos created in the 'new normal' world.

"For me art is a refreshing place of escape from reality. Especially when the reality is unbearable and suffocating. It is engaging, rewarding and also a way of connecting with others," said Erandathie.

First of its kind

'Liyapatha' is a first of its kind, adult colouring book with traditional Sri Lankan motifs designed by Damunupola. The book is ideal for any age group. "It was quite a joy to know that there were children from eight years and up to teens colouring the motifs in the book," Erandathie said.

Erandathie used to do art and craft proj-



Erandathie Damunupola

ects with her children, aged eight, 11 and 14. She opted for colouring books when they got bored or restless and she observed that it really helped them to calm down and focus.

"Colouring improves concentration. The mind will stay focused for a long time when colouring. Children will be mindful of what they are doing. They get hooked on it. Restless children become calm. I thought of using our traditional designs in a colouring book so that children get the opportunity to see their rich heritage and learn about traditional designs while experiencing the pleasure of colouring," she said.

Art therapy has been there for some time, although only a few people took it seriously. Adult colouring books are popular in Western countries and are used to improve the mental health of people fighting addiction, anxiety, attention disorders, dementia, depression, and physical illnesses such as cancer. Last year was a challenging year for everyone in many ways. People are still trying to adapt to the 'new normal' world, dealing with the changes caused by months of lockdown and economic hardship.

It is a proven fact that colouring is thera-

peutic and is a recommended activity for depression and stress relief. Therefore, Erandathie identifies the 'Liyapatha' colouring book as a great stress buster for all ages because it provides the much needed break from the chaotic reality and electronic screens.

"According to the experts in the field of art therapy they have identified that colouring can be beneficial for adults because of its de-stressing effect. The act of colouring needs repetition and attention to detail, so you focus on the activity, rather than your worries," she said.

Hobbies

Realising how much technology is immersed in our day-to-day lives makes it clear that we need to invest in hobbies that help us unplug and detox our minds. Colouring does exactly that.

Outlining what sort of emotions and experiences that art therapy makes one undergo, Erandathie stressed that colouring accessed the mind and the body to promote healing. When you create something beautiful you feel content, happy and productive. You start believing in yourself. You can shut out the rest



of the world for a few minutes and immerse yourself in the act of colouring. Choosing the colours, focusing on the shapes and fine lines, and finally seeing a completed picture is very rewarding, she said.

"There is satisfaction, a sense of achievement. It can build confidence in children and adults. Colouring books also encourage creativity. You have to create your own colour theme and select matching colours. There is much room for experimentation and exploration of strokes and materials. You can even extend the printed image by drawing alongside it," Erandathie said.

The Liyapatha colouring book has been well received by its users and the feedback has been overwhelming and encouraging. "One of the users recently told me that she not only coloured the designs, but ended up sewing and embroidering the designs on pillowcases," she said.

The book is available at leading bookshops and Erandathie invites all art lovers to experience the joy of colouring and she emphasises the fact that colouring is not only for children but it is a therapeutic, mind relaxing exercise for all ages.

"So pick a pencil and start colouring, it's just the beginning. Adults might doubt their skills in drawing, and be conscious of what they produce, but colouring, anyone can do. Colouring is a user-friendly habit and ideal for the stressful lives we all lead, confined to our homes, screens and also loneliness," Erandathie said.

Art News

Conference on ecological art

The Embassy of France in Sri Lanka continues its 2021 FOCUS series on sustainable development with a conference on ecological art.

A conference on ecological art will be held on Tuesday, April 27 at 6 pm at Hatch Works (14 Sir Baron Jayatilaka Mawatha, Colombo 1). The event is free and accessible by registration.

For its second conference of 2021, the Embassy of France decided to engage with the subject of ecological art, presenting the works of Anoma Wijewardene.

The panellists are:

- Mrs. Shehara de Silva, founder of the Institute of Social Design (Ideaha)
- Mrs. Anjali Watson, co-founder and managing trustee for the Wilderness & Wildlife Conservation Trust (WWCT)
- Mrs. Sunela Jayewardene, environmental architect and conservationist

The discussion will be moderated by Mrs Zaineb Akbarally, environmental scientist, conservationist and environmental educator.

FOCUS
Ecological art
April 27th, 2021



Literary vandalism and erasing communities

BY ANUSHKA KAHANDAGAMAGE

Burning the Books: A History of Knowledge Under Attack by Richard Ovenden, published by John Murray Press (2020) (£20)

The Digital Museum, which organises excellent discussions on a range of subjects in humanities, posted a new event scheduled to be held in January 2021. The theme of the talk, 'Burning the Books', intrigued me to listen. The talk was by Richard Ovenden, who is currently serving as the Chief Librarian at the Bodley's, University of Oxford, and the book's author. The book is about the significance of preserving knowledge and the importance of libraries and archives in doing so. It is a book about the destruction of libraries and archives and how these institutions have fought back. The book charts 3000 years of literal vandalism. The author navigates the reader through a journey from the ancient civilisation where clay tablets were preserved in Mesopotamian institutions to the modern-day digital age where the storing and distribution of knowledge has been commercialised. While the work is not directly related to the region, it refers to destroying books and libraries worldwide, which reminds me of the burning of the Jaffna library in 1981.

Today and throughout history, libraries and archives all around the world face multiple threats. On one hand, they are targets of groups, individuals, and the state in erasing the truth and eradicating specific aspects of the past. On the other hand, these institutes are challenged by underfunding due to the commercialisation of knowledge with new technologies, privatised storage, and transmitting the knowledge in digital



form.

That chapter titled, 'Cracked Clay under the Mounds' starts with the famous story, Anabasis or Persian Expedition by ancient Greek general and a historian Xenophon. At the time Xenophon wrote this story, the Greek world had a vibrant book culture where libraries had played an

important role. These ancient civilizations such as Egypt, Mycenae, Persia, Greece, and Rome had a strong writing culture that existed alongside oral communication. Imperial powers discovered this ancient knowledge and some of the earliest libraries in the 19th century. The chapter discusses how ancient civilisations

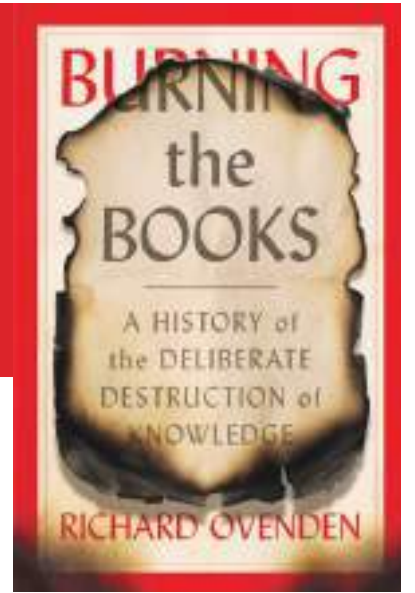
understood the importance of accumulating and preserving knowledge by giving the example of libraries and archives of Mesopotamia, especially the library of Ashurbanipal.

The legendary library of Alexandria is the focus of the second chapter, 'A Pyre of Papyrus'. The author describes the library, its sections,

and why it had become one of the most outstanding achievements of the classical world. It was a place not only where knowledge was kept and stored, but also a place where scholars came to access that knowledge and had vibrant discussions. Questioning the popular narrative of its destruction, the author discusses the multiple stories revolving around the incident. He states, while it is true that the library was in flames at one point, there was a gradual process of neglect and growing ignorance that led to the final destruction of the library. Adding to the same argument, he makes a strong case about how papyrus (as texts at the time were mainly written on papyrus) can be naturally fragile and easily get decayed due to the humid weather.

In August 1914, German troops entered the Louvain library in Belgium and set it on fire using petrol. It had over three hundred thousand volumes in its collection and a group of remarkable collections of international quality. The library was the heart of the Belgian cultural identity. It was an act of political outrage. The incident triggered global attention, and scholars accused Germans of deliberately targeting the intellectual heart of the Louvain University. The Germans however claimed that the library was set on fire due to Belgian resistance. The library was burnt again and bombed by German troops on May 16 1940, during the second world war, and the reconstructed building after the first destruction was primarily destroyed.

Books were always a central part of the Jewish religion and culture. Jewish people, as well as their books, were targets of the Nazi regime. As per available estimations, over 100 million books were destroyed during



12 years of Nazi dominance in Germany from 1933 to the second world war. Jewish books were publicly destroyed, confiscated, and subjected to deliberate acts of theft attempting to map and understand the Jewish culture that Nazis were aiming to eradicate.

The most organised book-burning occurred on 10th May 1933. It was a bonfire which was held on Unter den Linden, Berlin's most important thoroughfare. Around 40 000 students marched to the center carrying books, and around the fire, young men were standing in rows giving the Heil Hitler salute. Hitler's minister of propaganda delivered a rousing speech stating, 'The future German man will not just be a man of books, but a man of character. It is to this end that we want to educate you ... You do well to commit to the flames the evil spirit of the past'. Similar events occurred in ninety other locations across the country.

The burning of books cannot be resembled with any other form of destruction, as it destroys the memory and identity of any community. The burning of the Jaffna library on 31st May 1981 had similar consequences. While Richard Ovenden's book does not refer to the burning of the Jaffna library as a case, the book gives a strong departing point to reread the unfortunate events in the Jaffna peninsula as signs of a looming civil war that emerged later and lasted for several decades.



Graffiti: An artistic expression took the world by storm

BY ASHEN PERERA

Street art is changing how art is experienced and interpreted. Street art doesn't require a museum or gallery. For the past few decades, this underground form of artistic expression has taken the world by storm. Once considered destructive, this medium of art is now recognised as a way to breathe life into decrepit neighborhoods. Although many believe that street artists operate on the fringe of society, these artists are giving something back to those who don't have a voice and remain in the shadows. Here is a list of the top nine artists whose mind-blowing work will challenge you to re-evaluate art.

CRISP

CRISP is a street artist who was born and raised in Australia but immigrated to Bogota, Colombia. The main reason for his relocation was because creating street art is not illegal in Colombia.

He is now able to go about creating works without fear of persecution by the local authorities. His style of work varies from the purely aesthetic to intense socio-political commentary about the world.

The LA based street artist Plastic Jesus, is best known for his work that comments on society and the way he perceives the world. He gained notoriety in 2013 with a work titled, 'No More Heroes' which depicted Lance Armstrong with an IV drip containing steroids. Recently he created an installation that portrayed an Oscar statue doing cocaine on Hollywood Boulevard in Los Angeles. His ability to create social commentary about things we see everyday has thrust him into the spotlight as a strong representative of the underground art world.

C215

This veteran artist has been applying his craft around the world for nearly twenty years and many compare him to the well-known British Artist Banksy. C215 uses stencils to achieve his unique style. His subjects consist mostly of the homeless, and other people or characters that society has forgotten about. His moniker is derived from time he spent in prison and refers to his cell number.

ETAM

The Polish duo known as ETAM, is comprised of Przemyslaw Blejzyk and Mateusz Gapski. They also go by the aliases: Sainer and Bezt. ETAM is well known in Poland for creating murals on the sides of houses and large buildings. Some of their works stretch up to 10 stories high and have been commissioned by local art festivals.

The artist known as Invader, is a French nationalist who has been operating around the globe since 1998. Since he began, he has created works in over 60 cities and 30 countries. He took his name from the videogame 'Space Invaders' and much of his work is influenced by video games from the early eighties. Invader sees himself as a 'hacker' of public space, spreading his work like a virus with the streets as his canvas. He is one of the most secretive street artists to date, and routinely masks his identity during interviews to insure his anonymity.

RONZO

The reclusive London based street artist called Ronzo is known for his illustrative characters and guerilla-like approach. His style is rich in color, texture, and is often a social commentary on world affairs. Ronzo is one of the first three-dimensional street artists to operate in an urban setting. Additionally he was a key player in the 'Finders Keepers' art exhibition in London which is said to have helped kickstart the street art movement in the UK.

DALeast

DALeast is a quadruple threat street artist when it comes to creating works of art. In addition to his street art, this Chinese artist is also an accomplished sculptor, painter, and digital artist. His works primarily feature animals or humans. His style is said to look three-dimensional because of his vivid strokes. He has been featured from Melbourne to Milan and is well known in the street art community as an innovator.

Shepard Fairey

This Rhode Island School of Design graduate is one of the most influential US street artists in the world. He is also a prolific graphic designer, activist, and illustrator. Shepard Fairey's most well known work is his 'Hope' poster that he designed in 2008 for Presidential candidate Barack Obama. He is also responsible for starting the clothing line Obey, which has become a global fashion powerhouse.

Banksy

This London based street artist is undoubtedly the most famous in the world and is also one of the most secretive. His refusal to reveal his identity has helped increase his celebrity status in the art world. His social commentary on the world has grabbed the headlines of major media outlets everywhere. People have even cut his pieces out of the sides of buildings in order to sell his work at auctions. If you want to see more of his work check out the movie, Exit Through The Gift Shop.



A return on every rupee that is spent, the Govt will gain Rs. 13m by way of savings on malaria control - AMC

Govt investment to ensure eliminated diseases are kept at bay

By Carol Aloysius



Sri Lanka has won global acclaim since the World Health Organisation certified it as a Malaria free country in 2016. The daunting task of keeping Sri Lanka's malaria free status in a country where the malaria vector is widely prevalent has been so far been successfully sustained for the past nine years by all those involved in fighting the disease spearheaded by the Anti Malaria Campaign. However, today, the challenge is to prevent it being re-established by local and foreign travellers who have returned after visiting Malaria high risk countries bringing the parasite with them. Around 50-60 imported malaria patients are being reported from Sri Lanka every year. To prevent the disease from being re-established, and sustain our malaria free status the need of the hour is for more public funding to recruit more staff and carry out the many tasks of screening, keeping tabs on new cases. The *Sunday Observer* spoke to a long and experienced malaria expert who has been instrumental in launching a global initiative to eliminate malaria when she was working with the World Health Organization in Geneva. Here, Emeritus Professor Kamini Mendis tells us why more investment in fighting malaria can ensure both the health of the general public, but benefit the nation as a whole.

Excerpts...

Q. Today, 25 April is World Malaria Day. Sri Lanka does not have malaria any more, so why is this relevant to us?

A. There has been no malaria transmission in Sri Lanka since 2012, and the World Health Organization certified Sri Lanka as a malaria-free country in 2016 and won global acclaim. However, we have to keep Sri Lanka malaria-free, and that is a challenge. This is because the mosquito vector that transmits malaria is prevalent in parts of the country, and we have malaria patients who bring the parasite that causes malaria. They acquire the infection abroad and develop the disease on their return to Sri Lanka, and if they transmit the parasite to the mosquito here, malaria can be re-established in the country.

Q. Sri Lanka has been kept free of malaria for the past 9 years, how was this done despite the risk of it returning.

A. Because the Anti Malaria Campaign conducts a robust programme of work throughout the year to ensure that every imported malaria patient who enters the country is detected without delay and treated so that he or she does not transmit the disease through a mosquito.

Q. So, do we have to keep working to ensure that malaria does not return, and does that cost the country much?

A. Yes, we must continue to work to ensure that malaria does not return, and there is a cost to sustaining a malaria-free country. However, that cost is very small compared to the expenditure we would have to incur if the disease returns to the country.

When malaria was highly endemic here, up to a third of the entire public health budget was spent on malaria control, mainly to purchase insecticides. Now that we are free of malaria we save all that money, which can therefore be spent on other diseases and health problems. The cost of keeping Sri Lanka malaria-free is the cost of surveillance and response- that is, looking out for malaria cases, and keeping a tab on the mosquito vector both of which entails a great deal of hard work on the part of the Anti Malaria Campaign. But the cost of this is very small, compared to the past when we spent enormous amounts of money on simply controlling the disease.

It has been estimated that a return on an investment to keep malaria away is 13 to one - for every rupee that is spent the government will gain 13 rupees by way of savings on malaria control.

Q. Is it only the financial cost that we should be concerned about?

A. No, malaria was a devastating disease that cost the country dearly in many other ways for centuries. It caused illness and disability - beyond 400,000 episodes of malarial illness was reported yearly in Sri Lanka only a few decades ago. Each episode of illness keeps people away from work - farmers lost their livelihoods, and some lost their lives to malaria.

Malaria was highly prevalent in the areas which have a thriving tourist industry. If malaria was endemic in the country today doubt that tourism would have flourished the way it did in Sri Lanka. Studies done in Sri Lanka have shown that repeated malaria infections interfere with cognitive development of children, and this would have had an enormous



toll on nation building. And the losses malaria causes to trade, commerce and tourism would have been substantial. Now all that is history.

Q. From where does Sri Lanka get imported malaria patients and who are they?

A. Around 50-60 imported malaria patients are being reported from Sri Lanka every year. Most of them acquire the disease either in India or in African countries. These patients are either Sri Lankan business travellers or pilgrims, or they are imported labour from those countries.

There is a considerable amount of imported labour force in the country today associate with development projects. Many Sri Lankans engage in the gem trade and travel frequently to African countries and India in connection with their business, and they are at very high risk of contracting malaria.

Another high-risk group are members of the armed forces, mainly members of the Security Forces and Air Force, and the Police Department who return from United Nations Peace Keeping Missions in malaria endemic countries. More rarely, foreign tourists who travel via malaria endemic countries and Sri Lankan leisure travellers have been among the imported malaria patients detected.

Q. What is the work of the Anti Malaria Campaign which has been successful in keeping the country malaria-free?

A. The Anti Malaria Campaign conducts an extremely robust programme of work and this is done with Regional Malaria Officers who work within the Provincial Ministries of Health in the districts. The staff of the AMC and the RMOs, screen large numbers of people who are at risk of malaria by examining their blood for the malaria parasite.

These include occupational groups such as those engaged in the gem trade, members of the armed forces and police who return from missions, refugees from malaria endemic countries such as Pakistan, Myanmar who are temporarily resident here. When a malaria patient is detected, an enormous amount of work is carried out to ensure that the patient is hospitalised and treated until complete cure is achieved.

People in the neighbourhood of the patient are screened for malaria to see if they have contracted the disease via a mosquito bite. All the travel contacts of the patient are traced and tested for malaria - and they may be in different parts of the country. Quite often the co-traveller of the patient have also been found to be infected with malaria because they have been exposed to the same risk as the patient, overseas.

The AMC also provides medicines and advice free of charge to people travelling to malaria endemic countries to prevent malaria, and they can be contacted 24 hours of the day seven days of the week in the event of any person requiring assistance with diagnosing malaria or if they require prophylactic medicines. It is only the AMC that is in possession of antimalarial medicines in the country and these medicines are not available in pharmacies or in private sector health institutions.

This is to ensure that every case of malaria in the country is notified to the AMC which then has to take many steps to ensure that onward transmission of the disease does not occur.

Q. Are other institutions and sectors involved in this task.

A. Yes, keeping the country free of malaria requires working across sectors beyond health and beyond the public sector, and this is what the AMC does. It works closely with the Mili-

tary and Police Departments who are extremely co-operative and provide the AMC with information when their officers return from overseas missions. The Ministry of Buddhasasana and Religious Affairs is an important collaborator because every year several buddhist pilgrims who return from India develop malaria, and measures to prevent them contracting malaria can only be implemented with their co-operation.

The Airports and Aviation authority is important because they control the entry and exit of persons who visit malaria endemic countries. The AMC has even malaria screening facilities at the airports. The private health sector is an important partner because many imported malaria patients are diagnosed in private laboratories and hospitals.

The AMC provides training to their laboratory staff on how to diagnose malaria, free and provides medicines and advice on the management of malaria patients. These collaborations are working very effectively.

Q. What would be the most important interventions a Government must make to ensure that we remain malaria-free?

A. We must sustain the Anti Malaria Campaign with the necessary funding and staff to perform the much needed work that it is doing now. There have been examples of other diseases which have been eliminated from Sri Lanka such as Leprosy in 1995, only to have it return to the country in concerning numbers.

This may be partly because the work of the Leprosy Campaign was handed over to the general health services too soon, and there was lack of oversight for conducting a post-elimination surveillance programme to prevent Leprosy coming back.

We cannot afford to have this happen with malaria. If malaria returns

to the country it would be very grave situation. The population of the country lacks immunity to malaria now. And we have a new mosquito vector in the country called *Anopheles stephensi*, which has been inadvertently introduced, probably from India, where it is a very good transmitter of malaria in urban areas. If malaria returns to Sri Lanka it might therefore become endemic even in cities.

Q. Any other interventions you think important at this time around?

A. We must also impress on the Provincial Ministries of Health that it is important to invest resources and effort on malaria surveillance and response. Developing countries often work on the basis that when a disease is no longer prevalent, it can be forgotten, and that it is not necessary to invest funds or effort on that disease anymore.

It is often thought that funds are better spent on other more prevalent diseases. This is unwise, for then the effort of eliminating a disease would not have been worthwhile and the disease will surely return because the world is highly connected place today and human movement between countries is rampant. Government investment to ensure that the diseases we have eliminated are kept away is extremely important.

Q. This being World Malaria Day is there a message for our readers on how to minimize risks of exposure to Malaria?

A. There is no risk of your acquiring malaria in Sri Lanka today, which is a great relief. However, if you travel overseas to a malaria endemic country (most tropical countries including our neighbouring countries such as India, Pakistan and other Southeast Asian countries are highly malarious) you are at risk of acquiring malaria.

Prior to undertaking such a journey it would be important to contact the anti malaria campaign and obtain advice on how you could reduce the risk of getting malaria, and also obtain prophylactic medicines to protect yourself from getting malaria. These medicines are given free-of-charge by the amc.

Most importantly, on your return to the country if you develop a febrile illness keep in mind that it could be malaria, and tell your doctor that you have travelled to a malaria endemic country and request a test for malaria. Remember that malaria is a potentially fatal disease if not treated early. So for your own sake and that of the country, it would be important to protect yourself from getting malaria when you travel overseas and to be vigilant and aware on your return that you may develop symptoms of malaria.

Family Time Crossword

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12			11				10			
15			16				17			
18					19		20			
21			22			23				
24	25	26				27		28	29	30
31					32			33		
34					35			36		
			37	38			39			
40	41					42		43	44	45
47						48		49		
50						51				52
53						54				55

DOWN

- (K) Final totals
- (K) Massive continent
- (K) History is in it
- Piano variety
- Word in "The Star-Spangled Banner"
- Born and ____
- (K) Injured and out of the game
- (K) It can include lightning strikes
- Small, affectionate parakeet
- (K) Goes from 12 to 13, say
- (K) Massive battles
- (K) Winner's ranking
- (K) You can cook stuff in it
- (K) Some portable desserts (2 words)
- (K) Someone saving Santa a lot of time
- (K) Not me or them
- (K) From Armenia or Iceland
- One-third of a circle, perhaps
- (K) Wasn't a follower
- (K) Deadbolt unlocker
- 2016 Olympic site
- "____ the Sailor Man"
- Does a little less than drizzles
- (K) Soft throw
- Prefix with "gravity"
- (K) Country friendly to you
- (K) Ship under Columbus' control
- Political takeover
- Eagle that flies over coastal waters
- (K) Neutral color

ACROSS

- (K) Drain energy out of
- (K) Boo-hoos
- Shredded cabbage, basically
- (K) Red, white and blue place
- Beautiful and graceful girl
- Really old wraparound
- (K) Proved to be a dud of a firecracker
- (K) Concluded
- Smooth, lustrous material
- (K) Bring way down?
- Whistler in an arena
- (K) Very gentle animal
- Good reason to squint
- (K) Word that means kind or type
- Lummock of a doofus
- Holder of multiple cups of coffee
- (K) Christmas decoration recipient
- Super expensive coat
- (K) Food producer for many in 2-Down (2 words)
- (K) Skip right over
- (K) Two, in Spanish
- Type of pudding
- (K) Former VP Mike
- (K) Small bills
- Intentionally kept in the background, as a motive
- Rebounds per game, for example
- (K) Work? No, the opposite
- Meek lady in black and white
- (K) Wrongs, according to God
- "Auld Lang ____"
- (K) Creature that copies

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

A	O	A	M	S	O	C	S	E	L	T	I	O	N
H	E	N	I	L	A	P	E	S	O	M	E		
H	E	N	I	S	I	A	M	S	E	N	I		
D	E	N	S	E	A	M	C	A	S	E			
A	R	A	M	H	I	A	R	T	I	O	L	E	
S	I	S	T	U	M	P	E	N	O	L	A		
T	A	S	S	E	M	E	S						
G	R	A	M	A	L	L	E	R	E				
U	G	L	I	T	E	E	G	A	S				
N	E	S	T	D	A	D	S	E	T	S			

Sudoku 14

Have fun with this highly addictive logic-based number placement puzzle, the objective of which is to fill the 9x9 grid with digits so that each column, each row, and each of the nine 3x3 sub-grids that compose the grid contains all of the digits from 1 to 9. The solution to the puzzle will appear next week.

			2					
6		4	8			1	9	3
	7	5		3				
					3	4	7	
	9	2	5					
				9		6	1	
5	3	8			6	2		9
				5				

Can you find the answer to this riddle within the solved puzzle?

Riddle:
Low grade?

Last week answer:
7-D) Sweater

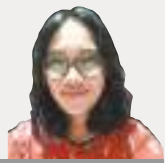
Last week solution

8	4	1	9	6	7	5	2	3
6	9	2	5	3	8	4	7	1
5	7	3	1	4	2	8	9	6
7	1	6	8	9	4	3	5	2
3	8	4	2	7	5	1	6	9
9	2	5	6	1	3	7	8	4
4	5	9	7	2	1	6	3	8
1	6	8	3	5	9	2	4	7
2	3	7	4	8	6	9	1	5

Feature

Mangrove bounty

By
Methlani Hewage



In 1292, after 17 years of service Marco Polo, the Venetian traveller, finally took his leave of the great emperor Kublai Khan of China. The boat journey back to Europe took three years, by way of Indonesia, Southern India and Persia. From his records, we know that Marco Polo stopped at Palembang, then a busy port on the Sumatran coast. Today, Palembang still thrives as the capital of South Sumatra province but it now lies more than 50 km inland. Its change of position is due, at least in part, to natural land-building by coastal forests of mangrove trees.

The importance of mangroves

In recent decades the acreage of mangrove swamps worldwide has been much reduced: yet the mangrove forests are of enormous ecological importance. They act as a nursery ground for edible fish and shellfish, a haven for these vulnerable larvae, without which there would be no future generations of adults. The mangroves are also home to endangered species such as the Atlantic ridley sea turtle and the brown pelican.

They stabilise coasts, protect against storm and hurricane damage, support a large marine food web, and act as a giant filter system. In trapping muddy riverine sediments, they may aid the establishment of corals in the clearer silt-free waters offshore. Additionally, in recent geological history, mangroves have played a crucial land-building role.

As a bridging point between land and sea, mangroves may also have special evolutionary significance. It is easy to envisage how life forms moved from sea to land and back again in the mangrove swamps of times gone by. Those life forms may have included air-breathing fish that we count among our own ancestors. The true historical importance of the mangrove communities, which date back at least 60 million years, can still only be guessed at.

The march of mangroves

In temperate climates, sandy estuaries or gently sloping single shorelines are often fringed by salt marshes. The salt-marsh vegetation consists of the most part of small, hardy land plants moving seawards, which have evolved the ability to tolerate the brackish water and tough conditions of the coastal environment.

In the tropics, similar types of coastline have mangrove swamps instead of salt marshes. The mangroves form a far richer and more complex habitat, with the dense thickets of trees straddling the gap between sea and land.

Both salt-marsh plants and mangroves slow down the passing water currents, causing them to drop their load of sediment, which then becomes trapped between the mesh of plant roots. Mangroves, being larger, have a more powerful impact, accruing sediment at a remarkable speed. As the layers accumulate, so new land emerges above sea level, which in turn



is slowly colonised by other plants staking out a tenuous claim on the new ground. Their presence ousts the mangroves that progress farther seaward, claiming land from the sea at a high rate.

The term mangrove embraces an unrelated mixture of species, ranging from sparse bushes to dense trees that grow very high. They are drawn together under the same label only by their shared ability to meet the challenge of life in the muddy brine, where oxygen is in short supply. Most plants cannot withstand the salty tides, lapping waves and shifting substrate. The mangroves, however, have evolved in such a way as to give them a competitive edge in this exacting environment.

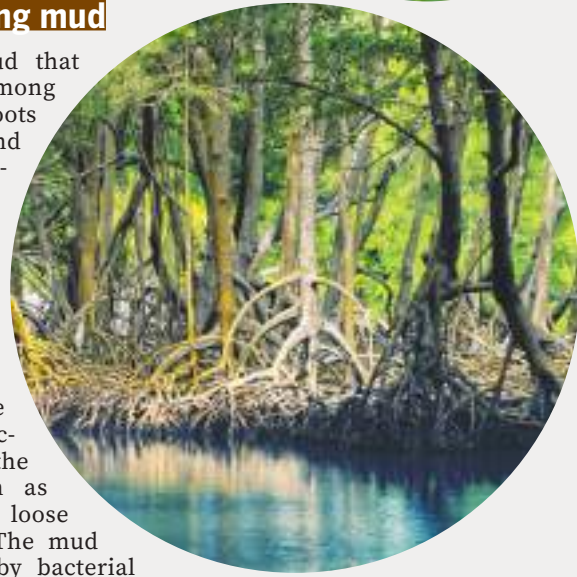
Suffocating mud

The silty mud that is deposited among the mangrove roots is fine, oozing and noxious. It originates in the rivers that discharge their load into the sea, where it is carried back and forth until it settles at the slack of the tide. Below the surface layer, bacteria use up all the available oxygen as they decompose loose plant material. The mud is made acidic by bacterial action, and contains poisonous Sulphur compounds. Such conditions would challenge any plant root that attempted to establish itself here, but for a tree, which requires especially stable anchorage, it presents particular difficulties.

Mangroves have adapted in a number of ways. Above ground, many species have arching prop roots. Which emanate from the trunk and boughs to balance and support the tree. Some are branched hoops, others flange-like blades.

Underground, the roots are very shallow, and spread horizontally rather than downwards. Thus, they form a broad base, which rests in the upper layers of the mud, rather than threading through it at depth. Fine feeding-roots sap nutrients from the uppermost layer of silt, supplies of which are replenished with each incoming tide.

This layer is relatively innocuous, but a little deeper down the mangroves face the problem of sustaining their living roots in a medium that is almost devoid of oxygen. The problem is solved in a



Life in the swamp

It is their ability to thrive in such salty conditions that really sets mangroves apart from other plants. Mangroves do not need salt to survive. In fact, they grow better without it.

However, they have evolved so that they can tolerate the salt, and live on the fringes of the shore, where the briny conditions keep out less specialised plants.

Further inland, where the soil is sweeter, the mangroves lose ground to other species: their extreme specialisation to brackish mud has left them less competitive on ordinary terrain, where they must battle with other plants for nutrients, space and light.

To the human visitor, a man-

grove swamp offers a fearsome tangle of snare-like stems, curving stilt roots and fetid and glutinous mud. By night, it may be eerily lit with the synchronous flashing lights of fireflies. By day, biting insects whine persistently in the malodorous air, which is heavy with water vapour, sulphurous fumes and the smell of decomposition.

Yet this inhospitable swamp is home to countless small creature, which move between the knobly roots, over the mud and up the slippery stems with ease and agility. In this uncertain zone that is neither land nor sea, a unique combination of terrestrial and marine creatures that exist side by side.

Most are adapted to a lifestyle that swings with the tides, the rise and fall of the sea shaping life among the mangroves.

When the tide is in, the distinction between marine and terrestrial life seems relatively well defined.

Above the water level, mangrove trees hold their own communities of animals, many of which have no immediate contact with the sea beneath, and show no special adaptations to this particular environment.

Crickets, ants, beetles, thrips, caterpillars, centipedes and spiders all crawl across the leaves. Lizards, snakes, bats and monkeys find shelter in the mangrove branches.

Meanwhile, the rare proboscis monkey, native to Borneo, feeds on the tender, young leaves. Large numbers of noisy sea birds, such as pelicans, frigate birds, egret, herons, cormorants, and kingfishers, arrive to roost and nest in the trees.

Unlike some of the other tree inhabitants, these birds are directly dependent on the sea for food. Out of sight, below water level, encrusting marine organisms coat the submerged prop roots.

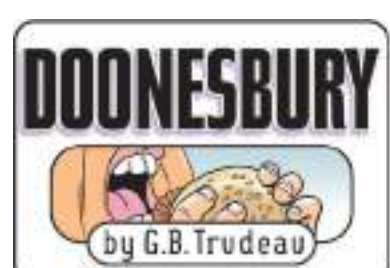
Oysters, sponges, barnacles and sea squirts jostle for space on the crowded woody pillars, while small colonies of coral might be found attached to underwater mangrove stilts. Five-armed brittle stars clamber over the sedentary animals.

Translucent shrimps dart between the tangled roots, where there may also be a hidden octopus, a water snake or a jellyfish brought in with the tide. Weaving through the maze are crowds of immature fish, such as mangrove snappers, which use the mangroves as nursery grounds. Other valuable visitors include young bass, grouper, mullet, milkfish, spiny lobster, blue crab and prawns.

With the turn of each tide, the departing sea deposits sediment and carries away seeds and leaf litter. The distinction between marine and terrestrial life becomes more blurred.

As the waters subside, the mud is alive with an army of scurrying creatures picking over the newly revealed morsels: crabs and snails leave the sea to scour the sediment, while birds, monkeys and snakes descend from the tress to forage.

Birds probe for worms and shellfish. Snakes take crabs, fish small birds and rodents. There is even a crab-eating monkey, the long-tailed macaque, that seizes crabs as they emerge from their holes, supplementing its diet of fruits, insects and leaves.



OBSERVER EDUCATION

APRIL 25, 2021



ICON STUDENT RECEIVES THE ACCA TOP... **PAGE 42**



'TURTLE WATCHING' TO COMPENSATE THE... **PAGE 44**



A RANGE OF TOP-NOTCH PROGRAMMES FROM... **PAGE 45**



MERCMARINE TRAINING OFFERS LANKAN YOUTH... **PAGE 47**

IMPORTANCE OF LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY A NOTABLE FACTOR

Digital Platform on educational reforms receive 950 proposals - Minister of Education



The creative talents of our children is not second to children of any country. Our University students, when compared with the University students of other countries, including Oxford and Cambridge, are not different. The creative strength of children is very much high. There are children who have submitted creations in all three languages. The aim of our education system should be to illuminate the creative strength of them. Objective of our education also should be that, said Minister of Education, Prof. G.L. Peiris. Minister Peiris made these observations while participating in the Certificate Awarding ceremony to children who had submitted creations at the Programme 'Ratak Watina Pothak' (A book worth a million) held under the patronage of His Excellency the President Gotabaya Rajapaksa.



ies to read books and gain knowledge. We have to dedicate ourselves to inculcate the interest and enthusiasm in them to gather knowledge through reading from their younger days. Education is exploration. Child should gain some satisfaction from it. It is possible to gain a lot of knowledge and experience by reading and writing, and not from by hearing the lessons. About a month back we

launched a Digital Platform to obtain the opinion from all the people in our country to make a suitable education system. We invited the Teachers, Principals, Religious Leaders and the Old Pupils Associations to share their views and ideas. Accordingly, we have received about 950 proposals up to now. We expect to submit these proposals to the Directors and Chairmen of prospective institutions that may employ these children, for their perusal. Main factors in these proposals are the importance of language proficiency. It is very important to improve the language proficiency to obtain good employment. Actually, what is more important is not the capital. It is the Trained Labour and Labour Force. Private sector opines that if there is Trained Labour force equipped with language proficiency, we can make a huge contribution to our country's economy with ease.

Mother tongue is very important. At the start, it is very important that we provide education in our mother tongue. Without relying on that alone, it is important to provide the knowledge of an international language. Today, we have a younger generation that has the strength, knowledge and the abilities that can easily access the international market, he said.

Minister of Power Dullas Alahapperuma, Secretary to the Ministry of Education Professor Kapila Perera, Chairman of the Library and Documentation Services Board Sonala Gunawardena graced this occasion.



Reopening of Universities postponed for two more weeks

- Minister of Education Prof. G.L. Peiris

Although all the Universities in our country were scheduled to be reopened on the 27th April 2021, reopening has been postponed by two weeks on the recommendation of the Director General of Health Services and the Health Authorities owing to the prevailing Covid-19 pandemic situation, said the Minister of Education, Prof. G.L. Peiris.

Under the prevailing situation, the Director General of Health Services informed us that it would be more suitable if the reopening of Universities could be delayed for another two weeks.

Accordingly, I wish to inform that all Universities in our country will not be reopened on the 27th April 2021 as scheduled earlier.

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Advertorial

SLIIT to nurture School Children at 'Soft Skills + 2021'

The SLIIT Business School (SBS) organised 'Soft Skills+ 2021' concluded on an extremely successful note recently helping students engage, cooperate and thrive in building their talents towards personal development and career progression.

SLIIT Soft Skills+ event is an annual flagship CSR Project of the SLIIT Business School organized with the primary objective of developing secondary school students' soft skills in positive thinking, creativity, analytical thinking, leadership skills, problem-solving skills, communication skills and teamwork.

Over the years, the program has garnered much popularity among schools and participants. Due to its tremendous success achieved in previous programs, Soft Skills+ 2021 followed an upgraded structure.

For the first time in the Soft Skills+ program history, the event was held via online platforms, including a Soft Skills-based online quiz and an online workshop for students and teachers.

During the Grand Finale, Dean of SLIIT Business School welcomed the participants and distinguished guests. Prof. Lalith Gamage, Vice Chancellor Prof. Samantha Thelija-goda, SLIIT also addressed the gathering. Mrs. Munazza Rafeek, Senior Brand Manager, Unilever PLC, a former SBS Alumni was the Chief Guest and delivered a thought provoking speech. Dr. Nisha Jayasooriya, Senior Lecturer, SLIIT Business School concluded the event delivering the vote of thanks.



Commenting on the conclusion of 2021 program, Dean, SLIIT Business School Prof. Samantha Thelija-goda said, "We are extremely pleased to have concluded Soft Skills+ 2021 on a successful note, especially since it was conducted via online platforms.

The competitions encourage teams to come together to solve a problem or articulate an idea, challenge participants to combine disparate strengths and outlooks. Moreover, this program recreates the world of work and presents students with opportunities to nurture vital soft skills".

The event comprised three rounds and during the Grand Finale the winners were presented their awards. In first place was Badulla Central College, Badulla, followed by St. Bridget's Convent Colombo 7 in second place and Musaeus College, Colombo 7 was placed third.

Winners of the Most Popular Category were first place Maliyadeva Balika Vidyalaya, Kurunegala, second place Yasodara Devi Balika Maha Vidyalaya, Gampaha and third place Maliyadeva Boys' College, Kurunegala. The winners were selected based on a



quiz competition and a creative video activity. Certificates were awarded to the winners. Other attractive prizes including laptop, tabs, portable hard drives and pen drives, which are extremely helpful for students these days in their online and remote learning, were also presented.

Several valuable workshops and sessions inculcating vital skills were conducted for the participants prior to the Grand Finale. These were conducted by experienced and

knowledgeable resource persons.

The following workshops were organised by SBS:

- An online workshop on 'Interactive Online Teaching Methodologies' designed which especially for school teachers was conducted in Sinhala and English mediums by Dr. Malitha Wijesundara, Dean of SLIIT Faculty of Humanities and Sciences and the Founder - Eduscope (Pvt.) Ltd.

- An online workshop on 'Interactive Online Teaching Methodologies' designed which especially for school teachers in the English and Tamil mediums was conducted by Prof. Nagalingam Nagendrakumar, Associate Dean - SLIIT Business School and Ms. Janani Tharmaseelan, Lecturer at Faculty of Computing
- Online Workshop on 'How to be a Successful Online Learner' specially designed for school students was presented by Mrs. Mano Weligodapola, Head - Department of Business Management, SLIIT Business School in Sinhala and English Mediums.
- Online Workshop on 'How to be a Successful Online Learner' specially designed for school students in the Tamil medium by Prof. Nagalingam Nagendrakumar, SLIIT Business School.
- Online Workshop on 'Innovative Leadership' conducted by Prof. Samantha Thelija-goda, Dean of SLIIT Business School and Dilum Perera, Life Coach was held in Sinhala and English Mediums.
- Online Workshop on 'Innovative Leadership' conducted by Prof. Nagalingam Nagendrakumar, Associate Dean of SLIIT Business School was held in Tamil and English Mediums.
- Online Workshop on 'Effective Teamwork' was conducted by Dr. Ruwan Jayathilake, Head of the Department of Information Management of SLIIT Business School was held in Sinhala and English Mediums.
- Online Workshop on 'Effective Teamwork' conducted by Prof. Nagalingam Nagendrakumar, Associate Dean of SLIIT Business School was held in Tamil and English Mediums.

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University of Kelaniya
Centre for Distance and Continuing Education

BACHELOR OF ARTS (GENERAL) DEGREE FIRST EXAMINATION (EXTERNAL) - 2016

Applications are called from the eligible candidates for the above examination from 21st April to 2021 to 21st May 2021.

Candidates are required to apply through application form downloaded from our web site (www.cdce.kln.ac.lk).

(Application are not posted individually to each candidate.)

Duly filled applications should be sent to Senior Assistant Registrar, Centre for Distance and Continuing Education, P.O. 03, University of Kelaniya, Kelaniya along with the customer's copy of the bank slip on or before 21st May 2021 by registered post.

Incomplete and delayed applications will be rejected.

Application can be downloaded up to 21.05.2021.

<http://www.cdce.kln.ac.lk>

For further details please contact,

011-2987000
011-2987001
011-2913865
011-2913885

Registrar,
University of Kelaniya,
Kelaniya

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SLIM at its 51st AGM elects Thilanka as its first woman President

The Sri Lanka Institute of Marketing (SLIM) held its 51st Annual General Meeting, which saw the induction of its new President Thilanka Abeywardena, who will spearhead the Institute as its 43rd President. This appointment is a milestone in the history of the Institute as Ms. Abeywardena became the first ever female to hold the position of President.

The Annual General Meeting was held on 7th April, 2021 at Marino Beach Hotel, Colombo. Both a new Council of Management as well as an Executive Committee was elected during the meeting.

Thilanka Abeywardena, who was elected to the helm, currently holds the position of the CMO Lead, South East Asia Emerging Markets at Microsoft Sri Lanka (Pvt.) Ltd. and leads marketing and communications across nine Asian countries; Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei, Cambodia, Laos, the Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal and Sri Lanka. She was the former Head of Marketing at Etisalat Sri Lanka and Corporate Brand Manager at EWIS. An eminent Marketing Professional, Abeywardena holds multiple awards and accolades under her belt - Effic, PR Awards Asia, Brand Excellence and Manthan Awards, which have been received in recognition of her work in both local and global contexts. She has been recognized by the Women in Management and the International Finance Corporation (World Bank group) at the sixth Professional & Career Women Awards for Leadership Excellence in Marketing in 2016. Ms. Abeywardena has been with SLIM for over a decade and has undertaken various honorary roles and chaired some of the key projects of the Institute.

The President, Ms. Abeywardena holds an MBA from the University of Wales - UK as well as a BSc. (Special) Honours Degree from the Sri Lanka Institute of Information Technology. She has completed the post-graduate Diploma in Marketing at the Chartered Institute of Marketing (CIM). She studied at Sirimavo Bandaranaike Vidyalaya. She has also completed an Executive Education Program conducted by the Kellogg School of Management - U.S with a distinction in the course based on Modern Marketing which incorporated Content, Automation and Analytics to Drive Growth.



Nuwan Gamage, Head of Corporate Affairs and Communications - Arinma Holdings (Pvt.) Ltd., was elected as the Vice President - Education, Chinthaka Perera, Sales Director - Hemas Pharmaceuticals (Pvt.) Ltd and Hemas Surgical and Diagnostics (Pvt.) Ltd. was elected as the Vice President - Projects, Gayan Perera, Senior Brand Manager - Singer (Sri Lanka) PLC and Dr. D.N. Jayantha, Senior Lecturer - University of Sabaragamuwa were appointed as the Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer respectively. Sathika Wickremasinghe, Category Manager - Fonterra Brands Lanka was elected as the Honorary Assistant Secretary for the year 2021/2022.

The newly appointed Executive Committee comprises ten experienced marketing professionals:

Nuwan Thilakawardhana, Marketing Manager, Union Bank of Colombo PLC; Dr. Dilhan S. Jayathilleke, Director - Northwood Consulting Private Limited and Head - Business Development & Marketing - Arogya Life Systems Lanka Private Limited; Charaka Perera, Executive Director - FUCHSIA Retail (Pvt.) South Asia; Perera, Chief Executive Officer - Arugambay Beachwear (Pvt.) Ltd; Manthika Ranasinghe, Director - WedinGo Destinationz and Managing Partner - MarketingGo Consultancy; Channa Jayasinghe, Senior Brand Development Manager - Kelani Cables PLC; Asela C. Gunasekara, Brand Development Manager - Metecno

Lanka (Pvt) Ltd, Niyas Mohamed Shiraz, Assistant General Manager Sales & Marketing - FENTONS Limited; Dr. Thesara Jayawardane, Head/Senior Lecturer Department of Industrial Management and Director Business Research Unit - University of Moratuwa Kavindra Rajapaksha, Vice President/Head of Marketing - Softlogic Life Insurance PLC.

The newly elected President, Thilanka Abeywardena, expressed her appreciation to the outgoing President and the Executive Committee as well as the Council of Management for the confidence placed in her to lead the Institute. She pledged to continue the good work initiated by the immediate past President and other subcommittees and to uplift the marketing fraternity of the country. Commenting on her appointment, she stated, "SLIM is built on the solid foundation laid by the past Presidents, Council Members, Executive Committee Members as well as SLIM employees. With the new Council of Management and the Executive Committee, SLIM will continue its efforts in enhancing the marketing fraternity in the country, providing quality education, recognition and inspiration to the marketers of Sri Lanka. As we embark on the 'Future-ready Sri Lanka' national vision to drive Sri Lanka towards a knowledge economy, we look forward to elevating the national body for marketing through a 3-pronged strategy; internal upliftment, stakeholder transformation and national advocacy. I firmly believe that the diverse and dynamic Executive Committee with multi-disciplinary exposure will further raise the bar of SLIM". She also thanked everyone who contributed to the progress achieved by SLIM.

SLIM is the apex body for Marketing in Sri Lanka and has been promoting marketing excellence and elevating the status of marketing since 1970. It is a member of the National Chamber of Commerce of Sri Lanka (NCCSL), Organisation of Professional Associations of Sri Lanka (OPA) and Federation of Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Sri Lanka (FCCISL). SLIM also has received ISO 9001:2015 certification in recognition of its superior quality management system and ISO 2990:2010 for Learning Service Provider (LSP), providing non-formal education and training services.

ICON student receives the ACCA top Affiliate Award

ICON Business School has proven once again that being top in the nation is a truly possible feat. A result of hard work coupled with a strong foundation provided by this reputable education provider, has resulted in Tharindi Jayawardena, a student of ICON, being awarded as the top ACCA affiliate in Sri Lanka, for the recently concluded ACCA December exams 2020.

The Top Affiliate title is awarded to ACCA students with the highest total marks for the four Strategic Professional exam subjects, where Tharindi successfully gained the accumulated highest marks in the country.

"The exceptional knowledge and dedication of our accounting faculty, the high quality of our curriculum and program standards equates to successful graduates who are heavily recruited by some of the top employers in the country and we are truly proud of Tharindi's achievements which reflects the quality of our education, commented the Promoters of Icon.

Dasun Mendis a key lecturer who has been guiding and mentoring Tharindi throughout her studies at ICON stated, "This result is a truly outstanding achievement. Tharindi has a tremendous attitude to her work and studies, is a real pleasure to work with and undoubtedly has a very bright future ahead of her".



ACCA Top Affiliate
Tharindi Jayawardena



The Promoters of ICON

Recounting how she felt being the recipient of this Award Tharindi said, "I am both honored and delighted to be selected as the top affiliate for Sri Lanka and I am immensely grateful for the support and guidance received from the faculty at ICON Business School. I can say that ambitious students who wish to pursue their career in accounting with ACCA can look with confidence at ICON Business School to help them pursue a path towards becoming a professionally qualified accountant".

ICON being no stranger to producing both Sri Lankan and World Prize Winners continu-

ously for ACCA in Sri Lanka, has since its incorporation nurtured many passed finalists to forge successful careers in the fields of finance and accounting. This latest achievement is another feather in the cap that can be added to an already impressive portfolio of achievements.

Ms. Nilusha Ranasinghe Head of ACCA Sri Lanka said, "It is always rewarding to see our tuition providers producing top award winners that make our country proud. We will continue to give the maximum support to our tuition providers to help them keep achieving more accolades going forward".

SPECIAL NOTICE



External Degrees and Extension Courses Unit

University of Sri Jayewardenepura,
Sri Lanka

EXTERNAL DEGREE EXAMINATION

Details of Examinations due to be held in May 2021 by the External Degrees and Extension Courses unit are shown below:

Examination	Scheduled Date
B.Com (General) External Degree II Examination - New Syllabus	08.05.2021 15.05.2021 22.05.2021
B.Com (General) External Degree III Examination - New Syllabus	09.05.2021 16.05.2021 23.05.2021
BA Humanities and Social Sciences (General) External Degree III Examination - New Syllabus (Repeat)	from 03.05.2021 until 15.05.2021

Time tables relevant to above examinations, information of other examinations due to be held in the future and special notices regarding holding of examinations under the existing specific health conditions could be obtained from our website by logging onto www.external.sjp.ac.lk

Registrar,
University of Sri Jayewardenepura

After O'Levels? A globally recognized UK Degree awaits you at AMDT School of Creativity. – Enrol for May 2021.

Learn flexibly with blended learning (both online and onsite) Starting May 2021, lectures will be held as a mix of both online and onsite (physical). This will ensure that the student learning experience will be maximized with the ability to visit the campus for lectures when required while strictly maintaining COVID-19 safety guidelines.

AMDT School of Creativity: the globally recognized Creative School in Sri Lanka.

