



Daily News



100 PLUS YEARS

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CHINA ALWAYS SUPPORTS SRI LANKA - Ambassador Qi Zhenhong



China has always supported Sri Lanka in the international fora for protecting its sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity, Ambassador of China to Sri Lanka Qi Zhenhong said.

The Chinese Ambassador in Colombo, Qi Zhenhong an article titled, "From One-China Principle to Yuan Wang 5: Let's

Join Hands and Resolutely Safeguard Our Sovereignty, Independence and Territorial Integrity", reaffirmed China's continued commitment to support Sri Lanka. He noted that human rights issues in Sri Lanka are likely to be stirred up again at the 51st session of the UN Human Rights Council to be held in Geneva next month. **▶ TO PAGE 02**

ANOTHER ROUND OF TALKS BETWEEN PRESIDENT, IMF

Another round of discussions with the International Monetary Fund (IMF), with the aim of finding solutions to the financial crisis facing Sri Lanka, was held yesterday afternoon (26) at the President's Office under the patronage of President Ranil Wickremesinghe.

President Wickremesinghe joined the meeting via zoom technology exchanged ideas in a positive manner.

The IMF had made a request for additional information pertaining to electricity tariff revisions, the Excise Act etc and it was decided at this meeting to provide the requested information by next Monday.

Financial and legal advisors of the IMF joined the meeting and another round of discussions has been scheduled for next Wednesday (31).

Peter Breuer, Head of the International Monetary Fund's Negotiation Panel, Deputy Head Masahiro Nozaki, Tubagus Feridhanusetyawan, Permanent Representative of the International Monetary Fund in Sri Lanka and Chief of Staff to the President and Senior Advisor to the President on National Security Sagala Ratnayaka, President's Secretary Saman Ekanayake, **▶ TO PAGE 02**

FARMERS' DEPOSITS AT AGRICULTURAL BANKS TOP Rs. 6 BN

The deposits of farmers in the Agricultural Banks which are run by the Agrarian Service Centres have exceeded Rs. 6 billion, Agrarian services Department officials said. **▶ TO PAGE 03**

FAO PROVIDES 375,000 BAGS OF UREA FERTILIZER

The World Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) has agreed to provide 375,000 bags of Urea fertilizer to low-income farming families in Sri Lanka for paddy cultivation. **▶ TO PAGE 03**



FUEL QUEUES OBSERVED AGAIN

DHARMA SRI ABEYRATNE

Queues to purchase fuel have been observed again in certain areas due to the lack of a regular supply of fuel to filling stations. **▶ TO PAGE 03**

NO PLANS TO DISPLAY NADUNGAMUWA RAJA'S BODY AT SRI DALADA MALIGAWA



IRANGIKA RANGE and ASELA KURULUWANSA

Diyawadana Nilame of the Sri Dalada Maligawa Pradeep Nilanga Dela said yesterday that there is no possibility of displaying the preserved body of the Tusker, Nadungamuwa Raja at the Sri Dalada Maligawa as no new constructions can be done in the premises by law. **▶ TO PAGE 03**

X-PRESS PEARL DISASTER: Rs.911 MN RECEIVED AS THIRD TRANCHE OF COMPENSATION



LAHIRU FERNANDO

The Government has received Rs.911 million as the third tranche of compensation for the X-Pearl maritime disaster which took place in the seas off Sri Lanka in 2021. The insurance agency of the relevant company **▶ TO PAGE 03**

PRESIDENT GRANTS CONDITIONAL PRESIDENTIAL PARDON TO RANJAN

RANJAN WANTS TO RE-ENTER PARLIAMENT | APPOINTED AS 'GOODWILL AMBASSADOR OF MIGRANT WORKERS'

PROMISES TO CONTINUE FIGHT AGAINST BRIBERY AND CORRUPTION



Picture by Dushantha Mayadunne

IRANGIKA RANGE, P.K. BANDARA, BUDDHIKA IMBULANA and ANURA PREMALAL

Former Member of Parliament and popular actor Ranjan Ramanayake who was released from Welikada

Prison on conditional Presidential Pardon yesterday stated that he would like to re-enter Parliament through the people's mandate and serve the people before his death. Ramanayake has been imprisoned

for about 01 year and 07 months. He also extended his gratitude to President Ranil Wickremesinghe and Justice Minister Dr. Wijeyadasa Rajapakshe for facilitating the pardon and his release from the prison. **▶ TO PAGE 02**

Coal procurement Tender awarded to lowest bidder - Kanchana

Power and Energy Minister Kanchana Wijesekera yesterday said

that a Tender was awarded yesterday to the lowest bid received for

the procurement of Coal for the Norochcholai Plant. **▶ TO PAGE 03**

Probe into individuals who took photographs sitting on President's chair

SHAVINI MADHARA

The Police Crimes Division yesterday informed the Colombo Fort Magistrate's Court that they have initiated an investigation

into the entry to the President's House in Fort on July 9 and took photographs while sitting on the President's chair. **▶ TO PAGE 03**

FR filed seeking annulment of the Cabinet decision

DILSHAN THARAKA

A Fundamental Rights (FR) petition has been filed in the Supreme Court seeking annulment of the Cabinet decision

taken to enter into any long term agreements with Companies to allow to directly import, sell, supply or distribute Petroleum in Sri Lanka as envisaged. **▶ TO PAGE 03**

Sevanagala OIC submits anticipatory bail application

SENA V.GAMAGE, EMBILIPITIYA

The Sevanagala Police OIC who has been accused of sexually assaulting an apprentice female Police Constable

attached to the Sevanagala Police, has submitted an anticipatory bail application to the Embilipitiya Magistrate's Court through a lawyer. **▶ TO PAGE 03**

Muthurajawela Wetland Reserve fire doused with SLAF support

The Sri Lanka Air Force (SLAF) yesterday launched an operation to douse the fire that broke out in the Muthurajawela Wetland Reserve at Kerawalapitiya.

The Sri Lanka Air Force spokesman stated that a Bell 412 helicopter was deployed for this Bambi Bucket operation. **▶ TO PAGE 03**

Petition filed to quash IUSF Convener's arrest, detention

DILSHAN THARAKA

A Fundamental Rights petition has been filed in the Supreme Court seeking an order quashing the arrest and detention order of

Inter University Students Federation (IUSF) Convener Mudalige Wasantha Kumara who is currently being held at a detention centre in Tangalle. **▶ TO PAGE 03**

Another five suspects arrested over Umandawa Buddhist Village attack

GAYAN KUMARA WEERASINGHE

Nikaveritiya Police have arrested another five suspects who were wanted in connection

with the attack and damaging properties of Umandawa Global Buddhist Village in Kurunegala on May 10. **▶ TO PAGE 03**

Mechanism to utilise state machinery for betterment of nation - Vajira

SHIROMI ABAYASINGHE

President Ranil Wickremesinghe has already implemented a mechanism to utilise the state machinery for

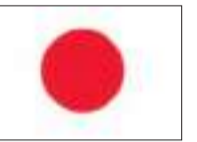
the betterment of the nation, MP Vajira Abeywardena, Chairman of the United National Party (UNP), said yesterday (26). **▶ TO PAGE 02**



Japan seeks to organize Sri Lanka creditors' meeting on debt crisis

Japan is seeking to organise a Sri Lanka creditors' conference, hoping it could help solve the South Asia nation's debt

crisis, but uncertainties cloud the outlook for any talks, three people with knowledge of the planning said. **▶ TO PAGE 02**



Lakdiva Company hands over refurbished buses to SLTB

Dr. Bandula calls for strengthening of transport service

IRANGIKA RANGE

Ten dilapidated buses repaired and refurbished by the state-owned Lakdiva Engineering Company Limited have been handed over to the Sri Lanka Transport Board (SLTB) at an event presided by Transport

and Highways Minister Dr. Bandula Gunawardena at the company's site in Ekala, Ja-Ela yesterday.

The Minister gave instructions to the relevant officials to further expand the bus repair works carried out by the company. **▶ TO PAGE 02**

UK, Norway lift Travel Advisory against Sri Lanka

The Norway Foreign Ministry in a statement said that security situation in Sri Lanka is now more stable with the lifting of Emergency regulations on August 18.

The Travel Advisory was introduced on May 11 as a result of violent demonstrations, curfews and a State of Emergency in several parts of the country. Protests may still occur, but the scale is considerably smaller, added the statement. **▶ TO PAGE 02**

Attack on Sanath Nishantha's house: 12 arrested

Arachchikattuwa Police yesterday arrested 12 persons who were allegedly involved in the arson attack on Puttalam District Parliamentarian Sanath Nishantha's house.

Police said that preliminary investigations have revealed that these suspects have affiliations with a number of political parties. **▶ TO PAGE 02**

Garage owner arrested with improvised firearm

GAYAN KUMARA WEERASINGHE

A garage owner who was in possession of a small firearm designed to look like an ink pen and a sword was arrested by the Special Task Force at Pelagaspalana in Kosgodda yesterday. They were found during a raid conducted by the STF personnel at Rathgama camp on a tip off. STF officials said that this firearm has been designed to be used with T56 bullets. **▶ TO PAGE 03**

Danish Alli granted bail

SHAVINI MADHARA

Seven Suspects including Roshan Ali Danish Alli who were arrested for forcibly entering the President's House and causing damage to its property were released on bail by Colombo Fort Magistrate Thilina Gamage yesterday. **▶ TO PAGE 03**



Man burnt to death over land dispute; four arrested

PRASANNA PADMASIRI Uva Province Group Corr.

A shop owner and three others were arrested by the Bibile Police for the killing of a person by burning the body inside their own shop in Nagala, Bibile on Thursday. **▶ TO PAGE 03**

Kalutara Police probe woman's actions

SUMITH PREMATHILAKE, Pothupitiya

Kalutara Police yesterday started investigations into the actions of a woman who had left her two-year-old child with a

person whom she befriended on board a flight from Dubai to Colombo.

This person residing at Bodhiyawatte in Kalutara South had

told Police that the woman with the child was sitting next to him on the Colombo bound flight

Since both of them are from Kalutara she had asked him

whether she could be taken to Kalutara in his vehicle to which he had agreed.

When the vehicle reached Kalutara town, the woman had told

the man that she wanted to buy a bottle of soft drink and had got out of the vehicle after handing over the child to him. Thereafter she had not returned.

Principal remanded till August 30

SITHARA SENANI

National Child Protection Authority (NCPA) Chairman Udaya Kumar Amarasinghe stated that an investigation has been initiated

regarding the Principal who was arrested on suspicion of having sexually abused students.

The Chairman said that information has been reported that certain

people who have given evidence and statements about the case of the abused child are being influenced, and the National Child Protection Authority is working to

conduct investigations in this regard and confirm the facts.

The NCPA Chairman said that information has been reported that witnesses are being pressured

to withdraw their statements as well as to prevent them from giving evidence. The arrested Principal has been remanded till August 30.

President grants conditional... From page 01

Ramanayake who addressed the media in front of the Welikada prison stated that Justice Minister Dr. Rajapakse requested me to promise him that I would continue my fight against bribery and corruption before the pardon was arranged. So, I believe that I have got permission to fight against corruption.

Ramanayake further said that he always speaks the bitter truth and stands by the people all the time. He also expressed his gratitude to all those who contributed to his pardon.

President Wickremesinghe yesterday (26) signed the document granting condition-

al Presidential Pardon to former Parliamentarian Ranjan Ramanayake, who was serving a four year sentence on charges of Contempt of Court.