AMDT School of Creativity, being the pioneering institution for Creativity in Sri Lanka, offers undergraduate courses in some of the most popular Creative disciplines in the world. These courses are awarded by the UK's Falmouth University (a university that's recognized as one of the top 50 Creative schools worldwide) and Pearson (UK's most recognized awarding body).

Through its presence in the Creative education sector in Sri Lanka for the past 15 years, AMDT School of Creativity has built its reputation in the Creative industry for shaping young talent to meet industry standards through modern strategic thinking and applying Creativity to solve real-world problems for people, communities, and, brands.

The real problem - What stops youngsters from graduating early?

Most Sri Lankan students start their A 'Levels expecting to enter state university degree programmes. But as only a little percentage as 10% gain entrance, students who drop out either re-do their A 'Levels or join private degree programmes. This behaviour has been almost common and considered a practice in the local education system. Not forgetting the fact that students starting their degrees after A'Levels graduate and typically start their career at the age of 24.

As Sri Lanka's pioneering Creative institution, AMDT School of Creativity has found this to be a reason for the existing recess of trainable qualified young blood in the Creative industries. Identifying the need to train the younger generation who are passionate about Creativity from the very start and expose them to their dreams by

helping them step out to the Creative industries and expose them to careers at a very early age, AMDT has transformed its popular 'Foundation Diploma in Art & Design' into a method where students can now start studying their degree from their O'Levels. They will enter into the 'Year-Zero' (Year 0) which is the foundation year and further their studies respectively to Year 1, Year 2, and then Year 3 (final year).

The new universal solution - 'Year Zero' - Saving time and learning for future careers

With its new 'Year Zero' concept, AMDT School of Creativity now allows students right after O'Levels to enroll for Falmouth University's Creative UK degrees. With this offering, students are now able to save a good 2-3 years of their time and focus on following their Creative dreams and building their skills and thinking process to become leaders in the Creative industry. And most of all, build a career on what they love doing the most.

As most companies prioritize "Degrees" over A'Levels when hiring new blood, AMDT's Year Zero combined with the industry exposure it provides will ensure that students are open to stable employment opportunities globally even before they complete their degrees.

The opportunity to learn from the finest minds in the Creative industries-flexibly!

AMDT's advanced teaching techniques also focus on improving the practical application of Creative thinking in addition to its internationally recognized course content delivered by some of the finest minds working in today's Creative industries with numerous years of experience collaborating with many - brands



and projects. This makes learning very relevant to what's out there in real life. With courses available to study in both part-time and full-time options, students will be guided to develop talent, obtain skills, and build up their personality to face their future careers confidently.

Custom-Designed courses to bring out the best in every child

The courses are well planned and custom-designed to fit every career in the respective Creative discipline; which is also a major reason why AMDT's students get hired by companies even before they graduate! With a good focus on helping build their best portfolios of work through individual and group projects, AMDT's students get exposed to a competitive learning environment that

prepares them to harness the best of their skills and abilities. Students with O'Level can choose from popular Creative degree-level qualifications ranging from Graphic Design, Animation & Visual Effects, Fashion Design, Interior Design, Creative Advertising, Photography, Creative Multimedia, to Web & App Development,

To learn more about AMDT School of Creativity, visit www.amdt.lk or call or WhatsApp 114-381-981. You can visit the premises at 317A, Galle Road, Colombo 04.



Mr Chandram Ratnam (film producer) in a discussion with the former Deputy Vice-Chancellor of Falmouth University UK at AMDT Festival of Creativity 2019 at the Kingsbury Hotel Colombo.

Start your Creative degree right after O'Levels at AMDT this May 2021

Our courses are awarded by Falmouth University (a UK university that's recognized as one of the top 50 Creative schools worldwide) and Pearson (UK's most recognized awarding body).

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AMDT School of Creativity is a place for everybody!

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Class schedules are flexible: part-time and full-time

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Friendly learning environment designed to bring the best out of your Creative thoughts.

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Taught by the finest minds in the Creative industries

with real-life briefs that focus on improving practical application of Creative thinking.



Advertorial



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PROF. WASANTHA RATHNAYAKE
Professor in Environmental Management

Marine turtles have been roaming the oceans for about 190 million years, although only seven species are known to be living today.



Of these seven, Sri Lanka is host to five species. Turtle Species found in Sri Lanka are Green Turtle (*Chelonia mydas*), Olive Ridley Turtle (*Lepidochelys olivacea*), Leatherback Turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*), Hawksbill Turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata*) and Loggerhead Turtle (*Caretta caretta*). These turtles regularly nest on sandy beaches that stretch across Induruwa to Yala on the Southwestern coast, and, Kandakuliya in Puttalam district, and on the Southeastern coast.

Most sea turtles migrate between foraging and nesting grounds and seasonally to warmer waters. Often these migrations take them hundreds and even thousands of miles. With satellite telemetry, scientists can track the movements of sea turtles between areas and even across entire oceans. Therefore, they can be called 'marine ambassadors'.

The sea turtle is an important key stone species, significant for maintaining marine ecological balance and for monitoring environmental changes. For humans, turtles offer an additional benefit in the form of wildlife recreational value. Biodiversity conservation and preservation of animal species requires protection of individual species as well as their habitats. Conservation is not easy because it can be costly to different stakeholders.

Nonetheless, understanding and measuring the tangible costs of conservation, is relatively straightforward. What is more challenging is the estimation of benefits from endangered species conservation, particularly benefits such as ecological balance, nutrient cycling, etc. that are not traded in markets. Yet, in order to ensure that any species protection program is successful, it is important to identify costs relative to economic benefits.

In this context, this study focuses on estimating the benefits of conserving the endangered marine turtles of Sri Lanka. Since 1979, marine turtles as well as products made from turtle body parts have been fully protected under Sri Lanka's Fauna and Flora Protection Ordinance, with anyone found guilty of violation receiving a jail sentence in addition to a fine. 2 Further, Sri Lanka is a signatory to CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species), which prohibits member nations from exporting or importing turtles or any products from turtle body parts.

Yet, because local Sri Lankans are



THE DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION (DWC) HAS DECLARED THIS BEACH A SANCTUARY IN ORDER TO FACILITATE THIS PROCESS OF BIRTH AND GROWTH. IN ADDITION, NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS SUCH AS THE "TURTLE CONSERVATION PROJECT" (TCP) HAVE STARTED IN SITU CONSERVATION PROGRAMS IN THE AREA. FURTHER, TOURISM RELATED TO TURTLE-WATCHING IS GROWING IN REKAWA

dependent on turtles to meet livelihood needs, turtle conservation is difficult. For some low-income families of the fisher community, turtle meat, shells and eggs constitute their only sources of income, with members of the community either consuming or selling turtle meat and eggs. Eggs are often sold to illegal turtle hatcheries and where turtles become over aged. According to the scholars, for sea turtles, hatcheries are among the most commonly employed management tools throughout the world. In some cases, hatchlings are maintained in hatcheries/captivity for a period of time before being released into the sea because of human activities such as release programs.

However, the existing literature showed that the dispersal distance from shore by hatchlings decreases with age and the possibility of experiencing the original migration route becomes low when release is delayed. Thus, in cases their chance of survival decreases and increases the chances to be caught by the predators. Rekawa sanctuary on the southern tip of Sri Lanka is the prime turtle nesting habitat in the country. Thousands of turtles flock to Rekawa beach every year to lay their eggs and hatch their young ones come out from the hatched eggs.

The Department of Wildlife Conservation (DWC) has declared this beach a sanctuary in order to facilitate this process of birth and growth. In addition, non-governmental organisations such as the "Turtle Conservation Project" (TCP) have started in situ conservation programs in the area. Further, tourism related to turtle-watching is growing in Rekawa.

Yet, there are relatively few incentives for villagers, who depend on egg collection and flesh consumption, to participate in conservation. This makes Rekawa an interesting and important region for examining possibilities for conservation through the use of economic incentives in turtle tourism.

Under the study conducted by our team applying the contingent valuation method, the estimated mean WTP values per person per visit for local visitors were Rs. 93 and Rs.143 for Scenarios 1 and 2 respectively, while the mean WTP values for foreign visitors were USD 15 and USD 19 for Scenarios 1 and 2 respectively. Scenario 1 sought to ascertain visitor preferences if visitor services were improved, while Scenario 2 focused on both visitor services and potential conservation initiatives. These results indicate that the majority (63%) of visitors were willing to pay an en-

trance fee, which would go towards protecting turtles and improving visitor facilities at Rekawa.

The study recommends the following policy directions that would help in both turtle conservation and the provision of economic incentives for the local community: (i) streamlining and promoting 'turtle watching' at Rekawa; (ii) introducing a new fee structure for turtle watching; (iii) proposing a proper incentive/compensation scheme for the local community to get involved in turtle conservation; (iv) establishing a village-level welfare fund using a percentage of the gate collection to improve the basic infrastructure facilities in Rekawa village that would benefit the entire community, thus providing an incentive for everyone in the community to support the initiative.

Therefore, the policy makers would be able to get the local community involved in turtle conservation through 'turtle watching' tourism.

Before the Covid-19 pandemic situation in Sri Lanka, Rekawa received around 100 foreign visitors during the turtle nesting season. Foreign tourists were charged Rs. 1000 and local tourist were not charged or charged a low amount as a guide fee.

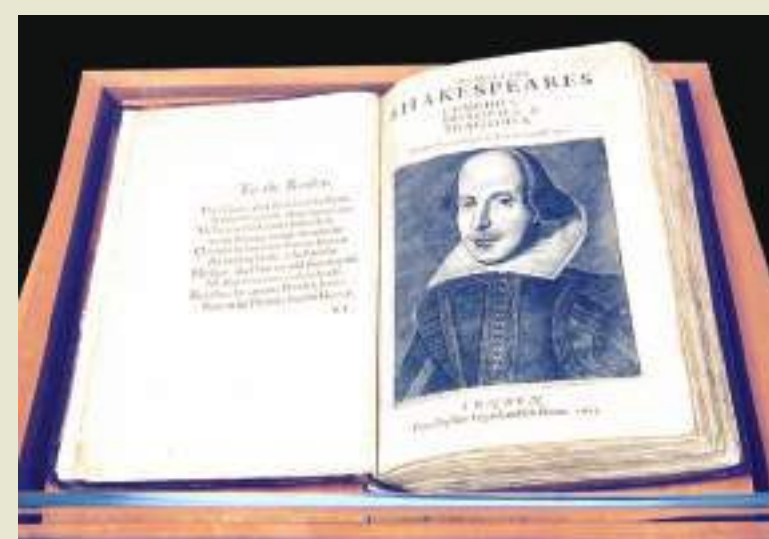
According to the discussions had with local community, hoteliers, travel agents, three-wheel drivers, local vendors, handicraft makers, boutique and shop owners at least 250-300 families directly and indirectly depend on 'turtle watching' at Rekawa. Among them 20 fishing families directly involve in 'turtle tourism' as nature guides.

Biography

Prof. Wasantha Rathnayake is a distinguished Professor in Environmental Management attached to the Faculty of Management Studies, Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka. Prof. Rathnayake has made a great contribution towards the conservation and management of wildlife and natural resources in Sri Lanka covering the areas of strategic planning, policy formulation and protected area management. He served as a Deputy Director at Department of Wildlife Conservation before he joined the University system.

He served more than five years as the Focal Point (representative) of Sri Lanka for Ramsar Convention and Indian Ocean South East Asia Memorandum of Understanding for Turtle Conservation (IOSEA).

Prof. Wasantha Rathnayake is an outstanding researcher and he has published more than 80 research articles, book chapters, conference papers and abstracts, including articles indexed in Science citation index and social science index and refereed journals. The most important thing is that his research findings are not only important for academic purposes but also very useful for the national development in Sri Lanka.



REMEMBRANCE WITH LOVE; THE 'BARD OF AVON'

—By—
Vasana Abeynayake



"COWARDS DIE MANY TIMES BEFORE THEIR DEATHS; THE VALIANT NEVER TASTE OF DEATH BUT ONCE. OF ALL THE WONDERS THAT I YET HAVE HEARD, IT SEEMS TO ME MOST STRANGE THAT MEN SHOULD FEAR; SEEING THAT DEATH, A NECESSARY END, WILL COME WHEN IT WILL COME."

— WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE, JULIUS CAESAR

When William

Shakespeare was born in the mid 1500s, the world did not know what talent and what change to the world he would bring. Shakespeare was a brilliant man with many talents. Because of his education and many different influences, Shakespeare developed a great skill for writing, becoming the greatest English playwright.

Arguably one of the most famous writers of all time is the English playwright, poet and actor named William Shakespeare. In his lifetime Shakespeare had written about a hundred and fifty-four sonnets, a few verses, two long narrative poems and thirty-eight plays.

It is observed that Shakespeare produced most of his work between the years 1589 to 1613. Some of his best literary works are considered to be the early plays of the comedies and histories genre. Until about the year 1608, Shakespeare mainly wrote tragedies like Othello, Macbeth and King Lear, which are considered to be some of his finest works. In the last few years of his life, Shakespeare mainly wrote tragic comedies and also collaborated with other English playwrights. Shakespeare's works of literature have been translated into almost every major languages of the world, his work has also been adapted into movies and his plays are performed more often than any other playwrights.

He is the world's pre-eminent dramatist and is to date regarded as the greatest writer in the English language. It is because of the brilliance of Shakespeare's writing skill that he was often called England's National Poet.

William Shakespeare's evident love for nature in his writings could be said to have been influenced by the fields and woods surrounding the Stratford Grammar School throughout his childhood. Warwickshire was an exciting place to live in as the writer then also engaged in hunting and trap small game activities. It was because of the river Avon that ran down through the town was what endowed Shakespeare with the title 'Bard of Avon'.

For many, Shakespeare was, and still is considered as one of the greatest writers in

the world. Shakespeare was creating stories that we are still enticed by even today. Shakespeare has even created actual dictionary words from the plays he has written. Some of Shakespeare's plays are even mandatory for schools to teach students. William Shakespeare was a great English playwright, dramatist and poet who lived during the late sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries. Shakespeare is considered to be the greatest playwright of all time. No other writer's plays have been produced so many times or read so widely in so many countries as his.

Shakespeare's plays are really hard to read, because the language has changed a lot over last 400 years.

Grammar changes slowly but vocabulary is constantly changing. Vocabulary can possibly change in three different ways. One of them is that the words can disappear completely, but also what can

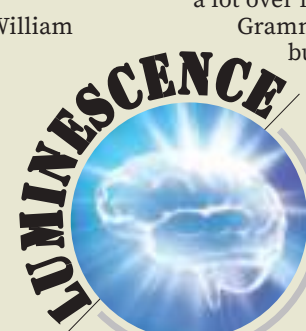
happen is that the meaning of the word can change. The other option is that new words are being created all the time—Shakespeare was making up words himself at times when no existing words

would serve his purpose. Shakespeare's work is full of words that are in the way out of language. As well as reflecting the changing language of his period, Shakespeare's work has a considerable influence on contemporary English.

Many of the words and idioms that were new when Shakespeare was writing have found their way into the standard vocabulary of the British English today. It happened mostly because his plays have long had a major role in British culture and education. Shakespeare was making the language difficult in order to express what the character in the play was trying to do. The difficulty is not just that this is Shakespeare: it is because Shakespeare is attempting to produce a particular effect on his audience. Sometimes it will be, because he is reproducing the street language of the poor. Sometimes the language is complex because Shakespeare is trying to reproduce complicated states of minds or feelings.

Shakespeare is credited by the Oxford English Dictionary with the introduction of nearly 3,000 words into the language, but the vocabulary he used was estimated for over twenty thousand words. Shakespeare's vocabulary shows a mixture of old and new words.

William Shakespeare is one of the most commonly recognised literary writers of his time. It is quite appropriate to argue that the vast store of literary work Shakespeare completed throughout his lifetime has widely influenced people and entertainment throughout history and today. William Shakespeare's work transcends cross-cultural boundaries and builds bridges of literacy between people all over the world. It is a pleasure and pride to recollect all this specifically after passing his Birthday on the 23rd of April.



WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE'S WORK TRANSCENDS CROSS-CULTURAL BOUNDARIES AND BUILDS BRIDGES OF LITERACY BETWEEN PEOPLE ALL OVER THE WORLD.

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In recent QS WUR by Subject 2021, MSU has emerged Malaysia #1 in for Subject's Art and Design category, at World Top 151-200 list. QS WUR by Subject 2021 also places MSU at World Top 51-100 and Top 2 among Malaysia's institutions of higher education offering Hospitality and Leisure Management programmes. Another new entrant securing a QS world ranking is Business and Management Studies, placing MSU at Malaysia Top 11 and World Top 451-500.

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At the end of the series of competitive sessions ICBT Campus offer cash rewards for the winners; Rs. 500,000 for the winner, Rs. 200,000 for the 1st runner up and Rs. 100,000 for the 2nd runner up respectively.

This event will enhance the ability of the contestants to express their unique artistic abilities to the world. At ICBT Campus with the collaboration of the Judges we ensure the competition is held in a manner in which a fair judgement is being given based on a transparent voting system and true talents.

Registrations are now open. Please use this link to register for this event www.icbtskillsnthrills.lk. For more information, contact us on 0114-777888.

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ACBT IS ALSO THE SOLE AUTHORIZED TESTING PARTNER IN THE COUNTRY TO DELIVER OCCUPATIONAL ENGLISH TEST (OET): AN ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY TEST EXCLUSIVELY MEANT FOR HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS SUCH AS DOCTORS, NURSES, DIETICIANS, VETERINARIANS, RADIOLOGISTS, ETC.; AWARDED BY CAMBRIDGE BOXHILL INSTITUTE, AUSTRALIA

testing partner in the country to deliver Occupational English Test (OET): an English language proficiency test exclusively meant for healthcare professionals such as doctors, nurses, dieticians, veterinarians, radiologists, etc.; awarded by Cambridge Boxhill Institute, Australia. In addition to the test delivery, preparation programs are conducted to train participants for OET, which are tailor made to align with the work schedules of health care professionals.

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info@acbt.lk

www.acbt.net

Advertorial

Personality and Professional Development Workshop for the future focused minds by the Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka

Under the flagship of Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka, on the guidance and leadership of the Vice Chancellor Professor Udaya Rathnayake, Dean of the Faculty of Management Studies – Professor Athula Gnanapala and Head of the Department of Accountancy and Finance – Professor Dunusinghe Dharmaratne, Department of Accountancy and Finance of the Faculty of Management Studies successfully conducted a two-day in-house training programme on 7th and 8th of April 2021 focusing on the development of personal and professional skills of 3rd year students of the faculty.

A fully game and activity based training programme was designed and delivered by the Senior Consultant – Human Resource Development and the Chief Executive Officer of the Institute of HR Analytics & Auditing Mr Azmy Saly who carries rich experiences on HRM and HRD in the Insurance and Food & Beverages industries locally and internationally with over 29 years of public and private sector people management and people development operations.

He is currently a dedicated Consultant – Learning & Development for Fairfirst Insurance Ltd.

The main purpose of the programme was to develop the personal and professional skills of the students in order to make them marketable commodities in the corporate shelves to win the present and the future.

Fun filled games and activities comprised of Emotional Intelligence, Corporate Communication, Teamwork and Team Building, Leadership, Neuro-Linguistic Programming, Problem Solving and Decision Making and Presentation Skills to inculcate the future-ready attitudes in the nation building young minds of Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka.



Programme started with welcome and purpose unveiling curtain raiser address by Mr D.G.L. Rasika, Senior Lecturer, Department of Accountancy and Finance followed by the opening remarks of Professor D.G.Dharmaratne. Wider participation included students and faculty members of more than 100 in number.

Certification of Participation was awarded to the participants to mark the successful completion of the programme and the ceremony was graced by Prof. Athula Gnanapala, Dean / Faculty of Management Studies, Prof. DG Dharmaratne, Head / Department of Accountancy & Finance, Mr. D Jasinghe, Head / Department of Marketing Management, Mr. Malith Amarasinghe, Coordinator, AHEAD Project and all academic staff of Department of

Accountancy & Finance. The programme was the result of a World Bank grant under the project of Accelerating Higher Education Expansion and Development (AHEAD). Learning through enjoyment was the methodology adopted to deliver this programme that attracted the

young minds towards change management through skill development and participants praised for the effort of the faculty and the department for the investment made with the intention to reap the benefits to be showered on the people of this country in the long run.



SLIIT offers top ranked Foreign Degree in Quantity Surveying

WE ARE CONSTANTLY EVOLVING... CHANGING... AND MOVING AHEAD... READING OURSELVES TO DEVELOP THE NEXT YOU

Ensuring students receive a head-start towards their Higher Education goals, SLIIT, the nation's leading non-state Higher Education Institute announced the commencement of its May intake 2021 for Undergraduate Degree Programmes.

SLIIT has set high standards in the field of education by having more than 5000 years of collective experience by its intellectual faculty. With a highly qualified Academic staff to offer guidance at all times and state-of-the-art facilities, along with modern and well-equipped laboratories, students are guaranteed the opportunity to emerge as world class professionals with the ability to reach their maximum potential on par with global standards.

The Department of Quantity Surveying which is functioned under the Faculty of Engineering powered by highly qualified academically and professionally qualified staff. The teaching resources are further enhanced by the visiting staff consist of Academics and Professionals in the fields of Quantity Surveying, Engineering, Law and other specialist areas. From its inception, the Department has been headed by both Academically and Professionally qualified Quantity Surveyors.

The Department offers a three-year BSc (Hons) in Quantity Surveying Degree awarded by the Liverpool John Moores University United Kingdom for School leavers after the Advanced Level. It also offers a top-up degree for those who are already practicing in the industry and with an accepted HND/Edexcel/SLQF level 4 / NVQ level 6 or equivalent qualification for entrance.



The Quantity Surveying Degree programmes offer students a unique opportunity to collaborate with foreign students and academics in addition to rich blend of knowledge and

experience shared by leading Academics and Practitioners from the industry.

SLIIT QS program leads in providing knowledge and hands-on experience in modern day technologies in QS such as BIM (Building Information Modelling) and OST (On Screen Take-off) software, which enable the students to become internationally competitive, resilience and future-proof. Built upon the degree offered in UK, the programme also includes

essential local knowledge to assure both local and international relevance of the program. SLIIT QS Students are also eligible to apply for the postgraduate studies scholarship offered by Liverpool John Moores University UK.

Alternatively, the option is also available for those students who are willing to migrate for their studies in Australia after completion of first two years at SLIIT, to continue balance two years of studies at Queensland

University of Technology, Australia for Bachelor of Urban Development (Honours), Quantity Surveying and Cost Engineering.

SLIIT has developed strong affiliations with prestigious foreign Universities and Education Institutes and therefore keep on entering into the partnership agreements to offer diversified opportunities for the students.

Moreover, SLIIT provide students the opportunity of innovative,

modern and flexible learning experience through the cutting-edge facilities that include versatile teaching spaces, research labs, study areas, common areas for students, Student Services Help Desk, Student Forum, English Help Desk etc., accompanied by counseling and guidance.

Application forms for undergraduate programs can be downloaded via www.sliit.lk or for further information by contacting 011 754 4801.



Advertorial

Make Your Future Dreams a Reality in Germany through Professional Consulting via GermanVisa.lk

It is easy to spot a professional in their field when you know that they show a level of dedication towards a single facet of their work segment and work hard to ensure that they provide the ultimate level of service focused on that segment alone. One of the few challenging service provision fields seen today in Sri Lanka aims at the segment of acquiring visas to travel abroad, especially to countries from the Global North. In this case, the founders behind a recent venture, GermanVisa.lk offers the best service in the country, aimed specifically at anyone who wishes to travel to Germany for study, work and travel purposes. GermanVisa.lk was founded by former German Embassy employee, Prasad De Zoysa and business partner, Kaushalya Karunaratna.



The reason that compelled him to initiate a visa consultancy company was inspired after he noticed the amount of Sri Lankans who either simply struggled with completing their visa applications in a correct manner or faced difficulties when it came to dealing with documentation and other visa application procedures that needed to be followed in order to acquire a visa for Germany. At GermanVisa.lk, Prasad and Kaushalya specialize in providing all relevant consultancy and visa guidance services, covering all visa categories, exclusively to Germany. The main benefit that prospective applicants can gain from their services is the assurance that their visa process will be successful and they would receive the necessary support needed in order to make their travel dream to Germany, a reality.

Prospective clients can look forward to not only student and work visas but family reunion visas and tourist/visit visas or the Schengen visa as well. Currently, their main focus is highlighted towards supporting clients with long-term visas such as for clients who seek to move to Germany for study purposes. Apart from this, the consultants also offer translation services (German - English - Sinhala) and have been certified as Sworn Translators by the Ministry of Justice. Their consultancy process also includes supporting clients in getting their personal, legal, business & corporate and medical documents aligned as per the requirement of

their visa application procedures and also provide support with technical documents. Alongside this, the team is also available for interpreting support, especially for court hearings, business meetings etc.

A former employee of the German Embassy in Sri Lanka for nearly 11 years, Prasad is proficient with the ins and outs of the requirements of German visa officials and is an ideal professional who can easily assist anyone who aspires to make a life for themselves in Germany. An ideal pathway, is aimed at supporting youth and students who wish to follow a degree or vocational level program in Germany. A benefit of opting for a country such as Germany is due to the fact that students have the opportunity if gaining tuition-free studies and all that is needed is for them to cover living expenses. Alongside this, the team at GermanVisa.lk are capable of finding the ideal program for the prospective applicant from a selection of over 530 universities in Germany.

Being the 4th largest economy in the world, Germany is a prosperous nation with a population of 83.02 million. As a country that boasts of educational resources and state-of-the-art facilities made available for their student population of over 3 million, out of this figure, 400,000 students travel

from other countries to study there. Interested applicants can choose to apply for a course and study in either the German or English languages. Students who opt to go for the apprenticeship or vocational education path, are guaranteed a job at the end of their program and after five years, can apply for a permanent residency. Students with Ordinary Level results can easily opt for vocational level courses.

When compared to Sri Lanka, in terms of internationally recognized educational qualifications, Sri Lanka currently has only 16 universities and institutes that offer degree programs. Though around 160,000 students tend to pass out with their advanced levels annually, out of this only between 25,000 to 30,000 students get the opportunity to attend state universities. With an opportunity to gain a world-class qualification and that too, at a rate that is manageable, students who enrol will have the chance to also establish themselves in Germany one day, depending on their program and their future aspirations.

To get in touch with the team and enquire about their services, visit them at GermanVisa.lk, 48/1/1, Athurugiriya Road, Malabe. Visit them online by logging on to www.germanvisa.lk or email them at info@germanvisa.lk

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Sri Lanka Institute of Tourism and Hotel Management (SLITHM)

MINISTRY OF TOURISM

We are the premier government institute in the country providing education and training for the development of human resources for tourism and hospitality industry.



COURSE	SUBJECT	FEES	ENTRY QUALIFICATION	CLOSING DATE
National diploma in Hospitality Management 03 year - full time (Available at Colombo & Kandy Colleges)	Professional cookery, Food & Beverage Operations, Front office Operations & Hotel House Keeping Operations are covered in this course	Rs. 5750.00 (Per Month)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Should have passed G.C.E. A/L examination in all subjects at once in not more than 3 sittings. A credit pass in English Language at G.C.E.O/L in not more than two sittings or Ordinary pass at G.C.E.A/L An ordinary pass for Mathematics at G.C.E.O/L in not more than 2 sittings Age limit 18-24 years. 	21 st of May 2021
Certificate level 05 months-Full time (Available at all Provincial Colleges except Passikuda College)	Professional cookery Restaurant & Bar Service Hotel Reception Hotel House Keeping	Rs. 5000.00 Rs. 4500.00 Rs. 3000.00 Rs. 3000.00 (Per Month)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> G.C.E.O/L Minimum 06 passes (at least 2 5 passes for English & Mathematics in not more than 2 sittings) including 3 credits and another pass OR Craft level at SLITHM with one year industrial training in the relevant field OR Those who are already employed in the Hotel Industry with 02 years industrial training in the relevant field. Age limit - 18 years or above 	
Intermediate Level 06 months -Full time (Available at Colombo College)	Professional cookery Food & Beverage operation Front office operation Hotel House Keeping operations	Rs. 4100.00 Rs. 3500.00 Rs. 3500.00 Rs. 3500.00 (Per Month)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 basics/ 3 basics/ 2 basics or 1 basic certificate level at SLITHM with relevant industrial training OR Direct entry applicants from the industry must have served minimum of 05 years in the particular discipline in the industry at managerial/Supervisory level with G.C.E.O/L qualifications. 	
Pastry & Bakery Course 03 months Full time (Available at Colombo College)		Rs. 5,000.00 (Per Month)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> studied up to GCE O/L Age limit 17- 25 years 	
Certificate Course in Event Management 06 months (Available at Colombo College)		Rs. 35,000.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> G.C.E. Ordinary Level / Equivalent Passed with a Simple pass for English Language OR Five years of MICE tourism sector experiences or working in Event Company with English language abilities. 	13 th of May 2021
Certificate Course in Trekking & Hiking Guide 04 months (Available at Colombo & Kandy Colleges)		Rs. 40,000.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> G.C.E. Ordinary Level / Equivalent Passed with a Simple pass for English Language OR Five years of Adventure tourism sector experiences with English language abilities 	



Rs:500.00 Will be taken as registration fee with the first instalment (Only for the selected candidates)

- Courses will be conducted in English Medium
- Students from low income families (samurdhi beneficiaries) can apply for scholarships
- Ladies are encouraged to apply for all courses

SLITHM Colleges : Colombo, Anuradhapura, Kurunegala, Kandy, Koggala, Ratnapura, Bandarawela, Jaffna, Pasikudah

General inquiry
Registrar, Sri Lanka Institute of Tourism & Hotel Management,
No. 78, Galle Road, Colombo 03. Web Site : www.slithm.edu.lk Tel: 011 2208312/15/16

Apply online (visit website - www.slithm.edu.lk)

Advertorial

Advanced Program in Drug Enforcement Law inaugurated by CSBM



Colombo School of Business Management (CSBM) recently held the inauguration ceremony for the 7th consecutive batch of the ground breaking Advanced Certificate Course in Drug Enforcement Law. CSBM is a leading Educational Institute in the country offering Executive Educational Programs.

Advanced Certificate Course in Drug Enforcement Law is specifically designed for the Officers of Police, Armed Forces, Customs, Excise Department and Sri Lanka Ports Authority and the program aims to train participants in the areas related to Drug Law Enforcement such as local, regional and international laws/acts/regulations and the steps from finding information to court proceedings.

CSBM drives this initiative more as a national service with the objective of supporting the state in the battle against illicit drugs and therefore the program is offered at a nominal fee.

The inauguration event was graced by the Chief Guest, Minister of Public Security, Rtd. Rear Admiral Dr. Sarath Weerasekera, Commissioner of Department of Excise, Kapila Kumarasinghe, General Daya Rathnayake, Chairman - Sri Lanka Ports Authority/Chairman - Colombo School of Business and Management (CSBM), Admiral Thisara Samarasinghe, Former Commander of Sri



Lanka Navy/ Director - CINEC Campus, Rear Admiral J. J. Ranasinghe, former Vice Chancellor, General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University.

According to statistics, drug abuse in Sri Lanka is growing at an alarming rate and the countering by law enforcement is becoming less effective as the problem is outgrowing the law enforcement rapidly. On top of that, Sri Lanka is fast becoming a strategically important re-exporting hotspot in the international drug trafficking networks.

A wide range of loopholes in the existing system from data collection and analysis of rackets to problems related to executing legal processes, hinder the war against drugs.

It is estimated that the Heroin consumption in Sri Lanka exceeds 1478 kgs annually and the law enforcement is only able to capture a fraction of that.



THE ADVANCED CERTIFICATE IN DRUG ENFORCEMENT LAW BY CSBM AIMS TO INSTILL KNOWLEDGE IN STUDENTS ABOUT VARIOUS TYPES OF DRUGS, DRUG RACKETEERING, JOB ROLES OF VARIOUS ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES, INTER-AGENCY COORDINATION, LOCAL/REGIONAL/INTERNATIONAL DRUG ENFORCEMENT LAWS, REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIONS/AGREEMENTS AND CONVENTIONS RELATED TO DRUG ENFORCEMENT.

The Advanced Certificate in Drug Enforcement Law by CSBM aims to instill knowledge in students about various types of drugs, drug racketeering, job roles of various enforcement agencies, inter-agency coordination, local/regional/international drug enforcement laws, regional and

international co-operations/agreements and conventions related to drug enforcement.

The content of the course addresses the key areas; identifying drugs/drug types covering a broad range of topics such as history, trends and conducting lab tests,



COLOMBO SCHOOL OF BUSINESS & MANAGEMENT

understanding of all local drug enforcement laws and regulations, understanding general laws and regulations related to legal processes, conducting raids and making arrests, covering a range of topics from managing informants to planning raids, International laws/agreements and conventions and communication and leadership skills.

The course is complete with practical exercises and tests, presentations and group activities to test the students.

The course is conducted by resource personnel, veterans in the field drug enforcement with years of experience serving at various drug Enforcement agencies.

Certificate programme opens a study path for students who can pursue higher education through Diploma, Higher National Diploma levels to obtain BSc degree. CSBM offers

this course at a nominal fee more as a service to the state.

Colombo School of Business and Management (CSBM) offers academic, professional and executive educational programmes and the institute has earned a reputation for the executive education it offers for the professionals of both private and state sectors.

As a leader in executive education, CSBM is committed to fulfill the training requirements of both private and state sector organizations and has gained expertise in this specialization.

As a Tertiary Education Institute registered with the Vocational Education Commission in Sri Lanka (TVEC), CSBM programs are in full compliance with the SLQF (Sri Lanka Qualification Framework) and are locally and internationally recognized.

IIHS appoints new Director for International Marketing and Development

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

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

Newly appointed board member and Director, International & Development, Carl has been with IIHS since January 2021 playing a development and advisory role in expanding student recruitment beyond Sri Lanka. Drawing on years of experience in education marketing in prestigious universities including Deakin University, Australia, he is in charge 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 of 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 will soon reach as a degree awarding status, IIHS is set to become a significant regional player in a world that needs new dynamic, flexible and ingenious models of Healthcare Education".

"It goes without saying this is a most opportune time to be involved with such a provider in Sri Lanka. There is literally endless employment opportunity in the health sector at home, in the re-



gion and in the developed world. And together we can leverage a model, quality, passionate educators and a price-point that will literally become the envy of traditionally better resourced international competitors.

Carl's area of focus will be South Asia, Africa and the Middle East.

Dr Kithsiri Edirisinghe, CEO & Co-Founder IIHS commented, "We are delighted to have Carl on board. He will definitely be a vital asset to us as we journey ahead. By opening doors for foreign students to come to IIHS, we are able to 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 furthermore secure employment in the first world.

We have an enormous opportunity as a nation to be an exporter of skilled labour. I believe Carl will add a lot of value when taking the brand to the region and the first world".

Batch 24 completes CMA Speech Craft Communication & Leadership Program successfully

Yet another Batch of students of the Institute of Certified Management Accountants of Sri Lanka completed the Toastmaster Speech Crafter course comprising twelve sessions online. The week-day preference of Batch 24 participants were highly committed to follow every session conducted from 6.45 p.m. - 9.45 p.m. sometimes extended depending on the increased number of speeches and opportunities enthusiastically grabbed by the participants.

The speech Craft mandatory course in communication and leadership skills to obtain the CMA Membership, has been tailor-made on the guidance of Prof. Lakshman R. Watawala to include specific topics required to empower the CMA management accountant referred to as Professional Accountants in Business by the International Federation of Accountants the Global Body for the Accounting Profession of which body CMA Sri Lanka is a member. "The CMA qualified Management Accountant who receives the CMA membership is equipped with the ingredients required by a Chief Executive Officer of any Corporate Organization since the speech craft course enables the students to become confident speakers, communicators and leaders" said Prof. Watawala at the Certificate Awarding Ceremony.

Batch 24 comprised students of varied age category in different stages of their educational and career path but their attendance, participation, enthusiasm and teamwork as a group was well reflected in the Final session completed on Friday, 9th April 2021. Batch 24 is probably the quickest to complete the 12 sessions commencing on 5th March 2021 and receiving their Certificate on the 35th day, attending sessions back-to-back on Friday, Thursday, Friday, Wednesday, Friday, Wednesday, Friday, Wednesday, Friday, Monday, Wednesday, Friday, achiev-



ing the highest attendance percentage of all Batches so far.

The performance in the Final was remarkable with three level 2 speakers and one level 3 speaker completing the line-up speaking on "Life before Social Media", "A friend in need, is a friend indeed", "Die with memories" and "Your failures do not define you", respectively.

The impromptu speeches were the surprise of the evening with seven speeches delivered, the highest number of speeches ever delivered in all speech craft batches, in the Two minute Table Topics speech segment.

Prof. Watawala Founder President CMA and the Chief Guest on the occasion and President of CMA Toastmasters Club T.M. Mayuran Ramanathan commended the performances of all speakers and Role Players and encouraged the students to continue their journey as talented speakers by joining CMA, TMC and become members of the Toastmaster family.

The students expressed their deep gratitude to Prof. Lakshman R. Watawala for making the speech craft course mandatory to get their membership. Many recipients of the certificate stated that they joined the course only to qualify for the membership, but on the very first day realized the value of the course and the life changing experience to become a fluent speaker and top professional leader.

A participant from Maldives thanked Prof. Watawala and the CMA for conducting the Speech Craft Program online as he had completed all the examinations by 2018 but he couldn't get the membership until he fulfilled the mandatory requirement of following this program which could not have been accomplished if there wasn't an online course.

The Awarding of Certificates was conducted by the Course Director Dian Abeyewardene whilst the Certificates were ceremoniously presented by Prof. Watawala Found-

er President of the Institute of Certified Management Accountants of Sri Lanka - CMA.

TM Mayuran presided over the Awards Ceremony segment and all participants expressed their gratitude, appreciation and thanks to the CMA Institute, President Watawala and the Council of Management, Mrs Shanthi Maheswaran, the Administration Head and the team, the IT support co-ordinated by Tharindu and the Mentor and Course Director Dian Abeyewardene, for providing the opportunity, facilitating the program enhancing the soft-skills essential for career progression in the corporate ladder in the highly competitive world of uncertainty.

The next two Batches comprising a weekday and weekend batch has commenced registrations and students applications should be sent on or before 30th April 2021 to Ms. Shanthi. Email: registrations@cma-srilanka.org / Mobile 071 4705536



FUTURE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN SRI LANKA

Are we ready for a revolution?

The onset of the current pandemic has placed Science and Technology at a higher pinnacle as the need for novel technology and innovation to combat the pandemic is of a great necessity. Sri Lanka having a very high literacy level show promising prospects towards contributing to global Science and Technology. However, the issues of lack of opportunities, lack of internationally recognised pathways and lack of capital and infrastructure act as potential barriers towards reaching these demands.

Technology Education plays an important role in developing a trend among youth to engage in careers pertaining to Science and Technology.

Thus availability of high quality educational pathways plays a key role in satisfying this requirement of the youth. This not only allows students to explore the niche areas but also allows them to gain the practical applicative exposure in handling the technology, driven by the curiosity to engage in novel innovations.

Thus, Spectrum Institute of Science and Technology (SIST), firmly believes in making Science and Technology Education available for all youth in various fields including Life Science, Engineering Technology, Computer and Business, in collaboration with Edinburgh Napier University and Lincoln University College.

SIST offers degree programs that can be completed in Sri Lanka while enjoying the luxury of being safe at home with family!



THIS AVAILABILITY OF HIGH QUALITY EDUCATIONAL PATHWAYS PLAYS A KEY ROLE IN SATISFYING THIS REQUIREMENT OF THE YOUTH. THIS NOT ONLY ALLOWS STUDENTS TO EXPLORE THE NICHE AREAS BUT ALSO ALLOWS THEM TO GAIN THE PRACTICAL APPLICATIVE EXPOSURE IN HANDLING THE TECHNOLOGY, DRIVEN BY THE CURIOSITY TO ENGAGE IN NOVEL INNOVATIONS

SIST invites young enthusiasts to join the SIST family to bring about revolution in Technology thus placing Sri Lanka in the global map of research and innovation!

For further information, contact us on 011 2554848 / 0777499494 or visit us at No 07, Kirimandala Mawatha, Colombo 5 or log into www.spectrumcampus.edu.lk



Short Course training opportunity in Multisectoral Approaches to Nutrition and Food Security

Here's your opportunity to gain exposure and contribute to improved nutrition indicators and food security policy in Sri Lanka.

Australia Awards is calling for applications from emerging practitioners and middle management leaders attached to public, private and non-government organisations working on nutrition specific and sensitive projects to secure a place in this upcoming Short Course.

Applications are now open and will close on 07 May 2021.

For selection criteria and information on how to apply, please visit www.australiaawardssrilanka.org

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Applications open May 2021 intake!

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CALLING APPLICATIONS FOR NEW ENTRANTS - 2021

The University of Peradeniya will entertain applications from candidates who have met minimum eligibility criteria for registration for Diploma in Library and Information Services offered in Sinhala, English and Tamil media.

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- Passed all three subjects in the G.C.E (A/L) examination
- OR
- Completion of NVQF Level 4 / SLQF Level 2
- OR
- A foundation course in the field of Library and Information Services equivalent to SLQF Level 2 with a minimum of 12 years of schooling
- OR
- 4 year work experience in the field of Library and Information Services with a minimum of 12 years of schooling

(NB: Applicants should have a credit pass or above in the G.C.E. (O/L) for the language of instruction which they want to follow the course if it is not their mother language)

Application and instructions can be downloaded from the website of the Centre for Distance and Continuing Education (www.pdn.ac.lk/cdce). Duly filled in applications should be sent by registered post to the Deputy Registrar, Centre for Distance and Continuing Education, No. 43, Old Galaha Road, Peradeniya on or before 28/05/2021. Incomplete and late applications will not be entertained.

For further details, please call 081-239 2218

Registrar,
 University of Peradeniya,
 Peradeniya.
 25/04/2021



Advertorial

France Education Grant 2021

The opportunity is only for first 10 students of the September Intake - Admission interview for this Education Grant will end on 30th of April 2021

France is the ideal place to study abroad for your degree thanks to its rich culture, gastronomy, architecture, and thriving student life!

Studying in France gives you the opportunity to learn the language and gain cultural perspective. The experience will give you the upper hand when pursuing an international career and will give your CV a competitive edge.

Studying in another country can enhance the value of your degree as it demonstrates to potential employers that you have stepped out of your comfort zone, and are able to adapt to new environments and cultures.

Several good reasons to study in France

- Attractive tuition rates in France
- Quality higher education adapted to students' needs
- Outstanding research and development opportunities
- France is a world-class economic power
- France is home to leading international corporations: Airbus, Total, Orange, LVMH, L'Oréal, and DANONE.
- Young talent is valued in innovation and entrepreneurship sectors
- French lifestyle: Paris is the #1 student city! (QS Best Student Cities, 2014)
- French is the third most common business language
- France is an appealing destination for students worldwide
- 9 out of 10 international students recommend France as a study destination

The Higher Education System in France

Home to some of the oldest universities in existence, France has a diverse system of education that sets it apart from many counterparts. They follow the License- Master-Doctorate (LMD) system of education, based on



European Credits Transfer System (ECTS) that facilitates students with transferable credits. The French higher education system is characterized by the coexistence of several types of institution. There are: universities; Grands établissements publics (major public institutions); Grandes écoles (elite schools); administrative public institutions; private higher institutions or schools.

The Elite Grande Écoles - The Elite Graduate Schools, France

Almost 20% international students study at The Grandes Écoles in France, which are public or private higher education institutions recognized by the state. Although many Catholic institutions have adopted the title of 'university', an old French law states that no private institution can call itself a "University". The Grandes Écoles are highly selective and often referred to as the Ivy Leagues of France.

How do you get the France Education Grant?

Education Grant?

In France, Private industry plays an active role in higher education. Grande Ecoles are funded by a Group of Companies and those companies offer 40% of student annual training cost on education as a Grant. So the student will have to afford only around 60% of their whole tuition fee.

Most importantly students will have the opportunity to get internships in France as well as in other European Countries; This Internship opportunity will drive the students through a permanent job by the end of their degree. Also after completion of the degree program, students will have the opportunity to engage in paid postgraduate work opportunities in the European Union.

It is very rare to find this kind of a unique education system, where students are mostly involved in practical assessments in organizations; Since Other Countries' University System



just focuses on degree completion. Partner Elite Grande Écoles of American International Campus (AIC)

Grande Écoles in Engineering

- ESIGELEC Graduate School of Engineering
- EPF School of Engineering
- ESTP School of Engineering

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For more information and admissions

Admissions are open now for 2021 September Intake. For more information you are requested to call 077 977 9776// 077 443 6725 or visit AIC Campus website www.aicedu.lk or European Transfer Program Website <https://www.aicedu.lk> American Transfer Program Website <https://www.aicedu.lk/state-to-states-us-transfer.php> You could also visit our Campus. No. 154, Havelock Road, Thimbrigasyaya, Colombo - 05, Sri Lanka.

Ambala Junior School receives water after eight decades

Ambala Junior School receives water after eight decades "Water" is one of the most important substances on earth. All plants and animals must have water to survive. If there was no water, there would be no life on earth. Water is an important resource in the daily life of the people even though, Ambala Junior School which provides education to around 230 students from grade one to ordinary level situated in the hill country of the Teldeniya Education Division in Medamahawara did not have the basic need of water for the last eight decades.

Ambala Junior School is located in a beautiful surrounding through the hill and around 600 meters above sea level, overlooking the Victoria Dam, which crosses the Mahaweli River. The school did not have a permanent water supply from the inception. The former principals who worked there, as well as the surrounding villagers, has helped students and teachers by supplying water to the school on their expense as there was no permanent solution for drinking water. There had been times the school children went home without informing the teachers in order to attend to their sanitary needs etc. The



lack of availability in water was a burning issue for the students, teachers and for the parents throughout.

The Association of Accounting Technicians of Sri Lanka (AAT Sri Lanka) got to know the issue of unavailability of water at Ambala Junior School through Facebook and took the initiative to prove a permanent solution for this unfair situation the school was

facing. AAT Sri Lanka immediately decided extend the hands of humanity and worked on this project under their corporate social responsibility (CSR) to implement a permanent solution.

This was the best news for the school as well as for the students & teachers as they were seeking for a permanent solution through all official authorities which was not successful until AAT Sri Lanka visited the school and started on the project.

The school was purchasing water through bowlers time to tie in order to full fill their basic needs which was not a feasible option for this school and the students was bringing water from home for their own consumption which was not practical when it was a daily routine. The former principle had been bringing two barrels of water in her three-wheeler for the other requirements of the school and some parents filled the tank when it's possible so that the children could use for their daily usage. However, none of these solutions were permanent and the efforts which were made to provide piped water to the school was delayed due to the financial difficulties the school had and also there was no proper source found to supply suffi-



THIS WAS THE BEST NEWS FOR THE SCHOOL AS WELL AS FOR THE STUDENTS & TEACHERS AS THEY WERE SEEKING FOR A PERMANENT SOLUTION THROUGH ALL OFFICIAL AUTHORITIES WHICH WAS NOT SUCCESSFUL UNTIL AAT SRI LANKA VISITED THE SCHOOL AND STARTED ON THE PROJECT

cient amount of water for a school of 230 students.

The present principal, Mr Navaratne Banda, along with the principals who was appointed had tried to get the water supply by writing to the divisional education department which was never successful. However, late last year, the AAT Sri Lanka agreed to provide a permanent supply of water to the school under the CSR initiatives. Also, most importantly the priest of the Ambala Muslim mosque provided an excellent solution to provide a water source as they have found a large spring in their church premises which located about 500 meters away from the school.

Despite the efforts of various individuals who try to create chaos between

different religious groups, a Muslim Mosque volunteering to provide water to a school with a majority of Sinhala Buddhist children was reflecting inter-ethnic harmony and was heart touching which was motivating AAT Sri Lanka to go on with this project.

However, the responsibility of supplying water from the mosque to a tank mounted to a new concrete stand to keep the 500 liter water tank and then to lay pipes from the mosque to the school premises and distribute them to the wash basins and the washrooms of the school was under taken by AAT Sri Lanka. Within one and a half months, AAT Sri Lanka was able to complete the entire project with the help of the villagers and the Muslim Mosque and this project had given the students of



Ambala Junior School a new beginning and new hope.

Mr. Sunil Wanigabadu, Vice President of AAT Sri Lanka and Mr. Tishanga Kumarasinghe, the Chief Executive Officer officially launched the new drinking water system at Ambala Junior School. The principals of the surrounding schools, the zonal director of the education department as well as many distinguished guests of the area attended this event, and it was indeed an unforgettable day for the students, parents and the teachers. As we speak, there is a permanent water supply for the entire school and no student has to go home for their needs again. Adequate amount of water is now flowing down the pipes from the mosque to the school leaving us all message of been there for each other irrelevant of which religion or culture we come from.

A rural school in the hills is now in joy as they have found the solution for a problem that they have suffered for generations. There are many more schools in Sri Lanka that we may expect the least that must be lacking in such basic human needs and it is inspiring to see every institution to lend a helping hand to make our country a better place.

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- Bachelor of Science (Nursing Studies)
- Bachelor of Design (Games and Interactive Design)
- Certificate of Technology (Engineering)

Qualification and Selection Criteria

- Masters or doctoral qualification in a relevant discipline;
- Commerce lecturers must have a PhD, or be near completion;
- Professional & Industry experience
- Demonstrated experience in scholarly and innovative approaches to teaching and learning;
- Demonstrated experience in ability to engage students in learning activities;
- Desirable: demonstrated engagement with the discipline, including (for example) recent publications, conference attendance, public engagement.

Applicants are advised to send resume to employment@ecu.edu.lk within 7 days.
 Address: 442, Galle Road, Colombo 03.
 Web: www.ecu.edu.lk



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Marketing rePreSentative

We are looking for self-motivated candidates to join as Marketing Representative/ Trainee Marketing Representative.

Ideal candidates should fulfill the following requirements:

- G.C.E (O/L) with credit passes in science and English/ two simple passes in G.C.E (A/L) Examination.
- One Year experience in Healthcare industry or school leavers.
- Good communication skill in Sinhala, Tamil and English.
- Ideal candidates must live in Western / North Western / North / Eastern & Central / Uva Provinces.
- Age limit 20 - 25 Years.
- Should have valid licence to ride Motor Vehicle/Motor bike.

Interested candidates should forward your CV to (info@elixirhealthcare.lk) or by registered post to above address on or before 01st May 2021.

169, nawala road, narahenpita, colombo 5.
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- Provide proactive, comprehensive and business-focused legal advice to the Board of Directors and Business Heads.
- Ensure timely preparation and filing of legal submissions in judicial proceedings while maintaining sound and effective relationships with panel Lawyers.
- Analyze and identify the legal risks, implications of business transactions; keep the Senior Management informed on developments on Laws/Regulations.
- Review, research, interpret legal instruments, opinions prepared by external legal professionals and members of the Legal Department.
- Oversee or represent the Company and Senior Management in Judicial and Administrative proceedings, and coordinate with other relevant authorities.
- Provide strong leadership in developing a high performing, proactive team whilst ensuring succession for key positions.

REQUIREMENTS

- A Degree in Law (LLB) from a recognized University. A Master's Degree in Law will be an added qualification.
- Attorney - at - Law with minimum of 15 years post qualified experience, out of which 05 years in Managerial Capacity preferably in the Banking or Non-Banking Finance Industry.
- Notary Public for the judicial division of Colombo (Preferred licence in both Sinhala and English) and Commissioner for Oaths.
- Proven ability to interact, influence and develop relationships at all levels and high degree of integrity, loyalty, and demonstrable ability to lead, inspire and manage a team of professionals.
- Thorough understanding of the key features of relevant laws and regulations applicable to the Banking or Non-Banking Finance Industry.
- A motivated team player who can adapt and contribute in a fast-paced, high-pressure environment.
- Proficiency in MS office with strong aptitude for technology and use of software coupled with exceptional verbal and written communication skills in English/Sinhala; ability to communicate in Tamil will be a distinct advantage.

If you feel that you meet the aforesaid expectations, apply via e-mail or post confidentially, within seven (07) days of this advertisement, providing contact details of two non-related referees and indicating the position applied for in the subject line or top left corner of the envelope.

Head of Human Resources
 Assetline Leasing Company Limited
 120, 120A, Pannipitiya Road, Battaramulla
E-mail: careers@assetline.lk




A fully owned subsidiary of Melstacorp PLC, a part of Melsta Health, Melsta Hospitals - Ragama is a fully-fledged multi-speciality general healthcare facility which is equipped with state-of-the-art medical diagnostic technology as well as advanced medical and surgical therapeutic technology.

The hospital strives to provide comprehensive and quality healthcare on par with world-class standards at affordable rates making it easily accessible to everyone across the country, by delivering innovative and patient-centric healthcare solutions.

Established with the aim of delivering high-quality care through comprehensive and integrated clinical practice, providing personalized attention to every patient, the 70-bed multi-speciality hospital became the only healthcare institution in the country to be accredited with an integrated management system (IMS) comprising of four international standards: ISO 9001:2015, ISO 22000:2018, ISO 14001:2015 and ISO 45001:2018.

VACANCY | MEDICAL OFFICERS

A Medical Officer should provide inpatient care, playing a leading role as a member of the patient care team, whilst maintaining the highest standards of medical care by following internationally accepted clinical guidelines.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Examining, diagnosing and treating patients, while communicating effectively with patients and their families.
- Implementing patient management plans according to the consultant's instructions.
- Maintaining medical records.
- Liaising with other medical, nursing and paramedical staff in the hospital.
- Following accepted clinical guidelines, along with hospital and company protocol.

CANDIDATE PROFILE:

- MBBS or MD degree with SLMC registration.
- A minimum of 2 years of post-qualifying clinical experience.
- Covering general medicine / paediatrics / obstetrics & gynaecology / labour room.

An attractive remuneration package above the industry norm will be offered. The selected candidate will have the opportunity of working with a highly professional team.

If you are confident that you can meet the above requirements, please forward a complete Curriculum Vitae along with the names and contact details of two non-related referees, to the given address/e-mail, within 7 days of this advertisement. Please state the position applied for on the top left corner of the envelope, or as the subject of the e-mail.

HEAD OF HUMAN RESOURCES
 MELSTA HOSPITALS RAGAMA (PVT) LIMITED
 NO.43, MAHABAGE ROAD, RAGAMA
E-mail: career.health@melsta.com
 0115 100 000 / 076 6747 397 / 077 7554 734

(Applications will be treated confidentially and only the short-listed applicants will be contacted)



EXPORT ASSISTANT - NATURAL RUBBER/SPICES DIVISION

Malwatte Valley Plantations PLC is looking for an experienced, energetic and self-motivated individual who complies with the following qualifications and requisites to join our dynamic team.

- Passed Advanced Level
- Excellent knowledge in MS Words & Excel
- Excellent communication skills in English
- Should be willing to work hard in a highly competitive environment.
- Sound knowledge in export documentation, rubber packing will be added advantages.

An attractive remuneration awaits the right candidate. Please email your complete CV with names of two non-related referees within seven days to: rubber@malwatte.lk

Christopher Fernando,
Executive Director.

IMMEDIATE VACANCIES IN THE HOTEL SECTOR

Mount Havana is an Exclusive Luxury Villa situated in Gampola, Nuwara Eliya Road has following vacancies for;

Assistant Chef / Cook	Waiter
Qualifications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English speaking (Average Knowledge) • Minimum of 02 years' experience in relevant field • Smart & tidy appearance • Honest & Trustworthy • Structured professional training will be given for the selected candidate • Salary Negotiable 	Qualifications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English speaking (Average Knowledge) • Experience in relevant field would be added advantage • Smart & tidy appearance • Honest & Trustworthy • Structured professional training will be given for the selected candidate • Salary negotiable

Please forward your CV mentioning the post applying in the subject column to saman@mounthavana.com or No 50, Ward Place, Colombo 07 within 07 days of this advertisement.
Contact No - 0775 560426.

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- Technical Officer**
NCT Civil Engineering or equivalent qualification with minimum 05 years experience
- Site Supervisor**
NCT Civil Engineering or equivalent qualification with minimum 02 years experience

Finance Division

- Accounts Executive**
AAT Fully Qualified Or Part Qualified CASL or equivalent qualification Minimum 2 Years Working Experience in Relevant Field
- Accounts Assistant**
G.C.E. A/L Qualified In Commerce Stream Minimum 2 Years Working Experience in Relevant Field

Please Forward Your CVs With Non Related Referees to limacengineering.hr@gmail.com on or before 02nd May 2021
LIMAC ENGINEERING (PVT) Ltd
CIDA C3 & ISO 9001-2015 Certified Company
NO 116, Kumaragewatta, Thangama south , Battaramulla
WWW.limac.lk



VACANCY

**UNIVERSITY OF KELANIYA
POST OF REGISTRAR**

The University of Kelaniya will entertain applications from suitably qualified persons for the post of Registrar of the University up to 17th May 2021.

Qualifications :

- Should possess a Degree with First or Second Class and a Postgraduate Degree at the level of Ph.D. in Administration or Management from a recognised University/HEI with not less than ten (10) years of administrative experience after obtaining the first Degree.
OR
- Should possess a Degree with First or Second Class and a Postgraduate Degree of not less than two (02) years duration at Masters level in Administration or Management from a recognised University / HEI with not less than 12 years of administrative experience after obtaining the first Degree.
OR
- A holder of the post of Deputy Secretary/Deputy Registrar of the Commission/a Higher Educational Institution/Institute who has completed three (03) years of satisfactory service in that post with a Degree and a Masters Degree in Administration or Management of not less than one (01) years duration from a recognised University / HEI with not less than fourteen (14) year's of administrative experience after obtaining the first Degree. At least five (05) years of such experience should be at the level of Deputy Secretary/Deputy Registrar and/ or Senior Assistant Secretary/Senior Assistant Registrar in the U-EX 2 (II) grade of the Commission/a Higher Educational Institution/Institute
OR
- A holder of the post of Deputy Secretary/Deputy Registrar of the Commission/a Higher Educational Institution/Institute who has completed three (03) years of satisfactory service in that post with a Degree and a Postgraduate Diploma of not less than one years duration in Administration or Management from a recognised University/HEI with not less than fifteen (15) years of administrative experience after obtaining the first Degree. At least five (05) years of such experience should be at the level of Deputy Secretary/Deputy Registrar and Senior Assistant Secretary/Senior Assistant Registrar in the U-Ex 2 (II) grade of the Commission/a Higher Educational Institution/Institute.
OR
- An Attorney-at-Law with a Degree from a recognised University/HEI who has completed three (03) years of satisfactory service in the post of Deputy Secretary/Deputy Registrar of the Commission/ a Higher Educational Institution/Institute with fifteen (15) years of administrative experience after obtaining the first Degree. At least five (05) years of such experience should be at the level of a Deputy Secretary/Deputy Registrar and/or Senior Assistant Secretary/Senior Assistant Registrar in the U-EX 2(II)grade of the Commission/a Higher Educational Institution/Institute
OR
- A holder of the post of Deputy Secretary/Deputy Registrar who is graduated from a recognized University/HEI with eighteen (18) years of administrative experience of the Commission/a Higher Educational Institution/Institute out of which at least three (03) years should be in the post of Deputy Secretary/Deputy Registrar and confirmed in that post.

NOTE: "Administrative Experience" means, experience gained in a post in Sr Lanka Administrative Service or in a comparable post in a State or in a Private Sector Organization in Human Resource Management or General Administration or Overall Management after obtaining the first Degree from a recognized University/HEI. Experience gained in specialized field such a Finance/Engineering or other Technical fields are not considered for this purpose

Age : Not more than 45 years (The age limit does not apply to the employees in the services of the Government Departments / State Corporations / Statutory Boards / Higher Educational Institutions

Salary Scale :U-EX 3 (I) - Rs.104,000 - 3 x 2,170; 11 x 2,700 - 140,210/-p.m.

In addition the allowances approved by the University Grants Commission will also be paid

Other Benefits :

- Transport will be provided from residence to work place in accordance with University Grants Commission regulations.
- Will be entitled for Sabbatical Leave of one year duration with full pay on completion of seven years of service. An officer proceeding abroad on Sabbatical Leave will be eligible to receive passage for himself/herself and his/her spouse.
- Gratuity payment in accordance with the provisions of the payment of Gratuity Act No 12 of 1983.
- Provident Fund contribution of 10% by employee and 7% by the employer to the University Provident Fund.
- A contribution of 8% to the University Pension Fund would be made by the employer.
- Employees Trust Fund benefits of 3% by the employer.

The application form and further particulars may be downloaded from the University website, www.kln.ac.lk

This application should be accompanied by a detailed curriculum vitae and a personal statement in not more than 1000 words that describes the applicant's commitment and contribution to institutional development at the current work place, and how he/she intends to contribute in the capacity of Registrar for the progressive development of the University of Kelaniya.

The duly completed applications should be forwarded under registered cover indicating the post applied for on the top left hand corner of the envelope to reach "The Vice-Chancellor, University of Kelaniya, Dalugama, Kelaniya" or delivered to office of the Vice-Chancellor on or before the closing date of Applications.

The University reserves the right to shortlist the candidates. Applications which do not conform to requirements, incomplete, received after the closing date will be rejected without intimation.

Vice-Chancellor
University of Kelaniya
Dalugama, Kelaniya

20.04.2021



NATIONAL AUTHORITY FOR THE PROTECTION OF VICTIMS OF CRIME AND WITNESSES

(MINISTRY OF JUSTICE)

Applications are invited from the applicants who have fulfilled the undermentioned qualifications approved by the Department of Management Services for the recruitment of the post of Director (Protection) in the National Authority for the Protection of Victims of Crime and Witnesses established for the enforcement of the Act No. 04. Of 2015, Assistant to and Protection of Victims of Crime and Witnesses.

1. Director (Protection) HM 1-3 (No. of Posts 01)

Job Description:

As per Section (VI) of Act No. 4 of 2015 which established the National Authority for the Protection of Victims of Crime and Witnesses has been established. Responsibilities of the said post include providing protection to the Victims of Crime and Witnesses and fulfilling the duties and functions related to the head of the Protection Division.

Qualifications and Experience:

External Applicants

- Should have obtained a Special degree in the subject field of Law, Criminology or Social Science recognized by the University Grants Commission
With
A Postgraduate degree in a subject field relevant to the post and recognized by the University Grants Commission
And
Having at least fifteen (15) years experience in an "Executive/ Middle Management Level" in the subject field relevant to the post in Government, Government Corporation, Statutory Board or in a relevant reputed private sector institution after obtaining the Bachelors degree qualification.
Or
- Should have obtained a degree recognized by the University Grants Commission
With
Being a Police officer in the rank not less than Senior Superintendent of Police in Sri Lanka Police Service

Internal Applicants (1 or 2 below)

- Should have fulfilled the qualifications for the external applicants mentioned above for this post
- Should have completed at least five (05) years of satisfactory service in the relevant subject field in a Grade 1 post of the Management Service (MM) Category.

Salary Scale: HM 1-3 Rs. 86,865 - 15x2,270 - 120,915

CONDITIONS

- Age Limit:**
Should be not less than 35 years and not more than 55 years. Maximum age limit will not be applicable to internal applicants
- Structured Interview**
Structured interview will be conducted by an interview board appointed by the Appointing Authority. Out of the qualified applicants, candidates at least double the amount of vacancies will be called for a structured interview. Selection will be made as per the order of merits out of those who have obtained highest marks.
Marks will be given as follows at the interview.
Relevant Experience - 30 Marks
Relevant Additional Educational/ Professional Qualifications - 30 Marks
Other relevant performances and skills - 15 Marks
Performance at the Interview - 25 Marks
Total 100 Marks
- Each applicant,
 - Should be a citizen of Sri Lanka
 - Should be physically and mentally fit to discharge the duties entrusted to the post and to serve in any part of the island
 - Should have excellent moral character
- Officers already in government service should forward their applications through the respective Departmental Heads and the application should be submitted with the recommendation of the Head of the institution that the officer concerned may be released if he/she is selected to the post.
- Only the eligible applicants as per the advertisement will be called for the interview.
- The photocopies of the certificates which are certified by the applicant him/herself which prove the above qualifications and experience relevant to the post should be attached to the application.
- Selected applicants should contribute to the Employees' Provident Fund and Employees' Trust Fund
- For the said position, the government approved allowances and other benefits entitled to the post will be paid.
- Unnecessary forcing or inquiring by applicants shall subject to rejection of the application
- All belated applications and applications without copies of certificates will be rejected.

A Bio-data containing Educational qualifications, Professional Qualifications, experience and all information along with copies of the relevant certificates should be sent by registered post addressed to "Director General, National Authority for the Protection of Victims of Crime and Witnesses, 428/11 A, First Floor, Denzil Kobbekaduwa Mawatha, Battaramulla." to receive on or before 10.05.2021. The post applied for should be clearly mentioned on the top-left corner of the envelope containing the application.

Director General,
National Authority for the Protection of Victims of Crime and Witnesses,
428/11 A, First Floor, DenzilKobbekaduwa Mawatha,
Battaramulla.
Tel. No. 0112879539
Date: 25.04.2021

WANTED

RESTAURANT MANAGER / ASST. RESTAURANT MANAGER

For an exclusive Water Park opening soon out of Colombo.

Extensive knowledge in Food & Beverage operations and able to handle Daily operations, staffing, cost controls, guest expectations, business strategies, staff training and guest courtesy.

Able to carry out compliance and adjust to industry trends, having worked in a similar capacity at a Theme or Water Park overseas will be a distinct advantage. age between 32-48.

Mail your cv to careers@catamaran.lk
Mobile - 0777660260

Property Development Company Requires the Services of a **Condominium Manager**
Male, above 35 years of age with previous experience in a similar position.

- Ability to handle Condominium Management Corporation matters
- Coordinate and supervise building maintenance matters, (Technical knowledge is an advantage)
- Be diplomatic, be courteous, cooperate and liaise with the condominium residents

Please send CV to: info@lhpc.com with Condominium Manager in the subject line. Only those with **previous experience** will be shortlisted and called for interview.

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VICE PRINCIPAL
Mount Lavinia / Kandy
Kadugannawa / Dambulla

MANAGER ACCOUNTS CLERK
Kandy

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Mount Lavinia / Kandy / Dambulla / Kadugannawa / Mawanella

TEACHERS
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Abacus (Full time/Part Time)
IT French Tamil

Mount Lavinia /Kandy / Kadugannawa / Mawanella / Dambulla / Rikillagaskada / Kegalle

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Qualifications in English Language & fluency in English essential. Should have more than 3 yrs experience in the relevant profession.

Applicants with above qualifications please apply within 7 days to the address given below. An attractive salary will be paid.

KANDY ROYAL INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
No.28, Sangaraja Mawatha, Kandy.
Email: kandyroyalis@gmail.com



WE'RE HIRING
JOIN OUR TEAM

Sefaway Tech International (Pvt) Ltd is a leading solar-related service providing company in Sri Lanka. We are looking for a candidate who is highly dedicated, reliable and most importantly self-motivated. Someone who can work under pressure within tight deadlines and deliver the best results.

- ❖ **Solar Engineer**
Minimum 1 year of experience in a similar capacity. Degree (BSc) or Diploma will be an added advantage and equivalent qualification will be considered.
- ❖ **Administration Officer (Male/Female)**
Minimum 1 year of experience in a similar capacity.
- ❖ **Account Assistant (Male/Female)**
Minimum 1 year of experience in a similar capacity.
- ❖ **Marketing Manager (Male/Female)**
Minimum 2 years of experience in a similar capacity. Valid driving license required.
- ❖ **Sales Executive (Male/Female)**
Minimum 1 year of experience in a similar capacity. Valid driving license required.
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Minimum 1 year of experience in a similar capacity.

www.sefawaysolar.lk info@sefawaysolar.lk



*The British School
in Colombo*

We are looking for energetic, self-motivated and hardworking individual to join our team for the following position in our school with immediate effect

**- SENIOR SCHOOL -
LIBRARIAN**

- A Degree/Diploma Holder ideally with Library Science as a subject.
- At least 2 years relevant experience in similar capacity.
- Fluent in English and Computer Literate.
- Familiar with modern Library Techniques.
- A person with positive attitude and willingness to work with students and teachers.

Please email your CV together with a personal statement to humanresources@britishschool.lk

Applications must reach us on or before **30 April 2021**

**Vacancy
for Training Centre In-charge
Embilipitiya**

A truly Sri Lankan organization with a history of over 110 years is looking for a dedicated and result oriented, technically qualified gentleman to our Training centre located at Embilipitiya. This vacancy exists for a professional with experience in a Vocational Training Institute or relevant Industry.

The ideal candidate would be a person who derives pleasure in teaching and imparting knowledge to apprentices in the field of Industrial Mechatronics,

Roles & Responsibilities

- To work as a member of a team to ensure coverage of the syllabus and standardised delivery across the team
- To assess student learning and monitor student progress in line with existing processes
- To deliver classes of both a practical and theoretical on Electronics (Workshop Technology, Mechanical Systems, CNC & PLC will be a distinct advantage)
- Ability to develop learning materials for students
- Ability to undertake the apprentices continuous professional development residentially

Candidate Profile

- Ideally a Graduate in Electronic Engineering or hold NDT/ NDES/ HNDE qualifications
- At least 10 years relevant industry or subject experience
- Age above 40 years
- Having previous teaching experience will be a feather in your cap
- Plenty of enthusiasm and the ability to motivate students
- Excellent interpersonal, written & verbal communication skills
- Able to develop and maintain positive working relationships individuals at all levels
- Preference will be given to candidates who live close proximity to Embilipitiya.

Interested candidates send in your CV, indicating the position applying for in the subject line of the e-mail to: hr@tissajinasenagroup.com on or before **5th May 2021**.



SRI LANKA AIR FORCE OFFICER VACANCIES



Applications are invited from patriotic Male / Female professionals to serve as Commissioned Officers in the Regular / Volunteer Forces of the Sri Lanka Air Force

We Provide You the Skies - SLAF Invites Professionals ...

- Technical Engineering Branch**
 - Chemical Engineering Officer - Male (Volunteer)
- Electronics Engineering Branch**
 - Electronics Engineering Officer - Male (Regular)
- Administrative Agriculture Branch**
 - Agriculture Officer - Male / Female (Regular)
- Administrative Audit Branch**
 - Internal Audit Officer - Male (Regular)
- Administrative Veterinary Branch**
 - Veterinary Officer - Male / Female (Regular)
- Logistics Branch**
 - Mess Manager - Male (Regular)
- Administrative Education Branch**
 - English Language Instructor - Male / Female (Volunteer)
- Administrative Legal Branch**
 - Legal Officer - Male (Regular)
- Administrative Band Branch**
 - Band Master - Western Music / Military Band - Male (Regular / Volunteer)
 - Band Master - Oriental Music Beat Group/ Oriental Orchestra - Male / Female (Regular / Volunteer)
 - Band Master - Dancing / Drumming (Dance Troupe) Male / Female (Regular / Volunteer)
- Medical Branch**
 - Consultant Physician - Male / Female (Volunteer)
 - Consultant Surgeon - Male/ Female (Volunteer)
 - Consultant Anaesthetist - Male / Female (Volunteer)
 - Consultant Pediatrician - Male / Female (Volunteer)
 - Consultant Obstetrician and Gynaecologist Male/ Female (Volunteer)
 - Psychologist - Male / Female (Regular / Volunteer)
- Dental Branch**
 - Dental Officer - Male / Female (Regular / Volunteer)
 - Pre - Intern Trainee / Dental Student - Male / Female (Regular / Volunteer)

- BASIC REQUIREMENTS**
- Must be a citizen of Sri Lanka → Married or Unmarried → Age: Not less than 18 and not more than 33 years as at 15th June 2021 (Not More than 40 years for medical Consultants)
 - Height : Male - 167.5cm and above (165.0cm and above for Medical / Dental Branches)
Female - 162.5cm and above (160.0cm and above for Medical / Dental Branches)
 - Weight : Male - 17 < BMI < 26 / Female - 17 < BMI < 25 → Colour Vision : CP2 → Chest : Minimum 32" (Male)
 - Visual Acuity : Left eye 6/6 and right eye 6/6 (Without Spectacles / Contact Lens) (Medical / Dental Branches 6/18 in each eye corrected visual acuity with spectacle should be 6/6 in each eye).

- BASIC EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS**
- Minimum of six 'C' passes with English language, Science, Mathematics and a 'S' pass or above for Sinhala / Tamil language in one sitting at the GCE (O/L) Examination (additional and optional subjects are not considered). Candidates who apply for technical type professions with higher professional qualifications than required level, but with 'S' Pass for GCE O/L English language or 'C' Pass at the second sitting will be considered for calling preliminary interviews.
 - Pearson / Edexcel / International Ordinary / Advance Level, GCSE, GCE and Cambridge exam qualification may be considered subjected to a confirmation obtained from the Department of Examination, Sri Lanka to effect that it is equalant to above basic educational qualifications.

- SALARY AND OTHER BENEFITS**
- Approximate gross annual salary including service and all other allowances:

• Pilot Officer - Rs. 1,055,675.64	• Squadron Leader - Rs. 1,284,395.64
• Flying Officer - Rs. 1,124,195.64	• Wing Commander - Rs. 1,303,955.64
• Flight Lieutenant - Rs. 1,220,315.64	
 - Meals & Accommodation
 - Air & Ground Transport
 - Medical & Recreational Facilities
 - Married Quarters
 - Uniforms
 - Life Insurance
 - Local & Foreign Training
 - Holiday Homes

For further details see Government Gazette on 30th April 2021 and www.documents.gov.lk
For more information call +94 11 24 95 900 and www.airforce.lk

Application Closing Date on 15th May 2021

Apply online through web : www.airforce.lk or <http://http://airforce.observerjobs.lk>




Command Recruiting Officer
Sri Lanka Air Force Trade Training School
Kotugoda.

- VACANCY -

SALES ENGINEER

gamini engineering Works (Private) limited is a reputed market leader in the manufacture of Tea & Rubber machinery, with over 40 years' experience in the industry.

The Company is presently in search of a highly motivated, matured and dynamic Sales Engineer with a good Mechanical Engineering background, well versed in the manufacture & maintenance of machinery with excellent communication and presentation skills in English & Sinhala. Experience in Plantation Machinery (Rubber) and Administration skills will be an added advantage.

The Selected Candidate is required to :-

- > Visit Rubber/ Tea Estates and other Industries to inspect and identify machinery due for repairs and submit competitive and binding Estimates.
- > Closely monitor workshop repairs to be in conformity to estimates, ensure delivery deadlines and projected sales targets.
- > Inspect machinery installations at site after repairs and hand over for beneficial use to customer satisfaction.
- > Liaise with customers, invoice and recover payments due as per standard terms and conditions.
- ❖ Salary & other benefits negotiable.
- ❖ A company maintained vehicle will be provided.

Those having a Mechanical Engineering Degree or equivalent with over 10 years of experience with relevant exposure could apply with full bio data to:



Gamini Engineering Works (Private) Limited.
199, Ambatale, Angoda,
Tel 011- 2568535, 7451365
E-mail: vacancies.gaminiengineering@gmail.com
Website: gaminiengineering.com

MAG Vacancy Announcement
Field Human Resource Assistant
Vavuniya / Mannar Office (Field base) (Contract Position)

The Mines Advisory Group (MAG) is a British non-governmental organization registered as a Charity undertaking humanitarian mine action around the world. MAG is working to save lives and build futures in Sri Lanka by reducing the risk presented by remnants of conflict. As part of MAG's commitment to safeguarding, this post is subject to background checks before an offer is confirmed.

MAG is seeking applications from suitably qualified candidates to consider for the post of **Field Human Resource Assistant** to assist Human Resources Officer to carry out comprehensive HR functions through supporting daily operational requirements.

Essential Skills & Requirements

- > Should have completed certificate level course in Human Resource Management from a recognize institution.
- > Should be familiarize with local labour law.
- > Ability to work under pressure with high levels of concentration at work while meeting deadlines.
- > Strong knowledge and skills on working with Microsoft Excel and e-mail communication.
- > Ability to maintain up to date personal file folders around 400 employees.
- > Should have a knowledge in translating HR related letters in to Tamil/English/Tamil.
- > Fluent in English and Tamil (oral/written), Sinhala is an added qualification.
- > Good presentation skills.
- > Be prepared to work in the field sites in northern/eastern province.

Salary will be based upon the MAG Salary Scale on a fixed term contract. Please submit a CV to:
Human Resources Coordinator: recruitment.lk@maginternational.org
(Include "Field Human Resource Assistant" in the subject line)
Deadline: 4:00pm Friday 30th April 2021
Selected candidates will be called for interviews on a rolling basis
www.maginternational.org
MAG is an equal opportunity employer. Women are highly encouraged to apply the above post.



Join our team and make Great Bakery Products

We are a fast growing food company with a modern bakery and four upscale outlets with plans to grow. If you are passionate about baking and want to join a team of people who are committed to making great bakery products then we would like to hear from you. We have the following vacancies at the present time.

Commis I
Pastry / Bakery

We require a minimum of 2 years experience in the pastry or bakery section and familiarity with all kinds of pastry or International bread varieties.

Commis II
Pastry / Bakery

We require a minimum of 1 year experience in the pastry or bakery section and familiarity with all kinds of pastry or International bread varieties.

Please send your CV to hr@lpf.lk or by post to:
Lanka Premier Foods (Pvt) Ltd
84, Lorenz Road, Colombo 04.
Phone: 0773834479 (Chef Jagath)

SRI LANKA AIR FORCE

OFFICER CADET VACANCIES

We provide you the skies ... SLAF invites Patriotic Youth ...

Applications are called for Officer Cadet vacancies in Sri Lanka Air Force

General Duties Pilot Branch

- (Male)

Technical Engineering Branch

- (Male / Female)

Electronics Engineering Branch

- (Male)

Logistics Branch

- (Male / Female)

Administrative Branch

- (Male / Female)

Administrative Regiment Branch

- (Male / Female)

Operations Air Branch

- (Male)

Provost Branch

- (Male)

Administrative Band Branch

- (Male)

BASIC REQUIREMENTS

- Nationality : Must be a citizen of Sri Lanka → Unmarried
- Age : Not less than 18 years and not more than 23 years as at 01st September 2021
- Height : Male - 167.5cm and above → Chest : Minimum 32" (Male)
Female - 162.5cm and above
- Weight : Male - 17 < BMI < 26 → Colour Vision : CP2
Female - 17 < BMI < 25
- Visual Acuity : Left eye 6/6 and right eye 6/6 (Without Spectacles / Contact Lens)

BASIC EDUCATIONAL & SPECIFIC QUALIFICATIONS

- Minimum of six Credit (C) passes at the GCE (O/L) with compulsory Credit (C) passes for English language, Science, Mathematics and a Simple (S) pass and above for Sinhala / Tamil language in one sitting.
- Minimum of three simple (S) passes at the GCE (A/L) from Physical Science / Bio Science in one sitting for General Duties Pilot and Operations Air branches.
- Minimum of two Credit (C) passes and one Simple (S) pass at the GCE (A/L) from Physical Science (Combined Maths, Physics and Chemistry) Streams in one sitting for Technical and Electronics Engineering branches.
- Minimum of three simple (S) passes at the GCE (A/L) from any stream in one sitting for other branches.
- BSc (Aviation Studies) Degree Entrant Qualifications (Accredited by the General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University). Further candidates who are applying for the degree programme are to indicate whether they have qualified and applied for University admission when indicating A/L results in the application form.

SALARY

- Approximate gross annual salary including service and all other allowances:
- Pilot Officer - Rs. 1,055,675.64
- Flying Officer - Rs. 1,124,195.64
- Flight Lieutenant - Rs. 1,220,315.64
- Squadron Leader - Rs. 1,284,395.64
- Wing Commander - Rs. 1,303,955.64

OTHER BENEFITS

- Meals & Accommodation
- Uniforms
- Air & Ground Transport
- Life Insurance
- Medical & Recreational Facilities
- Holiday Homes
- Local & Foreign Training
- Married Quarters

For further details see Government Gazette on 30th April 2021
and <www.documents.gov.lk>

The envelope should be marked "APPLICATION FOR COMMISSION IN THE BRANCH"
on the top left corner. Applications should be forwarded under registered cover.

Application Closing Date on 15th May 2021

apply online through web
<www.airforce.lk> or <<http://airforce.observerjobs.lk>>

Command Recruiting Officer
Sri Lanka Air Force Trade Training School
Kotugoda.

For more information +94 11 24 95 900, www.airforce.lk



Opportunities for Part-Time Lecturers

ACBT Offers Programs in Engineering, Commerce, Health Science, IT & Creative Designing

Diploma/ Advanced Diploma Program

Minimum Requirements
Master + 2 years of university level teaching experience

English Communication (Preferred CELTA Qualifications) English Language	Business Studies Accounting Economics Communication Project Management Creativity	Health Studies Cultural Studies (Preferred Australian Qualification) Chemistry for the Life Science (Preferred Laboratory exposure)
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Computing/ IT

Mathematics for Computing Applied Communications Professional Science Essentials Systems and Database Computer Security Systems Analysis	Programming Principles Computer Fundamentals Intelligent Systems Distributed Systems Foundations of Software Engineering
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For further details on ACBT Programs : www.acbt.net
Please forward your CV to erath.karumaratne@acbt.lk within 07 days and mention the subject applied for in the subject line
No. 442, Galle Road, Colombo 03

Publish your advertisements with us

ADVERTISING Centres

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

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

1949

Teacher Vacancies

Rotary International School Nugegoda/Delkanda English Medium (National Syllabus)

Subjects: English, Mathematics, Science, English Lit, Information Technology, Commerce Up to G.C.E (A/L)

Walk - in Interviews On Tuesday (27/04/2021) From 9.00am - 12.00pm.

Venue: Rotary International School, 15/3, Samudradevi mawatha, Nugegoda.
Email - rotaryis@yahoo.com website - www.rotaryschool.lk

Are you the ONE for us?



Carrier is a leading global provider of innovative HVAC, Refrigeration, Fire, Security and Building Automation Technologies. Carrier Aircon Lanka (P) Ltd. invites applications for the following positions:

Position: Service (Chiller Service)

Qualification & Experience

- 3 Years Diploma in Mechanical / Diploma in Air-conditioning & Refrigeration.
- 10-15 years' experience in Chiller systems (including Screw & Centrifugal chillers) of Carrier or equivalent global brands.

Job Responsibilities

- End to end maintenance of HVAC equipment (trouble - shooting, repair & maintenance) including Centrifugal, Reciprocating, Screw and Absorption Chillers.
- Retrofit systems, using sheet metal and piping concepts & leveraging the Building Management Systems.
- Ensuring Chiller performance through chiller overhauls, major inspections & retrofits
- Maintaining records - actions taken on Chillers, parts usage, etc.
- Maintaining effective Customer relationship through regular communication on equipment condition, diagnosis & the causes & the actions taken, besides timely submission of Service reports

Position will be based at Colombo. Applications, along with updated resumes, should be submitted to jobs@carrier.com



IMMEDIATE VACANCIES

Site Supervisors / TO (Civil) required for building sites in Negombo, Matara & Dickwella. NCT or equivalent with 3 years experience.

Contact: 0718709961 / 0718709962
Email: swarnaconstructions.sl@gmail.com

CIVIL CONSTRUCTION VACANCIES

Application are invited from suitable qualified Candidates for the following posts, up to 16TH May 2021.

POST OF PROJECT COORDINATOR
Qualification: NCT Civil / NCT QS or equivalent with 5 year experience


POST OF SITE SUPERVISOR
Qualification: 5 year experience in Building Construction

JSM CONSTRUCTION (PVT) LTD.
No. 136 1/1, Poorwarama Road, Colombo 05
E mail: jsmconst@sltnet.lk

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CRB CREDIT INFORMATION BUREAU OF SRI LANKA

The Credit Information Bureau of Sri Lanka plays a key role serving all licensed commercial banks and other finance and leasing companies in Sri Lanka. As part of our ongoing technology driven business development program, aimed at expanding the Bureau's reach and coverage in the financial industry, we seek to recruit dynamic professionals to fill the following senior management position in the organization.

PROJECT MANAGER

The Role
The Project Manager will be responsible to lead, manage and coordinate all projects undertaken by the organization to ensure timely implementation and delivery within the given budget and other project objectives. The Project Manager will liaise and coordinate with others in diverse disciplines and levels within and outside the organization (local & foreign).

Experience

- 5 to 10 years Project Management experience.
- Strong project management & analytical skills with the ability to meet strict delivery targets.
- Proven track record in ICT projects in a service sector organization preferably with exposure to banking and finance.
- Excellent communicator to deal with technical and non-technical teams within the organization.
- Client facing & negotiations skills.
- Ability to perform multi facet project communications to different project stakeholders.
- Competency in Project Management and collaboration packages and software.

Key Accountabilities

- Lead, manage & be accountable for timely delivery of the projects within the scope & budget.
- Project planning and progress monitoring.
- Manage project issues & risks to ensure risk mitigation strategies are in place.
- Provide direction to the multi-functional teams to align with project plans & schedules and reach project goals.
- Coordinate with local and overseas project/ program managers during the entire life cycle of the project.

Qualifications

- Bachelor's degree in Computer Science or Information Technology discipline, or equivalent qualification.
- An industry recognized project management certification (PMP / PRINCE 2 / CPMP).

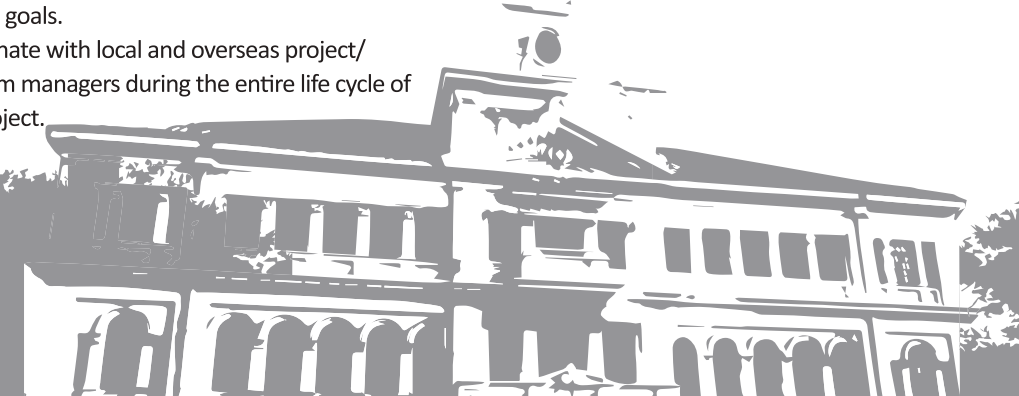
Non-Technical competency

- Good communication and time management skills.
- Ability to work under pressure in a dynamic environment.

An attractive remuneration package in line with the market and commensurate with skills, qualifications and experience of the selected candidate can be negotiated.

Interested individuals are requested to forward a comprehensive Curriculum Vitae together with copies of certificates and names, address & contact details of two non- related referees, under registered cover to reach the following address on or before 8th May 2021.

THE GENERAL MANAGER, CREDIT INFORMATION BUREAU OF SRI LANKA, "WHITEAWAYS BUILDING", NO. 25, SIR BARON JAYATHILAKA MAWATHA, COLOMBO 01.



HEAD OF EDUCATION

ABOUT SLIM

The Sri Lanka Institute of Marketing (SLIM) is the apex body for Sri Lankan Marketers, which was founded in 1970 and incorporated through Act 41 of 1980 and mandated to uplift the Marketing profession in Sri Lanka whilst providing marketing studies and conducting many national-level events and projects. SLIM is currently in the next phase of its development and is looking out for an outstanding strategist and educationalist, to join hands with, us as the Head of Education.

JOB DESCRIPTION

The Head of Education (HoE) will promote and monitor the excellence of teaching and learning, as one of the strategic drivers of the Institute, by effectively building and maintaining stakeholder relationships and efficiently managing the communication process. The individual leads the Education, Examination and Research arms of SLIM, to the next phase of its development. Continual involvement in curriculum development and the promotion of the development of assessment, best practice will necessitate that the HoE stays abreast with development in education and subject-specific areas through continuous national and international research. The role will also be involved in overseeing approval processes and instituting ambitious goals, which will ensure that SLIM reaches the level of most aspired professional qualification. The HoE will report directly to the CEO / Executive Director of SLIM and have the opportunity to lead the overall academic operation at the next distinctive chapter of SLIM.

PERSONAL PROFILE

The successful candidate should possess a Ph.D. with a proven track record of effective senior leadership, with working experience in a Higher Education Provider.

Should be an established leader with a deep understanding of the strategic imperatives of professional education, with enthusiasm for the goals and vision of SLIM, and a passion for Marketing Education and Research.

Should be a dynamic individual with a collaborative, inspirational approach, who could bring in a strong personal commitment to high-quality, inclusive education and widening access.

Up-to-date knowledge of current trends and future scenarios for higher education with consideration given to important innovations, including the potential of technology changes for teaching, learning, and assessment thorough insight into educational theories, educational processes in tertiary education.

Successful candidates can look forward to an attractive remuneration package on par with industry standards.

If you think that you are the person we look for, please send us your resume with the names and contact details of 02 non-related referees to exedirector@slim.lk within 10 days of this advertisement. Please mention the post applied in the subject line of the email.






Civil Aviation Authority of Sri Lanka

STAFF VACANCIES

Civil Aviation Authority of Sri Lanka ensures through strategic planning, professional guidance and stringent surveillance under well established regulatory framework, the operational of safe secure efficient regular and environment friendly national civil aviation system that conforms to the national legislative requirement and the International Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs). Civil Aviation Authority of Sri Lanka is looking for energetic enthusiastic and self-motivated personnel who have sound qualification and extensive experience in the field of civil aviation to fill its vacancies in the following posts.

Deputy Director General (Corporate Management) Post Code HM-2-1-DDG3 Number of Posts – 01	
Remuneration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basic Salary - Rs. 91,645 /- will be paid initially at recruitment (Salary Scale - Rs. 91,645 - 12 x 2,700 -124,045 -as per the MS Circular 02/2016) Other allowances – Cost of living allowance - Rs.7,800/- + Fuel allowance – 140 l + Transport Allowance - Rs 50,000/- (if use own vehicle) + Professional Allowance as per the MS Circular 05/2017 Other Benefits - Health Insurance Scheme, Accident Insurance Scheme, Death Grant Scheme, Bonus, Leave Encashment, Reimbursement of mobile phone bills 	
Qualification and Experience	
External Candidate <ol style="list-style-type: none"> A Bachelor's Degree of not less than (03) three years duration in the field of Economics, Accountancy, Management, Commerce or Administration which is recognized by the University Grants Commission of Sri Lanka; A Postgraduate Degree qualification (Masters') in the field of Economics, Accountancy, Management, Commerce, Administration or Associate Membership of a recognized professional Chartered Institute relating to Finance Management or Administration; Minimum of eighteen (18) years' service experience in the field of Finance, Management, Administration or Auditing at a Managerial Level in a Corporation, Statutory Board/ Institution or a reputed private institution. 	Internal Candidate <p>Option -1 Having obtained the qualification required by the external candidates mentioned.</p> <p>Option -2</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Minimum of five (05) years' service experience as Director (Human Resources and Property Management), Director (Finance and Revenue Management) or Director (Quality and Internal Audit) in the CAASL; Unblemished track record for the preceding five years and having earned all the increments in the current post; 'Good' or above grading in the Annual Performance; A proven ability to lead and direct multi-disciplinary teams. Experience in proper development and efficient management of human and other resources.

Director (Aerodromes) Post Code HM-1-1-D2 Number of Posts – 01	
Remuneration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basic Salary - Rs. 80,295 /- will be paid initially at recruitment (Salary Scale - Rs. 80,295 - 15 x 2,270 -114,345 -as per the MS Circular 02/2016) Other allowances – Cost of living allowance - Rs.7,800/- + Fuel allowance – 120 l + Transport Allowance - Rs 50,000/- (if use own vehicle) + Special Technical Allowance(Please refer the CAASL Web site for requirements) - Rs. 225,000/- Other Benefits - Health Insurance Scheme, Accident Insurance Scheme, Death Grant Scheme, Bonus, Leave Encashment, Reimbursement of mobile phone bills 	
Qualification and Experience	
External Candidate <p>Option 1</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> A Bachelor's Degree of not less than three (03) years duration in the field of Physical Science, Aerospace Engineering, Air Transport, Aeronautical Engineering or Civil Engineering which is recognized by the University Grants Commission of Sri Lanka; A Postgraduate Degree qualification (Masters') in the field of Aviation or Associate Membership of a recognized Professional Chartered Institute relating to Aviation or successfully completed courses which includes Aerodrome Certification Course (Managerial Level) of not less than six (06) weeks conducted by the International Civil Aviation Organization or similar Organization of International repute or any similar qualification which is recognized by the International Civil Aviation Organization; Minimum of ten (10) years' experience in the field of Aerodrome Operations at Managerial level in a Corporation, Statutory Board/Institution/Government owned company or a reputed Private Institution. <p>Option 2</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Post graduate degree qualification (Masters) in the field of Aviation or full Membership of a recognized Professional Chartered Institute relating to Aviation or successfully completed courses(Managerial Level) of not less than (06) six weeks conducted by the International Civil Aviation Organization or similar Organization of International repute or any similar qualification which is recognized by the International Civil Aviation Organization; Minimum of thirteen (13) years' experience in the field of Aerodromes at Managerial Level in a Corporation, Statutory Board/Institution/Government owned company or a reputed Private Institution. 	Internal Candidate <p>Option -1 Having obtained the qualifications required by the external candidates mentioned.</p> <p>Option -2 Having satisfied all of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Completion of minimum of five (05) years' satisfactory service in a post in the Manager category (MM1-1) grade I in the field of Aerodromes ; Unblemished track record for the preceding five (05) years and having earned all the increments in the current post; Having successfully completed advanced Training courses approved by the Authority in the field of Aerodromes and Aerodrome Certification of not less than six (06) weeks conducted by the International Civil Aviation Organization or its recognized institute ; 'Good' or above grading in the Annual Performance Appraisals for the last five (05) years.

Senior Civil Aviation Inspector (Aeronautical Information Service) Post Code MM-1-1-AN2 Number of Posts – 01	
Remuneration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basic Salary - Rs. 53,175 /- will be paid initially at recruitment (Salary Scale - Rs. 53,175 -10 x-1,375 -15 x 1,910 - 95,575 - as per the MS Circular 02/2016) Other allowances – Cost of living allowance - Rs.7,800/- + Managers' Allowance - Rs 50,000/- + Special Technical Allowance(Please refer the CAASL Web site for requirements) - Rs. 100,000/- Other Benefits - Health Insurance Scheme, Accident Insurance Scheme, Death Grant Scheme, Bonus, Leave Encashment, Reimbursement of mobile phone bills 	
Qualification and Experience	
External Candidate <p>Option 1 Bachelor's Degree of not less than three (03) years from a University recognized by the University Grants Commission of Sri Lanka in Physical Science, Transport, Aerospace, Information and Communication Technology or Engineering Streams, with not less than eight (08) years post qualifying experience in Executive Capacity in the relevant field in a Government Department /Public Enterprise or in a reputed Mercantile Establishment engaged in Aviation</p> <p>Option 2 Having passed the Intermediate Examination of a recognized professional Chartered Institute, of which the subject area is relevant to the post with minimum eight (08) years post qualifying experience in Executive Capacity in the relevant field in a Government Department/ Public Enterprise or in a reputed Mercantile Establishment engaged in Aviation.</p> <p>Option 3 Having obtained a certificate of proficiency in the relevant field which is not below than the National Vocational Qualification Level 7 determined by Technical /Vocational Training Institute accepted by Tertiary and Vocational Education Commission with minimum eight (08) years post qualifying experience in Executive Capacity in the relevant field in a Government Department/ Public Enterprise or in a reputed Mercantile Establishment engaged in Aviation.</p>	Internal Candidate <p>Option 1 Having obtained the qualifications required by the External Candidates mentioned above.</p> <p>Option 2</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Minimum of six (06) years' service experience as a Civil Aviation Inspector (Aeronautical Information Service); Unblemished track record for the preceding six (06) years and having earned all the increments in the current post; Having successfully completed ICAO approved courses of training not less than four (04) weeks in the field of Aeronautical Information Service ; 'Good' or above grading in the Annual Performance

Senior Civil Aviation Inspector (Air Traffic Management-Technical) Post Code MM-1-1-AN3Number of Posts – 01	
Remuneration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basic Salary - Rs. 53,175 /- will be paid initially at recruitment (Salary Scale - Rs. 53,175 -10 x-1,375 -15 x 1,910 - 95,575 - as per theMS Circular 02/2016) Other allowances – Cost of living allowance - Rs.7,800/- + Managers' Allowance - Rs 50,000/- + Special Technical Allowance(Please refer the CAASL Web site for requirements) - Rs. 170,000/- Other Benefits - Health Insurance Scheme, Accident Insurance Scheme, Death Grant Scheme, Bonus, Leave Encashment, Reimbursement of mobile phone bills 	
Qualification and Experience	
External Candidate <p>Option 1 Bachelor's Degree in Engineering of not less than four (04) years from a University recognized by the University Grants Commission of Sri Lanka in the field of Telecommunication / Avionics, with not less than eight (08) years post qualifying experience as an Electronics/Telecommunication/Avionics Engineer in a Government Department /Public Enterprise or in a reputed Mercantile Establishment engaged in provision of Air Navigation Services and Ground Aides.</p> <p>Option 2 Having passed the Intermediate Examination of a recognized professional Chartered Institute, of which the subject area is relevant to the post with minimum eight (08) years post qualifying experience as an Electronics/Telecommunication/Avionics Engineer in a public or private organization engaged in the provision of Air Navigation Services and Ground Aides.</p> <p>Option 3 Having obtained a certificate of proficiency in the relevant field which is not below than the National Vocational Qualification Level 7 determined by Technical /Vocational Training Institute accepted by Tertiary and Vocational Education Commission with minimum eight (08) years post qualifying experience as an Electronic/Telecommunication/Avionics Engineer in a public or private organization engaged in provision of Air Navigation Services and Ground Aides.</p>	Internal Candidate <p>Option 1 Having obtained the qualifications required by the External Candidates mentioned.</p> <p>Option 2</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Minimum of six (06) years' service experience as a Civil Aviation Inspector (Air Traffic Management Technical) ; Unblemished track record for the preceding six (06) years and having earned all the increments in the current post; Having successfully completed ICAO approved courses of training not less than four (04) weeks in the field of Air Traffic Management ; 'Good' or above grading in the Annual Performance

Senior Civil Aviation Inspector (Aeronautical Meteorology) Post Code MM-1-1-AN5 Number of Posts – 01	
Remuneration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basic Salary - Rs. 53,175 /- will be paid initially at recruitment (Salary Scale - Rs. 53,175 -10 x-1,375 -15 x 1,910 - 95,575 - as per theMS Circular 02/2016) Other allowances – Cost of living allowance - Rs.7,800/- + Managers' Allowance - Rs 50,000/- + Special Technical Allowance(Please refer the CAASL Web site for requirements) - Rs. 120,000/- Other Benefits - Health Insurance Scheme, Accident Insurance Scheme, Death Grant Scheme, Bonus, Leave Encashment, Reimbursement of mobile phone bills 	
Qualification and Experience	
External Candidate (Candidates in CAASL may apply if possess following qualification and Experience) A Bachelor of Science degree of not less than three (03) years from a recognized university by the University Grants Commission of Sri Lanka having studied in Atmospheric Physics, Physical Science, Transport, Aerospace, Information and Communication Technology or Engineering Stream with not less than eight (08) years post qualifying experience as a Forecaster or Meteorologist in a Government Department /Public Enterprise or in a reputed Mercantile Establishment engaged in Meteorology.	