The President has granted pardon on the condition that Ramanayake should not make any statement critical or derogatory of the entire Judiciary in future.

The Secretary to the Ministry of Justice has been entrusted with the task of carrying out the necessary arrangements for Ramanayake's release.

Ramanayake had made statements insulting the judiciary primarily outside Temple Trees on 21st August 2017. The Supreme Court delivered its judgement on 12th January 2021 convicting him for the offence of Contempt of Court and sentenced him to four years Rig-

orous Imprisonment. Submitting an Affidavit to court on Thursday (25), Ranjan Ramanayake had stated that having reflected deeply on the statement made by him outside Temple Trees on 21st of August 2017, he admits that the statement he made is completely and utterly false and derogatory and contemptuous of the entire Judiciary and humbly and profoundly apologized and sought forgiveness for the derogatory statement he made outside the Supreme Court premises claiming that he would not withdraw the statement he made on the 21st of August 2017.

He also gave an assurance that he would never again, in his entire lifetime; make any statement critical or

derogatory of the entire judiciary.

Meanwhile, Opposition Leader Sajith Premadasa stated in a tweet yesterday that SJB has decided to appoint former MP Ramanayake to the first vacancy in its National List.

Confirming that statement, Opposition Leader Sajith Premadasa, emphasized this again during the press conference held with former MP Ranjan Ramanayake after his release yesterday (26).

Ramanayake came out of the main gate of Welikada Prison yesterday (26) at around 2.45 pm after being freed. Opposition Leader Sajith Premadasa parliamentarians, artists and friends of Ranjan Ramanayake were present to welcome him.

Minister of Labour and Foreign Employment Manusha Nanayakkara has also

appointed Ramanayake as the ambassador for the welfare and promotion of expatriate workers. The position known as "Goodwill Ambassador of Migrant Workers" is a voluntary position. Chandana Ekanayake, Commissioner of Prisons Control and Rehabilitation had gone to the Ministry of Justice to get the letter containing the Presidential Pardon related to the release of Ramanayake and it took about two hours for the Prisons Department to prepare the necessary documents and release Ramanayake.

Ramanayake was granted permission for his request to continue his higher education activities from the prison during his imprisonment and attended the lectures of the external degree course in the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences of the Open University of Sri Lanka

online. Ramanayake appeared for the first year final examination of his Bachelor of Arts Degree course last June 4 and he appeared for this examination under the special protection of the prison officers in accordance with the rules and regulations of the prison department.

Ramanayake who was first detained in Angunakolapelessa Prison, was transferred from Colombo National Hospital to Welikada Prison Hospital for treatment of a knee injury and was taken to the Orthopedic Clinic of Colombo National Hospital. He was an inmate in the prison hospital until yesterday (26) when he was released. He also went to the theater in Colombo City Centre on the 17th, under the protection of the prison officers, to watch the movie 'The Game' in which he acted.

THANK YOU PRAYER TO THE VIRGIN MARY (Never known to fail)

Oh! most beautiful flower of Mt. Carmel, fruit wine splendorous of heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin assist me in my necessity. Oh! star of the Sea, help me and show me herein you are my Mother Oh! Holy Mary Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech you, from the bottom of my heart to succour me in my necessity. There are none that can withstand your power. Oh! show me here you are my mother. Oh! Mary conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to Thee (3 Times). Holy Mary, I place this cause in your hands (3 times). Thank you for mercy towards me and mine, Amen.

This Prayer must be said for 3 days and after that the request will be granted and the Prayer must be published.

C.K.

IF YOU ARE IN DIFFICULTY SAY THIS PRAYER AND YOUR REQUEST WILL BE GRANTED

Holy Spirit, You Who makes me see everything and who shows me the way to reach my ideal.

You who gives me the divine gift to forgive and forget all that is done to me and you who are in all the instances of my life with me. I in this short dialogue, want to thank You for everything and affirm once more that I never want to be separated from You no matter how great the material desires may be.

I want to be with You and my loved ones in their perpetual glory. To this end and submitting to God's Holy will. I ask You (mention your request).

This prayer should be said for three consecutive days. After the third day the request will be granted no matter how difficult it may be. While making the request one must either.

1. Promise to publish it on granting of the favour, or
2. Promise to circulate copies of it to as many people as possible.

(This is to spread the wonder of the Holy Spirit)

Thank You

K.P.L.P.

PRAYER TO SAINT ANTHONY

Oh! Holy St Anthony, Gentlest and Kindest of All Saints, your burning love for God, your exalted virtue and your great charity to your fellow creatures made you worthy when on Earth to possess miraculous powers. Miracles waited at your word and that word you were ever ready to speak at the request of those in trouble. The anxious prayer of bitter trial was never addressed to you in vain. To the sick you gave back health, you restored what was lost, the sorrow stricken were the object of your tender compassion. Even the dead you raised to life when the wounded heart cried on to thee from the depth of its anguish. When on Earth, were you not the Saint who had the tenderest compassion on those in distress and sorrow. Encouraged by this thought and convinced by the efficacy of your intervention, thanking you for the favours you have already granted me, I appeal to you to grant me this favour (mention favour). Oh! St Anthony, please whisper my prayer to the ears of the Infant Jesus who loves to linger in your arms. One word from you and my prayer will be answered. Oh speak the word and the gratitude of my heart will ever be yours.

Say this prayer with confidence, the impossible will be done immediately, miracles will take a little longer. Promise to publish this prayer.

Thank You.

K.P.L.P.

Japan seeks to organize .. From page 01

Tokyo is open to hosting talks among all the creditor nations aimed at lifting Colombo from its worst debt crisis since independence, but it is not clear whether top creditor China would join and a lack of clarity remains about Sri Lanka's finances, one source told Reuters.

Japan would be willing to chair such a meeting with China if that would speed up the process for addressing Sri Lanka's debt, estimated at US\$6.2 billion on a bilateral basis at the end of 2020, this source said.

President Ranil Wickremesinghe told Reuters last week that Sri Lanka would ask Japan to invite the main creditor nations to talks on restructuring bilateral debts. He said he would discuss the issue with Prime Minister Fumio Kishida in Tokyo next month, when he is expected to attend the

funeral of the assassinated former Premier Shinzo Abe.

Tokyo, the number two creditor, has a

stake in rescuing Sri Lanka, not just to recoup its US\$3 billion in loans but also its diplomatic interest in checking China's growing presence in the region.

S&P Global this month downgraded Sri Lanka's Government Bonds to default after it missed interest and principal payments. Sri Lanka, with a population of 22 million people with debt at 114% of annual economic output, is in social and financial upheaval from the impact of COVID-19 pandemic on top of years of economic mismanagement.

An International Monetary Fund (IMF) team met Wickremesinghe on Wednesday to discuss a bailout, including restructuring US\$29 billion in debt, as Colombo seeks a US\$3 billion IMF aid programme. The President met the same day with Japan's Ambassador.

Tokyo believes a new "platform" is needed to pull creditors together, the sources said. "Sri Lanka is running out of time since it defaulted on its debt. The priority is for creditor nations to agree on an effective scheme," one source said. "Japan is keen to move this forward. But it's not something Japan alone can raise its hand and push through,"

China always supports... From page 01

"As the Sri Lankan people are still grappling with severe economic and humanitarian difficulties, many might wonder what those countries who have been always preaching about human rights will actually do. Will they help Sri Lanka to ease its human rights crisis by providing concrete support? Or will they again use human rights as a cover-up tool to interfere into the island nation's internal affairs and continue to rub salt into the wound of Sri Lankan people? Just let's wait and see."

Over 170 countries around the world have all expressed their firm support for the One-China Principle. I'm grateful to see that President Ranil Wickremesinghe, many Sri Lanka's political parties and social groups have also openly spoken up for justice in support of China., the Chinese envoy said

Mechanism to utilise state ... From page 01

Abeywardena said that the facilities available to those in the Government and Private Sectors should be the same and if such facilities are provided, many people will not try to enter the Government Sector in the future.

MP Abeywardena stated so at a press brief in Colombo yesterday (26).

"There are six to seven hundred thousand employees in the Public Sector and seventeen to eighteen hundred thousand in the Private Sector. Both these sectors are necessary for Sri Lanka's development. There is a need for a system in which the same rights are given to the Government Sector and the Private Sector," MP Abeywardena noted.

"Most of the people join the Government Sector for two reasons. One is for financial security. The other reason is less work. The Government machinery should be utilized for the improvement of the nation. The President has a plan which is for the greater good of the nation," MP Abeywardena pointed out.

Abeywardena further said, "President Ranil Wickremesinghe hopes that all the people and all political parties would stand together during this crisis period just as we did when we gained independence. Unity is what won us freedom. If we unite again, we can become an economic power in the region. Therefore, no political party can have a secret plan to build the country."

"Conspiracy to overthrow a state is illegal. It can only be done by an election. In the event of a conflict arising from moving outside the democratic structure, the Government's military forces and the police must control it. Then some people claim that the Government launched a militia attack. In recent days, the militants have destroyed 613 places. Do we call it democracy? No, it is terrorism." MP Abeywardena also noted.

said the source, adding that the cooperation of other nations was crucial.

Japan's Foreign Ministry declined to comment. Sri Lanka's Central Bank and Finance Ministry did not immediately respond to requests for comment. An IMF spokesperson declined to comment.

Concerns include rivalry and territorial tensions between big creditors China and India, while Sri Lanka would have to commit to reforming its finances and disclose more information about its debt, the sources said.

Last month, Chinese President Xi Jinping wrote to Wickremesinghe stating that he was "ready to provide support and assistance to the best of my ability to President Wickremesinghe and the people of Sri Lanka in their efforts".

But the sources said getting Beijing's cooperation on a debt restructuring was complicated by factors such as a large number of lenders and that China was balking at taking a "haircut" on its loans and at reducing Colombo's debt burden.

A Chinese foreign ministry spokesman told Reuters that Beijing was "willing to stand with relevant countries and international financial insti-

Lakdiva Company hands... From page 01

as an urgent solution for the current shortage of passenger transport buses.

The Minister while commending the Lakdiva Engineering Company for an excellent job said that he hoped to widen the scope of the company's activities to increase its revenue.

The SLTB Ekala Central Workshop was opened on March 14, 1974, on a 24-acre land and was renamed the Ekala Engineering Works on June 14, 1993, with a people-friendly concept. Many services including the repairing and refurbishing of dilapidated buses belonging to the Sri Lanka Transport Board are carried out by the company.

Among the other services, the repairing of bus bodies damaged

by accidents, painting, repairing electrical systems in buses attached to the bus depots all over the island are done at more reasonable prices than the private sector.

Around 10 dilapidated buses are repaired by the staff including experienced technicians and handed over to a particular bus depot every month. Apart from this, vehicles belonging to Government institutions which have been damaged by accidents are also repaired at these premises.

In addition to SLTB buses, the company has also started to repair vehicles of Ministries and Government institutions and the Minister instructed the officials to take necessary steps to further expand these services.

UK, Norway lift Travel Advisory... From page 01

"Although the security situation has improved somewhat, there are still challenges connected to the supply of fuel and medicine in Sri Lanka.

Norwegians who plan to travel to Sri Lanka are encouraged to bring the necessary medication and make sure that hotels and transport have access to enough fuel during their stay," the statement said.

The UK Government has also lifted the Travel Advisory on Sri Lanka yesterday, stating that it no longer advises against all but essential travel to the island nation. Ear-

lier, the UK Government issued a Travel Advisory against all but essential travel to Sri Lanka mentioning that the country is experiencing a severe economic crisis that has led to shortages of basic necessities including medicines, cooking gas, fuel and food.