Senior Civil Aviation Inspector(Aircraft Registration and Airworthiness Standards) Post Code MM-1-1-AW -1 Senior Civil Aviation Inspector (Air Operator Certification and Surveillance) Post Code MM-1-1-AW-3 Number of Posts – 02	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recruited specifically for Mattala – CAASL Office 	
Remuneration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basic Salary –Rs. 53,175 /- will be paid initially at recruitment (Salary Scale - Rs. 53,175 -10 x-1,375 -15 x 1,910 - 95,575 - as per the MS Circular 02/2016) Other allowances – Cost of living allowance - Rs.7,800/- + Managers' Allowance - Rs 50,000/- + Special Technical Allowance(Please refer the CAASL Web site for requirements) - Rs. 270,000/- Other Benefits - Health Insurance Scheme, Accident Insurance Scheme, Death Grant Scheme, Bonus, Leave Encashment, Reimbursement of mobile phone bills 	
Qualification and Experience	
External Candidate <p>Option 1 Bachelor's Degree in Engineering in the field of Mechanical, Electrical or Electronics of not less than four (04) years from an University recognized by the University Grant Commission of Sri Lanka with not less than eight(08) years post qualifying experience as an Airworthiness Inspector/Engineer or Aircraft Maintenance Engineer in a Government Department /Public Enterprise or in a reputed Mercantile Establishment engaged in Aviation.</p> <p>Option 2 Having passed the Intermediate Examination of a recognized professional Chartered Institute, of which the subject area is relevant to the post or similar qualifications with minimum eight (08) years post qualifying experience as a Mechanical, Electrical or Electronics Engineer in public or private organization engaged in a Commercial Air Services, Aircraft Maintenance or Repair or Flying Training or Engineering Training.</p> <p>Option 3 Having obtained a certificate of proficiency in the relevant field which is not below than the National Vocational Qualification Level 7 determined by Technical/Vocational Training Institute accepted by Tertiary and Vocational Education Commission or holding an Aircraft Maintenance Engineer Licence (AML) with minimum eight (8) years post qualifying experience as a Mechanical, Electrical or Electronics Engineer in an public or private organization engaged in a Commercial Air Services, Aircraft Maintenance or Repair or Flying Training or Engineering Training.</p>	Internal Candidate <p>Option 1 Having obtained the qualifications required by the External Candidates mentioned.</p> <p>Option 2</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Minimum of six (06) years' service experience as a Civil Aviation Inspector (Airworthiness – Airframe), Civil Aviation Inspector (Airworthiness – Power Plant), Civil Aviation Inspector(Airworthiness – Avionics), Civil Aviation Inspector (Airworthiness – Design and Production) as applicable ; Unblemished track record for the preceding six (06) years and having earned all the increments in the current post; Having successfully completed ICAO approved courses of training not less than four (04) weeks in the field of Airworthiness ; 'Good' or above grading in the Annual Performance

Technical Assistant (Civil) Post Code MA2-1-TA-1Number of Posts – 01	
Remuneration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basic Salary - Rs. 30,310/- will be paid initially at recruitment (Salary Scale –Rs. 30,310 - 10 x 300-7 x 350 - 4x 495 - 20x 660-50,940 - as per the MS Circular 02/2016) Other allowances – Cost of living allowance - Rs.7,800/- + Transport Allowance - Rs.14,575/- Other Benefits - Health Insurance Scheme, Accident Insurance Scheme, Death Grant Scheme, Bonus, Leave Encashment 	
Qualification and Experience	
External Candidate Having obtained a certificate of proficiency not lower than the National Vocational Qualification Level 5, issued by a Vocational Training Institute accepted by the Tertiary and Vocational Education Commission relating to Civil Works with at least three (03) years of service experience in Public or Private Organization in the relevant field.	

Civil Aviation Assistant Post Code MA1-2 – CAA Number of Posts – 03	
Remuneration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basic Salary - Rs. 27,910/- will be paid initially at recruitment (Salary Scale - Rs. 27,910– 10 x 300 – 7 x 350 – 12 x 600 - 12 x 710–49,080 - as per theMS Circular 02/2016) Other allowances – Cost of living allowance - Rs.7,800/- + Transport Allowance - Rs 14,575/- Other Benefits - Health Insurance Scheme, Accident Insurance Scheme, Death Grant Scheme, Bonus, Leave Encashment 	
Qualification and Experience	
External Candidate Having passed the General Certificate of Education (Ordinary Level) examination in six (06) subjects in one sitting with credit passes for four (04) subjects including (i) Sinhala / Tamil (ii) English language (iii) Mathematics	Internal Candidate <p>Option 1 Having obtained the qualifications required by the external candidates .</p> <p>Option 2 Having passed General Certificate of Education (Ordinary Level) examination in six (06) subjects with credit passes four (04) subject including (i) Sinhala / Tamil (ii) English language (iii) Mathematics</p> <p>AND Has completed a minimum of five (05) years satisfactory service in a permanent post as an Office Aide or a Driver is eligible to apply.</p>

Senior Civil Aviation Inspector (Air Traffic Management-Technical) Post Code MM-1-1-AN3Number of Posts – 01	
Remuneration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basic Salary - Rs. 53,175 /- will be paid initially at recruitment (Salary Scale - Rs. 53,175 -10 x-1,375 -15 x 1,910 - 95,575 - as per theMS Circular 02/2016) Other allowances – Cost of living allowance - Rs.7,800/- + Managers' Allowance - Rs 50,000/- + Special Technical Allowance(Please refer the CAASL Web site for requirements) - Rs. 170,000/- Other Benefits - Health Insurance Scheme, Accident Insurance Scheme, Death Grant Scheme, Bonus, Leave Encashment, Reimbursement of mobile phone bills 	
Qualification and Experience	
External Candidate <p>Option 1 Bachelor's Degree in Engineering of not less than four (04) years from a University recognized by the University Grants Commission of Sri Lanka in the field of Telecommunication / Avionics, with not less than eight (08) years post qualifying experience as an Electronics/Telecommunication/Avionics Engineer in a Government Department /Public Enterprise or in a reputed Mercantile Establishment engaged in provision of Air Navigation Services and Ground Aides.</p> <p>Option 2 Having passed the Intermediate Examination of a recognized professional Chartered Institute, of which the subject area is relevant to the post with minimum eight (08) years post qualifying experience as an Electronics/Telecommunication/Avionics Engineer in a public or private organization engaged in the provision of Air Navigation Services and Ground Aides.</p> <p>Option 3 Having obtained a certificate of proficiency in the relevant field which is not below than the National Vocational Qualification Level 7 determined by Technical /Vocational Training Institute accepted by Tertiary and Vocational Education Commission with minimum eight (08) years post qualifying experience as an Electronic/Telecommunication/Avionics Engineer in a public or private organization engaged in provision of Air Navigation Services and Ground Aides.</p>	Internal Candidate <p>Option 1 Having obtained the qualifications required by the External Candidates mentioned.</p> <p>Option 2</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Minimum of six (06) years' service experience as a Civil Aviation Inspector (Air Traffic Management Technical) ; Unblemished track record for the preceding six (06) years and having earned all the increments in the current post; Having successfully completed ICAO approved courses of training not less than four (04) weeks in the field of Air Traffic Management ; 'Good' or above grading in the Annual Performance

Senior Civil Aviation Inspector (Air Traffic Management-Technical) Post Code MM-1-1-AN3Number of Posts – 01	
Remuneration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basic Salary - Rs. 53,175 /- will be paid initially at recruitment (Salary Scale - Rs. 53,175 -10 x-1,375 -15 x 1,910 - 95,575 - as per theMS Circular 02/2016) Other allowances – Cost of living allowance - Rs.7,800/- + Managers' Allowance - Rs 50,000/- + Special Technical Allowance(Please refer the CAASL Web site for requirements) - Rs. 170,000/- Other Benefits - Health Insurance Scheme, Accident Insurance Scheme, Death Grant Scheme, Bonus, Leave Encashment, Reimbursement of mobile phone bills 	
Qualification and Experience	
External Candidate <p>Option 1 Bachelor's Degree in Engineering of not less than four (04) years from a University recognized by the University Grants Commission of Sri Lanka in the field of Telecommunication / Avionics, with not less than eight (08) years post qualifying experience as an Electronics/Telecommunication/Avionics Engineer in a Government Department /Public Enterprise or in a reputed Mercantile Establishment engaged in provision of Air Navigation Services and Ground Aides.</p> <p>Option 2 Having passed the Intermediate Examination of a recognized professional Chartered Institute, of which the subject area is relevant to the post with minimum eight (08) years post qualifying experience as an Electronics/Telecommunication/Avionics Engineer in a public or private organization engaged in the provision of Air Navigation Services and Ground Aides.</p> <p>Option 3 Having obtained a certificate of proficiency in the relevant field which is not below than the National Vocational Qualification Level 7 determined by Technical /Vocational Training Institute accepted by Tertiary and Vocational Education Commission with minimum eight (08) years post qualifying experience as an Electronic/Telecommunication/Avionics Engineer in a public or private organization engaged in provision of Air Navigation Services and Ground Aides.</p>	Internal Candidate <p>Option 1 Having obtained the qualifications required by the External Candidates mentioned.</p> <p>Option 2</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Minimum of six (06) years' service experience as a Civil Aviation Inspector (Air Traffic Management Technical) ; Unblemished track record for the preceding six (06) years and having earned all the increments in the current post; Having successfully completed ICAO approved courses of training not less than four (04) weeks in the field of Air Traffic Management ; 'Good' or above grading in the Annual Performance

Post	Age limit	Remarks
Deputy Director General / Director	35 years - 55 years	
Senior Civil Aviation Inspector	22 years - 45 years	
Technical Assistant (Civil)	22 years - 45 years	The upper age limit will not apply to the internal candidates.
Civil Aviation Assistant	18 years - 45 years	

- Only the applications sent on the **Standard Application forms** will be entertained. Applicants who serve in any of the Government organizations should apply through the Head of the Organization.
- Duly completed applications should reach this office on or before 10.05.2021 under registered post or can be forwarded by e-mail: employment@caa.lk and they will be acknowledged.
- Applications should be addressed to **Director General of Civil Aviation & Chief Executive Officer, Civil Aviation Authority of Sri Lanka, No.152/1, Minuwangoda Road, Katunayake** and the title of the post being applied shall be marked on the top left hand corner of the envelope.
- Separate applications should be sent for each post, if applying for more than one post.
- Only the candidates satisfying the eligibility criteria will be called for interviews/ tests.

Director General of Civil Aviation & Chief Executive Officer,
Civil Aviation Authority of Sri Lanka,
No. 152/1,
Minuwangoda Road,
Katunayake.

25.04.2021

JOB OPPORTUNITIES FOR A HOTEL

A newly built boutique Hotel in Panagoda Area is looking for professional and experienced staff with 2-3 years of experience in their respective fields, in hotel industry.

Applications are required for the following positions:

- Hotel Manager
- Event Co-ordinator (Female)
- Chef
- Waiters
- Security Guard

Interested candidates are requested to apply latest by 30th of April.

Email us at : shanuka.mahanama@yahoo.com

Repeat Your Ad For Better Offers



The British School in Colombo

We are looking for energetic, self-motivated and hardworking individual to join our team for the following position in our school

ASSISTANT SPORTS COORDINATOR

- Relevant experience.
- Work as a part of a committed dedicated team.
- A good command of written and spoken English is essential.
- You must be an energetic individual who has a passion for sport and with good organising skills.
- You must be able to; attend and organise meetings, tournaments and fixtures, support the administration and organisational needs of Sports/PE department, maintain and update records, communicate with parents, staff and students about tournaments and fixtures.

Please send in your CV to humanresources@britishschool.lk ASAP

LANKA ELECTRICITY COMPANY (PRIVATE) LIMITED

Employment Opportunities

Lanka Electricity Company (Private) Limited, a distribution utility in Sri Lanka which has seven branches covering operational areas of the coastal belt of the island from Negombo to Galle serving over 500,000 consumers and has a workforce of 1500 employees is seeking qualified personnel for the following post.

1. Network Administrator

Educational Qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science or equivalent.
Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 + years of experience in similar role demonstrating, • Experience with configuration, administration and monitoring of intel-based servers, operating systems, TCP/IP firewalls, and Ethernet switches, protocols and standards required. • Experience managing and administering telecommunication systems required. • MSCE, MSITP, CCNA or other technical certification preferred

The age limit for the above posts should be below 40 years as at **04th May 2021**.


An attractive salary will be offered to the selected candidate with a wide range of fringe benefits.

Please forward your detailed Curriculum Vitae with copies of certificates together with names, addresses and contact telephone numbers of two non related referees to reach the undersigned on or before **04th May 2021**.

The post applied for should be clearly stated on the application and on the top left hand corner of the Envelope.



Head of Human Resources & Administration
Lanka Electricity Company (Private) Limited
 1st Floor, E.H. Cooray Building,
 411, Galle Road, Colombo 03.



JOIN A TEAM DRIVEN BY EXCELLENCE

The CBL Group is one of the largest FMCG Conglomerates operating largely in the food sector with multiple operations in Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Myanmar. The Group has its product presence in 55 countries around the world and is the market leader and a dominant player in every key sector where the CBL Brands have a presence. Portfolio includes biscuits, chocolates, cakes to textured vegetable protein, coconut products and cereal, manufactured under Munchee, Ritzbury, Tiara, Lanka Soy, Sera and Samaposhha Brands, which are market leaders in their respective categories in Sri Lanka. The CBL Group consists of 11 companies in Sri Lanka and overseas, which functions as independent business units headed by CEOs.

DESIGNATION: SENIOR BRAND MANAGERS (CHOCOLATES & CAKES)
COMPANY NAME: CBL FOODS INTERNATIONAL (PVT) LTD
LOCATION: RANALA


ROLE PROFILE

- Work with internal departments and external partners to develop and execute successful brand plans to deliver revenue, margin, market share and profit targets
- Develop and execute marketing plans including media strategy / plans for allocated brands whilst being responsible for ensuring successful implementation of same
- Execute product launches
- Implement portfolio strategy in conjunction with overall business strategy
- Manage development and activation of brands
- Accountable for marketing budget on assigned brands

PERSONAL PROFILE

- Proven track record with minimum 3 years experience as a Brand Manager in a reputed organization
- SLIM / CIM or Bachelor's degree or an equivalent qualification from a recognized institute or university
- In depth knowledge about the FMCG market.
- Analytical skills and attention to detail
- Ability to provide creative and innovative ideas
- Strategic thinking and Team working
- Ability to work in cross functional team
- Proven leadership skills
- Excellent verbal, written communication and presentation skills
- Knowledge and experience in digital communications.

Please apply with details of 2 non related referees to careers.cblf@cbllk.com or CBL Foods International (Pvt)ltd, P O Box 1, Habarakada Road, Ranala.




C. M. S. LADIES' COLLEGE, COLOMBO 7.

VACANCY POST OF PRINCIPAL

C. M. S. Ladies College, Colombo, was established in 1900 by the Church Missionary Society. The school is a Government approved educational Institution within the Diocese of Colombo, Church of Ceylon.

Minimum requirements:

- preferably over 45 years of age.
- hold a degree together with appropriate Post Graduate qualification from recognized universities.
- have a minimum of 10 years teaching experience in a secondary school.
- experience in administration will be considered favourably.

The ideal candidate should have some or all of the following additional attributes:

- be familiar with the National Curriculum and the latest learning and performance management systems.
- be able to lead and guide the students in extracurricular activities
- proactively communicate, build / maintain good relations within the community.

Emoluments will be commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Applications with names of two non – related referees should reach the following address by email or under registered cover by the 21st of May, 2021.

All applications should carry 'Post of Principal' on the top left corner.

The Chairperson,
 Governing Body for Educational Institutions founded by C.M.S. in Ceylon,
 No. 368 / 3A, Baudhaloka Mawatha,
 Colombo 00700,
 Sri Lanka.
 Email: cmsgb1960@gmail.com



POSTGRADUATE INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURE

UNIVERSITY OF PERADENIYA

NOTICE

Post of Temporary Lecturer

Applications are invited from talented and dynamic individuals who wish to join Postgraduate Institute of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya as a Temporary Lecturer.

The person we are looking for should have:

- A degree from a recognized University in Computer Science / Information Technology (IT)
- Experience on activities in open source development using HTML,CSS, Java Script, PHP, AJAX, JQuery and other related technologies
- Have excellent knowledge of recent trends in graphic designs and websites
- Demonstrate the ability to create innovative and visually appealing design
- Knowledge in graphics software or image editing software
- Knowledge in open source content management systems
- Ability to handle multiple tasks and work effectively as a good player under minimum supervision
- Extensive knowledge and hands-on experience in MySQL
- Good command of English
- Age not more than 45 years

Remuneration: Rs. 49,860/- per mensem + CoL allowance

Period of Service: One year initially

Application and other details

The advertisement, application form and relevant information could be downloaded from the PGIA website: www.pgia.ac.lk (under Notices Section)

- The post applied for should be marked on the top left-hand corner of the envelope
- Candidates in Public Service, Corporations, Statutory Boards and Universities should forward applications through their respective Heads of Institutions. They may send an advance copy of the application to reach the Deputy Registrar, Postgraduate Institute of Agriculture (PGIA).

The duly completed applications on prescribed forms together with copies of relevant documents should be sent under registered cover to reach the Deputy Registrar, Postgraduate Institute of Agriculture, P.O. Box 55, Old Galaha Road, Peradeniya, 20400 on or before 07th May 2021. Incomplete applications, and those without supporting documents and applications received after the closing date will not be considered.

The Postgraduate Institute of Agriculture reserves the right to shortlist the candidates and call for interviews for such candidates only.

Director
 Postgraduate Institute of Agriculture
 University of Peradeniya.
 25th April 2021

Musaeus College

Montessori Teachers



We are seeking to appoint reliable, trustworthy and innovative Montessori Teachers to our school.

To be successful as a Montessori Teacher, you should be a lifelong learner who inspires a love for learning in your students.

Montessori Teacher's responsibilities include :

- creating lesson plans and curricula focused to developing social, physical, intellectual, and emotional skills
- assessing children's individual needs and communicating with parents as required
- creating a nurturing, stimulating classroom where every child feels included
- the ability to accept failure, learn from their mistakes, and embrace creativity and independence

Montessori Teacher requirements :

- Completed training at an accredited Montessori Centre (AMI)
- Bachelor's Degree in Early Childhood Teaching & Education is an advantage
- Passionate about alternative education
- An ability to teach groups of children of varying ages, needs, and abilities
- Patience and excellent observational, communication, and diagnostic skills
- The ability to multitask, keep calm under pressure and treat everyone with love and respect

To apply for this position, please email your request for an application form (stating your name and mobile number) to careers@musaeus.lk Complete the application form (we send you via email) with a supporting statement (section 7 of the application form). **CVs will not be accepted.**

Chairman
Musaeus College

VACANCY

for PoSt of
aSSiStant general Manager-Sales & Marketing
rannara engineering - Solar
Market leader in
agri-engineering business in Sri Lanka

We are looking for an individual with a proven track record & driven ability to Head our rapidly growing Solar Team.

The ideal candidate should

- Have previous experience in the same field.
- Ability to explore & propose new business opportunities
- Be Self-motivated, Independent, performance driven
- Excellent communication & presentation skills
- A person who can drive the business locally & Internationally with improvements to the P & L

Salary negotiable.

If you are the person we are looking for; Please forward your CV within 7 days of this advertisement to Group CEO,

e-mail address: manoj@rannara.lk
rannara engineering Services (Pvt) Ltd;
120/11d, vidya Mawatha, colombo 07.

Construction & Property Development Company in Colombo 05 requires the services of

Accountant

Job Responsibilities

- Managing all the corporate taxes including Income Tax, VAT, NBT, etc and other statutory requirements of the company.
- Preparation of monthly / quarterly / annual financial statements on time.
- Facilitate External Audit.
- Preparation of Budgets, Analysis of business plans, manage ISO documentations and full control of fund management.

Qualifications

- > I.C.A. or CIMA partly qualified person
- > Minimum 05 years experience in a similar role
- > Strong analytical skills, possessing of strong business, finance and commercial acumen.
- > Leadership skill, team work, communication, presentation and negotiation skills
- > Prior experience in Audit firm will be an added advantage.

Accounts Executives

Qualifications

- > GCE Advanced Level (Commerce Stream)
- > AAT - Level - 2 (Minimum)
- > Computer literacy (MS Word / Excel) - essential
- > Previous Experience an advantage

Mail your CV within 07 days of this advertisement to info@lhpci.com with position applied for on the subject line. Only those with suitable qualifications and experience will be shortlisted and called for interview.

SINHAPUTHRA FINANCE PLC

Vacancy for

Male Officer for Legal Department

A vacancy exists in the Legal Department for an officer who is conversant with court procedure and willing to undertake court work.

- * *Minimum A level qualification*
- * *Possess a valid Motor bike riding license*
- * *Age limit - between 23 and 35 years.*
- * *An accounts knowledge will be an added qualification.*

Ideal career opportunity with an attractive package.

Please apply with comprehensive CV and contact details of two non-related referees immediately to **The HR Department, Sinhaputhra Finance PLC, No 11, Hill Street, Kandy** or E mail to hr@sinhaputhra.com



SABARAGAMUWA UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA

VACANCIES

The Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka will entertain applications for the under mentioned posts from suitably qualified persons up to 18.05.2021.

1. facUltY of aPPLIED ScienceS

Department of Computing & Information Systems

i. Posts : Senior Lecturer Gr. I / Senior Lecturer Gr. II / Lecturer (Unconfirmed) / Lecturer (Probationary) - (04 Nos.)

Subject Area : Software engineering

Special Note : Candidates must be qualified with BSc Honors degree in Computer Science / Software Engineering / Computer Engineering / Information Technology and specialized in Software Engineering related areas such as Requirements Engineering, Software Process Concepts and Implementation, Software Design Concepts, Software Verification and Validation, Software Configuration Management, Software Project Management, Software Testing, Software Architecture or Software Design Patterns.

Preference will be given to candidates with postgraduate degree/industrial exposure in the field of Software Engineering.

2. facUltY of geoMaticS

Department of Surveying and Geodesy

i. Post : Temporary Assistant Lecturer - (03 Nos.)

Subject Area : land Surveying field Practical

Special Note : Candidates must be qualified with BSc Surveying Sciences degree.

3. facUltY of ManageMent StUdieS

Department of Accountancy & Finance

degree Programme : b.Sc. (hons.) banking and insurance

i. Posts : Senior Lecturer Gr. I / Senior Lecturer Gr. II / Lecturer (Unconfirmed) / Lecturer (Probationary) - (01 No.)

ii. Post : Temporary Assistant Lecturer - (02 Nos.)

Subject Areas : Risk Management, Actuarial Science, Underwriting & Claims Management, Assets & Liability Management, Domestic & International Banking, Bank Lending & Credit Management, Reinsurance, Marine & Aviation Insurance, Commercial Property Insurance, Life Insurance

Special Note : Candidates must be qualified with a Management degree specialized in Banking and Insurance and should be able to teach at least 04 subjects mentioned above.

4. facUltY of Medicine

Department of Parasitology

i. Posts : Senior Lecturer Gr. I / Senior Lecturer Gr. II / Lecturer (Unconfirmed) / Lecturer (Probationary) - (02 Nos.)

Subject Area : Parasitology

Department of Forensic Medicine

i. Posts : Senior Lecturer Gr. I / Senior Lecturer Gr. II / Lecturer (Unconfirmed) / Lecturer (Probationary) - (02 Nos.)

Subject Area : Forensic Medicine

Department of Family Medicine

i. Post : Senior Lecturer Gr. I / Senior Lecturer Gr. II / Lecturer (Unconfirmed) / Lecturer (Probationary) - (01 No.)

Subject Area : Family Medicine

Special Note : For all the above posts candidates, must be qualified with MBBS or equivalent qualifications as their first degree.

Postgraduate qualifications in the relevant field / MD qualifications would be preferred.

5. facUltY of technology

Department of Biosystems Technology

Posts : Senior Lecturer Gr. I / Senior Lecturer Gr. II / Lecturer (Unconfirmed) / Lecturer (Probationary) - (01 No.)

Subject Area : Chemical and Process Engineering

Qualification : Candidates must be qualified with B.Sc. Engineering (Hons) degree in Chemical and Process Engineering.

Special Note : Candidates with postgraduate degree in Sustainable Process Engineering/ Energy Management/ Environmental Pollution Control Engineering/ Chemical and Process Engineering/ Chemical or Biochemical, or Biotechnology Process Development/Thermochemical Bioenergy Generation/ Biochemical Bioenergy Generation or a closely related field would be preferred.

SALARY SCALES:

Temporary Assistant Lecturer	Rs. 49,860 p.m. (Fixed)	[U-AC 2 - 2016]
Lecturer (Probationary)	Rs. 54,600 – 10 X 1,335 – 67,950 p.m.	[U-AC 3 (IV) – 2016A]
Lecturer (Unconfirmed)	Rs. 69,580 – 5 x 1,630 – 77,730 p.m.	[U-AC 3 (III) – 2016A]
Senior Lecturer Gr. II	Rs. 79,360 – 11 x1,630 – 97,290 p.m.	[U-AC 3 (II) – 2016A]
Senior Lecturer Gr. I	Rs. 91,310 – 7x 2,170 – 106,500 p.m.	[U-AC 3 (I) – 2016A]

BENEFITS:

Appointees to the permanent posts are required to contribute 10% of their monthly salary to the Universities Provident Fund; the University in turn contributes a sum equivalent to 8% to the Universities Pension Fund, 7% to the Universities Provident Fund (UPF) and 3% to the Employees Trust Fund (ETF).

Appointees to the temporary posts will contribute 10% of their monthly salary to the UPF the University in turn contributes a sum equivalent to 15% to the UPF and 3% to the ETF.

In addition to the above salary, Cost of Living Allowance, Academic Allowance, Research & Development Allowance and other due allowances approved by the University Grants Commission will also be paid to the staff where relevant.

The appointees for Senior Lecturer Gr. I, Senior Lecturer Gr. II, Lecturer (Unconfirmed) and Lecturer (Probationary) are entitled to Academic Allowance of 151%, 151%, 131% and 115% of the basic salary of their posts respectively.

SABBATICAL LEAVE:

All appointees to the posts of Senior Lecturer Gr. II and above are entitled for one year Sabbatical Leave with pay once in every seven years of service and as per the provisions of relevant UGC circulars, Air passage will be paid by the University to the teacher and his/her spouse when proceeding abroad on such leave.

CONDITIONS OF SERVICE:

Selected candidates if presently serving in a government department will have to obtain his/her release through their respective appointing authority. Government employees will not be entitled to maintain their pension rights whilst in the university service.

HOW TO APPLY:

Application forms and qualification guidelines could be either downloaded from the university web site: www.sab.ac.lk. or obtainable from the Deputy Registrar (Academic Establishments) of the University, by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope 9"x4" in size on or before **10.05.2021**. Applicants from the Public Service/Corporations/Statutory Boards, should forward their applications through their respective Heads. Duly completed applications on prescribed forms together with certified copies of degree certificates, professional certificates, etc., should be sent under registered cover, indicating the post applied for on the top left hand corner of the envelope, to reach the **deputy registrar (academic establishments), Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka, P.o. box - 02, belihuloya** on or before **18.05.2021**.

candidates are advised to submit separate applications when applying more than one post.

Special Note:

Candidates are encouraged to download the Applications from the University Website and submit the advanced copy (scanned copy) of the completed application to the academicest@adm.sab.ac.lk before the closing date, mentioning that original will be sent through registered post.

Every correspondence or inquiry, if needed with regard to the forwarding of applications, to be sent to the email academicest@adm.sab.ac.lk or 045-2280215.

Applications received after the closing date or incomplete applications or applications those have not been prepared in the prescribed format will be rejected without intimation. The University reserves the right to short list the candidates, if necessary.

Actg. Registrar
Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka

VALUE GROUP OF COMPANIES

CHIEF CLERK

To be a part of thriving and dynamic professional organization.

Value Group company is the most reputed, fast-growing, diverse group of companies with a **Japanese Collaboration**. Our Main Lines of Businesses are Automobile, Plantations, Logistics, Renewable Energy and education.

- 10 years experience in Plantation Sector.
- Should competently with all the computer (MIS) in plantation sector.
- Including Accounts/Ledger & General Stores.
- Good knowledge in office administration system.
- Knowledge in brought leaf operation is must.

Please forward your CV with two non-related referees to: info@value-trade.asia.

**The Human Resources Manager,
 Value Trade (Pvt) Ltd,
 The Land Mark 03rd Floor,
 No: 385 Galle Road, Colombo 03.**

VACANCIES

Vacancies are available for a well established Healthcare Centre in Attidiya, Dehiwala for

- Medical Doctors (Full Time / part Time)
- Dental Doctors (Full Time / part Time)
- Nurses/Nursing Assistants
- Dental Assistants
- Pharmacists/Pharmacy Assistants
- Receptionists

Please forward your CV to : fellowmed2020@gmail.com or contact us on 0772 983 317 / 0773 330 247

EXECUTIVES / SUPERVISORS
PORT OPERATIONS

We require for immediate employment executives/supervisory staff competent to manage a large group of Prime Mover Drivers

The engagement will be on 12 hours shift duty for 20 days and it is essential that the applicant possess good communication skill, fluent in Sinhala and be able to maintain records in English language. Man management is primary task and warrants healthy outfit.

A good prospect awaits the ideal candidates.

Please contact immediately on
 077 396 3379 / 076 835 8866 for appointment

Manager - HR & Admin
 Inter Orient Holdings (Pvt) Ltd.
 No. 256, Srimath Ramanathan Mw, Colombo 15.

JOB VACANICES

P R K ENGINEERING (PVT) LTD KOTTAWA

We are a leading company in erecting Goods hoists and marketing pneumatic tubes & fittings. We are looking for suitable young candidates to fill following vacancies in our company immediately.

Management Assistant (Female)

- A/L Commerce Stream
- Computer Literacy

Sales/ Delivery Representative

- Possess valid riding/diving license.
- Passed G.C.E. O/L

Living close to Kottawa is an added advantage.

Salary negotiable.

Age between 20-35 years.

Please post/email your CV within 14 days.

P R K Engineering (Pvt) Ltd
 156, Mihindu Mawatha,
 Bangalawatta,
 Kottawa, Pannipitiya.
 0112782306 / 0718816082

Email: prkengineering10@gmail.com
info@prkengineering.lk



PASALKA BUILDERS & DECORATORS (PVT) LTD
 We are looking for young, dynamic, and self-motivated personnel for our projects at Colombo and outstation.

SITE ENGINEER

B.Sc.(Civil. Eng.) With a minimum of 5 years post qualifying experience in building construction.

TECHNICAL OFFICER

NCT or equivalent with a minimum of 5 years post qualification experience

QUANTITY SURVEYOR

NCT with a minimum of 5 years post qualifying experience.

STORE KEEPER

Good educational background with GCE A/L & a minimum of 5 years experience in a similar capacity.

The above positions carry an attractive remuneration for the ideal candidate with other benefits depending on the qualifications & experience.

Email your CV to pasalkabuildhr@gmail.com together with 2 non related referees within 7 days of this advertisement.

Pasalka Builders & Decorators (Pvt) Ltd
 1032, Pannipitiya Road, Battaramulla.
 Tel: 0112864211.

SEC

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION OF SRI LANKA



The Securities and Exchange Commission of Sri Lanka (SEC), established by the SEC Act No. 36 of 1987 as amended, is statutorily empowered to regulate and facilitate the development of the capital market. As the apex regulator of the capital market the primary objectives of the SEC include the creation and maintenance of a fair and an orderly capital market, ensuring professional standards are maintained in the industry and the protection of the interest of investors.

The SEC invites applications from dynamic team players with integrity and ethical conduct along with strong interpersonal skills to the following position:

DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL

The Deputy Director General who will report to the Director General will be required to;

- Render cooperation and assistance to the Director General with regard to the;
 - Execution of the overall policies of the Commission pertaining to the regulation and development of the Capital Market; and
 - Direction, management and administration of all affairs of the Commission and its operating activities.

The successful candidate should;

- Possess a Bachelor's Degree with a Class in Finance, Economics, Accountancy, Business Administration, Management, Law or Statistics from a recognised university or be an Attorney-at-Law or a member of a recognised professional institution in the above fields;

and

- possess a Master's Degree in any of the above fields from a recognised university along with a minimum of 10 years of experience in the relevant field at senior managerial level;

or

possess a Bachelor's Degree with a Class in Finance, Economics, Accountancy, Business Administration, Management, Law or Statistics from a recognised university or be an Attorney-at-Law or a member of a recognised professional institution in any of the above fields along with a minimum of 20 years of experience in the relevant field at senior managerial level and managerial level.

- Possess a good command of English and Sinhala Languages, strong analytical and writing skills, excellent presentation skills and be computer literate.

The position offers an excellent working environment which is professional, challenging and intellectually stimulating with an attractive remuneration package in keeping with the qualifications and experience of the successful candidate.

Age : Candidates should be between 40 and 55 years. The upper age limit will not be applicable for internal applicants and candidates in the government sector organisations.

Please apply with names and contact details of two non-related referees indicating the position on the top left hand corner of the envelope to reach the following address by registered post or e-mail your curriculum vitae to the recruitments@sec.gov.lk on or before 6th May 2021.

**The Director General
 Securities and Exchange Commission of Sri Lanka
 Level 29, East Tower, World Trade Centre
 Echelon Square,
 Colombo 1.**

The selection will be by way of an interview and only the shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

Canvassing in any form will be a disqualification.



TUDAWE GROUP OF COMPANIES

Well established Engineering, Constructing and Trading Organization with diversified business activities is looking for dynamic individuals to the following posts.

PERSONAL ASSISTANT TO DIRECTOR

The Job Role & Qualifications

- Acting as a first point of contact: dealing with correspondence and phone calls.
- Managing calendar and organizing meetings and appointments.
- Organizing events and conferences.
- Typing, compiling, preparing reports, presentations, and correspondence.
- Managing data bases and filing systems.
- Liaising with staff, suppliers, and clients.
- Discretion and trustworthiness.
- Organizational skills and ability to multitask.
- Expected to perform other duties as directed.

BUSINESS ANALYST

The Job Role & Qualifications

- Identify opportunities for process improvement.
- Provide leadership by working closely with business function areas to understand business processes, review current systems, and define data requirements.
- Helps to develop and maintain system related documentation.
- Provides leadership and co-ordinates cross functional teams on special projects.
- Degree from a recognized University in Engineering or relevant discipline.
- Full or partly qualified in CIMA / CA / ACCA.
- Good presentation, analytical, interpersonal, and problem-solving skills.
- Knowledge and experience in Construction, Engineering or Project based Industries will be an added advantage.
- Expected to perform other duties as directed.

SALES EXECUTIVE

The Job Role & Qualifications

- Ability to identify the customer's need and provide solutions.
- Creating new sales opportunities.
- Achieving Monthly and Annual Targets.
- Maintaining existing sales and discovering, establishing new sales leads.
- Demonstrating and presenting products.
- Degree in Marketing / Business Management or equivalent professional qualification.
- Partially qualified candidates with outstanding track record are also welcome to apply.
- Exposure in commercial sales will be an added advantage.

Candidates should have 2 - 3 years' experience in similar capacity and excellent verbal and written communication skills.

An attractive remuneration package will be on offer to the right candidates.

Forward your resume with two non-related referees and including a recent photograph within 07 days of this advertisement or send your CV by stating the position applied for in the subject column to careers@tudawe.com Only shortlisted candidates will be notified.



Head of Human Resources

TUDAWE GROUP OF COMPANIES

505/2, Elvitigala Mawatha, Narahenpita, Colombo 05. Tel : 011 4356256

THE ASSOCIATED NEWSPAPERS OF CEYLON LIMITED VACANCY

POSTS OF ELECTRONICS MAINTENANCE EXECUTIVE

Applications are invited for the Posts of Electronics Maintenance Executives of the Associated Newspapers of Ceylon Limited from suitably qualified Sri Lankan citizens who possess the following qualifications and requirements.

Qualifications:

- National Diploma in Technology (NDT) or
- Higher National Diploma in Engineering (HNDE) or
- National Diploma in Engineering Science (NDES) or
- Diploma in Engineering in Open University Sri Lanka or equivalent or higher in Electronics and/or Telecommunication Engineering

Requirements:

- Thorough knowledge in Electronics, Communication and Electrical Engineering concepts
- Experience in Digital and Analog Control Electronics including Microprocessor controlled systems
- Acquaintance in PC Hardware and Networking
- Hands on experience in any of the above would be advantageous.

Age: Below 35 years

Salary : Negotiable

If you possess the above qualifications, please forward your Curriculum Vitae with copies of the certificates and names and contact details of two non-related referees to the under-mentioned address or send to the following e-mail address within 07 days of this advertisement. Please state the position applied for, on the top left corner of the envelope or in the subject line of the e-mails.



Head of Human Capital
The Associated Newspapers of Ceylon Limited
No. 35, D.R.Wijewardene Mawatha, Colombo 10.
E-mail : dgm.hc@lakehouse.lk



UNFPA Vacancy Notice

The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) strives to deliver a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every childbirth is safe, and every young person's potential is fulfilled. In Sri Lanka, we deliver this mandate by advocating for reproductive rights and gender equality and promoting evidence-based decision-making in line with the Sustainable Development Goals. Here is your chance to join our team!

Applications are invited from Sri Lankan Nationals for the following vacant positions:

Title & Level

Administrative & Finance Associate – ICS7 / GS7 – Fixed Term Appointment

– Deadline: Monday, 10 May 2021, mid-night Sri Lanka time

Please review the complete Job Descriptions, view application instructions, and submit the application using the following link:

srilanka.unfpa.org/vacancies

Applications must be submitted through the web link given above. Applications received through other means will not be considered or contacted.

Only applications meeting all requirements as per vacancy announcements will be considered. We thank all applicants, however only the shortlisted ones will be contacted.

CEYLON ELECTRICITY BOARD VACANCIES

Applications are invited from citizens of Sri Lanka for the following posts.

Post	Electrical Engineer Cl. II Gr. II
Qualifications & Experience	a) Engineering Degree (Electrical) from a University in Sri Lanka (Four-year Engineering Degree Programme, which is recognised by 'The Institution of Engineers, Sri Lanka'), OR b) Should have passed as Electrical Engineers of 'The Institution of Engineers, Sri Lanka', completing the full course and the project, OR c) Any other qualification recognized equivalent or higher in the same field by 'The Institution of Engineers, Sri Lanka' (letter of accreditation by IESL shall be annexed). In addition to (a) or (b) or (c), Registration of the Engineering Council of Sri Lanka (ECSL) under the Associate Engineer (AEng) category or higher is mandatory and a copy of registration shall be attached. Note : Preference will be given to those who have successfully completed Power Systems, and Electrical Machines as Subjects.
Age Limit	Should not be more than 35 years of age at the closing date of applications (The age limit will not apply to the present employees of the CEB).
Remuneration	Remuneration will be in par with the industry standards.
Method of Selection	By an Examination and an Interview.
Place of work if selected	Ceylon Electricity Board reserves the right to post the Engineers to any location in the country as decided by the CEB. Selected applicants will only be recruited if they, in writing agree to accept the post at the location decided by the CEB.
How to apply	Online Application Applicants should visit http://www.ceb.lk/careers and fill the electronic application form in the web site. The hard copy of the submitted application through the web, along with the copies of the certificates indicated, shall be sent by hand or by Registered Post as specified below. An applicant may apply only once (single entry) in the given platform. (Special Note: Electronic Application is mandatory to all applicants)
Forwarding Applications (Hard Copies)	Hard copy of the submitted online application signed by the applicant, giving full details of educational/professional qualifications, experience, present and previous employments (if any) and the age on the application closing date, supported by copies of certificates including a copy of the Birth Certificate and Academic Transcripts should be sent to the Deputy General Manager (Personnel), Ceylon Electricity Board, 50, Sir Chittampalam A. Gardiner Mawatha, P. O. Box 540, Colombo 02, to reach him on or before May 25, 2021 , by hand or by Registered Post. The envelope should be marked "Post of Electrical Engineer, Class II Grade II" on the top left hand corner. Applications that do not reach the Deputy General Manager (Personnel) on this date (irrespective of the date of posting) will not be considered. Candidates in State Service / Statutory Boards or Corporations should forward their hard copy applications through the Heads of relevant Institutions who should specifically state whether the applicant can be released or not, if selected.
Note :	1. Any application received after the closing date or does not conform to the above requirements will not be entertained. Only the eligible applicants will be called for the examination, and based on the results of the examination, a limited number of applicants will be invited for the interviews. Any form of written or verbal canvassing is strictly prohibited and such an attempt will be considered as a reason for disqualification. 2. The Ceylon Electricity Board reserves the right to decide the number of candidates to be recruited.

General Manager CEYLON ELECTRICITY BOARD

Ceylon Electricity Board,
50, Sir Chittampalam A. Gardiner Mawatha
P.O. Box 540,
Colombo 02.
April 21, 2021

This notice is available in the CEB web page – <http://www.ceb.lk>



Enrich Life through Power...

it's what you want
www.adz.lk
Active: 0112 479 369 | Email: adz@adz.lk
PLACE YOUR AD ON ADZ MAGAZINE & GET FREE AD ON WEBSITE

**VACANCY FOR
Cashier and Sales Operators
(male only)**
at a Mini Supermarket in Kollupitiya
• Knowledge in English
• Ability to use Computer
E-mail CV to:
niroshanaent@sltnet.lk

VACANCIES
Draftman & Quantity Surveyor - Negambo Branch
Male/Female
Two Years working Experience
Trainee Supervisor
Male only
MN HOMES DEVELOPER PVT LTD
No. 633, Colombo Road, Katenayake, Negambo.
0773888200 / 0763860299
mnhomesdeveloper@gmail.com

**VACANCY
Civil Engineer**
Age 25 -35 Years
5 Years Working Experience
MN HOMES DEVELOPER PVT LTD
No. 507/A, Nawala Road, Rajagiriya.
011 - 4343880/1
mn.homes@ymail.com

SITE MANAGER
Sunray Homes Kandana
Vacancy for a Site Manager to join our team. Candidate must have 3-4 years of relevant experience and qualifications. Salary negotiable. Email your CV to:
sunraysmedha@yahoo.com
Call: 0718203199
for more details.

**VACANCY
Accounts Clerk - Male**
Passed G.C.E.(A/L) in commerce stream with computer knowledge in MS Office. Communication ability in English. Age below 20 years.
Ramani Fernando Salons (Pvt) Ltd
Te: 011 25 74 141/ 011 25 77 362
E-mail your CV to:
accounts_rfs@sltnet.lk
chamara@ramaniferandosalons.com

We, the Pioneer Catering Services provider of the country, "Testa Bakers" have the following openings at **Biyagama Zone**
➢ **Manager**
➢ **assistant Manager**
➢ **Supervisor**
➢ **chef**
➢ **cook**
Pls forward CV to testabakehousehrd@gmail.com / jobs@testa.lk or mail to the following address.
Group HR & Admin. Manager
Testa Bake House,
Boralugoda, Kosgama.

CORRECTOIN NOTICE

State Ministry of Coconut, Kithul and Plamyrak Cultivation Promotion and Related Industrial Product Manufacturing & Export Diversifications.
COCONUT DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
This refers to the above titled advertisement published on page No. 53 of Daily News on 04th April 21.
Please note that post: **Legal Officer**
Age Limit should be corrected as follows;
Age limit:
Candidates should not be less than 22 years of age and not more than 45 years as at closing date of applications. The upper age limit would not be applicable to permanent service in the Coconut Development Authority.
The other contents remain unchanged.
Chairman,
Coconut Development Authority,
No. 54, Nawala Road,
Narahenpita, Colombo 10.

VACANCIES
Site Engineer
Requirements:
• B.Sc. Engineering or equal qualifications
• Minimums 02 years' experience
• Past experience in Road Projects with a proven track record is a must
• Highly organized, with the ability to plan ahead and multi-task in order to meet deadlines and keep projects under budget.
Post of Technical Officers
Qualification and Requirements:
• Individual with excellent leadership and interpersonal skills, commitment and ability to work long hours, with NCT (Civil), NVQ level 5 or equivalent qualifications, minimum 3 years' experience in road sector including road structure with proven track records.
Post of Site Supervisor
Qualification and Requirements
• NCT (Civil), NVQ Level 4 or equivalent qualifications, minimum 2 years' experience in road sector including road structure with proven track records.
Please forward your application with details of two non-related referees to slconstructions10@gmail.com within 07 days of this advertisement.

**UNIVERSITY OF MORATUWA
SRI LANKA
VACANCIES**
University of Moratuwa will entertain applications for the under mentioned posts from suitably qualified persons upto **21.05.2021**
FACULTY OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
Department of Computational Mathematics
Senior Lecturer Grade I / Senior Lecturer Grade II / Lecturer (Unconfirmed) / Lecturer (Probationary)
Areas of Expertise
• Artificial Intelligence
• Theory of Computing
• Artificial Cognitive Systems
• Rough Sets and Fuzzy Systems
• Mathematics and Statistics
• Quantum Computing
• Swarm Intelligence and Agent-based Optimization
• Affective Computing
• Robotics and Intelligent Systems
SALARY SCALES #
(a) Senior Lecturer Grade I - Rs.91,310 – 7 X 2,170 – 106,500 p.m. [U-AC 3(I)] w.e.f. 01.01.2020 will be placed on the initial salary step of Rs. 91,310 /- p.m. Academic Allowance# of 151% of salary will be paid
(b) Senior Lecturer Grade II - Rs.79,360 – 11 X 1,630 – 97,290 p.m. [U-AC 3 (II)] w.e.f. 01.01.2020 will be placed on the initial salary step of Rs. 79,360 /- p.m. Academic Allowance# of 151% of salary will be paid
(c) Lecturer (Unconfirmed) - Rs.69,580 – 5 X 1,630 – 77,730 p.m. [U-AC 3(III)] w.e.f. 01.01.2020 will be placed on the initial salary step of Rs. 69,580 /- p.m. Academic Allowance# of 131% of salary will be paid
(d) Lecturer (Probationary) - Rs.54,600 – 10 X 1,335 – 67,950 p.m. [U-AC 3(IV)] w.e.f. 01.01.2020 will be placed on the initial salary step of Rs. 54,600 /- p.m. Academic Allowance# of 115% of salary will be paid
Salary and Academic Allowance will be paid according to the University Grants Commission Circular No. 17/2016 (v) dated 01.06.2018 and No. 17/2016 (vi) dated 14.06.2018, Commission Circular No. 13/2017 dated 15.06.2017 and Department of Management Services Circular No. 04/2016 dated 18.08.2016.
In addition to the above salary, cost of living allowance and other approved allowances will be paid to the selected candidate/s
Applications should be sent only Online and further particulars and application forms along with the handout could be downloaded from the University web site - www.mrt.ac.lk/web/vacancies up to 21st May, 2021. Online applications should be submitted to reach Senior Assistant Registrar, Establishments Division, University of Moratuwa, on or before the closing date of applications.
Applicants from the University System/Government Departments/Corporations and Statutory Boards should channel their applications with the recommendation of the Heads of their respective Institutions, using form 'A' and attaching the scan copy of the same.
Applications received after the closing date and incomplete applications and applications not submitted in prescribed format of the University of Moratuwa will be rejected without intimation.
Registrar
University of Moratuwa, Moratuwa
20.04.2021

VACANCY

Welimada International School

Is in need of qualified teachers to teach Maths, Science and History for the O/L classes. Salary is negotiable.

Contact - Chairman
0572244334

IMMEDIATE VACANCIES

We are leading Construction company located in Pannipitiya and looking for suitable candidates to following positions.

Assistant Engineer

• Should Possess HNDE /NDES/ NDT or equivalent qualification

Technical Officer

• Should possess NCT/NVQ - Level 4 or equivalent

Site Supervisor

• A/L three 'S' passes
• Field experience will be extra qualification

Assistant Quantity Surveyor

• HND (QS) qualified with minimum 01 year experience in Construction field
• NCT (QS) with minimum 03 year's experience in Construction field


Trainee Quantity Surveyor

• NCT (QS) or equivalent qualification

If you feel that you are the right candidate we are looking for, please e-mail your CV mentioning the position apply for in the subject line to

simtechconstruction@gmail.com
within 10 days of this advertisement.

Hot Line - 0718 - 434962



Sri Lanka State Trading (General) Corporation Ltd
No.100, Nawam Mawatha, Colombo 02.

VACANCY

ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER (ADMINISTRATION)

We are looking for result oriented & self motivated individuals with exceptional integrity & competence to result for the following positions.

Post of Assistant General Manager (Administration) HM 1-1

Job Description

- Support DGM (Administration) to perform the administration functions smoothly.
- Coordination DGM (Administration) with the managers of administration sub divisions.
- Propose new administration policies & procedures.
- Communicate necessary instructions to the administration managers.
- Performing other duties which are assigned by the DGM (Administration).

External Candidates

A Bachelor's Degree in Management, Public Administration, Business Administration, Human Resource, Commerce, Accountancy, Finance, Supply Chain or Economics which is recognized by the U.O.C.

WITH

A Postgraduate Degree qualification in the relevant field or Associate Membership of a recognized professional Chartered Institute, which is relevant to the subject area of the post

AND

Minimum 13 years experience at "Managerial Level" in a Corporation, Statutory Board, Institution or a reputed private institution.

General Conditions

- Age : should be not less than 25 years and not more than 55 years. The upper age limit will not apply to the internal candidates.
- Other : Every Applicant.
 - Should be a citizen of Sri Lanka.
 - Should be physically and mentally fit to discharge the duties of the post well and to serve in any part of the Island.
 - Should be of excellent moral character.
- Salary Scale
Rs.80,295/= (2,270 X 15) Rs.114,345/=

The initial salary point for the above post is Rs.80,295/=

Rs.50,000/= (Transport Allowance)

Fuel Allowance as per the Pub Ad Circular 05/2016

Rs.7,800/= Cost of Living Allowance

Application Procedure

Applicants giving full bio- data together with copies of all certificates for academic, professional qualifications & experience with names, addresses & telephone numbers of two non related referees should be sent to reach to following address on or before 10th of May, 2021 under the registered post indicating the post applied on the top left hand corner of the envelope. Applicants from Departments/Statutory Board/Public Corporations/ Fully Government Corporations should send their applications through the respective Heads of the Organizations. Applications received after the closing date will not be considered. Incomplete applications will be rejected without intimation.