The advisory had also pointed out that the major shortage of fuel (diesel and petrol) is affecting transport, businesses and emergency services, whereas hospitals and other medical services such as ambulances may be affected by shortages.

Attack on Sanath Nishantha's... From page 01

The Parliamentarian's house had been destroyed during the

disturbances that occurred on May 9.

"Ooluganthota Yaadinni" book launch today

The novel "Ooluganthota Yaadinni" written by senior Dr. Mahinda Wickremearachi will be launched at the Lady Ridgeway Hospital at 10.00 a.m. today (27).

Dr. Wickremearachi who works at the Lady Ridgeway Hospital has written around 10 books. "Ooluganthota Yaadinni" is his latest novel. The Chief Guests for the book launching ceremony include Ven. Elle Gunawansa Thera, Ven. Dr. Bellanwila Thera, Gunadasa Amarasekara and Professor Manori Senanayake.

The novel revolves around a woman suffering from infertility, her attempts to conceive a child and the social prejudices she has to undergo. The novel depicts a rural area Oolugantota in Ambalangoda.

Death of Dr. D. Somadasa Wijewardena

Former Director of the Kalutara General Hospital Dr. D. Somadasa Wijewardena, 86, died yesterday. Dr. Wijewardena is a popular social worker in Beruwala had served a number of hospitals in the country before being appointed as the Director of the Kalutara General Hospital. He is a past pupil of De Mazanod College, Kandana and Ananada College, Colombo.

He is the father of three daughters, Dr. Jayampika Wijewardena, Dr. Priyangika Wijewardena and Dr. Nayomi Wijewardena. Dr. Wijewardena is a member of Dayaka Sabha of the historical Kande Viharaya in Aluthgama and Sri Shailimbaramaya in Kurunduwatte, Beruwala. The remains lie at his residence at Reguwa Road, Beruwala. Funeral will take place at 4 p.m. at the Aluthgama crematorium today.



Four swept by currents

GAYAN KUMARA WEERASINGHE

Pitabeddara Police yesterday said that four persons who were among a group that went to bathe in the Nilwala river at Udaella village were swept by the currents yesterday (26) evening. The four tyre factory workers from Midigama are missing and presumed dead.

According to the Police Media Spokesperson's Office, a group of employees who had attended a party held in Poruthota town had gone swimming in the Nilwala river after consuming liquor. Four persons in the group had gone missing while bathing in the river.

Police with the help of the villagers had launched a search operation. Police said that this group had taken a bath in an area which is not suitable for bathing due to strong currents.

Another round of... From page 01

Central Bank Governor Dr. Nandalal Weerasinghe and several other Central Bank senior officers were present on this occasion.

Obituaries

REV. BRIAN BLACKER, retired Pastor, Grace Evangelical Church, former Director, Youth for Christ and Back to the Bible, devoted husband of Parames, dearest daughter of Rosemary and Danton, loving father of David and Paul, fond grandfather of Eric and Joshua. Remains lie at **A.F. Raymond's Funeral Parlour** on Saturday 27th August 2022 from 9 a.m. onwards. Funeral Service at 4 p.m. and thereafter cortege leaves parlour at 5 p.m. on same day for Cremation at General Cemetery Borella at 5.30 p.m. (New Crematorium). 049809

CHARMAINE JAYATILAKE (nee PEIRIS), beloved wife of Roland Jayatilake, mother of Narmalene & Nilanka, mother-in-law of Prasansa & Denam, grandmother of Nethmi & Praneeth, sister of Alec, Chris and late Harold, Malcolm, Morin & Celine, passed away. Remains lie at **A.F. Raymond's Funeral Parlour** from 9.00 a.m. onwards on 26th August. Cortege leaves Parlour at 3.30 p.m. on 27th August for burial at the General Cemetery, Borella (Catholic Section). 049808

FERNANDO - SHIRANIE NEELAKANTHI (nee De SILVA) - Beloved wife of late Wimalsen Fernando, daughter of late Fritz and Millie De Silva, sister of late Lala De Silva, Banu Fernando and of Chandrani Fernando, passed away peacefully on 24th August 2022. Her remains lie at **A.F. Raymond's Funeral Parlour** from 10.00 a.m. onwards on 27th August. Cortege leaves Parlour at 11.00 a.m. on the 28th for burial at the Borella General Cemetery (Anglican Section). 049811

NAVAMANIE, RANJANA DAWN ROHINI - Beloved daughter of late Gilbert and Therese, sister of Ronald and late Indira, sister-in-law of Marsha and Albert, loving aunt of Rukshan, Dharshini, Shyamala and Miriam. She was peacefully called to be with the Lord on 24 August 2022. Her remains lie at the **Anglican Chapel, General Cemetery, Borella** from 10.00 a.m. on Saturday, August 27, followed by Funeral Service at 4.00 p.m. and Cremation at 4.30 p.m. 049865

'We are with Sri Lanka during these difficult times'

– UNICEF Regional Director

Prime Minister Dinesh Gunawardena urged the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) to increase assistance for women and children in rural and urban low income groups when a senior UNICEF delegation headed by Regional Director for South Asia George Laryea-Adjei called on him on August 24.

UNICEF Regional Director said that UNICEF has a number of projects for women and children and assured, "We are with you at these difficult times and we will expand our programmes in Sri Lanka".

He added that the ongoing projects include supply of clean drinking water, education materials and other critical supplies to children and families in the country.

The Prime Minister stressed the importance of supply of mid-day meals to schoolchildren as it helps their intake of nutrition and also the programme is an incentive for rural and urban poor children to attend school.

Regional Director Laryea-Adjei said that an additional US\$ 25 million has been allocated to Sri Lanka by UNICEF for education and children related programmes and



Prime Minister Dinesh Gunawardena having discussions with UNICEF Regional Director for South Asia George Laryea-Adjei.

to support pregnant women and lactating mothers.

Secretary to the Prime Minister Anura

Dissanayake and UNICEF Sri Lanka Representative Christian Skoog also were present.

Thirty five SLPA employees receive Port Management Diplomas

The Diploma Certificate Award Ceremony for 35 employees of the Sri Lanka Ports Authority (SLPA) who successfully completed the course of Port Management Diploma was held recently at the Mahapola Ports & Maritime Academy of SLPA. This was the second batch of the Port Management Diploma Course.

Ports, Shipping and Aviation Minister Nimal Siripala de Silva was the Chief Guest of the event.

The Minister said that he remembered the late minister Lalith Athulathudali as he entered the Mahapola Ports & Maritime Academy. The Minister also said that he like to recall the late minister with the gratitude for his indelible service to the port and shipping sector and the steps he took to fulfill the overseas expectations and career aspirations of the children of the nation by creating the 'Mahapola Concept' and constructing the Mahapola Ports & Maritime Academy of SLPA.

"It is a matter of great pleasure for me to appreciate all of you who receive certificates as Diploma Holders today. A country's resources are not just physical but also its human resource that is considered the most valuable of all.

"I was listening to what was said here about a 'System Change,' something I also prefer to take place. However, my belief is that there is no way of changing the system by misusing the youth and their potential



either at street protests or misled political projects. The real system change takes place only when today's young generation is empowered politically and socio-economically in the right way. Despite encouraging yourselves towards system changes that devoid of its true objectives, I request you all who become valuable diploma holders today to stand for a real system change that makes a worthy cause to see the reality. You can initiate this from this institution itself and I believe that it should take place from the Top to bottom. Assuming duties as the Subject Minister, I could change the long

stood traditional system of this institution. I have not appointed my relatives or associates for the posts of this institution but only professionals in each sector. However, only a very few talks of that system change I made here. We apparently need a change and in such a way, if these institutions are to operate in a productive and efficient manner.

"I was also listening to what was said here on the research theses done by the Diploma Holders. I would request the SLPA to take measures to publish them and make them available for the reference at local and international Universities, research institutes and ports of the world. Only then, the true value and cause of the Diploma is revealed. We can also include innovative proposals, concepts and principles in these research theses for an effective and strategic 'System Change' in the SLPA," the Minister said.

K.D.S.Ruwan Chandra, Secretary of the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Aviation Services, Gayan Algewattage, Vice Chairman of Sri Lanka Ports Authority, Managing Director Upul Jayatissa, Chief Training Manager of Mahapola Port and Maritime Aviation, S.H. Patmini and Mahmehuda Kelaniya were present. Senior Lecturer of the University Dr. Wickramasinghe, Sri Lanka Ports Authority Managing Directors, Heads of Divisions, Executive Officers, employees, family members and union representatives were also present.

UNICEF Regional Director calls on Foreign Minister

UNICEF Regional Director for South Asia George Laryea-Adjei, who is on a visit to Sri Lanka, called on Foreign Affairs Minister Ali Sabry, PC on August 24.

Foreign Minister Ali Sabry, PC appreciated the cooperation and assistance extended by UNICEF to Sri Lanka. Particular attention was paid to projects related to early childhood development, health and nutrition, immunization, safe water and sanitation, education and skills building, social welfare policies and COVID-19 response. The Regional Director apprised the Foreign Minister of UNICEF programmes in the country, particularly efforts undertaken to assist Sri Lanka during the current challenges.

The Minister welcomed the new UNICEF country programme to be implemented from 2023. He also said that Sri Lanka has been a benchmark in its efforts in providing free healthcare, education and other social security measures due to which the Human Development Index for Sri Lanka is well above regional average. The Regional Director appreciated the efforts taken by the Government of Sri Lanka for the protection and well-being of children in Sri Lanka and assured the continued cooperation and assistance of UNICEF to Sri Lanka.



UNICEF Regional Director for South Asia George Laryea-Adjei with Foreign Affairs Minister Ali Sabry, PC.

US donates 3,000 metric tons of food for Sri Lankan schoolchildren

The United States, through the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) and in partnership with Save the Children, received 320 metric tons of split yellow peas to nourish schoolchildren across Sri Lanka. The donation is part of a larger one of 3,000 metric tons of food. US Ambassador Julie Chung, Education Minister Dr. Susil Premajayantha and representatives from the Health Ministry, the National Planning Department, and Save the Children attended the hand-over ceremony.

"This donation from the American people targets the most vulnerable Sri Lankans – children – and enables them to focus on their schooling rather than on their hunger. Every nourishing meal will be a testament to the US's commitment to helping all Sri Lankans emerge from the worst economic crisis since the country's independence," Ambassador Julie Chung said.

The shipment is part of the USDA McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program, a five-year \$26 million project aimed at providing immediate emergency assistance to the food insecure to improve literacy and attendance by reducing hunger. The USDA and its partner Save the Children work with the Sri Lankan Govern-



US Ambassador Julie Chung, Education Minister Dr. Susil Premajayantha and Officials during the hand-over ceremony.

ment and local communities to ensure food reaches those most in need. Between June 2021 and January 2022 alone, the project, called Promoting Autonomy for Literacy and Attentiveness through Market Alliances (PALAMA), provided protein supplements twice in the form of split yellow peas and Alaskan pink salmon to more than 105,000

children and their families – more than 460,000 Sri Lankans in total – during COVID-19 lockdowns. As of Mid-August, PALAMA has provided supplemental nutrition to approximately 50,000 schoolchildren.

The donation reflects the US's larger efforts to scale up food security operations worldwide to provide record amounts of immediate emergency assistance to save lives and alleviate suffering. Food security programs are just one component of the longstanding partnership between the American and Sri Lankan people to support Sri Lanka's development journey and promote economic sustainability. In addition to ongoing projects PALAMA, the United States has announced more than \$179 million in new assistance to Sri Lanka this year, including nearly \$32 million in new humanitarian and technical assistance since June alone.