TEL : 011 2422941/2440880 FAX : 011 2447970 E-MAIL : lankagon@sltnet.lk WEB : www.stc.lk	Chairman Sri Lanka State Trading (General) Corporation Ltd, No. 100, Nawam Mawatha, Colombo 02.
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COMMERCIAL BANK OF CEYLON PLC

We, the most awarded Bank in Sri Lanka, continue to progress steadily while being listed amongst the World's Top 1000 Banks for the tenth consecutive year. Our unparalleled record of success over the past decade is supported by a network of 268 branches and superior standards in service, stability and performance. We are poised to ascend to even greater heights in the future.

SERVER SYSTEM ADMINISTRATOR

Job Profile :

- Maintain robust, secure and high-performance Server and Systems infrastructure while maintaining high availability and DR capabilities
- System administration of Windows, Linux and Solaris Servers and Application administration
- Performance analysis and tuning, capacity planning and optimize servers, databases and storages for optimal efficiency and consistency
- Perform required housekeeping to ensure their smooth operations and maintain high availability of systems
- Analyze issues in systems and identify root causes and resolve them
- Perform patch management and vulnerability management of servers and systems
- Implement security standards and compliance guidelines that align with ISO27001 security standards while adhering to the bank's policies, procedures and standards
- Evaluate and recommend future technologies, optimal infrastructure requirement, databases and applications technologies

Applicant's Profile :

- Bachelor's degree in Engineering / Information Technology / Computer Science from a university which is recognized by the University Grants Commission
- Minimum three(03) years of experience as a Server/System Administrator in a Datacenter
- Certification in Microsoft Certified Solutions Expert (MCSE) in Windows 2016 is required
- Certification in Red Hat Certified System Administrator (RHCSA) is important
- Certification in VMware certification such as VMware Advance professional is advantageous
- Certification in Microsoft SQL Server Administration for SQL Server 2016, OCA (Oracle Certified Association) is an added advantage
- Ability to work long hours when required
- Strong analytical knowledge and skills
- Good interpersonal and communication skills
- Good project management skills and strong problem-solving skills

Rewards

The successful candidate will be provided with an attractive remuneration package, including fringe benefits, commensurate with benchmarked financial institutions.

Applications with all relevant information should be submitted to reach the under-mentioned within 10 days of this advertisement with the respective post marked as the subject by e-mail.

Deputy General Manager – HRM
Commercial Bank of Ceylon PLC
Email : dgm_hrm@combank.net
Web site : www.combank.lk



All applications will be treated with strict confidence. Canvassing in any form will be an immediate disqualification.

COMMERCIAL BANK OF CEYLON PLC

With an enduring vision of being the most technologically advanced, innovative and customer friendly, financial organization, we, the most awarded Bank in Sri Lanka, continue to progress steadily while being listed amongst the Top 1000 Banks in the world for the tenth consecutive year. Our unparalleled record of success over the past decade is supported by a network of 268 branches and superior standards in service, stability and performance. We are poised to ascend to even greater heights in the near future.

MANAGER – IT SECURITY

We are looking for a highly motivated, enthusiastic and dynamic individual for our Information Technology Department as a "Manager – IT Security".

Job Profile :

The selected candidate will be responsible for,

- Developing business-aligned IT Security Strategies and adaptation of new information security standards/frameworks
- Development of Enterprise Information Security Architecture
- Introduction of Information Security Scorecards
- Providing leadership in achieving information security objectives of the Bank
- Managing and execution of Information Security Plans in support of
 - Ongoing certifications (ISO/IEC 27001:2013, PCI/DSS), regulatory, compliance and governance requirements
 - Managing security assurance goals and operational security objectives
 - security assessments, compliance and process reviews
 - Assuring timely closer of vulnerabilities, preparation of internal / management reports, coordination of IT functions in completing various security implementations / actions
- Establishing baseline security configurations for operating systems, databases, applications, network devices, security appliances, system integrations and other infrastructure devices and validation of implemented security configurations
- Keeping vigilance of latest security threats, advisories, alerts and vulnerabilities pertaining to the business and industry
- Continuous improvement for information security functions, incident management and response plan

Applicant's Profile :

- Bachelor's Degree in Engineering, Computer Science, Information Security which is recognized by the University Grants Commission
- Professional qualifications such as CISM, CISSP, SSCP, GIAC
- Masters in Information Security will be an added advantage
- Seven years of full-time work experience in information security management with at least two years in managerial role in an enterprise environment
- Knowledge and hands-on experience on information security incident management, analysis and investigations
- In-depth knowledge and security profiles of IT infrastructure components like commonly used operating systems, databases, application languages and platforms for application development
- In-depth knowledge of secure software design, secure network design and topology
- Deeper knowledge of technology / regulator / compliance requirements in information security
- Excellent project management and Leadership skills

Rewards

The successful candidates will be provided with an attractive remuneration package, including fringe benefits commensurate with benchmarked financial institutions.

Applications with all relevant information should be submitted to reach the under-mentioned within 10 days of this advertisement with the respective post marked as the subject by e-mail.

Deputy General Manager – HRM
Commercial Bank of Ceylon PLC
Email : dgm_hrm@combank.net
Web site : www.combank.lk



All applications will be treated with strict confidence. Canvassing in any form will be an immediate disqualification.

COMMERCIAL BANK OF CEYLON PLC

With an enduring vision of being the most technologically advanced, innovative and customer friendly, financial organization, we, the most awarded Bank in Sri Lanka, continue to progress steadily while being listed amongst the Top 1000 Banks in the world for the tenth consecutive year. Our unparalleled record of success over the past decade is supported by a network of 268 branches and superior standards in service, stability and performance. We are poised to ascend to even greater heights in the near future.

NETWORK ENGINEER

We are looking for a highly motivated, enthusiastic and dynamic individual for our Information Technology Department as "Network Engineer".

Job Profile :

The selected candidate will be responsible for,

- Upgrading, designing, installing, maintaining and supporting LAN, WAN and VoIP infrastructure
- Network Systems Disaster Recovery planning and execution
- Lead and develop system recovery processes to minimize the impact of disaster scenarios
- Technical documentation and system documentation
- Ensure Network Security with proactive monitoring and compliance to industry standards
- Vendor management of services, implementation, maintenance and support contracts / service level agreements
- Capacity planning, health-check monitoring, management & compliance reports for data / voice network
- Adhere to the information Security Policies of the Bank

Applicant's Profile :

- A Bachelor's Degree in Engineering / Information Technology / Computer Science from a university which is recognized by the University Grants Commission
- Minimum of four years of work experience in network implementations and maintenance with the enterprise environment
- Professional Qualifications such as CCNA, CCNP (Routing & Switching / Security / Voice) or equivalent
- Other Professional qualifications related to networking, Network Security & Voice will be an advantage
- Knowledge of web application security, Load balancing, network packet analysis will be an added advantage
- A good team player with solid analytical knowledge, interpersonal skills and willingness to take up challenges
- Excellent Project Management & Leadership skills
- Strong skills, capabilities and knowledge of the following areas are expected,
 - Cisco Routers, Switches & Firewalls
 - A next-generation firewalls
 - Cisco VoIP Telephony (SIP, MGCP and H.323)
 - Layer 3 Routing such as BGP, EIGRP and OSPF

Rewards

The successful candidates will be provided with an attractive remuneration package, including fringe benefits commensurate with benchmarked financial institutions.

Applications with all relevant information should be submitted to reach the under-mentioned within 10 days of this advertisement with the respective post marked as the subject by e-mail.

Deputy General Manager – HRM
Commercial Bank of Ceylon PLC
Email : dgm_hrm@combank.net
Web site : www.combank.lk



All applications will be treated with strict confidence. Canvassing in any form will be an immediate disqualification.

SOUTH EASTERN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA

VACANCY

TECHNICAL OFFICER (ICT), GRADE - III

The South Eastern University of Sri Lanka will entertain applications up to 25.05.2021 from suitably qualified persons for the above post.

Qualifications:

I. Should pass in three (3) subjects at the G.C.E. (A/L) examination in one sitting in any Stream.

AND

II. Having obtained a certificate of proficiency not below than the N.V.Q Level 5 issued by a Technical/Vocational Training Institute accepted by the Tertiary and Vocational Education Commission or recognized Institution in the field of Information Communication and Multimedia Technology/Information and Communication Technology/Information or Equivalent.

● Preference will be given for who have work experience in ICT

Salary Scale : U-MT 1(IIIA) – Rs.31,625 - 7 × 300; 10 × 355-37,275 p.m.

Selection By : Written and/or practical test and an interview

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

Note: Upper age limit is not applicable for applicants in the government departments / state corporations and statutory bodies.

BENEFITS

➤ Selected candidates will contribute 10% of their monthly salary to the Universities' Provident Fund, while the employer will make a contribution of 15% of their salary of which 8% will be credited to the Universities' Pension Fund and 7% to the Universities' Provident Fund. In addition, they will become contributors to the Employees Trust Fund under which the University will contribute an amount equivalent to 3% of the salary.

APPLICATIONS AND PARTICULARS

Application form, required qualifications and other details are available in the University website at www.seu.ac.lk. Interested persons can make their application in prescribed form of application downloaded from the University website on payment of Rs. 200/- per application. The fee should be paid in any branch of People's Bank in cash to the credit to the South Eastern University of Sri Lanka A/C No. 228-1001-9000-1704 People's Bank, Addalaichenai and attach the Pay in Voucher with the application.

Duly completed application forms and copies of the certificates should be sent under registered post to reach the Registrar, South Eastern University of Sri Lanka, University Park, Oluvil # 32360 on or before 25.05.2021. The title of the post applied for should be indicated at the top left-hand corner of the envelope.

Applicants who are employees of Government Departments, State Corporations and Statutory Bodies should forward their applications through the Heads of their respective institutions, but may send an advance copy in the first instance. However, no such applicant will be considered for appointment, if the application has not been routed through the respective Head of the State Institution.

Incomplete and illegible applications or applications received after the closing date will be rejected without intimation. South Eastern University of Sri Lanka reserves the right to short list the candidates. Only short-listed applicants will be called for an interview.

Registrar
South Eastern University of Sri Lanka
University Park, Oluvil # 32360
20.04.2021

International Construction Consortium (Pvt) Ltd VACANCY

Being a leading Multidisciplinary, CS2 Grade, ISO 9001, ISO 14001 and OHSAS 18001 certified construction company, ICC takes pride in stepping into the 5th decade of our success story with award winning, internationally acclaimed projects.

We are now seeking self-motivated professionals, who enjoy working in a challenging environment to join our team of professionals in the positions mentioned below.

DRAUGHTSMAN - ARCHITECTURAL

- National certificate in Draughtsmanship or equivalent qualification from a recognized institute.
- Minimum of 5 years working experience in Architectural draughtsmanship.
- Experience in developing drawings with Revit is a compulsory requirement.
- Experience in producing 3D Animations & Renderings is an added advantage.
- Age below 40 years.

DRAUGHTSMAN - STRUCTURAL

- National certificate in Engineering Draughtsmanship or equivalent qualification from a recognized institute.
- Minimum of 3 years working experience in structural draughtsmanship.
- Previous working experience in roads projects would be a definite advantage.
- Experience in developing drawings with Civil 3D and Revit would be a definite advantage.
- Age below 40 years.

The ideal candidates should be team players, have positive interpersonal and excellent communication skills with the willingness to work in any part of the country where the assignment is attached to.

Attractive remuneration packages and excellent career development opportunities within the organization based on performance await the right candidates.

Applicants should forward their Curriculum Vitae and contact telephone numbers with names of two non-related referees and their contact telephone numbers, within 07 days of this advertisement to the below address.

Please indicate the post applied for on the top left hand corner of the envelope or the subject line of the e-mail.

Manager - Human Resources
International Construction Consortium (Pvt) Ltd.
70, S. De S. Jayasinghe Mawatha, Kohuwala, Nugegoda.
Tel: 0114 400600
E-mail: cv@icc-construct.com www.icc-construct.com

40 YEARS OF CONSTRUCTION EXCELLENCE

SAFETY OFFICER

Safety Officer for a Construction Site

He should have

- A Diploma or Certificate in Construction Safety & Occupational Health
- GCE (A/L)
- More than 5 Years Experience in Construction Field

INDO EAST ENGINEERING & CONSTRUCTION (LANKA) (PRIVATE) LTD.
133A, Attampolawatta Road, Hendala, Wattala
Phone No: 0112 932745/ 0777 766306
Fax No: 0112 937176
E-mail: indoeast@silnet.lk

HOTEL VACANCIES

A reputed star hotel in Madullkelle, Kandy is looking for dynamic qualified & experienced personnel with computer literacy.

- Front Officers
- Cashier
- Accounts Clerk
- Book Keepers
- Chef
- Asst. Accountant

Walk-in interview from 25th to 30th April, 2021

the general Manager
Madullkelle hotels & lodges (Pvt) ltd
richland road,
Upper hatale estate, Madullkelle

Mobile: 0773466759
smscorporates@gmail.com

PURCHASING ASSISTANT

JOB REQUIREMENTS

- A Levels with minimum of 3 passes
- Minimum of 2 years experience in purchasing
- Knowledge of Tender / Quotation and Procurement processes
- High level of integrity
- Excellent communication & negotiation skills
- Distinct advantage if the candidate has a professional qualification in Supply Chain Management / Procurement
- Age below 35 years

An attractive and competitive remuneration package, commensurate with qualifications and experience, awaits the right candidate.

Please forward your complete résumé, along with the names of two non-related referees, to: amila@ewholdings.com or mail it within 7 days of this advertisement to:

Manager - Human Resources
E. W. Balasuriya & Co (Pvt) Ltd
267 Galle Road
Colombo - 3.

Promotional Rates for Classified Advertisements (Only 15 words)

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COLOMBO DISTRICT

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Famous Bake House, No. 31, Soethawakapura

ANGODA 011 3069404
Kotikawale Junction, Kudabulthgamuwa.

ATHURUGIRIYA 011 2760479, 011 4876968
267, Godagama Road,

BATHNARAMULLA 011 2866705, 077 0736770
West Town, Bake House, Sweet House.

BORALES GAMUWA 071 6505533, 011 2519954
No. 17, Wewa Rd.

HANWELLA 011 4967962, 011 4967960
Sithumina Newspaper Agency, 144, High Level Rd, Pahuthgama.

HOKANBARA 071 8685437
No. 501, North Hokandara.

HOMAGAMA 011 3892262, 077 7304056
"Aadanas", Senanayake Shopping Complex, Station Road.

KADUWELA 011 2579609
Niyana Bake House

KADUWELA 011 2412291, 011 4483566
375/1, Pahala Bomirya, Yakkala.

KALUBOWILA 077 3551145, 011 2767259
No 195, Hospital Road.

KESSEWA 011 2703415
Seedevi Newspaper Office, 19, Horana Rd.

KIRULAPORE 071 5439396, 011 2514100
Ramana Book Shop, 27-A High Level Rd.

KOTTAWA 011 2842569, 071 2510950
Sisara Groceries, No. 101/2.

MAHARAGAMA 077 7686683, 011 2896373
Supermarket Complex, 88, High Level Rd.

MALABE 011 2791782
Kumudu Stores.

MEGODA 011 2850290, 011 2831120
Nandana Stores, No. 635/3, Pacukka Rd.

MORATUWA 011 2647410, 077 5486719
Wijesekara Stores.

MORATUWA 0112 657336, 0114 212969
S.J.M. Fareed, 222, Egoda Ujyana, Modera

MT. LAVINIA 011 2724829
Doyal Stores, Galle Rd.

NUGEGODA 077 3458785, 011 2811833
Ekwaththa Rd, Mirilana.

NUGEGODA 011 2846100, 077 1652400
No. 4, High Level Plaza, Deikanda.

PADUKKA 011 2859186, 011 5638477
No. 03, Hanwella Road.

PHIYANDALA 011 2619967, 072 8064987
No. 05, Seeko Gardens, Gedabawana.

PITAKOTTE 011 2823960, 077 0858585
No. 435, Pothgala.

RAJAGIRIYA 011 2861338
No. 51/2A, Rajahawatharana Road.

RATHMALANA 011 2626106, 011 2632906
Thushita Newspaper Agency, Galle Rd.

RAWATHAWATTE 011 2655153, 071 4274689
No. 3, Soysa Road, Galle Road

UDAHAMULLA 077 6859780, 011 2810042
No 138, Station Rd.

classified@lakehouse.lk
011 2 429 342 / 011 2 429 343
Fax - 011 2 429 375 / 011 2 429 380

Sri Lanka Institute of Tourism & Hotel Management
Ministry of Tourism

Sri Lanka Institute of Tourism & Hotel Management (SLITHM) is the premier institute in the country providing education for the development of human resource for Tourism & Hospitality Industry of Sri Lanka

VACANCIES FOR SLITHM COLOMBO

<p>ASSISTANT DIRECTOR PROCUREMENT (MM 1-2)</p> <p>Qualifications and Experience: (1 or 2)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> A Degree in Finance/Accountancy/Commerce/Finance Management which is recognized by the U.G.C. AND A minimum of one year post qualifying experience in handling Tenders/Procurement after obtaining the first degree. <p>2. Having passed the Intermediate Examination of a recognized professional Chartered Institute in the relevant field of the post.</p> <p>AND A minimum of one year post qualifying experience in handling Tenders/ Procurement in Public Service, a Corporation, statutory Board/ Institution or a reputed Private Institution.</p> <p>Age: Should be not less than 22 years and not more than 45 years.</p> <p>Salary: MM 1-2 Rs. [54,550/- - 10 x 1,375/- - 15 x 1,910/- - 96,950/=] + cost of living and other Government approved allowances will be paid as per Management Service Department Circular No: 02/2016. In addition, Transport allowance of Rs.4,000/= & Professional allowance of Rs.3,000/= & telephone allowance of Rs.2,500/= per month will be paid.</p>	<p>ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FINANCE (MM 1-2)</p> <p>Qualifications and Experience: (1 or 2 or 03 below)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> A Degree in Finance/ Accountancy/ Commerce/ Finance Management/ Business Administration which is recognized by the U.G.C. AND A minimum of one year post qualifying experience in Accountancy after obtaining the first degree. <p>2. Having passed the Intermediate Examination of a recognized professional Chartered Institute (ICAS/CIMA/ACCA) or any other equivalent qualification of a relevant professional body and a minimum one year post qualifying experience in Accountancy in Public Service, a Corporation, Statutory Board/ Institution or a reputed Private Institution in a relevant field.</p> <p>3. Having obtained a certificate of Higher National Diploma in Accountancy (HNDA).</p> <p>AND A minimum of one year post qualifying experience in Public Service, a Corporation, Statutory Board/ Institution or a reputed Private Institution in a relevant field.</p> <p>Age: Should be not less than 22 years and not more than 45 years.</p> <p>Salary: MM 1-2 Rs. [54,550/- - 10 x 1,375/- - 15 x 1,910/- - 96,950/=] + cost of living and other Government approved allowances will be paid as per Management Service Department Circular No: 02/2016. In addition, Transport allowance of Rs.4,000/= & Professional allowance of Rs.3,000/= & telephone allowance of Rs.2,500/= per month will be paid.</p>	<p>LAUNDRY OPERATING OFFICER (JM 1-2)</p> <p>Qualifications and Experience: (01 or 02 below)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> A Bachelor's Degree in Tourism/ Hospitality Management/ related social science which is recognized by the U.G.C. OR Full Graduate of SLITHM specialized in Housekeeping with 02 years post qualifying experience in a related field. <p>Age: Age should be not less than 22 years and not more than 45 years.</p> <p>Salary: JM 1-2: Rs. [43,355/- - 10 x 755/- - 18 x 1,135/- - 71,335/=] + cost of living and other Government approved allowances will be paid as per Management Service Department Circular No: 02/2016. In addition, Transport allowance of Rs.4,000/= per month will be paid.</p>
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General Information:


Contributed to EPF & ETF

- EPF - Employee will contribute 10% of the consolidated salary and the employer will contribute 15%
- ETF - Employer will contribute 3% of the salary
- An attractive Health Medical Insurance coverage for the employee & his/her family.

Curriculum Vitae giving full particulars together with copies of all certificates pertaining to Academic qualifications, work experience etc. and the names of two Non-related referees should be forwarded under registered cover indicating the post on the top left hand corner of the undersigned on or before 13th May 2021.

Director General
Sri Lanka Institute of Tourism and Hotel Management,
No.78, Galle Road, Colombo 03.


General Inquiry: 0112 208360



Fly Lankan Asia (Pvt) Ltd
VACANCIES
For Sri Lankan Nationals Only

<p>CAPTAIN B737-200 Minimum Requirements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Valid ICAO ATPL and current on type. • 7000 hours total flight time • 2000 hours of PIC on type • Last flight within the past 12 months • ICAO English Proficiency Level 4 • Valid Class 01 Medical. • Age between 35-55 years
<p>FIRST OFFICER B737-200 Minimum Requirements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Valid ICAO CPL and current on type. • 3000 hours total flight time • 500 hours on type • Last flight within the past 12 months • ICAO English Proficiency Level 4 • Valid Class 01 Medical. • Age between 25-55 years
<p>LOADMASTER - B737-200 CARGO FREIGHTER Requirements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High school diploma or equivalent • 5 years of relevant experience • Current with all relevant CAASL & ICAO regulations • Experience with B 737-200 cargo operations • IATA certification for transportation of dangerous goods preferred
<p>MANAGER, SAFETY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM Requirements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Degree in Aviation Management or equivalent • 5 years of experience in Aviation • Strong technical and data analysis skills • Experience with industry safety data programs
<p>GROUND OPERATIONS MANAGER Requirements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Degree or Equivalent • 5 years experience in airport/ground handling, preferably cargo handling • Experience in delivering company's KPIs. • Experience in the aviation industry – primarily operational and commercial • Airside Safety Awareness
<p>B1 & B2 AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE ENGINEERS – B737-200 CARGO FREIGHTER Requirements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AML (Part - 66) • B1 authorization (B1+B2 preferable) • Minimum 5 years experience on related types. • B737-200 Type Rating and 06 months experience within the last 02 years
<p>All interested candidates who meet the above requirements are invited to submit complete resume together with following documents on or before 01st May 2021 to our email address or by register post to the address below,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comprehensive resume • Copy Sri Lankan NIC • For pilots - Sri Lankan ATPL/CPL license with valid medicals • For Pilots - 3 last pages of pilot logbook with current and updated flying hours

No 07, Walagamba Mw, off Borupana Road, Ratmalana, Sri Lanka
info@flylankan.com



MUSAEUS COLLEGE

Principal Designate

The Board of Trustees are seeking to appoint a motivated, dedicated and aspirational Principal Designate to take an operational understudy role at Musaeus College. Career progression, including promotion to the position of Principal, will be available to an outstanding candidate.

We are looking for a different kind of school leader who wants to be at the cutting edge of teaching and learning, working differently alongside trustees and a team of outstanding teachers, parents and students.

The successful candidate will ensure that all learners are provided with an 'outstanding' education and will be expected to assist in developing the School's education programs whilst providing a nurturing and supportive environment.

Expectations

- Provide effective leadership in a diverse range of educational settings.
- Create stimulating, nurturing, happy, safe and productive learning environment that is engaging and fulfilling for all students.
- Effectively lead teaching and learning by bringing in creative, innovative and proven teaching and learning methodologies.
- Create a well-balanced educative experience in the areas of academic, sports, arts and culture and life skills and values.
- Create an environment that fosters mutual respect among students, parents, and teachers and the community and other stakeholders.
- Demonstrate strong leadership abilities, managerial, administrative and communication skills.

To apply for this position, please email your request for an application form (stating your name and address) to careers@musaeus.lk. Complete the application form (we send you via email) with a supporting statement (section 7 of the application form).
CVs will not be accepted.

**Chairman
Musaeus College**

Director - Bank Loans



Araliya Group of Companies has become a highly recognized establishment, which has extended its giant wings to Real Estate, Manufacturing, Hospitality, Construction and Engineering industries of Sri Lanka; representing its solid corporate existence as a significant contributor to the growth of Sri Lankan economy.

We, Araliya Lands & Homes (Pvt) Ltd, is a leader in the Real Estate industry of Sri Lanka. The Company has successfully completed many real estate projects by enriching the lives of many Sri Lankans. We are pleased to invite candidates to join with our proud team as the Director - Bank loans.

Qualifications Required :

- Should have credit exposure in banking sector and experience in legal documentation especially in handling Transfer Deeds in both English and Sinhala languages.
- Retired Bank Manager with credit exposure / Retired Bank lawyers will also be considered.

Job Description :

- Monitoring and follow up in registration of Transfer Deeds with relevant Land Registries.
- Attending Revenue Department matters pertaining to stamp duty on Transfer Deeds.
- Should be a team player, with positive interpersonal and communication skills.
- Should have the ability to provide management information as and when required.

Please forward your Curriculum Vitae indicating the post applied for and contact details of two non related referees within 10 days of this advertisement by email to: info@araliyalands.com or by post to:



**Manager - Administration,
Araliya Lands & Homes (Pvt) Ltd,
No. 381/B, Kandy Road, Mahara, Kadawatha,
Tel No: 0112 920 719**

VACANCY

Sited in Sri Lanka's attractive tourist locations, our collection of boutique villas aims to provide perceptive travellers, exemplary hospitality and a relaxing experience in luxury settings. Our talented people play the most critical role in delivering emotional luxury to our guests. The thoughtful, welcoming hospitality they provide sets us apart from the rest.

We are currently looking for a talented individual for the below mentioned position with a passion for excellence, to join our workforce.

OPERATIONS MANAGER

The Operations Manager shall be entrusted with the responsibility of transforming the organization's vision into a positive economic outcome by performing the actions needed to achieve the goals.

The operations manager shall be responsible of:

- Marketing, operational, and administrative plans into measurable objectives together with the management.
- Ensuring that all brand guidelines are followed, and standards are maintained and complied to
- Implementing and managing staff rosters effectively
- Establishing a system for the supervision of the remote operation of the villas
- Ensuring the efficient utilization of economic and operational resources and available facilities in order to generate greater output in the company and achieve planned economic results.
- Supervising major purchases, equipment replacement and supplies for operations.
- Monitoring the purchase / indent / requests of each department, the accounts receivable and the accounts payable and compliance to the procurement process.
- Randomly inspecting the stores to check the stock in hand (quality, par stock levels, expiry etc) with the Manager/Chef.
- Generating growth and consolidation of the company by increasing income, reducing expenses and costs, increasing productivity.
- Carrying out periodic inspections of the villas to ensure the premises are in operative condition as per category of the unit to receive & serve guests and detect the capital investment needs for repairing or replacing facilities or equipment.
- Periodically inspecting all villas with their respective Managers for cleanliness, ambience, service readiness, staff grooming & hospitality culture.
- Identifying staff learning needs and assisting with development & training the staff to upkeep the human capital.
- Handling staff grievances/requests that cannot be resolved by the immediate supervisors and ensuring overall staff well-being
- Coordinating with all department heads to discuss/review routine operational matters, sales targets, staff issues, Guest feedback and action taken for service recovery.
- Implementing and developing procedures, policies, plans, budgets, and improving the quality of service.

Candidate Profile:

- A Degree/Diploma or Professional qualification in Hospitality Management/Hotel Management or a related field.
- Minimum 10 years work experience in the hospitality industry with minimum 5 years in managerial capacity.
- Computer Literacy, MS office
- Strong leadership skills with strong management, communication and organizational skills
- Ability to travel on a weekly basis to visit the business units.

Applicants should send a detailed CV with the names and contact details of two non - related referees within 7 days of this advertisement to careersrilanka1@gmail.com and specify the applied post in the subject line.

Observer JOBS

We change your world
FOREIGN EMPLOYMENT

VACANCIES IN DOHA QATAR

S/No	Job Category	QTY	Basic Salary (Q.R.)	Food Allowance (Q.R.)	Total Salary (Q.R.)	Total Salary (Rs.)
01	Sales Coordinators	05	2000-2500	300	2300-2800	121,900-148,400
02	Power Tool Technicians	02	2000-2500	300	2300-2800	121,900-148,400

Sales coordinators-
Candidates should have good knowledge in English and computer. Data-entry and Billing/Invoicing, good typing speed and able to perform multi-task works. Entitled for incentives after probation period.

Power Tool Technicians-
Minimum 3 years experience in trouble shoot, repair and maintenance of power tools with Diploma/ Technical Course certificate.

Terms and Conditions:-
• Free Accommodation, Transport & Medical facilities will be provided
• Working hours shall be Eight (08) hours per day & Six (06) days per week.
• The period of Contract will be two (02) years, with Probation Period of three (03) months.
• Joining Air Ticket will be provided and Return Air Ticket will be provided after completion of Contract.
• All other Terms & Conditions as per Qatar labour law

This advertisement is only for the CV collection. No fees will be charged for CV. Passports will not be collected.

Worldwide Recruiting Agency
Address: No.73 1/1, Negombo Road, Peliyagoda
Office: 0112 934526 / 2934527 Hotline: 077 328 9828
Email: cvswra@gmail.com
Website: www.worldwidetk.com/ Facebook: Worldwide Recruiting Agency

VACANCIES FOR NURSING OFFICERS IN QATAR

MALE 10 Nos / FEMALE 40 Nos

Entry Requirements

- Nursing Degree or Diplomas
- SLNC Registration
- Last 4 Years Experience
- Age Below 40 years

CALL 0769 222 323
CALL 0767 972 086

Terms & Conditions :

- ◆ Medical - Free
- ◆ Food - Allowance (Q.R 550)
- ◆ Accommodation - Free
- ◆ Air Ticket - Provided (both ways)
- ◆ Salary - Q.R 2750+1200 (Fixt OT)
- ◆ Working hours - 08 hours per day, five days a week
- ◆ Contract period - Two years renewable .
- ◆ Transport - Free

1QR = Rs. 53 (Subject to change according to exchange rate) **SLBFE Approved Chargers - Rs. 269,416/-**
Original passport is not necessary two passport copies to be attached

Suitable candidates kindly forward the updated cv with photo copies of Degree or Diploma certificate, SLNC Registration certificate Experience letters & passport.

ALCOM RECRUITMENT (PVT) LIMITED
362/1, Gansabawa Junction, High Level Road, Nugegoda.
Email: alcomlk@gmail.com / alcomgroup.lk@gmail.com / cv.alcomlk@gmail.com
Mobile - 0769 222 323 / 0767 972086
Tel : 011 2824 400 / 011 2816 003 / 011 2768 358

Observer JOBS

We change your world

PRINTING MACHINE OPERATORS

vacancies for SM 74 / SM 72 experienced machine operators

I.n.d. graphics (Pvt) Ltd
150f, Peiter Senevirathne Mw., raddoluwa, kotugoda
tP no: 0777313318

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

- 1) Project Manager
- 2) Site Engineer
- 3) Assistant Quantity Surveyor
- 4) Technical Officer
- 5) Supervisor
- 6) Accountant

The candidates should have relevant qualification & minimum 02 year experience to qualify for the above positions.
Technical Officer should have relevant qualification & minimum 05 year experience to qualify for the above positions.
Experience in water supply project will be added advantage.

If you interested, please forward your CV within 07 days of this advertisement to hrrm.jnconstruction@gmail.com

JN Construction (Pvt) Ltd.
No. 52/4, Manawariya, Kochchikade.
Tel. : 0313719390
Mobile : 0768177360

Engineer - Technical Communication

1. Can you write technical content about our equipment?
2. Can you develop promotional content about our equipment?

Your job

- Learn about Kosan Crisplant equipment
- Develop technical content
- Develop functional layouts
- Develop promotional content
- Edit and proofread content
- Create attractive equipment overviews

Your profile

- Creative thinking
- Excellent command in English language (speaking and writing)
- Experience in content writing
- Good communication skills, positive attitude, and excellent team player
- Recognized qualification in engineering, science, or technical communication
- Proficiency in Adobe In Design or any other publishing software is an advantage
- Experience in creative production (graphics, videos, or animations) is an advantage
- Overseas exposure or work experience in a multinational company is an advantage

Your rewards
We provide you an excellent work environment, local and overseas (Denmark/ France) training, remuneration and other employment benefits based on your performance.

Applications
Send your CV with some of your excellent publications or drafts. Applications without any work examples will be rejected. Send your applications by email to mah@makeenergy.com by 05 May 2021.

Company profile
Visit www.kosancrisplant.com for details.

Ranfer

The Ranfer Group of Companies consists of 14 Companies which in addition to our diverse activities in Sri Lanka also maintains 3 overseas trading offices which are directly managed by their head office in Sri Lanka as The Central Controlling Authority. Our main line business remains the extensive dealing in the export of Tea and other Agro based non-traditional exports. Our spectrum of diversity covers activity in the Travel and Leisure Trade and Advertising etc.

The Group enjoys ownership of formidable assets consisting of its office complex, processing plants, whilst retaining a sound financial base.

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT TEA INDUSTRY

Job Role and Essential Requirements:

- Must have a sound knowledge of blending Infusions, Flavours and Value Added Teas,
- Proven records of New Market Developments,
- Graduates of Indigenous Medical faculty will have an added advantage,
- Experience- 2 years or above in the Tea Export Trade,
- Ability to trade independently and build a port-folio of overseas clients,
- Ability to take up overseas assignments,
- A good command of English and communication skills,
- Dynamic and result oriented in attitude,
- IT literacy,
- Experience in Warehousing and Quality Standards.

SENIOR GRAPHIC DESIGNER

- Experience of handling Brand Designing and value added packaging of consumer goods,
- A strong proficiency in use of the Adobe Creative Suite,
- Excellent in motion graphics, photography, Video production and video editing,
- Ability to undertake web designing would be considered an added advantage,
- Extremely organized with strong attention to detail,
- Excellent communication skills in English,

REMUNERATION PACKAGE
The above position offers an attractive negotiable remuneration package with a range of fringe benefits including profit sharing, etc. and a predetermined career development programme.

Please forward your detailed CV indicated contact telephone number, names of two non-related referees to mgmtranfer@gmail.com OR forward by mail indicating the post applied for marked on the top left-hand corner of the envelope to reach us within 7 days of this advertisement to the under-mentioned address.

The Manager-Human Resources,
Ranfer Group of Companies
36, Ketawalamulla Place, Off Siri Dhamma Mawatha, Colombo-09.
Fax : 011 2 686803 E-mail - mgmtranfer@gmail.com

Classic Venture (Pvt) Ltd, is an organization engaged in providing quality reliable and trustworthy security consultation & related services to leading business establishments in Sri Lanka.

ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE FINANCE

We are looking for a young energetic female with following qualifications to work at our Head Office at Park Road Colombo 05.

- Age below 30 years
- Pleasant Personality
- Excellent command of English
- Computer literacy and knowledge in Quick Books Package

Salary Negotiable

Please send your CV on or before 02nd of May 2021 to the below address or by e-mail

Director
Classic Venture (Pvt) Ltd
No. 196, Park Road, Colombo 05.
Tel : 0753 632 000 / E-mail : susil@classicventure.com

LIONCO VACANCIES

SINCE 1954

Lionco is the leading manufacturing company of PU Foam mattresses since 1954, who has also earned a reputed name in introducing imported quality office and household furniture. We require young, enthusiastic and self-motivated persons to fill up the following positions.

- Showroom Sales Assistant
- Sales Executives
- Multi Duty Clerk
- HR Assistant
- Data Entry Operator - IT knowledge is a must
- Retired Fire Officers
- Factory Supervisors
- Store Keepers
- Social Media Executive
- Customer Relation Officer

Please bring all your relevant certificates from Tuesday to Thursday to the below address between 8 a.m to 9 a.m.

S.K.Suppliers (Pvt) Ltd.
583, Old Galle Road, Horethuduwa, Moratuwa.
Tel : 077 271 59 57 E-mail : skheadoffice@gmail.com

The Royal Colombo Golf Club (RCGC) is a leading private members club in Colombo and takes pride in being one of the most prestigious institutions in the country. This 140 plus years Club is now looking to recruit a

Senior Manager Finance

The Ideal candidate would be young energetic and self-motivated with the following professional qualifications coupled with the experience.

Qualifications and Experience:

- Professional and result oriented approach to work flexibly to execute wide range of accounting functions and positively impact financial initiatives.
- Knowledge and hands-on experience in computerized accounting preferably Destiny.
- The candidate to be qualified either in ICASL, CIMA or ACCA. Possessing a Bachelor's degree will be an added advantage.
- Practical hands-on experience and exposure to a paperless Workflow driven - email based computing environment.
- Should possess a minimum of 03 - 05 years' experience in the similar capacity or at an Audit firm.
- Should possess an excellent command of English, both oral and written.
- He/ she must have working knowledge in ERP systems, MS Office, E-mail and Internet.
- Should be a person with high interpersonal and analytical skills, a self-starter who can work with minimum supervision.

If you can convince us of your credentials and capabilities, then you are in for the best remuneration package in the market.

Please forward your complete resume with contact details of two non-related referees to: vacancies@rcgcs.lk within 7 days of the date of this advertisement.

Senior Executive Human Resources
Royal Colombo Golf Club
223, Model Farm Road
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MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

BID FOR ELECTRICAL SUPERVISORY CONTROL AND DATA ACQUISITION SYSTEM OF DEFENCE HEADQUARTERS COMPLEX AT AKUREGODA

CONTRACT NO: DHQC/SCADA/2021

1. **The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee (PPC) of the Ministry of Defence** now invites sealed Bids from eligible and qualified Bidders for Supply and Installation of Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) System of Defence Headquarters Complex at Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla and as described below and estimated to cost LKR120 Million.

The work consists of design, manufacture, testing at factory, delivery to site, erection, connection, testing and commissioning and maintenance for a specific period of Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition System for 33kV Medium Voltage Electrical Distribution System which includes 15 Substations including Clients receiving substation and Generator substation. Estimated total power demand of the Defence Headquarters Complex at Akuregoda, Sri Lanka is 17.6 MVA.

2. **The Construction period is 240 Days.**

3. Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding Procedure.

To be eligible for the contract award, the successful bidder shall not have been blacklisted. The bidders shall possess CIDA (Construction Industry Development Authority) Grading EM1 in the specialist area of Electrical Installation – Medium Voltage (EE-MV). Documentary evidence to support bidder's experience and track record shall be established with the Bid.

4. Other minimum Qualification requirements to qualify for contract award shall be,

Qualifications	Minimum Qualification Requirements
(i) Average annual volume of construction work performed for any 5 years within last 10 years (2011 to 2020)	LKR 100 million per year. <i>(Certified audited financial reports of 2010/2011, 2011/2012, 2012/2013, 2013/2014, 2014/2015, 2015/2016, 2016/2017, 2017/2018, 2018/2019, 2019/2020, shall be provided with the Bid)</i>
(ii) Experience in Design, Supply and Installation within last ten years. (2011 to 2020)	Experience in the successfully completion of at least 2 Medium Voltage SCADA installations with 1000kVA or larger power demand, within the last 10 years in local or in south Asian region out of which at least one project shall be of value not less than LKR 50 million.
(iii) The minimum amount of liquid assets and /or credit facilities (after setting apart for other contractual commitments) and exclusive of any advance payment which may be made under this Contract	Not less than LKR.50 million. Audited financial reports for last 03 years to be submitted to prove the liquid assets.

5. Interested bidders may obtain further information from **The Director, Project Management Unit, Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla, Sri Lanka** and inspect the bidding documents free of charge at the above address from **27/04/2021** until **14/06/2021** From 09.00 hrs. to 15.00 hrs. during a working day.

6. A complete set of Bidding Documents (except Section I and III of Volume 1A) in English language may be purchased by interested bidders on submission of a written application to **The Director, Project Management Unit, Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla, Sri Lanka** from **27/04/2021** until **14/06/2021** from **09.00hrs. to 15.00hrs.** during a working day upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **LKR 25,000.00 (Sri Lankan Rupees Twenty Five Thousands)**. The method of payment will be by Cash or Bank draft drawn in favor of **Project Procurement Committee (PPC), Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla, Sri Lanka**.

7. A pre bid meeting will be held at **10.00hrs. on 12/05/2021** and a site visit will be held on **same day** after the pre bid meeting at the Project Management Unit of Defence Headquarters Complex site at Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla.

8. Bids shall be delivered to the address below or shall be deposited in the Bid box placed at the address below at or before **10.00 hrs. on 15/06/2021**. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened soon after closing in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend.

9. Bids shall be valid up to **13/09/2021** (91 Days after the date of opening of Bids, including bid open date).

10. All bids shall be accompanied by a "Bid-Security", of **Sri Lankan Rupees One Million Eight Hundred Thousand (LKR1,800,000.00)** obtained from a bank operating in Sri Lanka approved by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka, in the form of an unconditional and on demand bond and shall be valid up to **11/10/ 2021** (119 Days from the date of opening the Bids, including bid open date). Beneficiary of the Bid Security shall be The Director, Project Management Unit.

11. Bidders are strongly advised to present the registration certificate under the Public Contracts Act No.3 of 1987 (when relevant), before purchasing the Bidding Document from Defence Headquarters Complex Project.

12. Bidders are advised to inform in writing, to the Director, Project Management Unit, the Name and the NIC/Passport Number of the individual who is participating at the tender opening at least prior to three (03) working days of the bid opening.

The address referred to above item (7) is,

**The Chairman,
Project Procurement Committee (PPC),
C/o, The Director,
Project Management Unit,
Defence Headquarters Complex Project,
Akuregoda Road,
Pelawatta,
Battaramulla,
Sri Lanka.**

Tel : 0094-077-3766601
Fax : 0094-011-2390720

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

BID FOR LANDSCAPE LIGHTING SYSTEM IN GROUND FLOOR LEVEL OF BLOCK 01, BLOCK 02, BLOCK 03 AND BLOCK 04 DEFENCE HEADQUARTERS COMPLEX PROJECT AT AKUREGODA

BID NO: DHQC/LAND LIGHT 01,02,03 & 04/2021

1. **The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee (PPC) of the Defence Headquarters Complex Project** now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for **Landscape Lighting System in Ground Floor Level of Block 01, Block 02, Block 03 and Block 04, Proposed Defence Headquarters Complex at Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla, Sri Lanka** and as described below and estimated to cost **LKR 70 Million**.

The work consists of supply, installation and supervision of Landscape Lighting System in Ground Floor Level of Block 01, Block 02, Block 03 and Block 04.

2. The Construction period is **150 Days**.

3. Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding procedure under the Standard Bidding Document of CIDA/SBD/01 and Government Procurement Guidelines.

4. To be eligible for the Contract award, the successful bidder shall not have been blacklisted and with a valid business registration in Sri Lanka for at least 05 years. The bidders shall possess CIDA (Construction Industry Development Authority) Grading EM1 in the specialist area of Electrical Installation – Low Voltage (EE-LV). Documentary evidence to support bidder's experience and track record shall be established with the Bid.

5. Minimum Qualification requirements to qualify for contract award shall be,

(i) Average annual turnover value of works successfully performed in any 3 years within last 10 years	LKR 110 million per year Attested copies of audited financial statements of respective years to be submitted to prove the average annual turnover
(ii) Experience in supply and installation within last ten years. (2011-2020)	At least 03 electrical distribution projects in similar nature shall be successfully completed within last ten years out of which at least one project shall be of value not less than LKR 40 million.
(iii) The minimum amount of liquid assets and /or credit facilities (after setting apart for other contractual commitments) and exclusive of any advance payment which may be made under this Contract	Not less than LKR 42 million. Audited financial reports for latest year to be submitted to prove the liquid assets
(iv) Ability to provide maintenance service by the bidder himself or by an authorized agent nominated by the Bidder in Sri Lanka for the supplied system during its service period	Compulsory

6. Interested bidders may obtain further information from **The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee (PPC), C/o, The Director, Project Management Unit, Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla** and inspect the tender documents free of charge at the same address from **27 April 2021** until **31 May 2021** from **09:00 hrs to 15:00 hrs during a working day**.

7. A complete set of Bidding Documents in English language may be purchased by interested Bidders on the submission of a written application to **The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee (PPC), C/o The Director, Project Management Unit, Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla** from **27 April 2021** until **31 May 2021** from **09.00 hrs to 15:00 hrs during a working day** upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **Rupees 20,000/=**. The method of payment will be in Cash/Bank draft in favor of **The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee (PPC), C/o The Director, Project Management Unit, Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla**.

A Pre-Bid meeting will be held at 1000hrs on 06 May 2021 at the site of Defence Headquarters Complex at Akuregoda.

8. Bids shall be delivered to the address below or shall be deposited in the tender box placed in the below address on or before **1000hrs on 01 June 2021**. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened soon after closing in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend.

9. All bids shall be accompanied by a **Bid Security of Seven Hundred Thousand Sri Lankan Rupees (LKR 700,000.00)**. **The Bid Security shall be a Bank Guarantee issued by a 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 as specified in the bidding document and shall be valid for 119 days after the bid opening.

10. If any Bidder wishes to submit bids for several packages related to Electrical and Mechanical services of this project, the Tenderer shall establish the qualifications/eligibility criteria required under each package separately, if not the Bidder will not be qualified for the award of more than one bid.

The address referred to above item (7) is,

**The Chairman,
Project Procurement Committee (PPC),
C/o, The Director,
Project Management Unit,
Defence Headquarters Complex Project,
Akuregoda Road,
Pelawatta,
Battaramulla.**

Tel : 0094-011-4209885
Fax : 0094-011-4209885
Email : pmudhqc@gmail.com

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TENDER NOTICE
REFURBISHMENT OF PANTRY UNITS AT EXTENSION BUILDING OF CENTRAL BANK OF SRI LANKA

Tender Number	FMD/ENG/RETRO/06
Tender Description	Refurbishment of Pantry Units at Extension building of Central Bank of Sri Lanka
Closing of Bid Submission and Bid Opening	Date : 11 th May 2021
	Time : 1430 hrs.
	Location : Head Office Building, Central Bank of Sri Lanka, No 30, Janadhipathi Mawatha, Colombo-01.
Site visit & Pre-bid meeting	Date : 06 th May 2021
	Time : 1000 hrs.
	Location : Head Office Building, Central Bank of Sri Lanka, No 30, Janadhipathi Mawatha, Colombo-01.

For further information please refer
<https://www.cbsl.gov.lk/en/tenders>
 or contact Maintenance & Project Engineer on 011 2477430

Director, Facilities Management Department
 Central Bank of Sri Lanka

Procurement notice**MiniStrY of trade****the co-op Wholesales establishment**

SUPPLY, delivery, installation, testing, commissioning and Maintenance of 02 nos. of Passenger elevators each With 1,000 kg, 09 StOPS, 2.5 M/S Speed for the co-op Wholesales establishment, Vauxhall Street, Colombo 02

- The Chairman, Department Procurement Committee on behalf of the Secretary, Ministry of Trade, invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the supply and delivery of Elevators.
- Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from the Procurement Unit of The Co-op Wholesales Establishment and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address given below from 9.00 am to 3.00 p.m. on weekdays from Monday to Friday at The Co-op Wholesales Establishment, P.O. BOX 27, Vauxhall Street, Colombo 02.
- Bidding will be conducted under the National Competitive Bidding procedure.
- A Complete set of Bidding Documents in English language may be purchased on week days from 9.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. from 2021.04.27 by paying a non-refundable tender fee of Rs. 5,000/= in cash to the Accounts Division.
- Duly completed tender should be placed in the tender box available at the Procurement Department on the 7th Floor of the CWE head office. Bids will be closed at 2.00 p.m. on 2021.05.12. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened soon after the closing of bids in the presence of the bidders or their representatives at the address below.
- All bids must be accompanied by a bid security of Rs. 150,000/=
- The decision of the procurement committee will be final.

chairman
 department Procurement committee
 the co-op Wholesales establishment
 P.o. box 27, vauxhall Street,
 Procurement Unit,
 colombo 02,
 Sri Lanka.

tel./fax. 0112-337549

**The Open University of Sri Lanka****Quotations for maintaining canteens – 2021/2022**

Quotations are called for maintaining the canteens of Nawala Central Campus and Colombo Regional Centre of the Open University of Sri Lanka.

Applications and the conditions can be obtained by Senior Assistant Registrar/ Administration from 27.04.2021 for the canteens of the Central Campus and Colombo Regional Centre upon payment of a refundable deposit of Rs.1000/= and a non-refundable fee of Rs.500/=. 2 copies of sealed quotations forms should be submitted and the final date of the issuing of quotations forms will be on 17.05.2021 until 2.00p.m.

Acceptable certificates on 2 years of experience regarding satisfactory maintenance of a canteen in a Government or other recognized institution should be submitted before obtaining quotation forms. Employees and the members of their families as well as registered students of the Open University cannot submit quotations.

How to submit quotations:

- "Quotations for maintaining canteens" should be written on the top left corner of the envelope and it should be sealed.
- A service supplier can submit quotations separately for each canteen and the canteen that applies (Central Campus or Colombo Regional Centre) should be mentioned on the top left corner of the envelope.
- Quotations for the canteens of Central Campus and Colombo Regional Centre may either be sent separately by registered post addressed to "Chairman Procurement Committee, General Administration Division, The Open University of Sri Lanka, Nawala, Nugegoda" or deposited in the Tender Box kept at the Nawala Main Office of the General Administration Division before 18.05.2021 until 2.00p.m.

Quotations will be opened at the General Administration Division of the Open University of Sri Lanka on 18.05.2021 at 2.00p.m. Unclear, incomplete, late quotations will be rejected. Procurement Committee reserves the final decision in this regard.

Further information can be obtained from Tel : 011-2881209.

Registrar, The Open University of Sri Lanka. PO Box 2, Nawala, Nugegoda.

**UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO****Extension of bid closing date**

Tender No : MD/MR/C/36/2019-1

Tender Description : Renovation of the Main Building at Department of Zoology & Environment Science, Faculty of Science-Internal Works, "Stage I" University of Colombo.

This has reference to the above Procurement scheduled to be closed at 2.30 p.m. on 29/04/2021 and the procurement notice appeared in the University official website and in the National Press, Veerakesari, Sunday Observer and Silumina on 04.04.2021.

The Bid closing date of the above tender has been extended up to, 2.30 p.m. on 13.05.2021.