HHI donates medical supplies worth US \$ 908,547 to Sri Lanka

The Heart to Heart International, (HHI) a renowned global humanitarian organization in the United States, donated its first consignment of medical supplies worth US\$ 908,547 last month to Sri Lanka.

This was collected by officials from the Health Ministry in Colombo on July 13 for further distribution. The HHI has now obtained all necessary government approvals for the second donation of urgent medical aid worth US \$ 8,222,898.78 to the people of Sri Lanka. This donation includes an extensive amount of crucial pain medication and antibiotics such as amoxicillin, potassium chloride, penicillin, and venlafaxine, which are in short supply and urgently required in Sri Lanka. This far, Heart to Heart International has made a total contribution of US \$ 9,131,445.78 worth of urgent medical aid to Sri Lanka.

Sri Lanka's Ambassador to the United States, during his meeting on July 20 with Heart to Heart International CEO Kim Carroll thanked and expressed his sincere gratitude to Heart to Heart International for the generous donations to be extended to the people of Sri Lanka at this critical juncture. In coordination with the Sri Lankan Health Ministry and the Embassy of Sri Lanka in Washington DC, the second donation is due to be sent via air in five separate air shipments to Colombo. Similar to the first dona-

tion, all expenses will be borne by the HHI, and the Health Ministry will receive the donation for immediate distribution at no cost to the people of Sri Lanka in due course.

Headquartered in Lenexa, Kansas, the HHI is a global humanitarian organization focused on improving access to health. Since its inception in 1992, it has delivered medical aid and supplies worth \$2.5 billion to more than 130 countries, including within the United States. It responds to natural disasters both domestically and internationally by supplying medical relief and mobilizing volunteers. The organization is a 4-star Navigator charity, a BBB Accredited charity and is on the "Philanthropy 400."

ADA KOTIPATHI - Saturday
Draw No: 1661 Colour: Yellow
Date: 27.08.2022
Today's Jackpot
Rs. 57,954,628/-
Winning tickets are valid for 6 months.
Development Lotteries Board
356, Dr. Colvin R. De Silva Mawatha, Union Place, Colombo 02
Tel: 2 333 5467 Fax: 2 333 5433 Website: www.dlb.lk
Hotline: 0114 824 824, 0112 333 778

Thursday
Date: 25.08.2022 Draw No.: 3994 Colour: Red
Winning Numbers: 17 | 28 | 57 | 65 English Letter: S
Total Value of Prizes: Rs. 3,051,060/- Next Super Jackpot: Rs. 73,880,035.20
Development Lotteries Board
356, Dr. Colvin R. De Silva Mawatha, Union Place, Colombo 02
Tel: 0112 333 5467 Fax: 0112 333 5433 Website: www.dlb.lk
Hotline: 0114 824 824, 0112 333 778

English Letter, Super Number & Winning Numbers
25
0 26 08 22 30 74
Super Number: 0 Colour: Orange
Date: 25.08.2022 Thursday
Total Value of Prizes: Rs. 3,017,200/- Next Super Jackpot: Rs. 256,050,445/-
Development Lotteries Board
356, Dr. Colvin R. De Silva Mawatha, Union Place, Colombo 02
Tel: 0112 333 5467 Fax: 0112 333 5433 Website: www.dlb.lk
Hotline: 0114 824 824, 0112 333 778 or 1918
SMS: DLBsuper-L07-super-KK & send to 999
For Interactive Voice Response Service - Call 0114 825 825

Thursday
Date: 25.08.2022 Draw No.: 1659 Colour: Dark Blue
Next Super Jackpot: Rs. 57,864,524/-
Total Value of Prizes: Rs. 3,182,900/-
Winning Numbers: 02 | 26 | 50 | 73 English Letter: O
Development Lotteries Board
356, Dr. Colvin R. De Silva Mawatha, Union Place, Colombo 02
Tel: 0112 333 5467 Fax: 0112 333 5433 Website: www.dlb.lk
Hotline: 0114 824 824, 0112 333 778

Date: 25-08-2022 Draw Number: 3545 Colour: Brown
Total Value of Prizes: Rs. 7,406,980/-
Winning Numbers: 14 | 17 | 34 | 41 Sagittarius
Next Super Jackpot: Rs. 3,166,760/-
Development Lotteries Board
356, Dr. Colvin R. De Silva Mawatha, Union Place, Colombo 02
Tel: 0112 333 5467 Fax: 0112 333 5433 Website: www.dlb.lk
Hotline: 0114 824 824, 0112 333 778 or 1918
SMS: DLBsuper-L07-super-KK & send to 999
For Interactive Voice Response Service - Call 0114 825 825

Draw Number: 1833 Colour: Green
Draw Date: 25.08.2022 Date: Thursday
Next Super Jackpot: Rs. 71,567,667.60
Winning English Letter and Numbers: W 16 23 24 70
Total Value of Prizes: Rs. 2,357,300/-
Development Lotteries Board
356, Dr. Colvin R. De Silva Mawatha, Union Place, Colombo 02
Tel: 0112 333 5467 Fax: 0112 333 5433 Website: www.dlb.lk
Hotline: 0114 824 824, 0112 333 778 or 1918
SMS: DLBsuper-L07-super-KK & send to 999
For Interactive Voice Response Service - Call 0114 825 825

Date: 25-08-2022 Draw Number: 521 Colour: Blue
Next Super Jackpot: Rs. 12,092,408/-
Total Value of Prizes: Rs. 1,810,480/-
Winning Numbers: 21 | 42 | 49 English Letter: H Fate Number: 04
Development Lotteries Board
356, Dr. Colvin R. De Silva Mawatha, Union Place, Colombo 02
Tel: 0112 333 5467 Fax: 0112 333 5433 Website: www.dlb.lk
Hotline: 0114 824 824, 0112 333 778
Interactive Voice Response Number: 011 4 825 825

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news.dailynews@lakehouse.lk
Saturday, August 27, 2022

A shocking episode

The Police Service which has recently come in for heavy criticism for its failure to arrest the alarming trend of killings and the increasing involvement of its personnel in acts of bribery and corruption hit a new low last Tuesday when four policemen staged a daylight robbery at Kottawa junction relieving a youth of his gold chain and mobile phone. In other words, the cops had practically turned themselves into chain-snatchers, an ignominy our Police will have to endure for a long time to come.

The robbers in khaki uniform comprised a sergeant and three constables, one of whom was attached to the Special Task Force (STF) of the Malabe Police. They had arrived in a three-wheeler belonging to one of the PCs to enact their dastardly deed. There have been instances in the past where policemen had been involved in petty theft as individuals. However, this is perhaps the first time in the known history of the Police that a robbery was staged by a group of policemen, an indication of the levels to which the country's premier law enforcement agency has fallen today.

During the war years exigencies and the manpower shortage dictated that recruitment to the Police and Armed Services dispense with the laid down criteria. This has resulted in undesirables and those with a criminal bent gaining entry to the Police. The Kottawa incident is a clear example of what such haphazard recruitment has done to the Police Service.

Law and Order Minister Tiran Alles should lose no time in undertaking a major spring cleaning of the Police Service to salvage what reputation it is left with. A probe should be undertaken to ascertain if any individual with a criminal record or questionable background had gained entry to the Police as a result of lax recruitment standards.

The severest of punishment should be meted out to the suspects who are now in Police custody. No doubt, this shameful act is bound to further diminish the stock of the Police in the eyes of the public. Here we have a situation where those entrusted with protecting the public from theft and robbery are themselves turning into thieves. What can the public expect from the Police after this?

One recalls former President J.R. Jayewardene once stating that the "public should protect themselves" during the second JVP uprising where killings became all too common in the country. Will the public again feel that they have to provide their own protection?

Naturally, the public is now going to feel increasingly insecure with the knowledge that those entrusted to protect them could be the very ones who will inflict harm on them. The four men in khaki have set the ball rolling in this regard. Furthermore, this daylight robbery by four cops is going to give ideas to habitual rogues and criminals. They will feel morally justified to carry on with their criminal activities, with the very men tasked with hunting them down in the thick of it themselves.

Now that the Police had been badly exposed for the worst kind of offence, the current killing spree is also bound to continue with added vigour, the Kottawa episode giving a fillip to the hired assassins. There had been close to 40 killings so far during June, July and August and not a single arrest has been made. The trend can only escalate, now that Policemen have shown that they too are not averse to crime.

This is not the first time the Police had sullied its image in a big way. Some time ago four top Police Narcotics Bureau (PNB) sleuths were arrested after revelations that they were in cahoots with drug lords. There was also an instance where during the pandemic lockdown a Police Sergeant was apprehended for transporting narcotics.

Law and Order Minister Tiran Alles should direct the IGP to clean the Augean Stables fast. This black episode should teach him not to take his men and women for granted. Like in the US, a special unit (Internal Affairs) should be set up to keep tabs on the Police themselves.

The need for policing the Police has assumed greater importance today as at no other time. A climate is gradually being created for lawlessness to thrive. The IGP should ensure that the situation does not get out of hand.

The Police Service as a whole also needs modernizing, upgrading and special training for its personnel to handle today's multiple challenges. Crime has assumed new and extraordinary dimensions with the involvement of the drugs element and an underworld equipped with sophisticated weapons.

The men in khaki too should be provided with all the incentives to make them keener on the job and go that extra mile to deal with high-risk situations. They should be adequately remunerated and rewarded in other ways for professional excellence and due promotions granted. The Kottawa incident may or may not have its origins in frustration which made the four policemen do the unthinkable. It is only a contented Police officer who will give his heart and soul to the job of policing.

Significance of promoting Eco-Tourism hotspots



The scenic Kanthale Wewa

Dr. TILAK S. FERNANDO

An Australian-based premium company in healthcare named *AusCeylon* and *PhytoMedica Pvt Ltd* want to develop an Eco Resort and a medicinal Plant Garden at Agbopura 227/C in the Kanthale district. Kanthale is one of the most famous travel destinations worldwide for centuries due to its unique and pristine biodiversity and culture.

Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, Sri Lanka remained the fourth most popular destination for tourism in 2020. The company believes vigour and health are vitally important to human beings as much as their culture and food. They believe that healthiness can be promoted through Natural Medicines found in Sri Lanka.

The Australian-based company commenced operations in mid-January 2021 in Ratnapura and initiated its second project in Pasikudah and third at Royal Beach Villas in Mankadawala, Anuradhapura. These were eco-resort and medicinal gardens. Their fourth project in Sri Lanka would also be an eco-resort and a medicinal plant garden in Kanthale.

KANTHALE

Kanthale goes back to the era of *King Agbo II*. It is situated in the Trincomalee District, lies 38 km Southwest of Trincomalee, and the city is surrounded by the Kanthale reservoir (*Wewa*), which attracts travellers. Kanthale City is full of history and lies a few miles from Trincomalee with other attractive tourist sites such as Kaudulla National Park.

The new project will be implemented at the banks of *Kanthale Wewa*. The reservoir is majestic with a beautiful scenic view and covers an area of 23 square kms and has a capacity of 140.6 million cubic metres. The dam is 16.75 metres high and 2.5 km long. Apart from the view, the reservoir provides a rich water resource for the growth of many valuable medicinal plants. The

area is covered with green thickets of trees and shrubs, providing a promising natural beauty. The *Kanthale Wewa* can flood the area during monsoon rains, therefore, the risk is minimal since the land elevation for the project is above the overflow level. Crops will be strategically located to minimise the impact of potential floods. The project will be carefully designed with minimal disturbance to this rich ecosystem.