Accordingly, the documents may be purchase until 12.05.2021.

And

Pre-Bid Meeting will be held at 10.30 a.m on 04th May 2021 in the Board Room, College House No:94, Cumarathunga Munidasa Mawatha Colombo - 03

The Bids will be opened immediately after the bid closing time and date in the presence of Bidders or their authorized representatives. Late Bids will be rejected.

The Chairman,
 Department Procurement Committee,
 University of Colombo,
 No 94, Cumarathunga Munidasa Mawatha
 Colombo 03.

**State Mortgage & investment bank****invitation for bids****repair and Maintenance of computers and computer Peripherals**

Chairman - Procurement Committee of State Mortgage & Investment Bank (SMIB) invites sealed bids from reputed Vendors for repair and maintenance of Computers and Computer Peripherals.

A set of bid documents can be obtained from the Supply & Logistics Department of SMIB up until 07.05.2021 on working days between 9.00 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. on payment of Rs. 2,000/= by cash (non refundable).

Bids will be closed at 3.00 p.m. on 17.05.2021 and will be opened immediately thereafter in the presence of Bidders or their authorized representatives.

For further details please contact Chief Manager (HR & Logistics) on Tel. 011 7722879 or E-mail cmhrlog@smib.lk

general Manager
 State Mortgage & investment bank
 no. 269, galle road,
 colombo 03.



Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

Auction for Issuance of

Sri Lanka Development Bonds

(Treasury Bonds denominated in US Dollar)

Public Debt Department, Central Bank of Sri Lanka

Submission of bids : Open from 11.00 hrs on 22 April 2021
 to 10.00 hrs on 28 April 2021

Date of Settlement : 03 May 2021

- **Currency** ➤ US Dollar
- **Size & Tenor** ➤ Up to US Dollars 750 Million of 9 months, 1 year 3 months, 2 years, 3 years and 3 years 9 months
- **Interest Rate** ➤ • Fixed rate arrangement : Fixed rate determined through competitive bidding for all maturities
 • Floating rate arrangement : Not offered
- **Interest Payments** ➤ Semi - annual
- **Minimum Investment** ➤ US Dollars 10, 000 & in multiples of US Dollars 10, 000
- **Transferability** ➤ By Endorsement, Delivery & Registration
- **Eligible Investors *** ➤ Foreign citizens & entities, Non resident Sri Lankans, Sri Lankan dual citizens, Holders of personal foreign currency accounts and business foreign currency accounts, Licensed specialized banks and licensed finance companies who have been permitted to accept deposits in foreign currency, Authorized Dealers in foreign exchange, Primary Dealers in government securities, Specified companies that have entered into agreements with the Board of Investment of Sri Lanka and Specified insurance companies licensed under the Regulation of Insurance Industry Act.
- **Tax** ➤ Subject to the applicable tax laws in Sri Lanka
- **Issuing Office** ➤ Public Debt Department, Central Bank of Sri Lanka
- **Designated Agents to purchase bonds** ➤ Selected Licensed Commercial Banks & Primary Dealers as given below
- **Paying Agent** ➤ Bank of Ceylon
- **Governing Law** ➤ Laws of Sri Lanka

* Conditions apply. Please refer the related Document of Offer.

* **Bids have to be submitted to 'fopdd@cbsl.lk' in pdf format protected with passwords. Such passwords are required to be submitted separately to 'fopdd@cbsl.lk' within the first 30 minutes of the auction cut-off time (That is 10.00 am - 10.30 am on 28.04.2021).**

The CBSL may accept any amount not exceeding the total amount offered at auction depending on the market conditions. The details of the offer are available in the Document of Offer dated 21 April 2021.

DESIGNATED AGENTS

Acuity Securities Ltd, 4th Floor, Acuity House, 53, Dharmapala Mawatha, Colombo 3, Tel: 2206297, Fax: 2206290 **Bank of Ceylon**, 7th Floor, Bank of Ceylon Head Office, Bank of Ceylon Mawatha, Colombo 1, Tel: 2448830, Fax: 2448207, **Capital Alliance Ltd.**, Level 5, "Millennium House", 46/58, Nawam Mawatha, Colombo 2, Tel: 2317777/2317730-1, Fax: 2317788, **Cargills Bank Ltd.**, 696, Galle Road, Colombo 03, Tel: 7640000, Fax: 7640507, **Commercial Bank of Ceylon PLC**, 21, Sir Razik Fareed Mawatha, Colombo 1, Tel: 2330406, Fax: 2384650, **Deutsche Bank AG Colombo Branch**, 86, Galle Road, Colombo 3, Tel: 2447062, Fax: 2449589, **DFCC Bank PLC**, 73/5, Galle Road, Colombo 3, Tel: 2442442, Fax: 2440376, **First Capital Treasuries PLC**, 2, Deal Place, Colombo 03, Tel: 2639898, Fax: 2639899, **Habib Bank Ltd.**, 70 A, Dharmapala Mawatha, Colombo 3, Tel: 2370390, Fax: 2370389 **Hatton National Bank PLC**, HNB Tower, Level 21, 479, T B Jayah Mawatha, Colombo 10, Tel: 2664664, Fax: 2662832, **Indian Bank**, 57, Sir Baron Jayatilake Mawatha, Colombo 1, Tel: 2447163, Fax: 2447562, **Indian Overseas Bank**, 139, Main Street, Colombo 11, Tel: 5324422, Fax: 2447900, **MCB Bank Ltd.**, 8, Leyden Bastian Road, Colombo 1, Tel: 2448765, Fax: 2448764, **National Development Bank PLC**, 40, Nawam Mawatha, Colombo 2, Tel: 2448448, Fax: 2440262, **Nations Trust Bank PLC**, 242, Union Place, Colombo 2, Tel: 4711411, Fax: 2370854, **NSB Fund Management Company Ltd.**, 400, Galle Road, Colombo 3, Tel: 2425010, Fax: 2574387, **Pan Asia Banking Corporation PLC**, 450, Galle Road, Colombo 3, Tel: 4667702, Fax: 2565558, **People's Bank**, 13th Floor, 75, Peoples' Bank Head Office, Sir Chittampalam A Gardiner Mawatha, Colombo 2, Tel: 2206783, Fax: 2458842, **Public Bank Berhad**, Colombo Branch, 340, R A de Mel Mawatha, Colombo 3, Tel: 2576289, Fax: 2573958, **Sampath Bank PLC**, 110, Sir James Peiris Mawatha, Colombo 2, Tel: 2305841-2, Fax: 2314940, **Seylan Bank PLC**, Level 3, Seylan Towers, 90, Galle Road, Colombo 3, Tel: 2456337, Fax: 4711611, **Standard Chartered Bank**, 37, York Street, Colombo 1, Tel: 2480000, Fax: 2422618, **State Bank of India**, 16, Sir Baron Jayatilaka Mawatha, Colombo 1, Tel: 2326133, Fax: 4446868, **Union Bank of Colombo PLC**, No. 64, Galle Road, Colombo 3, Tel: 2374100, Fax: 2370593, **Wealth Trust Securities Ltd.**, 102/1, Dr. N M Perera Mawatha, Colombo 8, Tel: 2675091-4, Fax: 2689605.

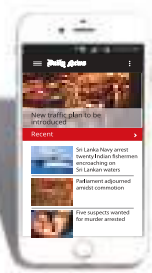
Dr. M Z M Aazim
 Superintendent/Registrar of Public Debt
 Public Debt Department, Central Bank of Sri Lanka

30, Janadhipathi Mawatha,
 Colombo 1.

Telephone : 2477011 Fax: 2477687, 2477718 /9
<http://www.cbsl.gov.lk>

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CENTRAL BANK OF SRI LANKA

TENDER FOR THE SUPPLY, DELIVERY, INSTALLATION, COMMISSIONING AND MAINTENANCE OF SECURITY APPLIANCES

Reference Number	09/04/039/2021/001
Description	Tender for the Supply, Delivery, Installation, Commissioning and Maintenance of five (05) nos. of Security Appliances for the Central Bank of Sri Lanka
Bid closing and opening	Date : 13 May 2021 Time : 1430 hrs. Location : Head Office Building, Central Bank of Sri Lanka, No 30, Janadhipathi Mawatha, Colombo-01, Sri Lanka

For further information please refer
<https://www.cbsl.gov.lk/en/tenders>
or contact: 11 2477318 or 11 2398754

The Secretary
Central Bank of Sri Lanka

Call for Quotations

Supply of Raw material for spectacles for the year 2021 - 2022

Vision 2020 National Eye Care Programme

Supply of frames (Adults frames only) /boxes/cleaning cloths and lenses for Optical lab

- Each item above should be quoted separately for bulk purchase.
- Frame design should match the modern design available in the market.
- Price of the lenses should be categories as follows.

Single Vision			Bifocal		
Plano to +3.00 sph	+ 3.25 sp to + 6.00 sph -3.25sp	- 0.50 sph -0.50 cyl to -2.00 sph -2.00 cyl + 0.50 sph - 0.50 cyl to +2.00sph - 2.00 cyl & moderate power - Grinding	Plano to +2.00 sph add +1.00 to Add +3.00 stock lenses	+ 2.25 sp to + 6.00 Add +1.00 to Add +3.00 - Grinding	-0.25sph - 0.25cyl to - 2.00 sp - 2.00 cyl Add +1.00 Ds to +3.00Ds & moderate power - Grinding

- Once selected, the supplier should continue to supply at agreed rates for one year.
 - Once the order is placed for lenses and raw material the goods should be delivered within 5 working days. Please provide the samples and copy of the business registration certificate with the quotation.
- Quotations are to be submitted to the following address on or before the **16th May 2021 at 9.30 am**. Suppliers will be selected by a Technical Evaluation Committee.

**Finance Officer,
Vision 2020 Programme,
First Floor,
National Eye Hospital,
Colombo 10.
For Inquiries, Phone/Fax: 011-2693977
Email: vision2020srilanka@gmail.com**

STATE PHARMACEUTICALS CORPORATION OF SRI LANKA

PROCUREMENT NOTICE

The Chairman, Procurement Committee of the State Pharmaceuticals Corporation of Sri Lanka, Colombo 01 invites sealed quotations from registered and previous sources for following items and bids will be closed at the respective times on the dates given below and will be opened immediately thereafter. (e-mail/fax offers as well as fob offers are not acceptable)

Sealed Bids may be sent by post under registered cover or may be personally deposited in the box available for this purpose at Internal Audit Department in the Mezzanine Floor of the State Pharmaceuticals Corporation at No. 75, Sir Baron Jayatilake Mawatha, Colombo 1, Sri Lanka.

Bidders or their authorized representatives will be permitted to be present at the time of opening of Bids.

SURgical SPeCial iteMS

tender no.	closing date	closing time	item	Quantity
DHS/RSS/RQ/53/21	12.05.2021	2.00 p.m.	Vascular Tape, for occlusion of veins, red, radioaque silicone & Vascular Tape, for occlusion of arteries, blue, radiopaque silicone	Pls. refer RQ item list

lab iteMS

tender no.	closing date	closing time	item	Quantity
DHS/RL/19CPW/21	10.05.2021	02.30 p.m.	06/43580401 - Mineral Oil	09 packs
DHS/RL/20SM/21	10.05.2021	02.30 p.m.	1/40417401 - Utrophin (N-terminus) mouse monoclonal antibody 2.5ml/vial 2/40430203 - Target Retrieval solution (Ready to use) for Immunohistochemistry 3/40451701 - Monoclonal mouse anti human CD Neutrophil Elastase for Immunohistochemistry 1ml 4/40483201 - Monoclonal mouse anti human COX 1 for Immunocytochemistry 1 ml 5/40483301 - Monoclonal mouse anti human COX2 for Immunocytochemistry 1ml 6/40486701 - Monoclonal mouse antibody HLA-ABC 1ml	03 Vials 7,000 ml 1 vial 3 vials 3 vials 4 vials
DHS/RL/95NK/20	10.05.2021	02.30 p.m.	28/45351101-Fentanyl citrate USP 29/45351201 - Ibuprofen USP	100 mg 750 mg
DHS/RL/96CPW/20	10.05.2021	02.30 p.m.	1/50400401 - Vacuum tube, plastic, volume 10ml (similar to vacutainer)	750,000 Nos.
DHS/RL/97WAC/20	10.05.2021	02.30 p.m.	01/45501401 - Triethylamine HPLC Grade 04/45508501 - Ethyl Alcohol denatured HPLC Grade	5L 4L
DHS/RL/120CPW/19	10.05.2021	02.30 p.m.	01/43410103 - Sodium Hypochlorite solution 10 - 20% 02/43410201 Multipurpose detergent / disinfectant for hospital / laboratory use - Teepol or Teepol based concentration (working dilution 1:500)	15,600,000 ml 4,200,000 ml
DHS/RL/98RS/20	10.05.2021	02.30 p.m.	Disposable Wire Loop (5mm) for TB culture	25,700 Nos.

SURgical annUal iteMS

tender no. / bid reference	closing date	closing time	item	Quantity
DHS/RS/RQ/120/20 (20.04.2021)	11.05.2021	2.00 p.m.	Intercostal Drainage Catheter with Trocar, various sizes	10,500 Nos.
DHS/RS/RQ/121/20	11.05.2021	2.00 p.m.	Aspirating Needles	5,000 Ndis.
DHS/RS/RQ/27/21	11.05.2021	2.00 p.m.	Thoracic Drainage Catheter	1,080 Nos.
DHS/RS/RQ/28/21	11.05.2021	2.00 p.m.	Extension Tubes, various sizes	401,250 Nos.
DHS/RS/RQ/29/21 (20.04.2021)	11.05.2021	2.00 p.m.	Catheter Introducer sets & Percutaneous Entry / Angiographic Needle	814 Nos.
DHS/RS/RQ/30/21 (21.04.2021)	12.05.2021	2.00 p.m.	Cerebral Catheter, various types	264 Nos.
DHS/RS/RQ/123/20 (20.04.2021)	11.05.2021	2.00 p.m.	Surgical Suture	2,200 Nos.
DHS/RS/RQ/124/20 (20.04.2021)	11.05.2021	2.00 p.m.	Infusion Catheter with side holes for thrombolysis	20 Nos.

Bids should be prepared as per the particulars given in the Bidding Documents available at the Head Office of State Pharmaceuticals Corporation of Sri Lanka, No. 75, Sir Baron Jayatilake Mawatha, Colombo 1.

Wherever necessary potential bidder/bidders should get registered in terms of the Public Contracts Act No. 3 of 1987 before collecting the Bid Documents and also should get the contract registered after the award.

chairMan - ProcUreMent coMMittee
State PharMaceUticaLs corPoration of Sri Lanka
75, Sir baron Jayatilake MaWatha, coloMbo 1, Sri Lanka.
faX : 00 94-11-2335008 / 2344082
telePhone : 00 94+11-2335008 / 2326227 / 2335374
e-Mail : dgmsurgical@spc.lk / pharma.manager@spc.lk

PROCUREMENT OF COMMERCIAL EXPLOSIVES FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION PROCUREMENT UNIT (CEFAP UNIT)

WELISARA, RAGAMA

INVITATION FOR BIDS

- Sealed Bids will be invited from local and foreign suppliers who comply with qualifications mentioned at section III for the bidding document for the procurement of undermentioned contract number for the Commercial Explosives, Firearms and Ammunition Procurement Unit (CEFAP Unit).
Contract No. CEFAP/PRT/06/2020(VOL-1) - Electric Detonator (4 mtr) 1,500,000 Nos.
- Bids will be conducted through International Competitive Bidding Procedure.
- Interested local and foreign suppliers may obtain further information from the Procurement Officer of the Commercial Explosives, Firearms and Ammunition Procurement Unit, Welisara, Ragama (Tel: 0112958227) or Director, Commercial Explosives, Firearms and Ammunition Procurement Unit (Tel: 0112955514).
- Bidding document may be obtained on submission of a written request to the Director, Commercial Explosives, Firearms and Ammunition Procurement Unit, upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Rs. 4,500.00 from 0900 hrs to 1600 hrs on working days of week from **26th April 2021 to 07th June 2021** (Foreign suppliers may appoint suitable local agent) .
- All bids must be valid for period of **120** days from the date of opening and must be accompanied with an unconditional bid bond. The relevant bid bond must be valid for a period of **148** days from the date of bid opening and the bid bond should be obtained from a commercial bank which is operating in Sri Lanka.
- Bidders must provide an unconditional Performance Bond for 10% of the bid value excluding taxes once the purchase order is awarded.
- Sealed bids in duplicate may be delivered to the Chairman of the Tender Board, Sri Lanka Navy Headquarters, Flagstaff Street, Colombo 01, sent by registered post to the same address or deposited in the tender box kept at the Navy Headquarters, up to 1400 hrs on **08th June 2021** and the bids will be opened immediately after closing in the presence of the bidders who choose to attend.
- Further details of this procurement are available on the SL Navy website www.navy.lk

**Director,
Commercial Explosives, Firearms and Ammunition Procurement Unit,
Government Explosives Magazine,
Welisara, Ragama.**



Procurement notice - global

STATE PHARMACEUTICALS CORPORATION OF SRI LANKA

The Chairman, Procurement Committee of the State Pharmaceuticals Corporation of Sri Lanka will receive sealed bids for supply of following items to the State Ministry of Production, Supply and Regulation of Pharmaceuticals under Ministry of Health.

Bid Number	Closing Date & Time	Item Description	Date of issue of Bidding Documents from	Non-refundable Bid Fee
DHS/SUS/WW/272/21	09.06.2021 at 9.00 a.m.	K Nail Insertion & Removal Instrument Set	28.04.2021	3,000/- + taxes
DHS/SUS/WW/1/22	09.06.2021 at 9.00 a.m.	Baby Blood Lines Sets, Paediatric Blood Lines Sets, Bicarbonate Powder, Heat Disinfection Solution & Hollow Fibre Dialyzer	28.04.2021	35,000/- + taxes
DHS/SUS/WW/2/22	09.06.2021 at 9.00 a.m.	Biopsy Needle, Biopsy Gun & Filter, compatible with "FMC 4008" and "FMC 5008" Haemodialysis machine	28.04.2021	12,500/- + taxes

Bids should be prepared as per particulars given in the Bidding Documents available to prospective bidders on working days between 0930 hours and 1500 hours at the Head Office of the State Pharmaceuticals Corporation of Sri Lanka, Head Office, No.75, Sir Baron Jayatillake Mawatha, Colombo 1. These could be purchased on cash payment of a non-refundable Bid document Fee per set as mentioned above. Offers received without enclosing original payment receipt are liable to be rejected.

Wherever applicable potential bidder/bidders should get registered in terms of the Public Contracts Act No. 3 of 1987 before collecting the Bidding Documents and also should get the contract registered after the tender is awarded.

All Bids should be accompanied by a Bid Bond as specified in the Bidding Documents.

Sealed Bids may be sent by post under registered cover or may be personally deposited in the box available for this purpose at Internal Audit Department in the Mezzanine Floor of the State Pharmaceuticals Corporation at No. 75, Sir Baron Jayatillake Mawatha, Colombo 1, Sri Lanka.

Bids will be closed at the Head office of the State Pharmaceuticals Corporation on the dates and time mentioned above and will be opened immediately thereafter.

Bidders or their authorised representatives will be permitted to be present at the time of opening of Bids.

Bidding Documents are being sent to Sri Lanka missions abroad and foreign missions in Sri Lanka.

CHAIRMAN DEPARTMENTAL PROCUREMENT COMMITTEE
STATE PHARMACEUTICALS CORPORATION OF SRI LANKA
75, SIR BARON JAYATILLAKE MAWATHA
COLOMBO 1
SRI LANKA.

TEL/FAX : 00 94 11 2582492
E-MAIL : dgmsurgical@spc.lk



UNFPA Request for Quotation

The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) is the lead UN agency addressing that expands the possibilities for women and young people to lead healthy sexual and reproductive lives.

RFQ N° UNFPA/LKA/RFQ/21/04 – Media buying Organization for the launch and delivery of campaign on Intimate Partner Violence

RFQ N° UNFPA/LKA/RFQ/21/05 – Renting Digital Advertising Panels

These Request for Quotations are open to all legally-constituted companies/institutions/agencies that can provide the requested services and have legal capacity to perform in Sri Lanka, or through an authorized representative.

Deadline for submission: 10 May 2021

To view the detailed RFQ please visit the following website:

<https://srilanka.unfpa.org/en/>

Kindly note that upon successful selection, you will be required to submit your company profile, a copy of your company registration and a copy of the recently audited accounts for review purposes.

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 DEFENCE

FABRICATION, SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF HEAVY DUTY FIRE RATED STEEL DOORS FOR BLOCK 02 OF DEFENCE HEADQUARTERS COMPLEX AT AKUREGODA

CONTRACT No: DHQC/FIRE RAT STEEL DOOR 2/2021

1. The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee (PPC) on behalf of the Ministry of Defence now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for Fabrication, Supply and Installation of Heavy Duty Fire Rated Steel Doors for Block 02 of Defence Headquarters Complex at Akuregoda as described below and approximately estimated to cost LKR 12.7 Million (excluding VAT).

The Works consist of fabrication, supply and installation of Heavy-Duty Fire Rated Steel Doors including Door Sashes, Frames, Door Hardware and Accessories with powder coated hot dipped galvanized steel frames and sashes. The Intended Completion Date of the Works shall be 126 Days from the Start Date.

2. Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding Procedure.

To be eligible for the Contract award, the successful bidder shall not have been blacklisted and shall have a valid business registration in Sri Lanka for at least five (05) years. The bidder shall be either the Manufacturer of the offered work or the authorized agent of the manufacturer of the offered work or a licensed installer of the manufacturer of the offered work. The manufacturer shall be accredited and registered under ISO 9001. If the bidder is not the manufacturer of the offered work, then he shall be mandatorily required being an organization possessing ISO 9001 Certification.

3. Documentary evidence to support Bidder's experience and track record shall be provided with the Bid.

4. Qualification requirements to qualify for contract award include:

- Average annual turnover value in last five (05) years shall be at least LKR 19 million.
- Experience in fabrication, supply and/or installation of heavy-duty fire rated steel doors including at least one project of value not less than 5 million completed within last five (05) years.
- The minimum amount of liquid assets (after setting apart for other contractual commitments) and exclusive of any advance payment which may be made under this Contract, shall be not less than LKR 9 million.

5. Interested bidders may obtain further information from **The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee (PPC), Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla** and inspect the bidding documents free of charge at the same address from 27th April 2021 until 17th May 2021 from 0900 hrs to 1500 hrs during working days.

6. A complete set of Bidding Documents in English language may be purchased by interested bidders on submission of a written application to **The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee (PPC), Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla** from 27th April 2021 until 17th May 2021 from 0900 hrs to 1500 hrs during working days upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Sri Lankan Rupees Four Thousand One Hundred (LKR 4,100.00). The method of payment will be by cash or Bank draft drawn in favour of **The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee (PPC), Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla**.

7. Pre bid meeting will be held at 1400 hrs on 05th May 2021 and a site visit will be held on same day after the pre bid meeting at the Project Management Unit of Defence Headquarters Complex site at Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla.

8. Bids shall be delivered in duplicate to the address below or shall be deposited in the Tender box placed at the address below at or before 1000 hrs on 18th May 2021. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened soon after closing in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend.

9. Bids shall be valid up to 03rd August 2021 (77 Days after the date of Bid opening).

10. All bids shall be accompanied by a "Bid-Security" of Sri Lankan Rupees One Hundred Thirty Thousand (LKR 130,000.00) obtained from a commercial bank operating in Sri Lanka approved by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka in the form of an unconditional and on demand guarantee and shall be valid up to 31st August 2021 (105 days after the date of Bid opening).

11. If any bidder wishes to submit bids for several packages of the same block or any other blocks of this project, the bidder shall establish the qualification/ eligibility criteria required under each contract separately, if not the bidder will not be qualified for the award of more than one bid.

12. In addition to Item 11 of above, if any bidder has already been selected/is working as a contractor in any of the packages of the block/s of this project, the bidder shall establish his financial and technical requirements under specification/ eligibility criteria exclusively for this bidding package. If not, the bidder will not be qualified for the award of this bid.

13. Bidders shall present the registration certificate under the Public Contract Act No.3 of 1987 before purchasing the bidding documents.

14. Bidders are advised to inform in writing, to The Director - Project Management Unit, Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla the name and the NIC/ Passport Number of the individual who is participating at the bid opening at least prior to three (03) working days of the bid opening.

The address (es) referred to above is (are):

The Chairman,
Project Procurement Committee (PPC),
Defence Headquarters Complex Project,
Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta,
Battaramulla.

Tel: 0094-011-4209885
Fax: 0094-011-4209885
E-mail: pmudhqc@gmail.com

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

BIDS FOR SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF PASSENGER LIFTS FOR KINHADENIYA OTHER RANKS MARRIED QUARTERS PROJECT DEFENCE HEADQUARTERS COMPLEX AT AKUREGODA

CONTRACT NO: DHQC/PROC/2020/SER/K/13

1. The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee on behalf of the Ministry of Defence now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for Supply and Installation of Passenger Lifts for Kinhadeniya Other Ranks Married Quarters Project of Defence Headquarters Complex at Akuregoda as described below and estimated to cost LKR 20 Million (excluding VAT)

The service consists of Supply and Installation of two Passenger Lifts for Kinhadeniya Other Ranks Married Quarters Project of Defence Headquarters Complex at Akuregoda as per the specifications given in the Bidding Documents.

2. Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding Procedure.

3. To be eligible for the Contract award, the successful bidder shall not have been blacklisted and shall have a valid business registration in Sri Lanka. Documentary evidence, supporting the Bidder's experience and track record shall be established with the Bid.

4. Interested bidders may obtain further information from, **The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee, Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla** and inspect the bidding documents free of charge at the same address from 27th April 2021 until 17th May 2021 from 0900 hrs to 1500 hrs during working days.

5. A complete set of Bidding Documents in English language may be purchased by interested bidders on submission of a written application to **The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee, Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla** from 27th April 2021 until 17th May 2021 from 0900 hrs to 1500 hrs upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Three Thousand Five Hundred Sri Lankan Rupees (LKR 3,500.00). The method of payment will be in Cash/Bank draft in favour of **The Director Project Management Unit, Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla**.

6. Bids shall be valid up to 16th August 2021 (91 Days from the date of Bid Opening).

7. All bids shall be accompanied by a Bid-Security of Two Hundred Thousand Rupees (LKR 200,000.00) shall be 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 valid up to 13th September 2021 (119 Days after the date of Bid Opening).

8. A pre bid meeting will be held at 1100hrson 05th May 2021 and a Site visit will be held at 1130 hrs on same day at the Project Management Unit of Defence Headquarters Complex site at Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla.

9. Bids shall be delivered to the address below or shall be deposited in the tender box placed in the below address or before 1000 hrs on 18th May 2021. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened soon after closing in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend.

10. Bidders are strongly advised to obtain the registration certificate under the Public Contracts Act No. 3 of 1987 when relevant, before purchasing the Bidding Document from The Defence Headquarters Complex Project,

11. Bidders are advised to inform in writing, to the **The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee, Defence Headquarters Complex Project**, the name and the NIC/ Passport Number of the individual who is participating at the bid opening at least prior to three (03) working days of the Bid opening.

The address referred to above item (09) is;

The Chairman,
Project Procurement Committee,
Defence Headquarters Complex Project,
Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta,
Battaramulla.

Tel: 0094-011-2787047
Fax: 0094-011-4209885
E-mail: pmudhqc@gmail.com
Dhqcproc2015@gmail.com

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TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT



The former Operations Manager, Ruwanthi Fernando (NIC- 707982454V) is no longer employed with The Guild.

Therefore, the above person is no longer authorized to book orders, collect payments or make any commitment on behalf of our company with immediate effect.

Thank You
The Guild

THE GUILD

Repeat Your ad For Better Offers

WANTED WAREHOUSE SPACE

We require a warehouse of 20,000 square feet for one year period in Kadawatha, Ragama, Wattala or around Gampaha areas, with 20' & 40' container accessibility. (Brokers are not Welcome)

Contact - Kamal/Priyanka 011 530 3045/7

Between 8.30 am & 4.30pm on weekdays

No. 312, Nawala Road, Rajagiriya.



INVITATION FOR BIDS

SUPPLY, INSTALLATION, TESTING & COMMISSIONING AND MAINTENANCE DURING THE DEFECT LIABILITY PERIOD OF AIR CONDITIONING AND VENTILATION SYSTEM FOR AUDITORIUM OF GENERAL SIR JOHN KOTELAWALA DEFENCE UNIVERSITY, AT RATMALANA

Contract No. MOD/KDU/01/2021

1. The Chairman, Ministry Procurement Committee, Ministry of Defence on behalf of the Vice Chancellor, General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University, Ratmalana now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for Supply, installation, testing & commissioning and Maintenance during the defect liability period of Air Conditioning and Ventilation System (Contract No. MOD/KDU/01/2021) as described below.

The work consists of Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning and Maintenance during the defect liability period of Air Conditioning and Ventilation System for Auditorium of General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University, at Ratmalana.

Location of Project: General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University, Kadawala Road, Ratmalana

The construction period is **180 days**.

2. Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding Procedure.
3. In order to be eligible for contract award, the successful bidder shall not have been blacklisted and shall meet the all following requirements:

- CIDA (former ICTAD) registration required: Grade - **EM 1**, Specialty - Mechanical Ventilation and Air Conditioning (MVAC).
- Bidder shall have at least ten (10) years experience in Supplying, Installing, Testing, Commissioning and Maintenance of similar type of Air Conditioning systems in Sri Lanka and having qualified technical staff trained at Chiller plant manufacturing facility for installation, operation, maintenance & trouble shooting of modern multi compressor screw type chillers.
- Experience in performing at least one (01) contract of a nature, complexity and value equivalent to the proposed works over the last five (05) years.
- The manufacturer of the equipment shall have at least fifteen (15) years experience in the Design and Manufacture of similar type air conditioners and make of offered equipment shall have at least five (05) years proven service record in Sri Lanka.

4. Qualification requirement to qualify for contract award include:
• Average annual value of supply and installation of Air Conditioning and Ventilation system work performed in last five (05) years shall be at least Rs. 300 million.
• The minimum amount of Liquid Assets or credit facilities required is Rs. 50 million.

5. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from
Chief Financial Officer I
Ministry of Defence,
No 15/5,
Baladaksha Mawatha,
Colombo 03,
Sri Lanka (Telephone 011-2439381 Fax 011-2390720 Email : procurement@defence.lk).

Bidding Document may be inspected free of charge at the above address from **26.04.2021** until **24.05.2021** from **0900 hrs to 1500 hrs** during working day Telephone 011-2439381 Fax 011-2390720 and Email procurement@defence.lk).

6. A complete set of Bidding Documents in English language may be purchased by interested bidders on the submission of written application to Chief Financial Officer I, Ministry of Defence, No 15/5, Baladaksha Mawatha, Colombo 03, Sri Lanka from **26.04.2021** up to **24.05.2021** from **0900 hrs to 1500 hrs**, during working day upon payment of non-refundable fee of **LKR 30,000** (Sri Lankan Rupees Thirty Thousand). The method of payment will be cash.

Bidders are strongly advised to submit the registration certificate under the Public Contract Act No. 3 of 1987 (When relevant), along with the submission of the Bid.

7. The Pre bid meeting will be held on 05.05.2021 at 10.00 at General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University, kadawala Road, Ratmalana. Bidders who expect to participate to the pre bid meeting shall submit the details of the participants (Name, NIC No, Company and position) to Director Logistic, General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University, P.O Box 32, Ratmalana, Sri Lanka (Tel: 0112-632430 / 0710-219384, Fax 0112-632430).

8. Bids shall be valid from **25.05.2021** to **24.08.2021** (91 days from the closing date from the for submission of Bids).

9. All bids shall be accompanied by a "Bid Security" of Sri Lankan Rupees Three Million (LKR 3,000,000.00) obtained from bank operating in Sri Lanka approved by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka, in the form of an unconditional and on demand bond and shall be valid from 25.05.2021 to 21.09.2021 (119 calendar days after opening the bids). Beneficiary of the Bid Security shall be Secretary, Ministry of Defence.

10. Bids shall be addressed to the Chairman, Ministry Procurement Committee, Ministry of Defence 1430 hrs on **25.05.2021**

Bids shall be delivered to the address below or shall be deposited in the Bid box placed at the address below on or before **1430 hrs on 25.05.2021**

The Procurement Branch,
Ministry of Defence,
Ground Floor, No.15/5,
Baladaksha Mawatha, Colombo 03.

Late bids will be rejected

Bids will be opened soon after closing in the presence of bidders' representatives who choose to attend

11. Bidders are advised to inform in writing, to the Chief Financial Officer I, Ministry of Defence, No 15/5, Baladaksha Mawatha, Colombo 03, Sri Lanka the name and the NIC/ Passport Number of the individual who is participating at the bid opening at least three (03) working days prior to bid opening.

Further, Bidders are advised to inform in writing at least three (03) working days prior to the Chief Financial Officer I, Ministry of Defence, No 15/5, Baladaksha Mawatha, Colombo 03, Sri Lanka the name and the NIC/ Passport Number of the individual who is participating in any official matter for the relevant procurement.

**Chairman
Ministry Procurement Committee,
Ministry of Defence
15/5, Baladaksha Mawatha, Colombo-03.
Tel: 0112-390719**



SRI LANKA DEPOSIT INSURANCE AND LIQUIDITY SUPPORT SCHEME AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - 2020

Statement of Comprehensive Income (Rupees in Thousands) Statement of Financial Position (Rupees in Thousands)

Item	For the year ended 31 December		Item	As at 31 December	
	2020	2019		2020	2019
INCOME			ASSETS		
Revenue from Member Institutions	10,404,670	9,266,085	Cash at Bank	1,846	539
Interest Income from Financial Instruments	6,714,057	6,563,544	Receivable from Member Institutions	2,310,585	2,137,512
Gain on Discounting of Investments	3,695,263	-	Accrued Interest Paid at Investment	66,431	64,697
Total Income	20,813,990	15,829,629	Financial Instruments at Fair Value Through Other Comprehensive Income	67,877,818	65,432,374
EXPENDITURE			Financial Instruments at Amortised Cost	682,066	1,345,671
Rent and Admin. Expenses	14,720	18,652	Withholding Tax Receivables	-	2,497
Publication Expenses	335	441	Economic Service Charge Paid	-	39,050
RTGS Charges	244	195	Tranche - wise payments to Agent Bank	2,420,388	-
Compensation	31,613,712	851,793	Total Assets	73,559,134	69,062,340
Custodian Fees and Other Charges	1,151	317	LIABILITIES		
Impairment Charges	334,267	338,566	Provision for Compensation	14,244,356	1,526,266
Total Expenditure	31,964,431	1,209,964	Sundry Creditors	14,311	17,730
PROFIT/(LOSS) FOR THE PERIOD BEFORE INCOME TAX	(11,150,441)	14,619,665	Payable to the Department of Island Revenue	190,191	2,182,717
Less: Provision for Income Tax	190,191	3,972,902	Total Liabilities	14,448,858	3,726,713
PROFIT/(LOSS) FOR THE PERIOD AFTER INCOME TAX	(11,340,632)	10,646,763	EQUITY		
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME			Sri Lanka Deposit Insurance and Liquidity Support Fund	51,332,125	62,672,757
Gains/(Losses) on Re-measuring of Financial Instruments at Fair Value Through Other Comprehensive Income	6,219,115	4,107,665	Other Comprehensive Income Reserve	7,778,151	2,662,870
Less: Tax relating to Components of Other Comprehensive Income	-	-	Total Equity	59,110,276	65,335,627
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR AFTER TAX	6,219,115	4,107,665	TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES	73,559,134	69,062,340
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME	(5,121,517)	14,754,428			

The above financial information has been extracted from the audited financial statements of the Sri Lanka Deposit Insurance and Liquidity Support Scheme as per the Report of the Auditor General dated 30th March 2021 and approved by the Monetary Board.

(Sgd.)
Deshumanya Prof. W D Lakshman
Governor, Central Bank of Sri Lanka

(Sgd.)
D M D B Dissanayake
Director of Resolution and Enforcement
31.03.2021

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

MATERIALS REQUIREMENT FOR FABRICATION OF ALUMINIUM DRYWALL PARTITION AT BLOCK NO. 04 AT DEFENCE HEADQUARTERS COMPLEX AKUREGODA.

CONTRACT NO: DHQC/PROC/2021/H/136

1. The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee on behalf of the Ministry of Defence, now invites sealed Bids from eligible and qualified tenderers for **Supply of undermentioned Items for the Defence Headquarters Complex at Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla.**

Description of Item - Aluminium Partitioning Items

- Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding procedure.
- To be eligible for the Contract award, the successful tenderers shall not have been black listed and shall possess a valid business registration in Sri Lanka for at least 05 years. Documentary evidence shall be established with the Bids.**
- Bidders are strongly advised to present Registration Certificate issued by the Registrar of Companies as per the 8th Paragraph of Public Contracts Act No 03 of 1987 for every Bid which exceeds tenderable amount of Rs. 5.0 million, and copy of certificate to be presented when purchasing the bidding document.**
- A complete set of Bidding Documents in English Language can be purchased upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **Rupees Twelve Thousand Five Hundred (LKR.12,500.00)** (The method of payment shall be by cash) by interested bidders on submission of a written application to the address below, from **0900 hrs to 1600 hrs from 26th April 2021 to 1000 hrs on 18th May 2021.**
- All Tenders shall be accompanied by a Tender Security, to the value of **Seven Hundred Fourteen Thousand Six Hundred Fifty (LKR. 714,650.00)** obtained from any commercial bank operating in Sri Lanka approved by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka. This Tender Security shall be in the form of an unconditional, on demand guarantee and shall be **valid from 18th May 2021 to 14th September 2021** (120 days including Both Days).
- Validity of Bids - Bids shall be valid for 90 days from the date of Bid Opening (From 18th May 2021 to 15th August 2021).**
- Duly completed Bids shall be delivered to: **The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee, Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla** at or before **1000 hrs on 17th May 2021.** Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened soon after closing in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend in person at **Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla.**

The address referred in Para 6&9 is as follows:

**The Chairman,
Project Procurement Committee (PPC),
Defence Headquarters Complex Project,
Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta,
Battaramulla.**

Tel: 0094-011-4209885
Fax: 0094-011-4209885
E-mail: pmudhq@gmail.com, dhqcproc2015@gmail.com



PRICE SETTER TO THE NATION

BID INVITATION

**Courier Service to Lanka Sathosa Limited
Online Delivery Platform**

Chairman Lanka Sathosa Limited invites sealed Bids from Courier Service Providing institutions, who wish to Provide Courier Service for a period of one year to Lanka Sathosa Limited - Online Delivery Platform.

Specifications - As indicated in the Bidding Document
Requirement - As indicated in the Bidding Document

Interested Bidders shall obtain Bidding Documents by submitting authorization letter from Procurement Division (3rd floor) at Lanka Sathosa Limited Head Office, **No 27, CWE Secretariat Building, Vauxhall Street, Colombo 02**, from **27th April 2021 to 18th May 2021** by paying **Rs.1,000/- (non-refundable)**.

Pre Bid meeting will be held on **11th May 2021, 11.00 a.m.**

Bids should be sent by Registered post or deposited in the tender box placed at the Procurement Division (3rd floor) Lanka Sathosa Ltd, No 27, CWE Secretariat Building Vauxhall Street, Colombo 02, on or before **18th May 2021, 01.00 p.m.** The top left hand corner of the envelope containing the sealed Bid should be marked as **"Providing Courier Service to LSL-Online Delivery Platform"**

All bids shall be accompanied by a legibly filled **Bid Security declaration** which has been enclosed with the bidding document.

Bids will be closed on **18th May 2021, 01.00 p.m.** and open immediately after closing in the presence of Bidders. **Successful Bidder** is required to pay a **sum of Rs.5,000/- and 8% VAT (non-refundable)** as a Registration Fee (except for Registered Suppliers) and retains 5% of the first month invoice value as performance security (refundable).

Contact under Mentioned officer for clarifications;

Manager Procurement, LSL – **070 3611524**

Chairman, Lanka Sathosa Limited reserves the right to decide on awarding of the Tender/Contract.

Lanka Sathosa Limited
CWE Secretariat Building,
No.27,Vauxhall Street, Colombo 02.

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MINISTRY OF FINANCE

EMPLOYEES' TRUST FUND BOARD



Notice

Notice on Relocation of the Head Office of Employees' Trust Fund Board and the Surrounding Offices


The head office of the Labour Secretariat Narahenpita and the offices of the Employees' Trust Fund Board, which used to be housed in several buildings in the vicinity, are now on the Nineteenth, Twentieth, Twenty First, Twenty Second and Twenty Third floors of Mehwara Piyasa building at Narahenpita. Accordingly, the details of the new offices are as follows.

**Address :- Employees Trust Fund Board
P.O Box 807 (19th - 23rd Floors), Mehwara Piyasa, Narahenpita, Colombo 05.**

General Telephone Numbers						
011 - 774 7200	011 - 256 1704	011 - 236 9116	011 - 236 9038	011 - 236 9106	011 236 8542	011 - 236 8163
011 - 774 7800	011 - 236 9897	011 - 236 9056	011 - 236 9057	011 - 236 8162	011 236 9120	

Other Telephone Numbers	
01. Chairman/ Chief Executive Officer	011 - 774 7201
02. General Manager	011 - 774 7204
03. Deputy General Manager (Collection and Employer Relations)	011 - 774 7244
04. Deputy General Manager (Internal Audit)	011 - 774 7283
05. Deputy General Manager (Investments)	011 - 774 7298
06. Deputy General Manager (Finance)	011 - 774 7250
07. Deputy General Manager (Member Services)	011 - 774 7225
08. Deputy General Manager (Administration and Human Resources)	011 - 774 7240
09. Assistant General Manager (Finance)	011 - 774 7814
10. Assistant General Manager (Contribution Collections)	011 - 774 7265
11. Assistant General Manager (Zone 01)	011 - 774 7297
12. Assistant General Manager (Legal)	011 - 774 7268
13. Assistant General Manager - Acting (Member Services)	011 - 774 7259
14. Manager (Internal Audit)	011 - 774 7284
15. Manager (Claim Admin)	011 - 774 7234
16. Manager (Claims)	011 - 774 7230
17. Manager (Claims Determination)	011 - 774 7226
18. Manager (Member Accounts - Smaller Category)	011 - 774 7254
19. Finance - Manager (Claims Payment)	011 - 774 7224
20. Manager (Member Account - Larger Category)	011 - 774 7216
21. Electronic Banking Unit	011 - 774 7215
22. Manager (Legal)	011 - 774 7269 / 011 - 74 7270
23. Manager (Self Employment)	011 - 774 7249
24. Manager (District Office- Colombo)	011 - 774 7285
25. Manager (District Office- 1-7)	011 - 774 7295
26. Manager (District Office 8-15)	011 - 774 7279
27. Manager (Contribution Collections)	011 - 774 7260 / 011 - 774 7263
28. Manager (Surcharges)	011 - 774 7266
29. Manager (Admin and Human Resource)	011 - 774 7237 / 011 - 774 7238 / 011 - 774 7239
30. Manager (Finance)	011 - 774 7251
31. Manager (Productivity)	011 - 774 7222
32. Manager (Procurement)	011 - 774 7236
33. Manager (Information Technology)	011 - 774 7805 / 011 - 774 7807
34. Manager (Investments)	011 - 774 7299 / 011 774 7815 / 011 - 774 7816

Chairman/CEO,
EMPLOYEES' TRUST FUND BOARD
P.O Box 807 (19th - 23rd Floors), Mehwara Piyasa, Narahenpita, Colombo 05.



TENDER NOTICE

STATE PHARMACEUTICALS CORPORATION OF SRI LANKA

The State Pharmaceuticals Corporation of Sri Lanka, Colombo 05 invites quotations from registered and previous sources for following items for open market sales and tenders will be closed at 1.15 p.m. on the dates given below. (E.mail /Fax offers as well as FOB offers are not acceptable)

Item	Quantity	Tender No.	Closing on
Item Code No: 210113A99 Tobramycin 0.3% w/v and Dexamethasone 0.1% w/v Ophthalmic Suspension USP In 5ml vial	4,000 Packs	RES/21/05/A/2021	21.05.2021
Item Code No: 310114V99 Absorbent Cotton BP or Purified Cotton USP OR Absorbent Cotton SLS 285 : 1998 (1 st Revision)50g in packed individually	24,000 Rolls	RES/21/05/B/2021	21.05.2021
Item Code No: 180501C18 Pioglitazole Hydrochloride Tablets 30mg In 10 x 10 Tablets (Blister)	42,000 Packs	RES/21/05/C/2021	21.05.2021
Item Code No: 310127V99 Cotton Crepe Bandage BP 4.5m x 10cm Stretched Length - 4.5m Finished Width - 10cm Individually packed in polythene wrappers	18,000 Rolls	RES/21/05/D/2021	21.05.2021
Item Code No: 020106C24 Aceclofenac Tablets 100mg In 10 x 10 Tablets (Blister)	50,000 Packs	RES/24/05/A/2021	24.05.2021
Item Code No: 050101D24 Gabapentin Capsules 100mg USP In 10 x 10 Capsules (Blister)	48,000 Packs	RES/24/05/B/2021	24.05.2021
Item Code No: 120301D09 Ramipril Capsules BP 2.5mg In 100 Capsules (Blister)	10,000 Packs	RES/24/05/C/2021	24.05.2021
Item Code No: 010202I44 Lidocaine Gel/Lignocaine Gel BP 2% w/v/w/w (Sterile) OR Lidocaine Hydrochloride Jelly USP 2%w/v / w/w (Sterile) in 30g or 30ml In air-tight sealed printed collapsible tubes in printed cartons.	200,000 Tubes	RES/25/05/A/2021	25.05.2021
Item Code No: 020101D29 Celecoxib Capsules 200mg In 10 x 10 Capsules (Blister)	48,000 Packs	RES/25/05/B/2021	25.05.2021
Item Code No: 170104C16 Esomeprazole Tablets 20mg In 10 x 10 Tablets (Blister)	72,000 Packs	RES/25/05/C/2021	25.05.2021
Item Code No: 210201A41 Fluromethalone Eye Drops BP 0.1% w/v OR Flurometholone Ophthalmic Suspension USP 0.1% w/v in 5ml bottle	3,000 Bottles	RES/25/05/D/2021	25.05.2021


These tenders are administered by the provisions of the "Public Contract Act No.3 of 1987" and therefore, in the event bidder is to retain an Agent, Sub-Agent, Representative, Nominee for and on behalf of tenderer shall register himself and such Public Contract in accordance with the section 10 of the Public Contract Act and produce such valid certificate of registration in the course of any transaction relating to the tender or Act any stage in the duration of the tender.

Tenders will be closed at the office of the State Pharmaceuticals Corporation at 1.15 p.m. on the dates indicated against each tender and will be opened immediately thereafter. Tenderers or their authorized representatives will be permitted to be present at the time of opening of Tender.

**The Chairman - Procurement Committee
State Pharmaceuticals Corporation of Sri Lanka
No. 41, 26th Floor, Mehwara Piyasa, Kirula Road,
Narahenpita, Colombo 05.**

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- ISLANDWIDE -

SABARAGAMUWA PROVINCE

KEGALLE. 035-5677210, 035-2222427
M.M. Salgado & Sons, Salgado Bakery & Hotel

KEGALLE. 035-4926489, 035-2231716
Red Rose Book Shop, Royal Shopping Complex, Main St.

RATNAPURA. 045-2223883, 0777-221939
Lake House Advertising Centre, No. 88, Main Street.

RATNAPURA. 045-2230730
G.G. Karunaratne, No. 16, Church Road

SOUTHERN PROVINCE

AMBALANGODA. 091-2255744 / 4382034
H.D. Mendis, 96 B 1/1, Galle Road.

AMBALANGODA. 091-2258483, 0779639214
"Royal Book Shop", No. 152, Main Street.

BADDEGAMA. 091 2292263, 091 3926084
Garage Book Shop.

BENTOTA 034-2270090, 034 2270572
Sumudu News Papers, No. 117, Galle Rd.

ELPITIYA. 091-2290746, 077-2609456
Chandima Groceries.

GALLE. 091-2232733, 091-5627646
New Aradhana Traders, 81, Maha Veediya.

GALLE. 0914-385548/0914-924261
Paranagama Traders, No. 28, P & J City, Gamini Mw.

HAMBANTOTA. 047-2220808, 0716-370337
Misiriya Stores, No. 37, Mahajana Pola.

HIKKADUWA. 091-2277792, 091-2277285
Galle News Agencies, No. 270A, Galle Rd.

MATARA. 041-2222185, 0414921530
Nirmini Stores, 69, Dharmapala Mawatha.

TANGALLE 047-2240402
No. 158, Matara Road.

WALAHANDUWA 091-2222915
Madola Velendasela, Ihalgodda

UVA PROVINCE

BADULLA 055 2225616, 0777-444678
Lake House Advertising Office, No. 14, Opp. Muthiyangana Clock Tower.

BANDARAWELA. 057-2232145, 071 8269555
Nayana Book Shop, No. 34B.

MONARAGALA. 055-2276397, 055-2276108
No. 19, Siri Ramya Stores.

CENTRAL PROVINCE

KANDY 081-4476362, 081-2222780
Jayakody Agencies, No. 229/A, Peradeniya Road.

GAMPOLA 081-2352379, 081-4485628
No. 24, Nuwara Eliya Road.

GAMPOLA 081-2352346, 081-2354547
Dawasa Centre, No. 14, Station Road.

MATALE 066-2222126
Malaka Traders (Pvt) Ltd. 55-57, Main Street.

RAITOTA 066-2255292
S.J. Enterprises, No. 6, T.D. Jayarathne Mw.

UKUWELA 066-2244225
Coronation Hotel & Bakery, No. 09, Kalpitiya Rd.

EASTERN PROVINCE

TRINCOMALEE. 026-2225558
Trincomalee Lake House, 447, Dockyard Road.

TRINCOMALEE. 026-2222962, 071-8175933
A.S. Abdul Hameed, No. 333, Kandy Rd, Andamkulam.