ECO-TOURISM AND NATURAL MEDICINES

The project is a combination of ecotourism and natural medicines. Ecotourism can promote mental well-being and makes a soothing impact on the increasingly stressed lifestyle of the urban population. It blends with nature and simultaneously acts as prophylactic healthcare that augments the people. Eco-tourism will open up the heritage of natural medicines to the world, hence, the proposed project in Kanthale aims to take maximum advantage of the two world-class strengths thereby creating a direct and in-direct socio-economic opportunity for the local population as much as the tourists.

Ecotourism focuses on development and sustainability in the rich lands of Kanthale with carefully constructed conservation agreements and the cultivation of medicinal plants to be used as raw materials for *Phytomedica Pvt Ltd*. The project will engage in research, development, production and marketing of exports of varieties of natural plant extracts (*Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (API)*) used in herbal medicines and nutraceuticals. Further, eco-friendly residences will be constructed by the company to create an attractive ecotourism destination for tourists. It will provide a highly effective plan to minimize the impact on nature. Thus, the company strategy will be to follow the main intentions of the National Tourism Plan to gain an enhanced profit, while simultaneously sustaining the integrity and value of the natural, cultural, social and economic resources of Sri Lanka. The

project will, directly and indirectly, create a variety of opportunities to improve the livelihood of local communities.

The collaborative project by *AusCeylon Pty Ltd* & *PhytoMedica Pvt Ltd* intends to develop eco-tourism and medicinal plant cultivation at Kanthale holds many valuable religious, cultural, historical and natural sites, which are vastly visited by many local and foreign tourists around the world.

AusCeylon & PhytoMedica Pvt Ltd believes that Sri Lanka holds a promising future for eco-tourism. The concept has the potential to attract both local and foreign travellers, including the millennials who seek a sustainable living and also the traditional tourists who seek experiences to appreciate and enjoy nature. It is a highly strategic source of revenue to protect natural areas and boost the Sri Lankan economy. According to the mid-term strategic plan for Sri Lanka tourism has only 1% of eco-tourist visits or sites are due to the misuse of the concept. Thus, it is vital to reconsider the concept and put it into action to acquire important socio-economic goals.

The following are the strategic advancements toward eco-tourism at the Kanthale site:

- By cultivating valuable medicinal plants to be used as authentic raw materials to manufacture patented products innovated by *Phytomedica Pvt Ltd*.
- Enabling Sri Lankan indigenous medicines as a world-class premium healthcare management among locals and international tourists.
- Provision of direct and indirect socio-economic benefits to the local community by creating direct and indirect opportunities for the maximum use of local human and material resources.
- Product development and operation, including efficient waste management, thereby creating a minimal negative impact on the environment.
- Quality and efficacy are to be maintained by establishing the herbal

raw material supply chain by maintenance.

- Reaching out to the local communities to advance their knowledge and skills in ecotourism.
- Creating and enforcing a fair revenue model to allocate revenue to all stakeholders.

The *AusCeylon* project will provide an authentic, interactive, and educational nature-based experience with the historical value of Kanthale to create tours that will appeal to the target segments.

The financial feasibility of the project has a few considerations. *AusCeylon* expects a low revenue in the initial year due to the current situation in the country, and the time taken for the crops to grow. To mitigate such risks, short harvest crops will be introduced and long-term crops would generate adequate revenue for continuous operations. Further, special packages will be offered to popularise the destination among local tourists.

LOCAL COMMUNITY

Direct employment opportunities at the resort will enable the skill development of the local community. Rapid revenue generation for small businesses - particularly for housewives will be implemented. Cultivate medicinal plants within every household garden space on a small scale will be introduced, and sell them to the raw material collection centre established at the project site. Increased opportunities will be created to sell handicrafts and crops to the local and foreign tourists and local tour guides. The company intends to introduce employment opportunities for the local community through tourism, which has plummeted since 2019 since the Easter bombing and the COVID-19 pandemic.

The initial investment is estimated approximately at Rs. 20 million based on the outcome of phase one of the project, further investment will be done to increase the number of lodges and facilities.

tilakfernando@gmail.com



THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

The police must obey the law while enforcing the law. - Earl Warren

Constitutional Amendment Procedures

Part 3

Guest Column

Professor
SARATH MATHILAL DE SILVA



Chapter XII of the 1978 Constitution - Amendment of the Constitution - by Articles 82, 83 and 84 makes provisions for the amendment of the Constitution. Article 82(7) states that in Chapter XII of the Constitution, amendment includes repeal, alteration or addition. Article 80(3) is also important here that upon the Bill becoming law upon the certificate of the President or the Speaker as the case may be, no Court, Tribunal can inquire into, pronounce upon the validity of such Act on any ground whatsoever.

Article 82

Article 82 of the Constitution specifically requires any amendment or the repeal of the Constitution to be expressed. Accordingly, in terms of Article 82(1) no Bill for the amendment of any provision of the Constitution shall be placed on the Order Paper of Parliament, unless the provisions to be repealed, altered or added and consequential amendments, if any, are expressly specified in the Bill and is described in the long title thereof as being an Act for the amendment of the Constitution.

As provided in Article 82(2) of the Constitution, in the case of a Bill for the repeal of the Constitution, it is essential that such a Bill must contain provisions replacing the constitution too and such Bill should be described in the long title thereof as being an Act for repeal and replacement of the Constitution. Article 82(3) provides that in the opinion of the Speaker, if the Bill does not comply with the aforesaid requirement - Articles 82(1) and 82(2) - the Speaker shall direct that such Bill should not be proceeded with unless it is amended so as to comply with those requirements.

As provided in Article 82(4) of the Constitution, notwithstanding anything in the preceding provisions of this Article it shall be lawful for a Bill which complies with the aforesaid requirements of 82(1) and 82(2), to be amended by Parliament provided that the Bill as so amended shall comply with those requirements.

How does the Bill become law is provided for in Article 82(5) of the Constitution. Accordingly, a Bill for the amendment of any provision of the Constitution or for the repeal and replacement of the Constitution becomes law, if the number of votes cast in favour thereof amounts to not less than two thirds of the whole number of Members (including those not present), and upon a certificate by the President or the Speaker as the case may be, being endorsed thereon in accordance with the provisions of Article 79 or 80.

Articles 79 and 80 are found in Chapter XI - the legislature - Procedures and Powers- of the Constitution. In terms of Article 79 which is titled Certificate of the Speaker, the Speaker shall endorse on every Bill passed by Parliament a certificate. Such Certificate may state the majority by which such Bill was passed. However, such certificate of the Speaker is subject to two provisos as found in the same Article as given below.

- Where by virtue of provisions of Articles 82 or 83 or 84 or 123(2), a special majority is required for the passing of a Bill, the Speaker shall certify such Bill only if such Bill has been passed with such special majority. Article 82, 83 and 84 have been explained earlier. Article 123 which is found in Chapter XVI - the Superior Courts- the Supreme Court - relates to the determination of the Supreme Court in respect of Bills.
- Article 123 (1) states that the determination of the Supreme Court needs to be accompanied by the reasons therefore, and shall state whether the Bill or provision thereof is inconsistent with the Constitution and if so which provision or provisions of the Constitution. Article 123 (2) provides for the following in summary form:

- Whether such Bill is required to comply with the provisions of Article 82(1) and (2) or
- Whether such Bill or any provision thereof may be passed by special majority required under Article 84(2) or
- Whether such bill or provision thereof requires for its passing special majority under Article

84(2) and approval by people at a Referendum under Article 83. As also provided in Article 123 (2) of the Constitution, the Supreme Court may specify the nature of the amendments which would make the Bill or such provision cease to be inconsistent.

Article 80: When Bill becomes law

- Article 80(1) provides that a Bill passed by Parliament becomes law when the Certificate of the Speaker is endorsed thereon. However, 80(1) is subject to the provisions of paragraph (2) of this Article. This Article 80(2) lays down three instances in which case the approval of the people at a Referendum and the Certificate of the President are also required.
- Where the Cabinet of Ministers has certified that any Bill or any provision thereof is intended to be submitted for approval by the people at a Referendum or
- Where the Supreme Court has determined that the Bill or any provision thereof requires the approval of the people at a Referendum or
- Where any Bill is submitted to the people by referendum under Article 85(2).

Article 85(2) found in Chapter XIII - the Referendum - provides that the President in his discretion shall submit to the people by referendum any Bill (Not being a Bill for the repeal or amendment or any provision of the Constitution or for the addition of any provision to the Constitution or for the repeal and replacement of the Constitution or which is in consistent with any provision of the Constitution which has been rejected by Parliament.

Then such Bill or such provision shall become law upon being approved by the people at a Referendum in accordance with Article 85(3) of the Constitution when the President certifies that the Bill or provision thereof has been so approved. Article 85(3) of the Constitution found in Chapter XIII- the Referendum - reads as follows:

'Any Bill or any provision in any Bill submitted to the people by referendum shall be deemed to be approved by the people if approved by an absolute majority of the valid votes cast at such Referendum:

Provided that when the total number of valid votes cast does not exceed two-thirds of the whole number of electors entered in the Register of Election, such Bill shall be deemed to be approved only if approved by not less than one-third of the whole number of such electors.

Article 83 of the Constitution

Article 83 of the Constitution found in Chapter XII - The Legislature - Amendment of the Constitution - makes provision for approval of under-mentioned Bills at a Referendum.

- A Bill for the amendment or for the repeal and replacement of or which is inconsistent with any of the provisions of Articles 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 or of this Article and
 - A Bill for the amendment or for the repeal and replacement of Article 30(2) or Article 62(2) of the Constitution which would extend the term of office of the President or duration of Parliament as the case may be to over six years (with the 19th Amendment durations/ terms has been reduced to five year each.
- Accordingly, aforesaid Bills become law if the number of votes cast in favour thereof amounts to not less than two-thirds of the whole number of Members, (including those not present), is approved by the people at a Referendum and a certificate is endorsed thereon by the President in accordance with Article 80.

Article 84 of the Constitution

Article 84 of the Constitution deals with passing of Bills inconsistent with the Constitution. As provided in Article 84(1), Bill which is not for the amendment of any provision of the Constitution or for the repeals and replacement of the Con-



Article 82 of the Constitution specifically requires any amendment or the repeal of the Constitution to be expressed. Accordingly, in terms of Article 82(1) no Bill for the amendment of any provision of the Constitution shall be placed on the Order Paper of Parliament, unless the provisions to be repealed, altered or added and consequential amendments, if any, are expressly specified in the Bill and is described in the long title thereof as being an Act for the amendment of the Constitution.



stitution, but which is inconsistent with any provision of the Constitution may be placed on the Order Paper of Parliament without complying with the requirements of Article 82(1) of the Constitution. Article 84(2) provides two grounds on which the aforesaid Bills can be placed on the Order Paper of Parliament without complying with Article 82(1) and (2).

- Where the Cabinet of Members has certified that a Bill is intended to be passed by the special majority by this Article.
- Where the Supreme Court has determined that a Bill requires to be passed by such a special majority.

The aforesaid Bills become law only if the number of votes cast in favour thereof amounts to not less than two-thirds of the whole number of Members (including those not presented) and a certificate by the President or the Speaker as the case may be is endorsed thereon in accordance with the provisions of Articles 80 or 79.