BATTICALOA 065-2226034
Priya Stores, No. 01, Market Road.

KATHTHANKUDY 065-2246983, 0777-435566
A.L.M. Uwais, Old Post Office Building

NORTH CENTRAL PROVINCE

ANURADHAPURA
Swarna Stores, No. 6, Kadapanaha, Anuradhapura.

KURUNDANKULAMA 025-2221411
Matale Junction, Mihintale Road.

POLONNARUWA 027-2222145, 077 1067968
Galle City Stores, Kaduruwela.

NORTH WESTERN PROVINCE

KURUNEGALA. 0372222133, 037-2223790
Sampath Advertising Office, No. 1516, Mihindu Mw.

CHILAW. 032-2221400, 077 3539397
Sathara Book Shop, Akulhutta Road.

WAIKKALA. 0714-878252
Kithsiri Stores, Walauwa Junction.

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GOVERNMENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA

MINISTRY OF HIGHWAYS

ROAD DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK FUNDED

INTEGRATED ROAD INVESTMENT PROGRAM

INVITATION FOR BIDS

NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING

This refers to the Invitation for Bids published on 07 February 2021 in "Sunday Observer" newspaper. This invitation for bids will replace the invitation for bids published on 07 February 2021.

Date:	25 April 2021
Title:	Integrated Road Investment Program
Contract Nos. and Title:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RDA/ADB/iROAD(WP)/NCB/CP-RR(KL3-R1): Rehabilitation / Improvements of 43.00 Km of Rural Roads in the Kalutara District including Performance Based Maintenance for three years • RDA/ADB/iROAD(WP)/NCB/CP-RR(KL3-R2): Rehabilitation / Improvements of 24.95 Km of Rural Roads in the Kalutara District including Performance Based Maintenance for three years • RDA/ADB/iROAD(WP)/NCB/CP-RR(KL3-R3): Rehabilitation / Improvements of 26.05 Km of Rural Roads in the Kalutara District including Performance Based Maintenance for three years
Deadline for Submission of Bids:	02 June 2021, 11.00 hrs. (Sri Lankan Time)

- The Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka has received financing from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) towards the cost of **Integrated Road Investment Program**. Part of this financing will be used for payments under the contracts named above. Bidding is opened to bidders from eligible source countries of the ADB.
- The **Road Development Authority** ("the Employer") invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the above contract packages. Scope of the works includes;
 - Rehabilitation and Improvement activities (the works) will include but not limited to the following:
 - Site Clearing and Excavation;
 - Road formation improvement;
 - Sub Base construction, Dense Graded Aggregate Base complete with Asphalt Concrete overlay;
 - Drainage construction / improvements;
 - Culvert rehabilitation/extension and construction;
 - Relocation of utilities
 - Provision of Facilities for the Engineer/Employer.
 - Performance Based Road Maintenance Works shall mainly consist of maintenance activities necessary for keeping the Roads in compliance with specified Performance or Service Levels.

(All activities shall be carried out complying with the environmental and social framework as specified in the relevant sections in the bidding documents)
- Bidders may bid for one or several contract packages. A bidder shall be awarded only one contract even if the bidder submits several successful (lowest evaluated substantially responsive) bids. Further details are provided in Section 3 of the bidding document of respective contract package.
- National Competitive Bidding** will be conducted in accordance with ADB's **Single-Stage: One-Envelope Bidding Procedure** (IS1E) and is opened to all bidders from eligible countries as described in the bidding document.
- Only eligible Bidders with the following key qualifications should participate in this bidding:
 - Pending Litigation shall not represent more than 50% of the bidder's Net Worth.
 - The bidders' Net Worth in the last year shall be positive.
 - Average Annual Construction Turnover (AACT) within last 7 years, financial resources, similar construction experience within last 7 years and construction experience in key activities as given in the table below.

Contract Package No.	AACT LKR (million)	Financial Resources LKR (million)	Similar Construction Experience of one Contract with a value of LKR (million)	Construction Experience in Key Activities in 12 months
RDA/ADB/iROAD(WP)/NCB/CP-RR(KL3-R1)	640	215	515	50mm Asphalt Concrete Paving - 13,000 m ² Base Course 2,100 Cu.m.
RDA/ADB/iROAD(WP)/NCB/CP-RR(KL3-R2)	790	260	630	50mm Asphalt Concrete Paving - 25,000 m ² Base Course 5,000 Cu.m.
RDA/ADB/iROAD(WP)/NCB/CP-RR(KL3-R3)	740	245	590	50mm Asphalt Concrete Paving - 21,500 m ² Base Course 3,750 Cu.m.

The bidder must also show that it has the personnel for key positions and key equipment as given in detail in the bidding documents.

- To obtain further information and inspect the bidding documents, eligible bidders should contact:

Project Director
Integrated Road Investment Program
Road Development Authority
No. 16, Subhuthipura Road
Battaramulla
Sri Lanka.
Telephone: 011 - 2186130, 011 - 2187164, 011 - 2884594
Facsimile: 011 - 2187166, 011 - 2884610
Email: iroad.rda@gmail.com
- To purchase the bidding documents in (English) eligible bidders should;
 - Write to the address above requesting the bidding documents for the Contract Packages indicating the Contract Numbers.
 - Pay a non-refundable fee of Sri Lankan Rupees 15,000/- for each package by cash or bank draft in favour of the **"Secretary, Ministry of Highways, Ports & Shipping, Inclusive Road Operation and Development Investment Programme - Bank of Ceylon Account Number. 0007040421"** in respect of the bidding document.
 - Bidding documents requested by mail will be dispatched by registered speed post / courier on payment of an extra amount of Sri Lankan Rupees 15,000.00 or equivalent for overseas shipping and Sri Lankan Rupees 1,000.00 for local courier. The Road Development Authority will not be held responsible for the postal / courier delay, if any, in the delivery of the documents or non-receipt of the same.

The bidding documents will be issued during normal working days (Monday to Friday) from 9.00 hrs to 15.00 hrs. at the address under paragraph 6 above, from 27 April 2021 to 01 June 2021.
- Submission of bids:
 - to the address:
Chairman, Ministry Procurement Committee (MPC),
C/o Chief Accountant,
Ministry of Highways,
Procurement Division,
"Maganeguma Mahamedura" - 7th Floor,
No. 216, Denzil Kobbekaduwa Mawatha, Koswatta, Battaramulla, Sri Lanka.
 - on or before **02 June 2021 at 11.00 hrs (Sri Lankan Time).**
 - Together with bid security as described in the bidding document

Amounts of bid security are given in the table below.

Package	KL3-R1	KL3-R2	KL3-R3
Amount (LKR million)	6.40	7.90	7.40
- A virtual pre-bid meeting is arranged on 12 May 2021 at 11.00 hrs. Log in details shall be made available for the interested bidders in the project web page www.iroad.rda.gov.lk
- The bidder shall bear all costs associated with the preparation and submission of its Bids, and the Employer shall not be responsible or liable for those costs, regardless of the conduct or outcome of the bidding process.

Chairman
Ministry Procurement Committee,
Ministry of Highways,
"Maganeguma Mahamedura"
No. 216, Denzil Kobbekaduwa Mawatha
Koswatta
Battaramulla, Sri Lanka.

Srilankan Airlines

SRILANKAN AIRLINES LTD

TENDER NOTICE

TENDER NO: 202031082
PROVISION OF SUPPORT SERVICES FOR PROPERTIES AND FACILITIES OPERATIONS

The tender forms could be downloaded directly from https://www.srilankan.com/en_uk/coporate/tender-notice from 27th April 2021

Tender bid closing date: 19th May 2021

CHAIRMAN OF ENTERPRISE PROCUREMENT COMMITTEE
STATE MINISTRY OF AVIATION AND EXPORT ZONE DEVELOPMENT
ON BEHALF OF SRILANKAN AIRLINES

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

BID FOR DESIGN, SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY SYSTEM (ICTS) FOR BLOCK 04 OF DEFENCE HEADQUARTERS COMPLEX AT AKUREGODA

CONTRACT NO: DHQC/DHQC/ICTS/04/2021

CHANGE OF BID CLOSING DATE

- The Closing/opening date of the above Invitation For Bids (IFB) is to be changed as follows:
 - Bid document issuing - 15th March 2021 to 03rd May 2021.
 - Closing/Opening of Bids - **4th May 2021, 10.00 hrs.**
- Bid shall be valid up to **30/08/2021** (119 Days after the date of opening/closing of Bids, including bid opening date) .
- Bid Security shall be valid up to **27.09.2021** (147 Days after the date of opening/closing of Bids, including bid opening date).
- All other details remain unchanged.

The Chairman,
Ministry Procurement Committee (MPC)
Ministry of Defence,
No. 15/5, Baladaksha Mawatha,
Colombo 03,
Sri Lanka.

Tel: 0094-077-3766601
Fax: 0094-011-2390720

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

Department of Project Management and Monitoring (PMMD)

State Ministry of Money & Capital Market and State Enterprise Reforms

Procurement of design, develop, implementation and Maintenance of national development information System for the department of Project Management and Monitoring

ifb no: Mof/PMMD/IS/2021/01

- The Chairperson, Department Procurement Committee on behalf of the Department of Project Management and Monitoring (PMMD) invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the Procurement of Design, Develop, Implementation and Maintenance of National Development Information System for the Department of Project Management and Monitoring. The implementation period for design, develop and implementation is Two years and Support and maintenance period is 5 years.
- Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding (NCB-Single Stage - Two Envelope Bidding) procedures specified in the National Procurement Guidelines, and are opened to all eligible bidders as defined in the Guidelines
Bidders must meet the following minimum qualification criteria for the contract award:
 - General Experience:** Bidder should have general experience in Information Technology Contracts in the role of contractor, subcontractor or management contractor during at least last Five (5) years prior to the bid submission deadline;
 - Specific Experience:** Bidder should have successfully completed at least **one (1) Software/ERP/HR project** with a value at least **LKR 40 million** within the last 5 years.
 - Average Annual Turnover:** Bidder should have minimum average annual turnover of **LKR 75 million** calculated as total certified payments received for contracts in progress or completed, within the last 3 years.
- Interested bidders could obtain further information from **Mr. C. Piyarathna, Deputy Director, PMMD, Tel: 071-4415144, 0112-034424, Electronic mail address: piyarathna.barc@pmmd.treasury.gov.lk** from 0900 to 1700hrs in working days, Commencing from 27th April, 2021. Bidding document is also available on Ministry of Finance Website (<https://www.treasury.gov.lk/p/procurement-notice/1>) only for inspection purposes.
- A complete set of Bidding Documents in English may be purchased from PMMD office by interested bidders on the submission of a written application on a business letterhead, and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **LKR 20,000.00**. The method of payment will be by cash.
- Bids must be delivered to the address below at or before **3.00 p.m. on June 01, 2021**. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened soon after the bid closing in the presence of the bidders' representatives, who choose to attend at **3.00 p.m. on June 01, 2021**. All bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security in the form of bank guarantee of not less than **Sri Lankan Rupees One Million (LKR 1,000,000.00)**.
- A Pre-Bid Meeting will be held at **11.00 am on May 11, 2021**, at Ministry of Finance, RANDORA Auditorium, Room No 006, Ground Floor, The Secretariat, Colombo 01.

Chairperson,
Department Procurement Committee
Department of Project Management and Monitoring (PMMD)
Room Number 328, Third Floor
Ministry of Finance,
The Secretariat,
Colombo 01.
April 25, 2021

LANKA Sathosa PRICE SETTER TO THE NATION

AN OPPORTUNITY FOR YOU TO JOIN HANDS WITH THE PRICE SETTERS FOR NATION!

OBTAINING SUITABLE BUILDINGS TO ESTABLISH LANKA SATHOSA OUTLETS

Under the program of extending our network of outlets, it is expected to obtain suitable buildings in following areas on monthly lease rental basis.

Areas from which the buildings are required

01). Balummahara	06). Balangoda	11). Moratuwa	16). Kurunegala
02). Nittambuwa	07). Mulleriyawa	12). Hikkaduwa	17). Sewanagala
03). Devinuwara(Donra)	08). Ukuwela	13). Polgahawela	18). Agarapathana
04). Thihagoda	09). Nuwara Eliya	14). Kotagala	19). Gampola
05). Nattandiya	10). Pitabaddara	15). Kiribathgoda	20). Pussellawa
			21). Pundaluoya

Most eligible requirements:

- 1). Frontage 30ft or above.
- 2). Should be a ground floor of 3500sqft or above.
- 3). Vehicle parking facility (5 or more)
- 4). Separate access road and a door for transportation of goods to stores.
- 5). Facing main road and located closer to the town.
- 6). Consideration will also be given to obtain buildings constructed and finished on a proposed plan by us on your 50 or more perches, in the areas mentioned above, on long term lease rental basis, which are suitable to maintain our business.
- 7). Clear deeds and COC Certificate compulsory.

NB :-
Kindly note that a special attention will be given to buildings located at the heart of the towns in above mentioned areas.
Please forward the size of the building/ rough sketch / photographs of inside and outside of the building with details in writing.

For any clarification please contact following officers
Mr.Ranasinghe - 070 3611 460
Mr. Niklesh - 070 1580 698

- Applications should be forwarded within 21 days of this advertisement.
- The decision of the Building Committee of Lanka Sathosa will be the final.

The Chairman, Lanka Sathosa Ltd.
Sathosa Secretariat Building,
No.27, Chairman Office, 5th Floor,
Vauxhall Street, Colombo 02.

Request for Bids

Purchaser : **Information and Communication Technology Agency of Sri Lanka**
Project : **Contingent Emergency Response Component (CERC)**
Contract Title : **Procurement of Supply, Installation, Configuration, Implementation and Support of email and collaboration tools solution for Government Employees**
Country : **Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka**
RFB No. : **CERC/LK/ICTA/225552/GO/RFB**
Issued on : **April 27, 2021**

1. The **Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka** has received financing from the **World Bank** toward the cost of the **Contingent Emergency Response Component Project**, and intends to apply part of the proceeds toward payments under the contract for **Procurement of Supply, Installation, Configuration, Implementation and Support of email and collaboration tools solution for Government Employees**.

2. The **Information and Communication Technology Agency of Sri Lanka (ICTA)** now invites sealed Bids from eligible Bidders for **supply, installation, implementation and support of 100,000 email and collaboration tools accounts for the Government employees. Solution implementation period will be 8 weeks and total project duration will be 18 months to establish 100,000 accounts. Comprehensive warranty period will be 3 years from the Operational Acceptance.**

Bidder must meet the following minimum qualification criteria:

- General Experience:** Under Information Technology Contracts in the role of contractor, subcontractor or management contractor during at least the last Five (5) years prior to the bid submission deadline;
- Specific Experience:** Participation as a prime supplier, in at least Three (3) contracts within the last Ten (10) years, each with a value of at least LKR 200 million, that have been successfully and substantially completed and that are similar ICT projects.
- Specific Technical Experience:** Participation as a prime supplier, in at least one (1) contract with more than 5,000 accounts in email and integrated collaboration tools or multiple contracts with more than 10,000 email and integrated collaboration tools within last Ten (10) years, that have been successfully and substantially completed.
- Average Annual Turnover:** Minimum average annual turnover of LKR 500 Million as per the audited financial reports within last 3 years.

3. Bidding will be conducted through International Competitive procurement using Request for Bids (RFB) as specified in the World Bank's "Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers" **August 2018** ("Procurement Regulations"), and is open to all eligible Bidders as defined in the Procurement Regulations.

4. Interested eligible Bidders may obtain further information from ICTA, **Director Procurement on E-mail procurement@icta.lk** Tel : 0112 369099 and inspect the bidding documents during office hours 0900 to 1700 hours at the address given below or from ICTA website <https://www.icta.lk/procurement>. on or before 1st June 2021.

5. Bidding documents in English may be purchased by interested eligible Bidders upon submission of a written application to the address below and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **LKR 42,500.00** or the equivalent amount in a freely convertible currency in Sri Lanka. The method of payment will be by Cash or On-line transactions. The Bank details for the On-Line transactions are indicated in the ICTA website. Bidding Documents can be downloaded from the ICTA website: <https://www.icta.lk/procurement>.

6. Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before **1500** hours on **June 09, 2021**. Electronic Bidding **will not** be permitted. Late Bids will be rejected. Bids will be publicly opened in the presence of the Bidders' designated representatives and anyone who chooses to attend at the address below at **1500 hours on June 09, 2021**.

7. All Bids must be accompanied by a **Bid Security** in the form of a **Bank Guarantee of Sri Lankan Rupees Three Million Five Hundred Thousand (LKR 3,500,000.00)** or the equivalent amount in a freely convertible currency in Sri Lanka.

8. The address referred to above is: **Information and Communication Technology Agency of Sri Lanka, 160/24, 2nd Floor, Kirimandala Mawatha, Colombo 05.**

The Chairman,
Information and Communication Technology Agency of Sri Lanka
160/24, 2nd Floor, Kirimandala Mawatha,
Colombo 05.
Date: April 25, 2021

TERMINATION OF DISTRIBUTORSHIP M/S KANDY MESH (PVT) LTD

THIS IS TO INFORM THE GENERAL PUBLIC THAT MACSON MESH INDUSTRIES (PVT) LTD HAVE TERMINATED THE DISTRIBUTORSHIP OF M/S KANDY MESH (PVT) LTD OF NO; 483/1, MADAWALA ROAD, NAWAYALATHENNE, KATUGASTOTA, WITH EFFECT FROM 15.01.2021.

WE DO NOT HOLD RESPONSIBILITY OF ANY MESH ITEMS DISTRIBUTED BY THE ABOVE NAMED ON OUR BEHALF.



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No.304, Deans Road, Colombo 10, Sri Lanka.
Tel : 011-7437140

INVITATION FOR BIDS



GOVERNMENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA
MINISTRY OF PORTS AND SHIPPING

SRI LANKA PORTS AUTHORITY

EAST CONTAINER TERMINAL OF PORT OF COLOMBO PHASE II - CIVIL WORKS

(contract no. ect-Pii/cW/01)

- The Sri Lanka Ports Authority (SLPA) of the Ministry of Ports and Shipping (Ministry) of the Government of Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka (GOSL) has been established by Sri Lanka Ports Authority Act No. 51 of 1979 as amended to develop, maintain, operate and provide port and other services in the Port of Colombo (Port) and other cargo handling sea ports of Sri Lanka. The Port is a prominent container port on East-West sea route in South Asia. At present, SLPA is in the process of expanding its container handling capacity of the Port by constructing new container terminals. Under this programme, SLPA has planned to develop East Container Terminal (ECT) of the Port as a deep water container terminal.
- ECT in its full development has a 1,320 m long 18 m to 20 m deep quay wall and 75 ha of container stacking yard including connected services required to operate as a modern container terminal. The ECT in its present form has a 600m long 18 m deep quay wall, 20 ha of container stacking yard and connected facilities developed by the SLPA under Phase-I of the Project. Development of Phase-II of the Project comprises construction of balance terminal infrastructure including quay wall, container stacking yard and services.
- The Chairman, Cabinet Appointed Procurement Committee (CAPC) on behalf of the SLPA now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for construction of East Container Terminal of Port of Colombo - Phase II - Civil Works.
- Bidding will be conducted through single stage two envelope system.
- To be eligible for contract award, the successful bidder shall not have been blacklisted and shall meet the following requirements:
 - The bidder shall be a domestic majority ownership firm, i.e. an entity first registered with a relevant authority in Sri Lanka with more than 51 percent (51%) ownership held by Sri Lanka nationals.
 - The Bidder or local partners of the bidder shall meet the **CIDA Registration Grade C1 Contractor or above**
 - and have a valid certificate of registration issued under Public Contract Act No: 03 of 1987, registration required under Section 8 of the said Act.
- Major qualification requirements to qualify for contract award shall include:
 - Bidder or at least one partner shall have completed at least one maritime construction contract of a value in excess of US\$ 250 million within the last 10 years.
 - Bidder or at least one partner shall have completed at least one container terminal construction contract similar to the proposed works of a value in excess of US\$ 200 million within the last 10 years.
 - Bidder and partners shall have sound financial history and Bidder or partners of the bidder combined shall have minimum average annual construction turnover of US\$ 100 million in last 5 years.
- Interested bidders may obtain further information from Chief Engineer (Planning and Development), Sri Lanka Ports Authority (See Note-1) and inspect bidding documents at the address in Note-1 from 1000 hrs to 1500 hrs on working days free of charge.
- A complete set of Bidding Documents in English language may be purchased by interested bidders on submission of a written application addressed to the Note-1 from 28 April 2021 until 28.06.2021 (both days inclusive) from 1000 hrs to 1400 hrs upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Sri Lanka Rupees One Hundred Thousand (Rs.100,000) (including VAT).
- A pre-bid meeting followed by a site visit will be held at 0930 hrs on 21.05.2021 at the location indicated in Note-2.
- Bids shall be delivered to the address mentioned below as Note-2 at or before 1400 hrs on 30.06.2021. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened soon after closing in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend.
- All bids shall be accompanied with a Bid Security of SLR 500 million.
- Neither the CAPC nor the SLPA will be responsible for any costs or expenses incurred by the Interested Parties in connection with the preparation and submission of Bids.

Note-1:
Chief Engineer (Planning and Development), Sri Lanka Ports Authority
No. 45, Leyden Bastian Road, Colombo 1, Sri Lanka
Tel. No. + 94 (0) 112483456, Fax No. + 94 (0) 112323055
Email address: cepd.ect@slpa.lk

Note-2:
Ministry of Ports and Shipping, 19, Chaithya Road, Colombo 1, Sri Lanka

Chairman
Cabinet Appointed Procurement Committee
Ministry of Ports and Shipping
April 2021



PROCUREMENT NOTICE

PROCUREMENT NOTICE FOR THE SUPPLY OF BRAND NEW 12MT RIGID TANKER WITH CHASSIS FOR LITRO GAS LANKA LIMITED

PROCUREMENT REFERENCE: LGLL/OPS/088/NCB /2020

NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING (NCB)

Litro Gas Lanka Limited is calling for bids from manufacturer's authorized local agent in Sri Lanka for the supply of brand new 12mt rigid tanker with chassis.

The Bidder's eligibility criteria is as follows:

- The Authorized agent must have a fully equipped workshop in Sri Lanka to be entitle for the award of the contract.
- The successful bidder shall not be blacklisted and should not have any conflict of interest in the business of LGLL or LGTL which may affect on the above transaction.

The Bidder shall furnish as part of its bid, a Bid Security of LKR 1,000,000.00 (One Million) in the form of a Bank Guarantee from a recognized commercial bank registered in Sri Lanka.

The Bid document can be obtained from the address mentioned below on the payment of a non-refundable fee of LKR 3,500/= on any working day (Mon-Fri) between 9.00 am - 3.30 pm from **27th April 2021 to 08th June 2021**.

The duly completed Bid Documents should be deposited in the Tender Box at the Litro Gas Head Office on or before **3:00 pm on 09th June 2021**.

The Chairman
Department Procurement Committee
Litro Gas Lanka Limited
267, Union Place, Colombo 02, Sri Lanka.
T.P. - 011 2327714 Fax - 011 2327698

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Contact for more details
0114716300,077775654,0777131356



OXFAM

**REQUEST FOR SEALED QUOTATION
CONSULTANT TO WRITE CASE STORIES TO CAPTURE
THE CHANGES AND SUCCESS OF "RIES" PROJECT.**

Oxfam, an International Non-Governmental Organisation requests sealed quotes from prospective suppliers / consultants to write "Case Stories" to capture the changes and success of their "Resilient and Gender Inclusive Enterprise Systems (RIES) in Sri Lanka" project funded by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Government of Australia (DFAT).

Detailed Terms of Reference can be obtained from the following link:

<https://oxfam.box.com/v/CaseStudyDevelopmentRIES>

Interested suppliers are requested to send their proposal with the financial consideration and proof of similar work done in a **sealed bids**, with "Case Study Development-RIES Project" marked on the top left corner of the envelope, to Logistics Dept, Oxfam, No. 15, Manthri Place, Colombo 5, delivered by hand or registered post to reach Oxfam on or before **5PM, on Wednesday 05th May 2021**.

For Inquiries : Logistics Department, Oxfam, 15, Manthri Place, Colombo 5,
Tel: 0112585855

Invitation for Bids (IFB)



GOVERNMENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA

MINISTRY OF PORTS AND SHIPPING

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING

**EAST CONTAINER TERMINAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT
PROCUREMENT OF CONTAINER HANDLING EQUIPMENT**

The Chairman, Cabinet Appointed Procurement Committee (CAPC) on behalf of the Sri Lanka Ports Authority (SLPA) now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the equipment as described below.

Tender No.	Name of the Tender	Method of Bidding	Bid Security Amount	Document Fee (Inclusive of VAT)	Closing Date & Time
CES/FP/04/PT/6200 (MP)	Procurement of Container Handling Equipment to ECT	International Competitive Bidding (ICB)	12 Nos. Ship to Shore Cranes & 40 Nos. Automated Rail Mounted Gantry Cranes : USD Millions 2.46 30 Nos. Straddle Carriers : USD Million 0.27	LKR 100,000 / =	14:00 hrs. on 30 th June 2021

Instructions for the Bidders:

1. The provisions of Public Contract Act. No.3 of 1987 is applicable to tenders exceeding Rs. 5 (Five) Million. Accordingly all parties involved in aforementioned tender are required to strictly abide by the act throughout the duration of Contract. Furthermore, any Bidder who wishes to act as an agent, subagent, a representative or a nominee for and on behalf of any foreign manufacturer or supplier is required to register himself with the Registrar of Public Contracts and submit the duly completed registration certificate to be accompanied with the bid documents.
2. The bidders should have been in the business of supplying similar equipment required above at least during the last **05 (Five)** years.
3. Interested Bidders may obtain further information from The Chief Manager (Supplies & Material Management), Supplies Division, Sri Lanka Ports Authority, No. 45, Leyden Bastian Road, Colombo 01., **Telephone: 0094 11 2323102 / Fax: 0094 11 2381652 / Email cms@slpa.lk** and may inspect the bidding documents at the same address during normal office hours on working days from **28th April 2021 to 29th June 2021**. Pre-Bid Meeting will be held on **18th May 2021 at 09.30 hrs** in the Office of Director (Technical), Sri Lanka Ports Authority, No. 45, Leyden Bastian Road, Colombo 01.
4. A complete set of bidding documents in English language may be purchased by interested Bidders on submission of a written application to the Chief Manager (Supplies & Material Management) in address above and upon payment of a nonrefundable document fee of **Rs.100,000.00 between 9.00 hrs. and 14.00 hrs.** on working days, up to the day before tender closing date on **30th June 2021**. The method of the payment will be in cash.
5. Sealed bids accompanied with Bid Security shall be delivered to Chairman -Cabinet Appointed Procurement Committee (CAPC), Ministry of Ports and Shipping at No. 19, Chaithya Road, Colombo 01 by not later than bid closing at **14.00 hrs. on 30th June 2021**. Late bids will not be accepted. Bids shall be opened immediately after closing the Tender in the presence of the bidders' representatives were nominated by the Bidder to attend physically on the occasion of bid opening at the address below.

Chairman - Cabinet Appointed Procurement Committee (CAPC)
Ministry of Ports and Shipping,
No: 19, Chaithya Road,
Colombo - 01.

www.wadz.lk
it's what you want



New construction of supply and modification of a new 20 feet container store furnished with 10 steel racks with analog CCTV System at Pitigala - Mathugama.

The Mines Advisory Group (MAG) is an international organisation with field offices in Sri Lanka, setting new standards for humanitarian mine clearance, advocacy and innovative approaches to logistics management. Our risk education programs, community liaison, and flexible multi-skilled mine action teams make a real difference on the ground in communities afflicted by mines and unexploded bombs in Sri Lanka.

MAG invites sealed bids from experienced and qualified construction companies to take part in this national tender process, who are registered at the Sri Lankan Construction Industry Development Authority (CIDA) at grade C7 or above to execute the project. This procurement will include:
New construction of Supply and Modification of a new 20 feet Container Store furnished with 10 steel racks with Analog CCTV system at the following location.

1.PITIGALA.

Please Note:-

- This ITT gives rise to no contractual obligation between MAG and any Tenderers.
- MAG will not be liable for any costs or expenses directly or indirectly associated with participating in this tender process.
- MAG will not be liable to any Tenderer where a Tenderer is not invited to participate in any subsequent process following completion of this Tender process.
- MAG reserves the right to make associated changes with the tender schedule and related tender documents.

MAG's intended timeline for this procedure is as follows:

The ITT tender package will be made available **FREE OF CHARGE** for collection from 27.04.2021, between 09:00AM to 04:00PM up to 05.05.2021. (Closed on public holidays & weekends) at the address below. Final day of tender submission will be 12.05.2021 up to 04:00PM. Only one authorized officer is permitted to collect ITT documentation. ITT documentation will only be transferred upon presentation of an authorization letter on company letterhead proving identity.

Tender Evaluation Committee,
Mines Advisory Group (MAG),
30A, Pamankada Lane, Colombo 6

For questions, please contact before **07.05.2021 at 3pm only our official email:**
tendersrilanka@maginternational.org

MAG looks forward to your involvement in this innovative new project. MAG actively promotes transparent processes in all its procurement activities and readily encourages all qualified Sri Lankan companies to participate in this competition.

MINISTRY OF TRADE

CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE ESTABLISHMENT

TENDER INVITATION FOR THE SALE OF USED ITEMS

Sealed tenders are invited for the sale of scrap items and used wooden pallets, polysacks belonging to the Cooperative Wholesale Establishment and Burnt Oil, Wire, Batteries, removed from the Transport Section.

Tender documents and details for the inspection of the above stocks of goods can be obtained from the CWE Head Office on payment of a non-refundable fee of Rs. 1,000/- each. Inspection of relevant stocks can be done, after obtaining the bid documents, from **03.05.2021 up to 10.05.2021** between **9.00 a.m. and 3.00 p.m.** on government office working days.

When submitting tenders, a refundable deposit of **Rs. 5,000.00** should be made and the payment can be made to the Cashier of the Head Office of the CWE, before **10.00 a.m. on 11.05.2021**. Completed tenders should be placed in the tender box No. 04, before 12.00 noon on 11.05.2021.

The tender board retains the final decision with regard to this tender.

Chairman,
Procurement Committee,
Cooperative Wholesale Establishment,
No. 27, Vauxhall Street,
Colombo 02.

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INVITATION TO SUBMIT BIDS FOR SUPPLY OF OUTSOURCED SKILLED LABOUR
SLC/PRO/SER/2021/005


Addendum

With reference to the advertisements published on 4th April 2021 Sunday Observer and Silumina newspapers, this is to inform that an Addendum has been issued and the closing date has been extended up to 18th May 2021 10.30 a.m. Sri Lankan Time (GMT +5:30)

The new addendum can be downloaded from the web link of <http://www.srilankancatering.com/procurement-notice> from 25th April 2021 onwards.

Further clarifications could be obtained from, Thilina thilina.siriwardana@srilankancatering.com or 0197334241

Chief Executive Officer
SRILANKAN CATERING LIMITED
Airline Centre
Bandaranaike International Airport
Katunayake, Sri Lanka.


INVITATION FOR SUBMISSION OF BIDS

Srilankan Catering Limited hereby invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for supply of the following commodities. The bid documents will be uploaded to SriLankan Catering website on 27th April 2021.

DESCRIPTION	TENDER REFERENCE	CLOSING DATE	CLOSING TIME
KITHUL JUGGERY	SLC/CEO/GOODS/009/2021	8-Jun-21	10.00 a.m
CLING WRAP	SLC/CEO/GOODS/010/2021	8-Jun-21	10.30 a.m
BEEF TOP SIDE B/L WHOLE	SLC/JPC/GOODS/009/2021	8-Jun-21	11.30 a.m
JUICE ITEMS	SLC/DPC/GOODS/003/2021	8-Jun-21	12.00 p.m
CHEESE GOUDA WITH CHILLI 400GM	SLC/JPC/GOODS/011/2021	8-Jun-21	12.30 p.m

Reputed bidders are invited to quote confirming their eligibility.
Prospective bidders could obtain the **bidding document** and more details from the web link of <http://www.srilankancatering.com/procurement-notice> after 27th April 2021. Sealed bids should be delivered to Chief Executive Officer, SriLankan Catering Limited before the deadline as per the respective bidding documents.

Prospective bidders could obtain further details from, Thilina Siriwardana
E-mail - thilina.siriwardana@srilankancatering.com or (+94) 19 733 4241 with reference to the bid documents.

Chief Executive Officer
SRILANKAN CATERING LIMITED
Airline Centre
Bandaranaike International Airport
Katunayake, Sri Lanka.

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No.99, D.S.Senanayaka veediya, Kandy
081 223 4200

Anuradhapura Branch



ANURADHAPURA
No.310/1/2, Harischandra Mawatha, Bank Town
025 222 2370

Matara Branch



MATARA
No.29, Upper Floor, Main Bus Stand
041 223 5412

Nugegoda Branch



NUGEGODA
4th Floor Savsiri Complex, High Level Road
011 282 8114

Jaffna Branch



JAFFNA
No.06, Sirampirady, Off Stanley Road
077 616 4901

Maradana k/v Branch



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

Kataragama Branch



KATARAGAMA
Opposite Kataragama Bus Stand, Pussadewa Mawatha
047 223 5291

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Bride

About Matugama Town 1994 pretty, slim, 5'0" famous Bodu Govi business family only daughter Agri Science Degree reading dowry 50 lakhs cash and substantial assets, looking for 1989-1993 born Bodu Govi stay in Sri Lanka Western Province business or educated groom, non malefic horoscope. Tel. 0345726993, Email - dilshan9292@gmail.com **OB162319**

About our search, slim and pretty (MBBS) Doctor GP daughter, Australian born in 1988 and 5'8" Kandy /G Christian, parents look for a professional son (prefer Doctor, Civil Engineer. Prefer Australian or NZ born citizen. Email: propo salgw2021@gmail.com **OB161942**

Academically and professionally qualified and well-mannered Doctor, Engineer or Executive Officer son from a high caste family, above 5'10" sturdy is sought by Bodu, Govi professional parents in Kegalle for their daughter born in 1997, 5'4" height and studied in a well reputed school in Kandy. She is currently working as a Software Engineer in a multi-national company in Sri Lanka. In addition to academic qualifications, she is a Visharada in Music. Furthermore, she inherits substantial properties. Please reply with the son's horoscope, family details along with parents' surnames and contact details. Email: nayomidahanaka@gmail.com **OB162101**

Academically and professionally qualified caring son is sought by Buddhist parents from Kandy for their youngest daughter who studied abroad born in 1992 height 5'5" holder of BA, MA. At present she is employed in a senior role at a leading multinational company in Colombo. Please email details to: mp2021april@gmail.com **OB162292**

Academically and professionally qualified daughter from Colombo suburbs wishes to find a qualified, smart & tall son from similar family background for marriage. She is 28 years old (1992). Very pretty, fair, 5'7" height. She possesses LLB, CIMA, MBA (J'Pura). She is currently working as a director in the well-established family business. Mother (Govi, Buddhist) / father (Karawe, Catholic). Please reply to: info prop2019@gmail.com / TP: 0114897363. **OB162173**

Academically and professionally qualified employed well mannered caring son is sought by retired G/B parents from Colombo suburbs for their pretty well accomplished only daughter. She is well employed with post graduate qualification from UK University. Also a qualified UK Solicitor. Born in May 86. Height 5'8". Kuja in 7th House but favourable. Prefer a son who can converse fluently in English and has a good personality. Please reply with horoscope to: manide.e.proposal@yahoo.com **OB162349**

Academically and professionally qualified fair pretty daughter P/R holder CIMA qualified post graduate pursuing C.P.A. 89/05 born 5'2" in height finance associate lives at Oakville Canada S.B.G. parents seek a suitable partner residing in Canada. Reply with horoscope and contact numbers. dans ulak7@gmail.com **OB162235**

Academically and professionally qualified kind hearted, similar caste son is sought by B/G retired parent from Colombo for their 33 yrs 5'2" very fair extremely pretty slim young looking daughter postgraduate qualified working as an Assistant Director at Central Bank of Sri Lanka having attractive remuneration, fringe benefits owns substantial assets. as hokakumariik@gmail.com **OB162304**

Academically and professionally qualified parents seek a pleasant, tall (above 5'8"), age between (22 - 27), well employed and professionally qualified suitable partner (Doctor is preferred) from a decent family, for our eldest daughter of age 22 years, who is a final year (Intern) medical student graduating from China. She had her education at a leading international School in Colombo. She is well mannered, talented, pretty, slim, attractive, with a pleasing personality, honest and decent. Widely travelled, accomplished, down to earth with a wide range of other interests father is a Medical Consultant at a Government Hospital in Sri Lanka and the mother is a lawyer. Most of her uncles and aunts from both sides of the parents are Medical Consultants living here and abroad (Australia). Please reply with family details. Email: marriageproposal@yahoo.com **OB161938**

Academically and professionally qualified well-mannered son from a respectable family is sought by Bodhu / Govi professional parents from Colombo suburb for their professionally qualified (BSc (Hons) graduate), very attractive and kind-hearted 25 years old daughter, height 5'2", educated in a leading school in Colombo, employed as a Software Engineer. She inherits assets with income. Please reply with family details and a copy of horoscope to: prop 260296@gmail.com **OB161995**

Academically and professionally qualified well-mannered son from a respectable family is sought by Bodhu / Govi professional parents from Colombo suburb for their professionally qualified (BSc (Hons) graduate), very attractive and kind-hearted 25 years old daughter, height 5'2", educated in a leading school in Colombo, employed as a Software Engineer. She inherits assets with income. Please reply with family details and a copy of horoscope to: prop 260296@gmail.com **OB161995**

Academically and professionally qualified well-mannered partner sought by B/C Govi parents for only child born 1980. She is medium complexioned attractive accomplished down to earth lover of nature and animals and wide range of other interests. Widely traveled educated mostly abroad while living with parents. Graduated and postgraduated from highly prestigious university abroad. Partly qualified CIMA licentiate piano forte Trinity College London. Was employed in Sri Lanka and abroad presently employed in Senior Position abroad. Will inherit substantial assets. Please reply giving family details, horoscope and Telephone number. Email: tityvone@hotmail.com **OB161632**

Academically and professionally qualified well-mannered son from a respectable family is sought by a respectable family Bodu/Govi in Biyagama for their daughter (only and elder brother) born in April 1992, 5'3", pretty brought up with good values, currently an undergraduate in Government University (Final Year). Teaching is her preferred job after graduation. proposal 199204@gmail.com **OB162254**

Academically and professionally qualified well-mannered son of same caste and religion is sought by Sinhalese Bodu Govi professor father and doctor mother for their 30 years 5'6" very fair and pretty MBBS Doctor daughter working in a Government Hospital. Please reply with full family details, horoscope and contact number. email: mproposalsnpu@gmail.com **OB162199**

Academically and professionally qualified well-mannered son from a respectable family is sought by Bodhu / Govi professional parents from Colombo suburb for their professionally qualified (BSc (Hons) graduate), very attractive and kind-hearted 25 years old daughter, height 5'2", educated in a leading school in Colombo, employed as a Software Engineer. She inherits assets with income. Please reply with family details and a copy of horoscope to: prop 260296@gmail.com **OB161995**

Academically and professionally qualified well-mannered, kind-hearted NS/TT loving son from a respectable family sought by educated parents from Gampaha District for their fair pretty daughter born 1991, 5'2" Covent educated, BSc (Bangalore) MSc (Colombo) following PhD by scholarship in Texas, U.S.A. Differences immaterial. Genuine understanding highly valued. Only brother a Specialist Doctor abroad. warnaklus18@yahoo.com **OB162102**

Academically and professionally qualified decent kind good looking partner is sought by B/G parents for their 33 years old (1988) educated (first class in BSc in Management & Information Technology Special Degree - (University of Kelaniya, MSC, CIMA, Managerial level) employed as a Senior Business Systems Analyst for a recognized IT company in Colombo, fair, pretty, young looking, 5'3" tall, excellent charactered daughter, who has studied at a leading school in Colombo. Own a land and other assets. Please reply with family details & copy of horoscope. (9 - Shani Mangala). 0112924038. email - d senaratne2021@gmail.com **OB162200**

Academically and professionally qualified partner sought by G/B parents fair daughter 34, 5'4" BSc Engineering (Software), MBA well employed senior position. Reply with horoscope, family details. lucky propose@gmail.com **OB162371**

Academically and professionally qualified well-mannered, kind-hearted NS/TT loving son from a respectable family sought by educated parents from Gampaha District for their fair pretty daughter born 1991, 5'2" Covent educated, BSc (Bangalore) MSc (Colombo) following PhD by scholarship in Texas, U.S.A. Differences immaterial. Genuine understanding highly valued. Only brother a Specialist Doctor abroad. warnaklus18@yahoo.com **OB162102**

Academically and professionally qualified decent kind good looking partner is sought by B/G parents for their 33 years old (1988) educated (first class in BSc in Management & Information Technology Special Degree - (University of Kelaniya, MSC, CIMA, Managerial level) employed as a Senior Business Systems Analyst for a recognized IT company in Colombo, fair, pretty, young looking, 5'3" tall, excellent charactered daughter, who has studied at a leading school in Colombo. Own a land and other assets. Please reply with family details & copy of horoscope. (9 - Shani Mangala). 0112924038. email - d senaratne2021@gmail.com **OB162200**

Academically and professionally qualified partner sought by G/B parents fair daughter 34, 5'4" BSc Engineering (Software), MBA well employed senior position. Reply with horoscope, family details. lucky propose@gmail.com **OB162371**

Academically and professionally qualified partner sought by respectable Vishwakula parents resident in Western Province for their smart pretty daughter of 24 years and inherits valuable assets. Completing Logistics Degree this year only brother is a Doctor. Shani Kethu 7 house. Reply with horoscope. chandrasirits.2407@gmail.com **OB162265**

Academically and professionally qualified kind hearted, well-mannered son (preferably from Australia) with good family background is sought by GB parents from Colombo suburbs for their well brought up daughter 30, 5'3" well qualified Legal Counsel (BA, Attorney-at-law, LLB, LLM). Working for an Australian based company. (Kuja 7) Reply with horoscope and family details to email: gap1952@yahoo.com **OB162275**

Academically and professionally qualified son is sought by Buddhist Salagama parents for their daughter 1984, 5'6", MBBS Doctor working in a government hospital. Primary education at a leading Colombo school. Inherits substantial assets. Reply with family details and horoscope. E-mail: duwaproposal2021@gmail.com **OB162170**

An educated partner is sought by G/B parents for their daughter born in 1992, height 5'2" who is a graduate and currently employed at a leading private firm in Colombo as an Executive. Please reply with your horoscope to: chathuuhe@gmail.com Buddhists or Christians preferred. **OB162376**

A professionally qualified kind hearted son below 30 years is sought by Sinhala Govi Catholic parents father a Doctor living in the UK for our 27 year old, 5'5", fair, slim and pretty daughter. She is working as a Technology Consultant at a leading firm in London, She is legally separated after 2 months of very brief incompatible marriage as innocent party no encumbrances. We are looking for a son living in the UK. Please send details to: ukprop94@gmail.com **OB162223**

A professional, caring son is sought by G/B professional parents in Colombo, for their fair, slim, 5'4" tall very attractive and accomplished daughter, 47y, looks thirties, professional having six figure salary and assets over 50 million. Divorced as innocent party with no kids. Reply with family details and contact numbers. 2021mpr oposals@gmail.com **OB162302**

A S/G/B educated bachelor of high quality financially well established, 40-50 years, at least 5'10" in height from a distinguished well respected family sought for never married, good-looking lady who seeks a wonderful marriage with a man who truly loves her, someone good, kind, caring, devoted and devoid of all vices for early marriage. Marriage delayed due to education horoscope complications and impossibility of finding the right person for marriage. **OB162156**

A suitable partner is sought by G/B parents for their daughter who is professionally and academically qualified working in a prestigious pvt company, height 5'5" born in 1991 August. Please reply with horoscope and contact number. E-mail: p roposalugust1991@gmail.com **OB162215**

A suitable partner sought by a B/G family for their software engineer daughter born in 1985, 5'6", slim, fair, pretty, well-mannered daughter with assets. Pls reply with family details, horoscope & contact details. proposals.dds@gmail.com **OB161975**

A suitable well established & mannered son in Sri Lanka or abroad is sought by B/G parents for their well settled daughter. Born in 1984, 5'4". She has completed Bachelors & Master Degree in Australia. Inherits substantial assets. Reply with family details, horoscope and contact numbers. Email: marriage5949@gmail.com **OB162107**

BG parents in Colombo suburbs seek a kind son for their daughter compatible in below aspects. Well-mannered, 1984, 5'2", medium complexion, slim, MBA & other qualifications. Manager in a private company. Never married. Vegetarian and towards Buddhism. No inherits other than the good education given to her. Reply with horoscope & contact details to rlb roposals@gmail.com **OB162361**

Bodhu Govi parents from a respectable family seek a professionally qualified, decent, and kind-hearted son, for their fair and pretty daughter 35, 5'1", executive grade officer (SLAS/CAS) in a leading Government Ministry. Reply with family details horoscope, and contact details. a waihena@gmail.com **OB162367**

Bodu Govi professional parents seek a qualified partner for their pleasant Doctor daughter born in 1983. She inherits assets with around 50 million. **OB162264**

Bodu Govi retired parents from Gampaha (father Senior Engineer, mother Vice Principal) seek an educated, professionally qualified, well-mannered sons for their pretty, fair and slim, 5'4" two daughters, elder 1991/7 born, Moratuwa University BSc Engineering graduate employed in private sector as Engineer, earning six figure salary. Younger daughter 1992/9 born, graduated with Finance and Management Degree from Wayamba University, CIMA qualified, ACCA partly. Both daughters inherit substantial assets. Please reply with full details, copy of the horoscope, Tele nos. Email : udara1954@gmail.com **OB161929**

Bodu Govi, Colombo, Piliyandala, 25 years old, 5'5", graduate beautiful, kind, charismatic (only child), who is currently living abroad with her parents and is pursuing higher education, looking for an educated, virtuous, honest son-in-law, parents (medical) Send family details along with the horoscope copy & birth place to infoups@gmail.com or please send to Observer marriage proposal address. **OB162177**

Bodu Vishwa parents from a well respectable family from Colombo District seek a professionally qualified well-mannered son in Sri Lanka for their daughter medical student, born 1995 height 5'4", not willing to migrate. Caste immaterial. Reply with family details and horoscope. email - mariprop123@gmail.com **OB162189**

Bodu, Govi, Colombo, very respectable family, professional parents, seek an educated son of similar family background, for their B.Eng (Hons), qualified, Engineer daughter, pretty, very fair kind hearted, well-mannered, with excellent character, 5'3", born in 1990, currently employed in a multinational firm in Colombo. She has received her MSc with research from a state University. She will inherit a modern upstairs house in Colombo, luxury vehicle, savings and many more. Please send your family details with a copy of horoscope. wproposal21@gmail.com **OB162037**

Bodu Govi professional parents seek a qualified partner for their pleasant Doctor daughter born in 1983. She inherits assets with around 50 million. **OB162264**

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Born in 1995 decent family from Colombo suburbs, pleasant and well-mannered daughter. She works for an IT company and holds a B.Sc(Hons) in IT degree from a state university and following the Master's degree as well. Parents seek genuine and educated, permanently employed or business owner virtuous son in Sri Lanka or abroad. Contact: prop osalkt95@gmail.com OB162281

Brother is looking for a suitable partner for 53+ sister Sinhala Gobi Buddhist living in Germany doing a permanent job. She is divorcee and having Germany citizenship. Preferred Buddhist non-smoker, non-alcoholic English speaking partner. Please forward details with a copy of horoscope and telephone numbers. Email: earmedi risinghe@yahoo.com OB162052

Buddhist Gobi 1979, 5'4" fair, slim only daughter with BA (Hons) - USA, US Citizen, employed there, divorced and living with her only son (12). Retired parents seek suitable son who is educated, kind hearted and spiritual. Best if living in USA/overseas. Please respond with horoscope. proposals210@gmail.com OB162344

Buddhist respectable parents close Colombo seek academically professionally qualified well mannered caring son below 41 working in Sri Lanka for daughter 1986 June 5'2" slim smart professionally qualified BSc MSc PhD working as a Senior Consultant Senior Visiting Lecturer attached to Colombo leading private hospitals. Universities Kanya Puwasala no divorcees. Reply details with horoscope. propo.ran@gmail.com OB162260

Buddhist Sinhala parents from Colombo suburb seek a suitable son for their only daughter 27 yrs. (Nov. 1993), 5'2" pretty, slim brought up with Sinhala Buddhist values. She was educated at a leading Buddhist Girls School in Colombo & holds Degree in Medicine from a foreign University, inherits substantial assets. Parents are Science Graduates. Father is a retired Senior Govt. Officer. Mother is a Teacher. Reply with family details, horoscope & contact information. Email: marriageproposal199329@gmail.com OB162325

Buddhist/Vishwa parents seek a partner for their daughter 1985/06 born 5'4" [BSc (Colombo - Sport Med.) & MBA (PIM)] employed as a Manager. She has substantial assets. Differences immaterial. Please reply with horoscope & details. E-mail: laven dervats@gmail.com OB162172

B/G from a Colombo suburb parents seek an academically qualified son below 32 for their Engineer pretty daughter 1993 Dec. 5'3" studied at a leading Buddhist School Colombo, graduated from University of Auckland, currently residing in Sri Lanka Kuja 8th house. Reply with contact number horoscope. shalini1961@gmail.com OB162023

B/G mother of 44 years old pretty and young looking, decent daughter seeking a decent and professional gentleman for marriage. 5'4", divorced, has a daughter. She is very understanding and loving. Professional or established businessman only. sv kamaya@gmail.com OB162047

B/G parents seek a professionally qualified, groom who is well-mannered, mature and independent, kind-hearted for their medium complexion, well-mannered, kind-hearted soft-spoken eldest daughter (29 years), height 5'3". She is an Assistant Manager in a reputed international bank in Sri Lanka, completed her postgraduate studies and currently reading for her Masters. Please send all personal details and a contact Telephone No. of the bridegroom in first response. Respond via Email only: proposed91@gmail.com OB162289

B/G parents seek a suitable qualified partner for their daughter 39 yrs, 5'2" senior lecturer working in a government university. Reply with family details and horoscope. Email: mpjm0505@gmail.com OB162127

B/G respectable middle class parents Colombo suburbs seek suitable groom for never married fair, pretty, younger looking daughter with unblemished character. Accounts Officer in private sector. 1976, 5' with means. mpro pdu21@gmail.com OB162314

B/G retired SLAS father and Nursing Sister mother from Gampaha District seek a TT/NS kind hearted, son in a executive grade for their daughter, born 1986.10, 5'2" slim pretty BA English graduate employed as a translator (Government) comes with property assets Mesha lagna Uthraputa nekatha. Please reply with horoscope and details. OB162185

Catholic parents from Colombo suburbs looking for a partner for their daughter born in 1985, 5'1" in height, graduate, MBA working at managerial level. Reply with family details to: Email - pr oposal.perera@yahoo.com 0112226720. OB162228

Catholic parents seek partner for daughter, July 1984, 5'5", graduate Chemist, Manager in a multinational company, earns six figure salary, owns a two storeyed house, car. nicolene2012@yahoo.com OB161917

Catholic Sinhalese Gobi respectable parents living UK, looking well mannered academically professionally qualified son for their daughter 25 yrs. fair, slim, pretty, 5'6", educated with MSc level well employed UK and brought up with Sri Lanka values. Preferred UK residents. Please provide details. nimpera145@gmail.com OB162163

Catholic Sinhalese parents in Australia seek an educated professional caring son who lives in Australia or would consider migrating, for their loving daughter, Engineer, 24 years old. Please respond with family details to: geno live2020@gmail.com OB162084

Christian parents seeking a life partner for thier 30 years old professionally qualified pretty daughter height 5'4" chrisanthi.suwaris@gmail.com OB162129

Christian parents seek a kind hearted, understating educated partner for their pretty, smart daughter, brought up to treasure Sinhala Christian values. She is Australian born (1992) & has a degree in Health Science. She was diagnosed recently with trauma, but it is under control and she is employed. It is not by birth. She will inherit substantial assets in OZ. If you are able to look beyond these minor short comings, please reply with full details. nimmi.fernando42@gmail.com OB162244

Classy, elegant, gorgeous, family oriented, very fair, charismatic, bubbly, warm, understanding very young looking, foreign educated at a prestigious overseas university never married, dual citizen G/B professional living in Sri Lanka from a well connected affluent family enjoys socialising, travelling, charity work looking for a kind generous, well established, affluent partner 42-55. Divorcees and widowers considered. classygir lproposal@gmail.com OB162310

Colombo B/G family seeks for a handsome educated son with a good family background for their younger daughter who born in 1992, 5'2" fair, pretty, kind hearted and educated. She went to very popular girls' school in Colombo and holds a BSc (Mgt) Degree & MSc (Mgt) and working in a reputed organization in an Executive grade. Age below 35 is preferred. No encumbrances. Reply with full details and horoscope. Email: les h.proposals@gmail.com OB162136

Colombo B/G parents seek a smart professionally qualified partner for daughter studied and worked in the UK born 1985, 5'4" smart and attractive currently in Sri Lanka. Reply to: prop osalmag@yahoo.com . Phone: 0761163723, 0112077558. OB162056

Colombo Durawa Buddhist mother seeks a suitable employed partner for her graduated daughter 1979, 5'3", divorced, no children, owns a house. Reply with horoscope. OB162188

Colombo Gobi Buddhist 1989, 5', Business Management graduate daughter, employed as Executive in Colombo foreign company. Horoscope with malefic in 7. Please reply with contact number. marriageproposalpb@gmail.com OB162168

Colombo parents seek a suitable well mannered partner for daughter, Executive private firm, very young looking, religious. Owns properties. 1976, 5'4", no divorcees. pereraa ug21@gmail.com OB161982

Colombo reputed business parents seek a suitable son for their well mannered daughter. Sinhala, Buddhist, 24 years, highly qualified, well employed and inherits substantial assets. Contact marry 2prop@gmail.com OB162321

Colombo suburbs, G/B retired professional parents seek academically and professionally qualified son with Sri Lankan values from similar background for 1991 born 5'6", medium complexion, pleasant and well mannered daughter. Studied at a leading girls' school in Colombo. Holds Bachelors, CIMA Advanced Diploma and Masters (Australia) currently in Australia on TR. Inherits assets. Son living in Australia, UK, New Zealand or Canada preferred. Reply with family details, horoscope and contact details. propda ughter20@hotmail.com 0112783104. OB162297

Colombo suburb born in 1994 studied at a leading international school LLB (London) Attorney-at-law fair pretty younger daughter currently working at a reputed company as a legal executive. Buddhist Gobi Salagama parents looking for a suitable educational and professional background son. 0112712596. pro posalndr@gmail.com OB162193

Friend seeks a partner for her female friend Bodu 57, 5ft height, divorced with no kids, employed and lives in Australia. Prefer Sri Lankans who live in Australia or New Zealand. Reply yojana2021.vivaha@gmail.com OB162248

Galle, Buddhist Durawa, 1988, height 5', IT degree holder from N.S.B.M., currently employed at a private company, only daughter in the family, retired Banking Officer mother seeks teetotaller, non-smoker, well-mannered son employed in government or private sector, horoscope copy and family details from first letter. prop osalsgr2019@gmail.com OB161933

Gampaha B/G parents seek suitable partner for CIMA qualified graduate elder daughter. 1986 5'8" good business income with inherited assets. Write with horoscope. tissera.mhj@gmail.com OB162120

Gampaha B/G parents seek suitable partner for CIMA qualified graduate elder daughter. 1986 5'8" good business income with inherited assets. Write with horoscope. tissera.mhj@gmail.com OB162120

Gampaha Gobi Buddhist Doctor by profession seeks a partner for 93 born 5'8" pretty, kind hearted well brought up only daughter from respectable family. She inherits a three storeyed house in Gampaha suburbs and other substantial assets and parents own company. She studied at a leading Girls' School in Gampaha and holds a Degree in Management, presently holds a director post in their own reputed company. Pls reply with family details and horoscope. Contact email: chami ndaweerasinghe08@gmail.com OB162262

Gobi Buddhist medical practitioner father seeks suitable educated partner for daughter pretty 1994/11, height 5'5", IT graduate copy of horoscope essential. Kuja 01. OB162202

Gobi Buddhist retired government servant parents from Colombo suburbs seek a suitable academically and professionally qualified partner for their 1988 born, 5'2" tall only daughter BSc (UK) MSc (Sri Lanka) upholds Sinhala Buddhist values currently working as a Manager in an N.G.O. Please reply with family details and horoscope (Her horoscope is with Shani Mangala Dhosa) Email: p roposalgd42@gmail.com OB162054

G/B parents seek a well mannered N/S suitable professionally qualified partner for their daughter. Born in 1987 pretty fair 5'4" educated a leading school in Colombo with and LLB and LLM and practicing legal counsel in Colombo, reply with family details and h'cope. anuradhiwe likada@gmail.com OB162346

Govi Buddhist/Catholic parents seek an academically/professionally qualified son well employed from a stable family background for their daughter who is academically/professionally qualified, living and working overseas. Dual citizen. She is in her very early 40s, healthy, slim, fair intelligent honest and charming young lady with good values. A person who can enjoy arts, theatre, music and books will be a compatible partner. He should be a non-smoker with sober habits, good hearted and a healthy person. Not more than 45 years. Never married is preferable. Caste and religion immaterial. Please reply to vivaha2021@gmail.com OB161919

G/B parents from South residing in Colombo suburbs seek an educated graduate son for daughter 5' 1987 June graduate English Teacher, father Specialist Doctor Rahu 1 Kethu 7. pro posalg@gmail.com OB162162

G/B parents seek a suitable partner for their daughter who is a graduate, teaching in a leading school in Colombo, born May, 1991 height 5'6" pretty and kind hearted (no divorcees please). Email: godsblissingandlove725@gmail.com OB161946

G/B parents well known business family in Sri Lanka seek an academically/professionally qualified son preferably a teetotaller below 30 yrs for their charming eldest daughter 5-2 1995/09 Foreign Medical Graduate, preparing for ERPM Exam. Who has been brought up with Sinhala Buddhist values. High achiever both in School and in the university. She hopes to work and do further studies abroad. Please reply with family details and a copy of your sons horoscope to: 95@ssr.lk OB162089

G/B respectable parents from Colombo suburbs seek a kind caring professionally qualified son for their pretty, slim daughter born 1995, 5'2", BSc Hon. (Computer Science) Degree holder at state university, studied at a reputed girls' school in Colombo well employed in a professional firm in Colombo. Please reply with family details, contact number and horoscope to: k umabey5464@gmail.com 0118448016 (specially Visa, Sitha, Denata) OB162293

G/B (Middle class) father seeks a suitable son for his pretty educated well mannered daughter, 1982 born 5'1" tall working for a reputed institution in Colombo. Please reply with family details and the horoscope. m allikathillekeratne@gmail.com OB162025

Jaffna Tamil Christian parents seek a suitable partner for their daughter who is a graduate, teaching in a leading school in Colombo, born May, 1991 height 5'6" pretty and kind hearted (no divorcees please). Email: godsblissingandlove725@gmail.com OB161946

Ja-ela parents seek educated Christian / Catholic partner for their daughter born in 1982, 5'6" tall, working in a bank as Assistant Manager. She was educated in a reputed school in Colombo. She has completed her banking exams, part qualified in CIMA & holds an MBA. She also owns a land close to the main road and a motor vehicle. Divorcees may not reply. E-mail on s hiranius@gmail.com OB161921

Kadawatha, B/G parents seek a qualified Engineer, Doctor or Executive Officer in Private/State Sector, age between 28-33 years, height above 5'3" for their younger daughter born in 1993, pleasant looking, studied in leading schools in Colombo, with a BSc Degree from University of Kelaniya, currently working as a Lawyer. Please reply family details with a copy of horoscope and a photograph. Call: 2972157. Email: siyuti218@gmail.com OB162181

Kandyan GB parents from Colombo suburb seek an academically & professionally qualified, T/T, N/S, partner from a similar family background for their 5ft, fair daughter born in December 1991, BSc graduate, CIMA qualified MBA holder, currently employed in the private sector. Please respond with a copy of the horoscope and contact details to: proposalsdec1991@gmail.com OB161911

Kandyan Govigama Buddhist, professional family in Kegalle District seeks a doctor or medical student, well mannered son with good moral values from a similar family for their eldest daughter a medical student in an European University, born in 1996. She is 163 cm, her horoscope is non malefic. email - marriagepro44@gmail.com OB162022

Kandyan G/B parents living in Colombo seek virtuous and professionally qualified son for their daughter born in 1984, 5'3", pretty, graduated in Business Management and worked at foreign embassies in London. Currently she is in Sri Lanka, pending divorce as plaintiff and no encumbrances. Overseas proposals also welcome. Guru 7 and Shani 7 are preferred. Please reply with family details and horoscope to: em shane84@gmail.com OB162166

Kandyan G/B parents seek an academically qualified well mannered son Sri Lanka or overseas for their daughter fair pretty, 1985, 5'3" graduated from State University BSc later obtained her Doctorate in New Zealand currently working as an executive NZ Government sector. email: kulatunga1957@gmail.com OB161964

Kandy - Bodu Govi retired parents seek a well mannered educated, kind and caring T/T, N/S similar caste partner for their only daughter 1990/07, 5ft., fair, pleasant, religious and good character. Studied at a leading girls' school in Kandy. She has completed her MBBS degree and presently awaiting internship appointments. Hoping to migrate. Only brother is married and works as a Lead Software Engineer in a reputed firm based in Singapore. Please send all details with copy of horoscope and FB identity. Email - marriageproposal2018@gmail.com OB161913

Middle upper class R/C Govigama qualified pretty 28 yrs, 5'6" height employed in a bank in Colombo, inherits assets. Parent seeks an employed, well brought up son, also willing to migrate with the right partner (religion/caste immaterial). Please write full details of the family/son, contact No: g dtkperera3561@gmail.com OB162041

Mother Buddhist Christian, Karawa parents seek professionally qualified partner for their daughter fair 5'2" April 1986 graduate, teacher BSc/ MSc/ CIMA qualified. Reply with horoscope (Guru 7) and family details. mproposalsal423@gmail.com OB162342

Mother seeking academically qualified handsome son for her, 37 years old, 5'2", pretty daughter, divorced from an incompatible marriage with no encumbrances. She graduated and currently working in USA. We are Sinhala Buddhist family prefer someone who is already residing in USA. Please reply us with family details, horoscope, a contact number: praposalny@gmail.com OB162115

Mother seeks suitable partner for B/G BSc, MSc, MBA qualified Deputy Commissioner daughter born in 1976. proposalsvsv@gmail.com OB162069

Muslim mixed married parents looking for an educated, working, unmarried daughter fair 23-26 years, height 5'2" above, modern-attire, from a moderately religious family. Mixed parents considered. Son 28 yrs, tall, academically qualified and moderately religious. Email: marriagep1992@gmail.com OB162071

Near Colombo Sinhala Karawa professionally qualified parents R/C and Christian, seek suitable educated son for MBBS Doctor daughter, Christian, born in 1990 November, 5'4" tall, fair and good looking currently she is undergoing PG Training at Colombo she owns a new car. She studied at leading schools in Colombo. She inherits substantial assets including a house and other valuable properties. Please reply with full details and contact information to email: ksafernando93@gmail.com OB162266

Negombo Roman Catholics born in 1974, height 5' 3 1/2" holding a Managerial Post and her sister born in 1969 their mother a Pvt Teacher is looking for educated Catholic (suitable) partners. Gift a house in Negombo. o necorrect7@gmail.com OB162338

Parents seek a partner for their 32 plus daughter. She is a Doctor by profession and working in the UK. Reply with horoscope. dsp1897@gmail.com OB162351

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Professionally qualified, caring son is sought by B/G parents for their daughter, IT professional, 44 years, born in Nov 76, very much younger looking, 5'5" tall, fair, slim, pretty, supportive, down to earth. Legally divorced, plaintiff, no children. Kuja 8, Rahu 7. Differences immaterial. Please reply with the horoscope and family details. E-mail: proposal202176@gmail.com OB161986

RC Burgher mixed parents seek a partner for their only child. Born in 1989, height 5'4". Convent educated, looking for a partner below 38 years. Caste, religion immaterial. Kind hearted educated son with sober habits. da gmapro2020@gmail.com OB162328

Respectable and simple Sinhala Christian parents seeking a partner for their well-educated, beautiful daughter, 29 years of age, 5'6", currently working in an IT Marketing Management role based in Dubai. Planning to migrate to Australia or the UK next year. Caste and religion are immaterial. Seeking a well-educated, settled, good citizen. premalal@live.com OB162075

Respectable educated parents from Colombo suburb seek professionally qualified, well-mannered son for their 1992 December born 5'3" daughter, pretty, fair, slim with good qualities. She completed her MSc in RMT University and currently working in an Australian Company. Permanent cadre. Boys residing in Australia preferred. 0112091743, duwa.pr oposal9211@gmail.com OB161973

Respectable Roman Catholic Sinhala parents seek suitable partner for their youngest daughter. She is 27 years, educated at St. Bridget's Convent Colombo, graduated from Kelaniya University with a Degree in Management. She is accomplished, well employed and will inherit assets. Please reply via email: msal75@yahoo.com OB162155

Respectable well established South Province business B/G parents seek, academically and professionally qualified, well mannered, NS, age between 28 - 30, handsome caring son from a similar family, for their fair, pretty, kind hearted, well accomplished, 5'6" only daughter born in 1994 BSc (UK), currently reading Masters (UK) and employed in a reputed IT company, Colombo, (Kuja 02) kindly reply with family contact details and horoscope. (proposal94ma@gmail.com). OB162241

Roman Catholic Govi respectable and prominent parents living in Colombo seek a professional loving caring partner for their daughter 44 years 5'4" never married. She is a professionally qualified graduate working in the private sector in managerial position. Willing to migrate. Looking for early marriage. The partner should be of similar family background age between 44-48 with similar professional lifestyle. We prefer a response from Western Province residents. He should be kind, honest, modern and a well established person financially. No divorcees with kids. Only genuine contacts. Self replies also accepted. Religion, Caste, horoscope immaterial. Reply with full details and reachable contact number on first email to: shanthisweera@gmail.com call: 0112410179. OB162117

Sinhala Bodu Govi respectable parents from Western Province seek a partner who is living abroad for their 5'2", fair, slim, attractive daughter born in 1990 who is studying foreign languages. She inherits valuable property. OB162268

Sinhala Buddhist parents seek professionally academically qualified partner from a decent family for daughter (only child) born in April 1988 5'1 1/2" fair slim pleasant lawyer and an English Lecturer. Caste and religion immaterial. Reply with horoscope to - proposal675@gmail.com OB162243

Sinhala Bodu Govi respectable parents from Western Province seek a partner who is living abroad for their 5'2", fair, slim, attractive daughter born in 1990 who is studying foreign languages. She inherits valuable property. OB162268

Sinhala Buddhist parents seek professionally academically qualified partner from a decent family for daughter (only child) born in April 1988 5'1 1/2" fair slim pleasant lawyer and an English Lecturer. Caste and religion immaterial. Reply with horoscope to - proposal675@gmail.com OB162243

Sinhala Buddhist parents seek professionally academically qualified partner from a decent family for daughter (only child) born in April 1988 5'1 1/2" fair slim pleasant lawyer and an English Lecturer. Caste and religion immaterial. Reply with horoscope to - proposal675@gmail.com OB162243

Sinhala B/G born in 1992 November 5'4" in height Accounting & Finance graduate studied at leading girls' school in Colombo. Currently employed as a Finance Officer in a private sector. Please reply with family details and horoscope (Kuja 1 Shani 7 Kataka Lag-na) OB162104

Sinhala parents (professional & retired) in Colombo seek an academically professionally qualified truly caring kind and understanding son for our 1982 born pretty kind and caring daughter. She is academically qualified and employed. Divorced after brief incompatible marriage with no encumbrances. Reply with horoscope. blwardana@gmail.com OB162300

Sinhalese Buddhist Govigama / Salagama parents, father retired principal, mother teacher in Gampaha looking for an educated partner Doctor Engineer Lecturer or Executive for their 29 year MBBS qualified only daughter working in a Government Hospital. Please contact with details. OB162214

Sinhalese B/G born in July, 1995, 5'6" height, pretty daughter with BSc degree from a university in Ontario, Canada. She is working in a leading company in Toronto, Ontario. University educated parents are seeking academically and professionally qualified son below 31 years, living in Canada. Preferred in Ontario. Reply with all family details, H/C and contact number to apm p4nmm@yahoo.com OB161984

Sinhalese B/G 25 years 5'4" height BSc management working in a Software company parents seek professionally qualified sober caring son below 31. Reply with horoscope to shalindrigrig@hotmail.com OB162190

S/B professional parents in Colombo suburbs seek a suitable professionally qualified partner for their young looking daughter MBBS Doctor born in mid 1984 employed in Colombo as a Medical Officer studied in a leading Buddhist Girls School in Colombo. Please forward all details with copy of horoscope to: achdes@gmail.com OB161950

S/B respectable parents from Colombo seek academically professionally qualified handsome son with sober habits, below 34 yrs. for their daughter 31+ yrs, 5'1", pretty and smart studied at leading school in Colombo with similar educational background Engineer Lecturer or Senior Executive. BG or BK. Only sister is a Govt. MBBS Doctor. Kuja 1,2,4,7,12 incompatible. Send family details, contact numbers with horoscope. duwa tayojana@gmail.com OB162258

Well established professional Sinhala Christian/ Buddhist parents living in UK seek suitable educated partner for their Christian daughter UK qualified Doctor, consultant working in a leading London Hospital. Born 1985, height 5'3" prefer those who live in UK (otherwise should be willing to settle down in the UK and below 40.) Caste/ religion/ horoscope immaterial. Please email details to: edenmjsp@gmail.com OB162114

1995 - Bodu Govi parents seek a Doctor / Engineer partner (attending higher education) for their pretty 5'2.5" Bio Medical Engineer (Moratuwa) daughter, about to start PhD in UK. m prop0418@gmail.com OB162098

1996 born 5'4" professionally qualified daughter in Canada, for whom professional parents (B/G) with three children seek an educated son not over 28 years living abroad including Australia. Reply with the family details, and a copy of the detailed horoscope to uv253799@gmail.com. OB162330

1986 MBBS Doctor. A qualified well-mannered son is sought by B/G parents respectable family from Chilaw for their only daughter 5'2" slim, pretty, down to earth attached to a Gov. Hospital brought up with family affection under all the cultural values. She inherits valuable assets. Write with family details and horoscope. OB162375

1987 May born 5'3" B/G educated parents seek academically, professionally qualified partner for pretty daughter chartered Architect working in Colombo. Inherits valuable assets. mwp.wa500@gmail.com OB162060

1989 September 5'3" Mesha Lagna Deta Nekkatha Shani 9 Kuja 5 Sikuru 7 BSc Eng (1st Class) PhD qualified Lecturer fair in complexion eldest in family Buddhist Karawa parents seek a son below 35 employed in Sri Lanka with similar educational background Engineer Lecturer or Senior Executive. BG or BK. Only sister is a Govt. MBBS Doctor. Kuja 1,2,4,7,12 incompatible. Send family details, contact numbers with horoscope. duwa tayojana@gmail.com OB162258

1992 November 5ft fair in complexion MBBS (SL) Doctor Wrushchika Lagna Uthrapal Nekkatha Shani 3 Kuja 9 Buddhist Karawa parents seek a son below 32 Graduate Engineer or Senior Executive. B/G or B/K. Send family details, contact numbers with horoscope. daughterprops@gmail.com OB162252

1994 December, 5'2", Graduate, employed, owning assets, residing in Australia, having PR, studied at leading school, pleasant, virtuous daughter, B/G parents from Colombo seek suitable son. tbg94prop@gmail.com OB162232

1995 - Bodu Govi parents seek a Doctor / Engineer partner (attending higher education) for their pretty 5'2.5" Bio Medical Engineer (Moratuwa) daughter, about to start PhD in UK. m prop0418@gmail.com OB162098

1996 born 5'4" professionally qualified daughter in Canada, for whom professional parents (B/G) with three children seek an educated son not over 28 years living abroad including Australia. Reply with the family details, and a copy of the detailed horoscope to uv253799@gmail.com. OB162330



AAA an upright Kandyan, Sinhala Buddhist family seeks altruistic, beautiful, cultured, English conversant girl in her thirties for never married son born in 1978, 5'4". He is currently doing a white-collar job in Europe. Should be willing to migrate. Kindly reply with details by mail: akindre dsoulseeker@gmail.com OG161988

AAA Cousin brother seeking kind hearted fair pretty slim preferably independent outgoing partner below 26 for academically professionally qualified Air-Craft Engineer my cousin brother well established working Director family own Engineering firm Australian PR 31, 5'6" living Colombo drawing 7 figure salary owns luxury jeep house other assets caste immaterial, self reply appreciated, divorcees welcome, dowry not expected. bpoph771@gmail.com 011-2870058. OG162332

Able B/G Colombo Lawyer parents seek academically qualified daughter living in Australia for their handsome young looking never married, Software Engineer son who is an Australian citizen. Educated in a leading private school in Mt. Lavinia, he is 42 years old. TT/NS, reply with horoscope and full family details. Email: proposal190@gmail.com OG162045

About our son, 27 years (1993), 5'11", very handsome and well mannered, Senior Artificial Intelligence (AI) Engineer, educated, employed and established in Canada, holds BSc and MSc Electrical and Computer Engineering, Canadian citizen, professional parents (Sinhala / Buddhist) seek a young, pretty and intelligent / educated daughter, preferably below 25 years, who is willing to relocate to Canada, for their son to be married in a year or two, caste, religion immaterial. Please reply to: proposalforson93@gmail.com Contact by email: kirusala32@hotmail.com OG161936

Academically and professionally qualified fair, slim, kind hearted daughter brought up in a Buddhist background is sought by Sinhala Govi/Bodu respectable business parents in Colombo for their handsome son 31 years 1989/10 well mannered, kind hearted N/S T/T brought up with Buddhist values is 5'9" tall and slim. Professionally qualified with a B'Com Degree and a Master in a reputed University in Australia. Holds a very senior position in a private company, draws a six figure salary, owns substantial assets and luxury houses and a vehicle. Kindly reply with horoscope and phone number. OG162063

Academically and professionally qualified, well mannered pretty daughter is sought by Bodu Govi respectable parents for their BSc Electronics Engineer son born in 1992, 5'7", educated in leading boys' school in Colombo and working in a reputed company. A non smoker and teetotaler. Please email with details and horoscope to: mproposal37@gmail.com OG161940

Academically and professionally qualified kind and pretty daughter is sought by respectable B/G parents from Colombo suburb for their 6 feet tall, fair and handsome younger son born in 1993 November, graduated from University of Moratuwa and working as an Electrical Engineer at a leading government sector company in Sri Lanka. Planning to migrate to Australia for a PhD. Please reply only those who willing to migrate. Send all the relevant details with horoscope to; m arrpropson@gmail.com Tel: 0112848190. OG161971

Academically and professionally qualified pretty, fair, slim, well-mannered daughter preferably in the USA is sought by B/G respectable parents, father Medical Doctor in Colombo for their handsome only Doctor son born in 1983 June and 5'7" tall educated at a leading boys' school in Colombo, perusing Master in the USA. Green Card Holder. He inherits assets in Colombo. Reply with family details and horoscope. Email: mp.lanka329@gmail.com OG162111

Academically and professionally qualified Sinhala Buddhist BSc MBA Engineer. Born mid 1972, divorced with 12 years old son living in USA as a US Citizen & Dual Citizen with all benefits, holding high executive position in a reputed US Company owns large house inherits substantial wealth in USA and Sri Lanka, seeks educated attractive Sri Lankan parties unmarried or divorced without any encumbrances between 35-45, either in US or Sri Lanka, willing to migrate to USA. Pls email horoscope & full family details with contact No in first letter - Email: kirusala32@hotmail.com OG161902

Academically and professionally qualified, pretty, kind hearted, well mannered daughter is sought by Sinhala B/G respectable parents for their Civil Engineer son, born in 1994 who hopes to migrate into Australia. OG161935

Academically and professionally qualified, well mannered pretty daughter is sought by respectable Kandyan G/B parents living in Colombo, for their son 35, 5'6", currently working in a largest five star hotel in Colombo, as a Director. He inherits and owns substantial assets. Reply with family details and horoscope. Only sister migrated to Australia with her husband. Both are Software Engineers. PR holder specially Kuja 7. map sproposal@gmail.com OG162226

Academically and professionally fully or partly qualified pretty and well mannered daughter is sought by Buddhist Salagama parents for their second son born in 1992 July handsome, N/S, T/T, 5'8" holding a Business Administration Degree and CIMA (UK) and a Finalist in Chartered Accountancy and employed as an Accountant in a Mercantile Organization with prospects. He was educated in a leading Buddhist School in Colombo. Only elder brother who is also a Degree holder, CIMA (UK) and well employed and married to a Lawyer. Horoscope without Kuja or Shani in 1,2,4,7,8 or 12 (Non malefic horoscope) and with Nekkath Asvida, Ma, Kathi, Uthrapal, Uthraputupa, Utharasala, Muwasirasa, Punawasa, Puwaputupa, Rewathi, Anura, Deta, Sitha, Mula, Denata or Veesa are most matching. Willing to migrate. Differences are immaterial. Reply with horoscope and family details. Email: lifeproposal24@gmail.com OG162256

Academically qualified kind hearted pretty daughter from respectable family is sought by Buddhist parents from Colombo for their handsome caring son studied in leading school, 5'5" born 1988 Aircraft Maintenance Technician employed in reputed Airline UAE. Please reply with family details, horoscope, telephone to p roposals730@gmail.com 0112730763. OG162307

Academically qualified slim pretty daughter is sought by Buddhist Karawa respectable well to do parents in Colombo suburbs for their handsome slim well-mannered son with good personality 33 young looking 5'8" NS/TT PhD in Science working as a Lecturer in a government university. Inherits substantial assets. Brother Doctor. Caste immaterial. Email: proposalmarriage790@gmail.com OG162369

Academically qualified, fair pretty, slim daughter living in the UK or willing to migrate at the end of the year, is sought G/B mother for 1984 born, 5'7", graduated senior engineer son in Sri Lanka. sldreaml ovesfinder@gmail.com OG162312

Academically qualified, well mannered pretty daughter is sought by respectable Kandyan G/B parents living in Colombo, for their son 35, 5'6", currently working in a largest five star hotel in Colombo, as a Director. He inherits and owns substantial assets. Reply with family details and horoscope. Only sister migrated to Australia with her husband. Both are Software Engineers. PR holder specially Kuja 7. map sproposal@gmail.com OG162226

Academically and professionally qualified kind caring good looking daughter is sought by Sinhala Govi Buddhist / Catholic parents from Colombo suburbs for their handsome son, 34 qualified and gainfully employed in a managerial position of a leading corporate. He is financially stable to lead a comfortable marriage life. Please respond with details. Email: mp rp998@gmail.com OG161997

Academically and professionally qualified kind caring good looking daughter is sought by Sinhala Govi Buddhist / Catholic parents from Colombo suburbs for their handsome son, 34 qualified and gainfully employed in a managerial position of a leading corporate. He is financially stable to lead a comfortable marriage life. Please respond with details. Email: mp rp998@gmail.com OG161997

An educated pretty & well mannered daughter is sought by affluent Udarata B/G mother for handsome & educated son [ACMA, CGMA - CIMA (UK), CPA Australia, BBA (Hons) & reading for Masters. Born in 1989 Nov. 5'10" height. Working as a Management Accountant (Manager) for a reputed company in Colombo, Previously worked for UK & US based multinationals, from Kurunegala. Please respond with details to mpklem4444@gmail.com OG161980

An educated slim pretty well-mannered daughter is sought by Govi Buddhist Kandyan parents from Kandy for their Electrical Engineer son born in 1981 August 5'5" tall NS TT educated in a leading school in Kandy. Please reply with family details and horoscope. OG162271

An educated well mannered, kind and caring attractive daughter from a respectable family sought by Buddhist parents living in Canada for their eldest son. He is a well mannered person with good personality and moral values, 32 years and 6 footed, currently employed as an Engineer at a reputed company in Canada. Kindly reply with the family details and horoscope. Email: selectsyn@gmail.com OG162340

An educated & good looking daughter is sought by Sinhala Buddhist parents from down south for their son, handsome, professionally qualified Accountant, CIMA, MBA, age 38, 5'7" NS/TT, prop alsm223@gmail.com OG161969

Australian citizen parents, wish to introduce a pleasant, family oriented, professional daughter, to their Australian qualified Solicitor son, born in late 1984. He is handsome, NS/TT, with postgraduate qualifications in Law and wide-ranging Australian and international experience, in Public and private sector. Currently, he works as a Senior Legal Counsel with a global Institution, attached to the Australian chapter drawing a six figure remuneration. Please contact via e-mail: lakmal2021@hotmail.com or 0450 724386. OG161990

Academically and professionally qualified kind caring good looking daughter is sought by Sinhala Govi Buddhist / Catholic parents from Colombo suburbs for their handsome son, 34 qualified and gainfully employed in a managerial position of a leading corporate. He is financially stable to lead a comfortable marriage life. Please respond with details. Email: mp rp998@gmail.com OG161997

A beautiful and educated daughter from a respectable family is sought by Roman Catholic parents from Colombo suburbs for their handsome son, 34 qualified and gainfully employed in a managerial position of a leading corporate. He is financially stable to lead a comfortable marriage life. Please respond with details. Email: mp rp998@gmail.com OG161997

A divorced established young looking gentleman in early fifties is looking for a genuine partner for early marriage, age 46 - 53 years, including overseas ladies. Please reply with full details, contact number to rani.pa18@gmail.com OG162016

A pretty daughter qualified in finance and or accounting fields is sought by Govi Catholic / Buddhist Sinhala parents living in Europe for their academically and professionally qualified son aged 25 height 5'4" He will inherit assets. Please respond with details. proposalex123@yahoo.com OG162218

A pretty well mannered professionally qualified daughter is sought by BG well connected family involved in import and trading business. Proposed younger son is 29 years, 5'7" handsome and fair, studied at an International School and completed 4 year Engineering Degree at Monash University. Currently reading for MSc. at a state university. He is a Working Director of family business drawing a substantial salary. He inherits valuable property. jay@piyoma.com OG162306

A pretty, bride from compatible respectable family, is sought for son, up country - Govi Buddhist, residing close to Kurunegala Town, aged 27 years, height 5'10", educated abroad, only son of reputed family engaged in our Business possessing valuable assets and properties, very handsome, 037-2223288. Email: d8303380@gmail.com OG162077

A suitable well mannered, religious daughter is sought by B/G, parents for their well established son born in 1986, 5'10". He has done university studies in Australia and currently working as an Electrical Engineer in abroad. He is legally separated from a brief marriage as plaintiff. Reply with family details & horoscope. Email: proposal5949@gmail.com OG162105

BG professional parents seek a qualified daughter for their son, Software Engineer in USA, 32+, 5'5" PR holder. Reply with horoscope to lalwick@hotmail.com OG162029

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Bodu Govi retired mother seeks an educated well mannered daughter for her Bodu Govi Durawe NS/TT son with assets born in 1980 May 5'8" in height B.Sc. (Engineering) M.B.A. (U.K.) C.E.O. of an international engineering Consultancy Company. OG162251

Buddhist Govi mother from Colombo suburbs seeks an academically and professionally qualified, kindhearted daughter below 31 years for her well-mannered son 1986 July, 5'10" Software Engineering Graduate working as a Software Quality Assurance Engineer at a multinational software company. He is pursuing his professional qualification certification currently. He inherits assets. Please reply with family details and contact number along with the horoscope. Email: mproposal201906@gmail.com OG162280

Buddhist Govi respectable parents from Colombo suburbs seek a fair, slim and caring daughter around 25 years for their 1990 born 5'8", NS/TT son with sober habits, who loves quiet life, educated in a leading Colombo school. Employed in USA as a Civil Engineer. Please reply with family details. cproposal90@gmail.com OG162283

Buddhist parents in Kuliypitiya seek a pleasant-mannered, educated, and kindhearted girl below 35 from a good family for their elder son born in 1984. He is 5'10" and a BM graduate employed as a Senior Creative writer at a leading IT Company in Colombo. Caste is immaterial. Reply with a copy of the horoscope and family details to: rukmal.jayawardhana@gmail.com OG162125

Buddhist parents residing in Colombo suburbs seek an academically professionally qualified daughter for their Australian citizen son graduated from a leading Australian University and employed in an MNC as an Electrical Engineer, born in 1984 September, 5'9", N/S, T/T, fair and handsome. Please respond with the horoscope. mproposal7512@gmail.com OG162109

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Buddhist Sinhala parents holding Dual Citizenship living in UK for the past 40 years seeks partner for son aged 35 years height 5'10" degree in Accountancy and Management from London university employed in a large establishment in London Inherits property and cash from UK. Email crysta18882019@outlook.com OG162295

Burgher Christian parents seeking a kind hearted daughter for their fair handed son 34 years working in a leading company. OG162374

B/G Colombo mother seeks an educated daughter below 41 years unmarried divorced without children for 45 year old young looking son. Height 5'4" Divorced no encumbrances. Employed Executive Officer. Reply mproposal675@gmail.com OG162273

B/G Professor father and Lawyer mother seek an educated well mannered partner for son born Feb 1990 height 5'11" employed as Business Analyst at a leading International Company (while running his own business) two elder sisters married. Please reply with horoscope and family particulars. bhadraroposals@gmail.com OG162261

B/G professional parents from Colombo seek an educated, fair, tall, daughter for our son (age 26, height 5'11") Civil Engineer presently reading for his PhD and will return to Sri Lanka thereafter, for a stable relationship leading to marriage. Please respond with details and contact number to: rproposal123@gmail.com OG162183

B/G professional parents looking for a daughter for their 1991 born 5'10" handsome NS/TT son. Graduated and working in Australia, professionally and academically qualified in Engineering field. Dual citizen. Date of Birth, place and copy of horoscope is essential, contact Nos. and family details. sats2017@gmail.com OG162038

Colombo Buddhist Govigama retired parents seek educated well mannered, pretty, fair (sudu) daughter for handsome, fair, 5'10", NS/TT, religious MBBS Doctor, 44 yrs. old son presently working abroad, only brother Engineer. Kuja 7th house. kumara9280@gmail.com OG162165

B/G professional parents Nugegoda seek professionally qualified employed partner, preferably vegetarian for their smart son born 1991 May 5'7" NS/TT vegetarian BSc Colombo, BCS (UK) qualified employed as QA Engineer IT Company Colombo. Reply with F/B horoscope & family details. confidential assured. praponson91@gmail.com OG162050

B/G respectable middle class parents Colombo suburbs seek a suitable bride for never married son BSc. Engineer, Senior Manager private sector. 1971, 5'5", very young looking. Well off with assets. Malefic horoscope, non-working girls preferred. mprop2020@yahoo.com OG162316

B/G retired parents from respectable family in Galle seek fair, pretty, slim, academically / professionally qualified partner for 1988 born, 5'9", fair, smart, NS/TT, Software Engineer (BSc, MSc) son employed in Colombo. Owns a house and car. Reply with all details, contact numbers and horoscope. marriage2021@gmail.com OG162082

B/K parents seek a fair, kind-hearted daughter, fluent in English, height below 5'4", for divorced Canadian citizen son (1980) living in Canada. One child (7, living w/mother). Race/religion immaterial. Son is an entrepreneur holding MBA, BSc (IT) from reputed universities. Kuja in 12, malefic until Dec 2022. Please respond with horoscope/birth details to: mrgpropcanada@gmail.com OG162175

Catholic Durawe Govi fifty six fair handsome height 5'5" divorced no encumbrances employed Italy handsome salary earlier employed Store Keeper Sri Lankan Airways owner two storey residence, vehicle other assets seek partner dowry immaterial. Catholic English speaking family forty five to fifty fair or tan slim nice appearance dowry immaterial Dutch Burgher widows without encumbrances considered. 031 2222889. OG162198

Christian mother seeks a partner for son 5'10" tall, BSc graduate, Quantity Surveyor, born in 1985, working for a UK company, based in Sri Lanka. E-mail: shamalild@gmail.com OG162167

Colombo Buddhist Govigama retired parents seek educated well mannered, pretty, fair (sudu) daughter for handsome, fair, 5'10", NS/TT, religious MBBS Doctor, 44 yrs. old son presently working abroad, only brother Engineer. Kuja 7th house. kumara9280@gmail.com OG162165

Colombo based retired Buddhist/Catholic Durawa family from Down South seek kind hearted pretty daughter, similar education with immaculate character associated with Sinhala culture for their 5'11" born Dec 1988, handsome, non-smoker, teetotaler well mannered son Engineer, Katubedda University Lecturer now reading for PhD in USA. Compatible horoscope without Kuja Dosa and Rahu in 8th house or send date, time and place of birth. Caste and religion not relevant. donaldwimalakeerthi@gmail.com 0112706939 valerieshirleyh@gmail.com OG162343

Colombo Sinhala Buddhist mother seeks slim fair pretty educated daughter below 35 years for her son management executive at a private company holds Business and Marketing Degree (ECU Australia) born in 1985 June height 5'11". Kuja 8 Aswida 2 Vurshika lagna. Please reply with details HC copy, contact No. etc. to email: skmanel@yahoo.co m Tel: 0112360988. OG161999

Colombo suburbs B/G 31, 5'4" handsome NS/TT son living abroad with parents employed, owns a house, parents seek suitable girl. Caste / religion immaterial. v ictory2860@gmail.com OG161992

Colombo suburbs GB 1982 November 5'10" tall well-mannered religious son, IT degree holder Senior Executive in a reputed company with assets. Parents seek family oriented pleasing daughter from a decent family. ranmuthugalaracd@yahoo.com OG161994

December 1993, Bodu Govi well-respected affluent family, father a University Professor and mother a Teacher in a leading girls school, seek a well-mannered, caring, and honest daughter for their educated, handsome, well-mannered son. Height 5'9", and he is working as an Executive in a reputed firm. Early education in Royal College, Colombo and is a graduate in Business Management. Only sister is married to an affluent educated family. Proposed son inherits properties and assets exceeding 250 Million located in Colombo and Galle Districts. Please contact with horoscope and complete family details of similar caste and stature. proposal_s_2020@yahoo.com OG162347

Educated professional partner is sought for an academically and professionally qualified graduate with postgraduate qualifications, BSc (Hons) P.G. Dip, CFA, PRM. 5'8", G/B, TT & NS. 41 assets over 50 million including a 2 storey house in Colombo suburbs and a new SUV. proppro@outlook.com OG160835

Educated well brought up pretty qualified caring Catholic / Christian daughter is sought by Sinhalese Christian parents living in Australia, for their son 36, 5'8", non smoker, well mannered, working as a Senior Software Engineer in a reputable firm in Melbourne. Holds dual citizenship. Reply with full details mprop2020au@gmail.com OG162246

Father seeks a daughter graduate very slim, employed in public service or university lecturer with assets and property for son born 1984, graduate employed in public sector, only from Kandy or Colombo, should not be from Galle, Matara or Southern Province. Reply with details. sankamitta@gmail.com OG161923

GB educated, respectable parents seek undergraduate or similarly educated with Buddhist upbringing, absolutely pretty, slim daughter to keep proposed to live in UK for dual citizen son 27+ (1993), handsome 5'8" NS/TT Engineer (MEng.) Holds a senior managerial position. Reply with contact number and horoscope by email p roposea93@gmail.com OG161930

G/B Sinhala from Colombo 49 yrs. old, 5'8" h. Software Engineering Canadian dual citizen, divorced no children looking around 40 yrs. partner, both sisters in Australia. He is at the moment in Sri Lanka. Decent & family oriented divorced with children also considered. E-mail: hewapathi2003@gmail.com OG161925

I, legally separated, Colombo, Executive Officer, well employed gent with all assets, seek middle class, very pretty, respectable bride, age below 48 years. 0117831996. partnerlife356@gmail.com OG162035

Kandyan G/B retired mother (deceased father was a Bank Manager) seeks an academically & professionally qualified, slim, fair, pretty daughter below 31, above 5'2", for her only son 35, 5'9" well mannered TT/NS Australian qualified Software Engineer. Dual citizen working in a leading Australian Software company. Lives in Melbourne. Only sister married, settled abroad. Please reply with family details, HC, via marriage8628@gmail.com 07812219365. OG162196

Looking for a pleasant, kind hearted, educated daughter for our son, fair, handsome, 5'6" born in 1975. He is well mannered with placid disposition. Educated at Royal College and completed the degree and the Masters in Business Management in Australia. Presently preparing to migrate. He is Tamil Christian. Race immaterial. email: gryptradiant@gmail.com OG161948

Malabe G/B parents are looking for a pretty, educated bride for their son, educated at a leading school in Colombo, 36 yrs, 5'9", who studied in Australia, Planning to settle in Sri Lanka, currently working for Australian company as a Graphics Designer, Bachelor's in business (La Trobe Uni, Aus). Adv Dip in Accounting (MIT, Aus.) Has Australian citizenship and applied for Dual citizenship. Owns a new house and other assets. His engagement was only limited to a signature (wedding did not take place). Reply with family details and horoscope. Email: proposal_adver853@yahoo.com. OG161944

Melbourne, Australia, Hospitality Management Graduated, Bodu, Govi, 1990, 5'6", employed, kind mannered son, parents seeking a daughter with similar background fair, pleasant preferably from Australia. Non malefic horoscope. Reply 011 2563448, email: kgcys64295@gmail.com OG162160

Moor parents from Colombo are looking for a suitable partner from a respectable middle class family for their youngest son in a family of 4 siblings. Eldest 3 are married. He was born in 1982 & 6'2" tall, fair complexion & unmarried. Working at a BPO Company in Colombo. Looking for a suitable partner below 35 years, moderately religious & height should be more than 5'5" & a working girl from Colombo or suburbs. Please send all details via e-mail to proposalaa123@gmail.com All details will be treated with confidentiality. OG162373

Moor parents from an educated respectable family seek a well mannered religious and humble bride for our son who is professionally qualified 28 years and 5'7" working overseas, bride must be willing to travel and live overseas. Please respond with family details to astatique@gmail.com OG161910

Professionally qualified, good looking, well mannered, slim daughter, preferably under 30 years of similar caste is sought by Bodu Govi Engineer father and retired mother, from Gampaha District, for only son, UK qualified Aeronautical Engineer 32, 5'7", non-smoker, teetotaler drawing a respectable salary. He inherits 2 storey house, vehicles and other assets. Engineer, Lecturer, Medical Officer or similar professional preferred. Kuja in 7th house Kurunegala, Gampaha, Colombo, Kegalle District preferable. Reply with family details, horoscope and contact number. 011-2256380, marriageproposal10@yahoo.com OG162119

Professional Sinhalese Buddhist parents (Government Medical Officers) from Galle are seeking a professionally qualified pretty daughter for their son (29y, 6 feet), who is an Engineering graduate from the University of Moratuwa. He is currently pursuing his postgraduate studies abroad and has about one year left for the completion. He is willing to migrate to the UK / Europe / New Zealand after the graduation. Therefore, someone who is flexible to migrate or currently residing in the UK / Europe / New Zealand is preferred. Please reply with family and contact details to: galleebc1961@gmail.com OG162285

Ratmalana, B/G, 89.02.07, 5'3" PR in New Zealand, handsome son, parents seek pretty daughter, preferably residing in New Zealand. rroshean@yahoo.com Tel. 011-2731901. OG161931

Roman Catholic respectable business parents from an affluent background in Ja-Ela seek a pretty fair well brought up daughter for their son. He is a non-smoker, teetotaler, character, 1986 born 5' 7 1/2" height and studied at St. Joseph College Colombo. He is currently engaged in vehicle business and inherits considerable assets. Elder sister and brother are married and settled in Australia. Please reply with family details to email: rukshan342@yahoo.com Tel. 2236505. OG161993

Roman Catholic Sinhala respectable parents from Colombo seek an educated daughter for their second son 27 years (born in 1994). He is well qualified and employed in a reputed organization. He is handsome 5 feet 9 inches tall his only brother is married. He inherits substantial assets. Please reply with family details and email address. Email: mprop20021@gmail.com OG162186

SGB expat 53, 6'2" devout Buddhist vegetarian non smoker, drinker animal lover SNR MGR overseas from a distinguished family in Colombo seeks bride below 40 from and in English speaking similar background. nordmendespectra@gmail.com TP 0112500220. OG161907

Sinhala Buddhist parents looking for a pretty academically qualified daughter below 28 years from a respectable family for their handsome, 5'6" MBBS Government Doctor son. Please reply with full family details. Email: mgproposal@hotmail.com OG162079

Sinhala Buddhist 53 Engineer dual citizen in Europe divorced from foreign marriage without fault seeking a lady close to 40. OG162225

Sinhala Christian mother seeks a pretty educated daughter for their smart handsome son 93 born educated in a leading private school and professionally and academically qualified (CIMA, Management degree) presently working in a leading private entity. He owns substantial assets. Please respond with details to Email: xyzproposal93@gmail.com Tel: 011-2642136. OG162073

Sinhala Govi Buddhist affluent and professional parents seek a very pretty fair educated professionally qualified kind cultured daughter from same family background for 31 tall handsome smart NS/TT kind and talented, well qualified Engineer youngest son who possesses an excellent character. He currently serves as an Engineer in Australia and holds PR and will also inherit substantial family assets. Please forward horoscope, family details and contact details to: gallyshare1234@gmail.com OG162031

Sinhala Govi / RC parents living in Canada are looking for an educated pretty daughter who is willing to migrate for their handsome son, grew up in Sri Lanka, an values, 28 years, 5'11" with 1st class Bachelor's Degree and Masters. Specialized in English Language. Holds an administrative position in the education field in Toronto. Financially well established & inherits properties in Toronto and Sri Lanka. Buddhists are also considered. Please reply with full family details. Email: proposal.peries@gmail.com OG162027

Southern Buddhist Karawa parents seek a marriage partner for their son born in 1993 July Quantity Surveyor BSc (Hons) MSc currently employed abroad 5'8" handsome owns a house inherits property non malefic horoscope. OG162113

Western Province professional parents father Hindu/Velala mother Bodu/Govi are seeking well brought up educated daughter for their NS/TT MBBS Doctor 1993 born 5'10" height honest, caring and family oriented son. Email: proposaldr515@gmail.com OG162124

Western Province, Govi Buddhist, Advocate brother seeks a suitable bride for brother, Chief Inspector, 47 years owns house. Differences immaterial. OG161905

1986 July 4th, Buddhist height 5'6" Royal College, Project Manager, 2 Boys, elder brother, inherited Colombo properties. Parents seek suitable partner. 0112501603. OG162130

1987 Bodu Govi B.Sc. Engineer 6'1" in height Australian and Sri Lankan dual citizen Kuja in 7th house mother seeks an educated daughter (prefer doctors) for her son. Reply with horoscope and family details. Email: pr ophappy@gmail.com OG162074

1989.04 Colombo G/B 5'6" well educated only child employed as an executive officer in Western Europe company, will inherit valuable assets (land, houses, vehicle) parents seek educated daughter residing Sri Lanka Europe or any other country contact number horoscope and details in first letter. proposal.eula@gmail.com OG161932

1991 June Govi Buddhist 5'5" NS/TT from Kandy Civil Engineering son, retired Bank Manager parents seek Doctor, Engineer or Bank Officer pretty fair daughter. psgba1991@gmail.com OG162043

93 September born, reside in Colombo, employed undergraduate, mother is looking for a partner with property for her only son. E-mail: su manapc57@gmail.com Call: 011 2502062, 0703291085. OG162021

'Father seeks a bride for Dr. son, 38 yrs, 5'7", Sri Lankan born, Living in UK, Dr, a medical consultant soon'. beautim apro56@yahoo.com OG162269

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