Article 84(3) states that when such a Bill is enacted into law, such law shall not and shall not be deemed to amend, repeal or replace the Constitution or any provision thereof and shall not be so interpreted. Article 84(3) further provides that thereafter such law made under Article 84 as discussed above may be repealed by a majority of the votes of the Members present and voting. This Article arguably dilutes the supremacy of the Constitution and is therefore undesirable. Article 84 - which had its equivalent under the 1972 Constitution as well - may be described as an attempt to replicate the supremacy of the Westminster Parliament, but that is something unique to Britain's 'unwritten' Constitution that cannot be replicated anywhere else.

It is useful at this stage to mention in outline the Supreme Court's Determinations on 19th & 20th

Amendments which are related to Constitutional Amendment Procedures.

The Supreme Court's Determination on the 19th Constitutional Amendment Bill (2015).

Since the 19th Amendment determination of the Supreme Court in 2015 elaborates authoritatively, among others, the scope of executive powers of the President and the structure in which the executive power is to be distributed, a brief overview of its reasoning is presented here at the beginning.

The Supreme Court also noted that 'it has to be borne in mind that the sovereign people have chosen not to entrench Article 4. Therefore it is clear that not all violations of Article 4 will necessarily result in a violation of Article 3. The Supreme Court emphasized the first two Articles - Article 42 and 43 - in Chapter VIII of the Constitution as being of crucial importance in describing the structure in which executive power was sought to be distributed. As the Court noted, firstly, in Article 42, the President's responsibility to Parliament for the exercise of executive power is established. Because the Constitution must be read as a whole, Article 4(b) must also be read in the light of Article 42. Therefore the Court argued that the Constitution did not intend for the President to function as an unfettered repository of executive power unconstrained by the other organs of the governance'.

Referring to Article 43 of the Constitution, the Court argued that 'This important Article underscores that the Cabinet collectively is charged with the exercise of executive power of which the President is the Head. The Court added that 'it establishes conclusively that the President is not the sole repository of the executive power under the Constitution. It is the Cabinet of Ministers and not the President alone'. The Court also added that in

terms of Article 30 of the Constitution, the exercise of Executive power is entrusted to the President as the Head of the Executive as the custodian of such power. Hence there the Court made an important point as follows:

'There is no doubt that Executive power can be distributed to others via the President. However, if there is no link between the President and the person exercising the Executive power, it may amount to a violation of the mandate given by the people to the President. If the inalienable sovereignty of the people which they reposed on the President in trust is exercised by any agency or instrument who does not have any authority from the President, then such exercise would necessarily affect the sovereignty of the people'.

It is in this backdrop the Court in the 19th A Determination came to a conclusion that the transfer, relinquishment or removal of a power attributed to a one organ of the Government to another organ or body would be inconsistent with Article 3 read with Article 4 of the Constitution.

The Court also added that 'The President must be in a position to monitor or to give directions to others who derive authority from the President in addition to the exercise of his Executive power. Failure to do so would lead to a prejudicial impact on the sovereignty of the people'. The Court thus examined the constitutionality of the clauses including clause 11 of the 19th A Bill, keeping in mind the aforesaid observations. Clause 11 deals with the 'Executive - the Cabinet of Ministers'. The Court also added: the President cannot relinquish his Executive Power and permit it to be exercised by another body or person without his expressed permission or delegated authority. As laid down by His Lordship Sarath N. Silva C.J in *Patrick Lawe and Sons*

v Commercial Bank of Ceylon Ltd, 'What is not permitted by the provisions of the enabling statute should be taken as forbidden and struck down by Court as being in excess of authority.' Thus, permitting the Prime Minister to exercise Executive power in relation to the six paragraphs referred to above (Clause 11) had to be struck down as being in excess of authority and violative of Article 3'.

The aforesaid reasoning of the Supreme Court led to the determination that Clause 11 of the 19th Amendment Bill (Article 42 (3), 43 (1), 43 (3), 44 (2), 44(3), 44 (5)) and paragraph 104 (5) (c) in Clause 26 would require the approval of the people at a Referendum in terms of the provision of Article 83 of the Constitution. After the Supreme Court Determination, the 19th A was diluted by the Government to avoid the referendum. The reference to the Prime Minister as being the Head of the Cabinet was delegated together with relevant provisions in the 19th A Bill.

The Nineteenth Amendment was placed on the Order paper on March 24, 2015. The draft was challenged before the Supreme Court under sixteen grounds. Based on that determination Parliament passed the 19th Amendment into Law on May 15, 2015. The 19th Amendment amends Constitutional provisions found in several separate previous Amendments. It amends several provisions found in the 1978 Constitution and found in several Amendments to that Constitution. Additionally, it introduces a number of new constitutional provisions, endorsed by the Supreme Court not requiring the approval of the people by referendum.

(The writer is a Retired Professor in Law in the University of Sri Jayawardenepura. He is an Attorney-at-Law, practiced in Courts and holds a Ph.D in Law)

To be continued

Monkeypox cases drop 21% globally - WHO

SWITZERLAND: The number of Monkeypox cases reported globally dropped by 21% in the last week, reversing a month-long trend of rising infections and a possible signal the outbreak in Europe may be starting to decline, according to a World Health Organization report issued on Thursday.

The U.N. health agency reported 5,907 new weekly cases and said two countries, Iran and Indonesia, reported their first monkeypox cases. To date, more

than 45,000 cases have been reported in 98 countries since late April.

Cases in the Americas accounted for 60% of cases in the past month, WHO said, while cases in Europe comprised about 38%. It said infections in the Americas showed "a continuing steep rise."

The Africa Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said Thursday the continent had 219 new cases reported in the past week, a jump of 54%. Most were in Nigeria and Congo, the agency said.

In early July, just weeks before the agency declared the disease to be a global emergency, WHO's Europe director said countries in the region were responsible for 90% of all laboratory-confirmed cases of Monkeypox.

British health authorities said last week after seeing a decline in the number of new cases getting reported daily that there were "early signs" the country's Monkeypox outbreak was slowing.

- THE HINDU



Pakistani Court bars Police from arresting Imran in contempt case

PAKISTAN: A Pakistani Court on August 25 extended former Prime Minister Imran Khan's protection from arrest through the end of the month, officials said, after police filed terrorism charges against the country's popular opposition leader.

The decision effectively shields Khan from arrest until September 1 over accusations that during a speech last weekend, he threatened police officers and a female judge — remarks that triggered the terrorism charges.

The decision also temporarily alleviates concerns of violent clashes between police and supporters of the former premier. Khan has been leading mass rallies and seeking early elections since he was ousted in April in a no-confidence vote in Parliament. The

government says elections will be held as scheduled next year.

Outside the anti-terrorism court on August 25, Khan told reporters that he had never threatened anyone. He also said the terrorism charges against him were politically motivated and that Prime Minister Shabbaz Sharif's government fears Khan's growing popularity.

"You are making fun of Pakistan," he said of Sharif's Government. The former Prime Minister's lawyer Babar Awan said the terrorism charges filed against Khan were "an act of revenge." - THE HINDU



Japan's national Police Chief resigns over Shinzo Abe's assassination



A woman pays a floral tribute to Shinzo Abe who was Japan's longest-serving Prime Minister.

JAPAN: Japan's national Police Chief has resigned from the post on Thursday taking responsibility for the fatal shooting of former Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe at a campaign speech last month.

National Police Agency Chief Itaru Nakamura's announcement came as his agency released a report on how it failed to protect Abe's life on July 8 when he was assassinated in Nara in western Japan.

The Police report found holes in Abe's police protection that allowed the attacker to shoot him from behind.

Nakamura said he took the former prime minister's death seriously and that he submitted his resignation to the National Public Safety Commission earlier on Thursday.

"In order to fundamentally re-examine guarding and never to let this happen, we need to have a new system," Nakamura told a news conference as he announced his intention to step down. The alleged gunman, Tetsuya Yamagami, was arrested at the scene and is currently under mental evaluation until late November. - INDIA TODAY

Putin to increase size of Russian military



RUSSIA: Russian President Vladimir Putin is expected to increase the size of the country's armed forces after signing a decree that could add as many as 137,000 more troops in its war with Ukraine.

The additional service personnel is thought to be part of a new army corps that are being formed throughout Russia, according to the U.K. Ministry of Defense, as reported by BBC News.

Putin's decree comes after the Pentagon has estimated that as many as 80,000 Russian troops have been killed or wounded in the first six months of the Russia-Ukraine war.

The decree, which was published by Putin's office in Russian and translated by BBC News, said that the "Armed Forces of the Russian Federation should be set at 2,039,758, including 1,150,628 military personnel."

Current military personnel limits are 1,013,628 troops, up from what was thought to have been 900,000 at the start of the Ukraine invasion. Putin's decree also requested Government funds to add military personnel, with an expected onset date of January 1, 2023.

But what was unclear from the decree was if the number of military personnel would increase through volunteers or by expanding conscripts beyond Russian men aged 18 to 27 who can be drafted. - INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS TIMES

Another five suspects ... From page 01

The arrested suspects, aged between 27 and 67 and are residents of the Madahapola area. Officers of Nikaweratiya Division Criminal Investigation Division are carry-

ing out further investigations. Nikaweratiya Police has so far arrested 36 suspects over the attack and for damaging properties of the Umandawa Global Buddhist Village.

Man burnt to death over land dispute... From page 01

"The victim is a 62-year-old father of three who lived in Sikuralanda Village in Bibile," Police said. It has been revealed that the deceased had a dispute over a land with the shop owner and the suspects had committed the alleged crime over this issue.

"The suspects had attacked the victim with sharp weapons," Police said. Police arrested the shop owner, his spouse and two others in connection with the murder. The suspects were to be produced before the Courts. Bibile Police are investigating.

X-Press Pearl disaster: Rs.911 Mn... From page 01

to which the destroyed ship owned, issued this money to be paid to the local fishing community in the coastal areas affected by the X-pearl disaster.

Accordingly, 15, 032 fishermen in the Gampaha, Colombo and Kalutara districts will be compensated with this money, the Fisheries Ministry said.

Fisheries Minister Douglas Devananda has given necessary instructions in this regard to the Ministry Secretary Indu Ratnayake.

Sri Lanka received Rs.348 million and Rs.335 million as compensation under the first and the second tranches respectively. This money was distributed among the affected fishing community by the ministry earlier.

With the receipt of the third tranche, each affected fisherman will have been compensated with Rs.80, 000 to Rs.240, 000 in accordance with the losses they incurred due to the disaster.

Petition filed to quash IUSF ... From page 01

The petition was filed by Attorney-at-Law Rivihara Pinnaduwa on behalf of Wasantha Kumara.

The petition has cited Defense Secretary Retired General Kamal Gunaratne, IGP C.D. Wickramaratne, Criminal Investigations Department (CID) Director SSP Kavinda Piyasekara, Director SSP Prasanna Alwis, Peliyagoda Police OIC C.I. Kaluwitharana and the Attorney General as the respondents.

The petition says that the arrest of

Mudalige on August 18 and thereafter his detention under a purported Detention order under the Prevention of Terrorism Act issued by President Ranil Wickremasinghe in his capacity as the Defence Minister is unlawful.

The petition seeks order quashing the arrest and detention order as unlawful.

The petition also seeks an interim order suspending the Detention Order until the final determination of this application.

FR filed seeking annulment ... From page 01

The petition was filed by Podujana Prathishheeli Sevaka Sangamaya, its President Bandula Saman Kumara, and its Joint Secretaries Sanjewa Gamage and Jayantha Paregama.

The petition has cited 28 respondents including 18 Cabinet Ministers including Prime Minister Dinesh Gunewardena, Power and Energy Minister Kanchana Wijesekara, Ceylon Petroleum Corporation, Ceylon Petroleum Storage Terminals Limited and the Attorney General as the respondents.

The petition says that the Cabinet Ministers have taken a decision allowing selected companies from fuel producing countries to directly purchase, import, distribute and sell fuel in the country.

The petition also states that there are plans to privatize most of the filling stations owned by the Petroleum Corporation including many very profitable filling stations.

The petitioners point out that the Ceylon Petroleum Corporation as well as the public will suffer severe prejudice and loss

through this and say that their basic human rights will be violated.

Therefore, the relevant petition has requested to issue an order to prevent the implementation of the Cabinet decision to privatize the respective filling stations. The petition seeks an order from the Court to quash the cabinet decision to introduce new Petroleum companies to import, sale, supply and distribution of Petroleum and Petroleum products.

The petition seeks from the court to grant the Petitioners leave to proceed with this Application under Articles 12(1) and 14(1)(g) of the Constitution in the first instance.

The petition further seek an interim order preventing the respondents from issuing any new license, permit or authorization to any person or company to import, export, sell, supply and distribute Petrol, Diesel, kerosene and Furnace oil to Sri Lanka in contravention of Section 5B of the Ceylon Petroleum Corporation Act, until the final determination of the petition.

No plans to display ... From page 01

Accordingly, the Director General of the Archaeology Department was informed to deposit and display the preserved body of Nadungamuwa Raja at the National Museum in accordance with a decision taken by Venerable Mahanayake Therasa and the Maha Sangha. The Sri Dalada

Maligawa has already provided over Rs.1.1 million in funds for the preservation of the Tusker's body under the first phase. He said that steps will be made to provide more funds as they have been informed that the estimated cost may increase.

Danish Alli granted... From page 01

They were released on two sureties of Rs.500,000 each. The Magistrate also imposed a travel ban on them. The Magistrate further ordered them to report to the Colombo North Crimes Division last Sunday of each month. The suspects were

recently arrested for forcibly entering the President's House and causing damage to its property. Lahiru Weerasekara and Samitha Jayasekara was released on bail after they surrendered before court via his Attorney-at-law.

Fuel queues ... From page 01

It was observed that many filling stations were closed due to non-availability of fuel stocks. It is also observed that the customers are helpless as they are not able to get the fuel they want.

When inquired from the Ceylon Petroleum Corporation (CPC) officials, they stated that

they will take steps to formally release fuel to the filling stations in the coming days. "They added that the necessary stocks will be released today and tomorrow. Accordingly, most of the filling stations would receive fuel by Monday," they added..

Muthurajawela Wetland ... From page 01

A fire had erupted in part of the Muthurajawela Wetland Reserve on Thursday night.

the lathe machine at the garage and that it was tested with a T56 bullet.

Garage owner arrested... From page 01

The suspect has told Police that he manufactured this firearm using

the lathe machine at the garage and that it was tested with a T56 bullet.

Farmers' deposits ... From page 01

This was revealed when Agriculture Minister Mahinda Amaraweera met a group of bank officials to discuss the possibility of expanding bank services to the farmers.

Currently, there are 556 Agrarian Banks associated with 556 Agricultural Centres all over the island with the total membership exceeding about 1.3 million.

These banks help to create farmer entrepre-

neurship as well as provide necessary credit facilities for agriculture.

The Minister who expressed his views on this said that arrangements should be made for the establishment of Agricultural Canks in all Agricultural Centres and that the Department of Agrarian Development should formally supervise these banks and prepare a programme to expand the services provided to farmers.

Sevanagala OIC submits... From page 01

The Embilipitiya Magistrate had ordered the children and Women Bureau in Colombo on August 23 to arrest the OIC.

The Magistrate issued the order to arrest the OIC for investigation of a complaint made to the the Colombo Women

and Child Protection Authority that an apprentice police constable who was attached to the Sevanagala Police had been sexually assaulted by the Sevanagala Police OIC. The suspect has taken leave for 3 days on August 13 and he has not reported to work till now.

Probe into individuals who took ... From page 01

President's Counsel Maithri Gunarathne stated that thousands of people had entered the President's House and taken photographs and that there were even Police officers there.

The President's Counsel further said that even the Police officers have taken

photographs from many places including the President's chair, the gym, etc.

President's Counsel Gunarathne also stated that an investigation should be conducted against the members of the Security Forces over the alleged negligence of their duties.

Coal procurement Tender awarded ... From page 01

"Due procurement process followed with evaluation and approval from STEC, Special Standing Cabinet Appointed Procurement Committee. (SSCAPC). The supplier will provide a 6 month credit facility from the date of supply of each shipment, the Minister said in a tweet.

Meanwhile, the Minister said that he met Ceylon Electricity Board (CEB) and Sustainable Energy Authority (SEA) officials to review the progress on Renewable Energy Plans. "He said that a joint Committee comprising CEB and SEA officials was appointed to finalize Renewable Energy plans.

Committee to evaluate renewable ... From page 01

The Committee will also evaluate the renewable energy project proposals.

This step has been taken in a meeting, which was led by the Minister with the Ceylon Electricity Board and Sustainable Energy Authority officials to review the progress of renewable energy projects.

Under this, the Committee will evaluate the proposals received based on a 100 megawatt solar energy project to be set up in the Siyambalanduwa area. Moreover it will be carried out a study of floating solar energy projects proposed to be built in reservoirs.

In addition, a revision of the project fees for the projects that have been contracted to purchase electricity and the pro-

ject to be contracted, providing the space in the system will also be evaluated. Progress on matters reviewed.

"The Committee was appointed to work together with the Electricity Board and the Sustainable Energy Authority to expedite renewable energy projects and resolve certain issues identified in the implementation of renewable energy projects," the Minister said. Matters including the progress on the proposed 100 MW Solar plant in Siyambalanduwa, Projects that had signed Power purchasing agreements and projects that are yet to be signed, grid capacity and proposed tariffs were taken into account by the committee. The Committee comprises CEB and SEA officials.

FAO provides 375,000 bags ... From page 01

This stock of urea fertilizer is to be given free of charge to 375,000 farmers who have less than one acre paddy at 50 kg per farmer.

Agriculture Minister Mahinda Amaraweera agreed to provide urea fertilizer for the Maha Season as per a discussion held with officials of the World Food and Agriculture Organization.

The Minister said that our country will receive 1000 metric tons as its first stock in the next two weeks.

The Minister held a discussion with the owners of small, medium and large scale rice mills on Thursday regarding the purchase of paddy in the yala season and cultivation activities in the next Maha season.

"Rice mill owners said that the farmers say that the urea fertilizer provided by the government in the yala season is 100 percent of high quality. Therefore, they said,

the paddy yield in the yala season will exceed the expected level. It was planned to cultivate 275,000 hectares of paddy this year, but with the Government's decision to provide urea fertilizer, the amount of paddy cultivated has now increased to 512,000 hectares," the Minister pointed out.

In the meantime, the World Food and Agriculture Organization has decided to provide subsidies to 14 lakhs families at the rate of Rs. 18,000 per family to grow green gram with the aim of increasing the nutrition of women-based low-income families.

Thus, in order to popularize Green Gram cultivation in the Anuradhapura, Polonnaruwa, Monaragala, Ampara and Hambantota districts, the women of those districts have decided to give the money subsidy to the women basic farming families.

Classifieds
Automotive
 129
 Tyres & Tubes
 Motor vehicle tyres tubes, JCB tyres Forklift all sizes of solid tyres, unclaimed air tyres given for air-filling Arpidag 825x20, 900x20, 1000x20, 1100x20, 700x16, 750x16 at old dag charges 1 tyre free. 155, Crown Tyre, Colombo 14. 0773-134060. Notice the difference between our prices and the village prices. 0773134060, 075-3134060. 048509

HNB
GRAND AUCTION SALE
 Of Used Glass Partitions, Sign Boards, Changeover Switches & Switch Boards, Fluorescent Light Fittings, Air-Conditioners & Accessories, Used Wires, Aluminum Doors, Carpets and many more
On Wednesday, 31st August 2022 Commencing at 10.30 a.m.
 At No. 681/18, K J Peiris Mawatha, Kandy Road, Peliyagoda
On View Tuesday, 30th August 2022 Between 10.00 am & 3.00 pm
 Conditions of the Auction:
 • Entrance to the Auction by Bidder Registration Fee of Rs. 1,000/-
 • Refundable Deposit of Rs. 20,000/-
 • The Decision of the Auctioneer will be final.
Buy or Sell in Confidence with DALLAS KELAART's Auctions (Pvt) Ltd.
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Royal College Union
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2022
 Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Royal College Union (RCU) will be held on Saturday, 01st October 2022 at 5:00 p.m. at the College Hall and /or via Zoom Online meeting facility.
 The exact modalities of the AGM will be notified one week prior to the above referred date, based on the prevailing situation in the country at the time.
 The Agenda and the nomination forms for Age Groups will be available from 01st September 2022 for members to download and print from the RCU website.
 The undersigned at or before 12:00 noon on 21st September 2022 at the RCU office.
 (www.rcu.lk/downloads/).
 Nominations for Age Groups should be submitted in hardcopy, to reach the undersigned at or before 12:00 noon on 21st September 2022 at the RCU office.
 Minutes, reports and accounts will be made available to members at the Royal College Union office from 16th September 2022.
 RCU will conduct its age group elections, via an online platform, for which voters are required to pre-register via the link indicated below. This link will be active until 12:00 noon on 28th September 2022. Kindly note that pre-registration is mandatory for voting. Access to voting will be enabled only upon verification of the details provided by you during the pre-registration. Providing inadequate, incorrect or false information will result in the disqualification of your vote and will result in further action, as deemed necessary.
 (http://rcu.lk/rcu-election-2022-registration/).
 Voting for the Age Group representatives will commence at 8:30 a.m. and conclude at 2:30 p.m. on 01st October 2022.
 Members seeking election to statutory committees of the Council, who are unable to be present at the Annual General Meeting should inform the undersigned in writing of their willingness to serve in such bodies in the event they are elected. Such notice should reach the undersigned by 26th September 2022.
 Any resolutions to be tabled at the Annual General Meeting should also be received by the undersigned in writing, at the Royal College Union office not later than 16th September 2022.
 Entry to the physical meeting will be on production of the Royal College Union Membership Card and National Identity Card, except in the case of new members whose Membership cards have not been issued. They should produce the original payment receipt for membership issued by the Union with the National Identity Card.
 The Dress Code for the physical meeting is Office attire with College Tie. Please note, all above times are in Sri Lanka standard time.
Col (Dr.) Hiran Wimalaratne
 Secretary
 Royal College Union
 27th August 2022

DATE 25.08.2022 THURSDAY OFFICIAL RESULTS www.nlb.lk
MAHAJANA-SAMPATHA
 DRAW NUMBER: 4858
 Prizes won in this draw
Rs. 8,540,960.00
 The super prize of next draw
Rs. 40,769,936.60

JATHIKA-SAMPATHA
 DRAW NUMBER: 1315
 TOTAL PRIZE WON IN THIS DRAW
Rs. 1,873,280.00
 THE SUPER PRIZE OF THE NEXT DRAW
Rs. 10,109,901.60

HANDAHANA
 DRAW NUMBER: 107
 TOTAL PRIZE WON IN THIS DRAW
Rs. 6,310,360.00
 THE SUPER PRIZE OF THE NEXT DRAW
Rs. 4,224,568.00

Dhana Nidhanaya
 DRAW NUMBER: 888
 TOTAL PRIZE WON IN THIS DRAW
Rs. 3,325,620.00
 THE SUPER PRIZE OF THE NEXT DRAW
Rs. 122,731,770.00

Govisetha
 DRAW NUMBER: 3100
 TOTAL PRIZE WON IN THIS DRAW
Rs. 4,316,360.00
 THE SUPER PRIZE OF THE NEXT DRAW
Rs. 71,884,571.60

Mega POWER
 DRAW NUMBER: 1206
 TOTAL PRIZES WON IN THIS DRAW
Rs. 2,535,440.00
 NEXT MEGA SUPER PRIZE
Rs. 267,572,786.00
 NEXT POWER SUPER PRIZE
Rs. 10,000,000.00
 NEXT GRAND SUPER PRIZE
Rs. 10,000,000.00

Royal College Union
SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING 2022
 Notice is hereby given that Special General Meeting of the Royal College Union (RCU) will be held on Saturday, 01st October 2022 at 4:30 p.m. at the College Hall and / or via Zoom Online meeting facility.
 The Agenda will be to present the proposed amendments to the constitution.
 Entry to the physical meeting will be on production of the Royal College Union Membership Card and National Identity Card, except in the case of new members whose Membership cards have not been issued. They should produce the original payment receipt for membership issued by the Union with the National Identity Card.
 The Dress Code for the physical meeting is Office attire with College Tie.
 Please note, all above times are in Sri Lanka standard time.
Col (Dr.) Hiran Wimalaratne
 Secretary
 Royal College Union
 27th August 2022

SRI LANKA PORTS AUTHORITY
Invitation for Bids (IFB)
MANAGE SUPPORT SERVICE CONTRACT FOR PORT WIDE DATA NETWORK (PWDN) ON 24/7 BASIS FOR THE YEAR 2022/2023 OF SLPA
 (Tender File No: EW/13/EL/2022/PWDN)
 1. The Chairman, Procurement Committee, Sri Lanka Ports Authority (SLPA), on behalf of the Chairman, SLPA invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for **Manage Support Service Contract for Port Wide Data Network (PWDN) On 24/7 Basis For The Year 2022/2023 Of SLPA.** (Tender File No: EW/13/EL/ 2022/PWDN).
 2. Bidders are hereby informed that the provisions of the Public Contracts Act No. 3 of 1987 are applicable to tender exceeding Rs. 05 million. Accordingly, all parties involved in each tender are required to strictly abide by the said Act throughout the duration of contract and submit the duly completed registration certificate along with his bid documents.
 3. Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding procedure.
 4. To be eligible for contract award, the successful bidder shall not have been blacklisted and shall meet the required **CIDA registration Grade EM3 (ELV).**
 5. Bidding documents shall be collected from the Chief Engineer (Electrical), Electrical & Electronic Engineering Division, Sri Lanka Ports Authority, Colombo-1 on payment of a non refundable Tender fee of **Rs. 2,000/=** between **09.30 hrs. and 14:00 hrs.** on working days **from 27th August 2022 till 12th September 2022** (both days inclusive). Bidding documents may be inspected free of charge at the same office.
 6. Pre-bid Meeting will be held at **10.30 hrs. on 08th September** at Technical Library, Sri Lanka Ports Authority, No. 45, Leyden Bastian Road, Colombo 01.
 7. Bidding documents enclosed in a securely sealed cover and marked, **"Manage Support Service Contract for Port Wide Data Network (PWDN) On 24/7 Basis For The Year 2022/2023 Of SLPA. File No. EW/13/EL/2022/PWDN** on the top left-hand corner, shall be sent by registered post addressed to the Chairman, Procurement Committee, Sri Lanka Ports Authority, C/o Chief Engineer (Electrical), Electrical & Electronic Engineering Division, Sri Lanka Ports Authority, No. 45, Leyden Bastian Road, Colombo 01 or placed in the tender box kept in the office of Chief Engineer (Electrical), at the above address.
 8. Bids in duplicate shall be submitted at or before **14.00 hrs on 12th September 2022** (closing date of bidding) and the bids will be opened immediately after closing of the bids. Bidders or their authorized representatives are requested to be present at the opening of the bids.
 9. Bids shall be valid for 120 days from the date of bid closing.
 10. All bids shall be accompanied by a Bid Security of Rs. 60,000.00. Bid Security shall be valid up to **30th September 2023.**
 11. Site visits or any further particulars may be obtained from the Chief Engineer (Electrical) at the above address. (Tel.: 011-2483081, Fax :011-2424309).
Chairman,
Procurement Committee (Sri Lanka Ports Authority)
C/o Chief Engineer (Electrical),
Electrical & Electronic Engineering Division,
Sri Lanka Ports Authority,
No. 45, Leyden Bastian Road, Colombo 01.

The Housewives' companion
Classifieds on
Daily News

44th OBSERVER SLT-MOBITEL SCHOOL CRICKETER OF THE YEAR 2022
 Recognizing talent, inspiring greatness.
44th OBSERVER SLT-MOBITEL Most Popular School Cricketer 2022
 Vote for your favourite Schoolboy/Schoolgirl Cricketer and elevate him/her to win the prestigious OBSERVER SLT-MOBITEL Most Popular Schoolboy/Girl Cricketer of the Year title.
 Most Popular Schoolboy Cricketer 2022
 Cricketers from schools competing in Division one, two and three of the Sri Lanka Schools Cricket Association Under 19 Inter-School Tournament 2021/2022 are eligible to be voted.
 Most Popular Schoolgirl Cricketer 2022
 Schoolgirl Cricketers from schools competing in all Island school's of the Sri Lanka Schools Cricket Association Under 19 Inter-School Tournament 2021/2022 are eligible to be voted.
 Nominee
 Boy :
 Divisions for Boy : Division I Division II Division III
 All Island Girl :
 (Each coupon must contain only one vote)
 Name of School :
 Sender :
 Address :
 Mobile No. :
 Vote online now: vote.schoolcricketer.lk
Win prizes in the weekly coupon draw:
 1st Prize : Rs. 2,500 2nd Prize : Rs. 1,500
 3rd Prize : Rs. 1,000
 The 44th Most Popular Schoolboy/girl Cricketer Contest is now on. Mail the completed coupon to the **SPORTS EDITOR, SUNDAY OBSERVER, LAKE HOUSE, COLOMBO 10.**
CONDITIONS:
 Children of Lake House, SLT- Mobitel staff are not eligible to participate in the competition. Each coupon must contain only one vote for one player and for one contest. In all matters connected with the contest, the decision of the Sports Editor, SUNDAY OBSERVER is final.
 DATE **27-08-2022** NO. **22**
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Sri Lanka confident of beating Afghanistan, says Dasun Shanaka

DHAMMIKA RATNAWEERA
reporting from Dubai

"I have to focus more on my bowling in addition to the batting and we have to come up with a team effort during this Asia Cup", said Sri Lanka skipper Dasun Shanaka at the pre-match press conference yesterday at the ICC Cricket Academy in Dubai.

"Our three senior pacemen Dushantha Chameera, Kasun Rajitha and Binura Fernando were injured and I have to bowl with juniors like Chamika Karunaratne and will be playing the role of bowling all rounder added Shanaka who excelled as a hard-hitting batsman in the recently concluded tournaments.

My players are well prepared and focused on this tournament. Afghanistan have strong T20 players but I think we have the edge over the Afghan team and are confident of winning the match. There are no favourites in the T20 format and any team can perform in this short format game. As professional players, we can't worry about extreme heat and had very successful two training sessions in Dubai ICC Academy grounds.

Talking about the final team composition today we have three openers Kusal Mendis, Dhanushka Gunathilleka, and Pathum Nissanka but still have not finalized the opening pair.

The two pacemen and Chamika Karunaratne the all rounder and our main spinner Wanidu Hasaranga have a major role to play. Definitely Hasaranga is going to be a

key spinner said skipper Dasun Shanaka. Our batters have a major role and I am sure as a team we are confident to play in this tournament said Shanaka.

Sri Lanka team Manager Mahinda Halangoda said: "Fair Play

News" is coming to give their sponsorship for the Sri Lanka team for the first time and their support is more important for Sri Lanka Cricket. SLC Head of Marketing Upul Bandara Nawaratna conducted this press briefing yesterday.



Dasun Shanaka Sri Lanka skipper briefing the media while Manager Mahinda Halangoda is also at the head table.



Sri Lanka players during a training session ahead of the Asia Cup 2022 at ICC Academy in Dubai.



Charith Asalanka of Sri Lanka bats during a training session.

Asia Cup cricket begins today with Sri Lanka-Afghanistan match



Mohammed Nabi (Afghanistan Captain)



Dasun Shanaka (Sri Lanka Captain)

DHAMMIKA RATNAWEERA

The 15th edition of cricket's Asia Cup will commence today with the clash between Sri Lanka and Afghanistan. But, the match that everyone is looking forward to is of course India vs Pakistan and most of the spectators are expected to watch this game.

The two cricketing heavyweights begin their Asia Cup campaign this time with this clash tomorrow. This time the Asia Cup is being played in the T20 format as a preparatory tournament for the T20 World Cup at the end of the year in Australia and all teams are expected to get maximum exposure from this Asia Cup. The Asia Cup tournament this time is being played in the UAE, though Sri Lanka are the official hosts.

The tournament couldn't be played as per schedule in the island nation because of the economic crisis. Since 2016, the Asia Cup has been played on a rotational basis between the ODI and T20 formats, depending on which global ICC tournament is scheduled next.

The latest addition to the tournament Hong Kong on Wednesday (August 24) became the third team in Group A (after emerging champions from the qualifying tournament in Oman) which has India and Pakistan. India are scheduled to play Hong Kong on August 31. India are the defending champions, having beaten Bangladesh in the last edition final in 2018 by 3 wickets in this same venue in UAE.

Going back to the Asia Cup history, the very first edition of the Asia Cup was played in 1984 in the UAE. There were only three teams that participated in the inaugural edition - India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. All teams played each other once each. India won the inaugural title based on the most points (8) after winning both their matches.

Sri Lanka were the runners-up with 4 points, with one win and one loss. Pakistan finished with 0 points after losing to both India and Sri Lanka. All Asia Cup matches will be telecast on the Star Sports channels - Star Sports 1, Star Sports 1 HD (English), Star Sports 1 Hindi, and Star Sports 1 Hindi HD (Hindi) while ITN is expected to give live coverage for the Sri Lankan viewers. India is the highest number of title winners (7 titles - 6 in ODI format and 1 in T20I format) - 1984, 1988, 1990-91, 1995, 2010, 2016, 2018 (India also have been runners-up 3 times - in 1997, 2004 and 2008 - losing all 3 finals to Sri Lanka) Sri Lanka won 5 titles - 1986, 1997, 2004, 2008, 2014 while Pakistan was able to win the 2 titles - 2000, 2012. India and Pakistan are the most powerful teams in this format while Sri Lanka led by Dasun Shanaka also looking to get the sixth title with a good mixed team of experience

and youth. They aim to go match by match while the first game today against Afghanistan going to be very vital for both teams. The Sri Lanka team did their final training session yesterday evening and are in good nick to take on Afghanistan. Rahmaanullah Gurbaz the Afghan wicketkeeper, paceman Samiullah Shinwari and wrist spinner Noor Ahmad played LPL cricket in Sri Lanka having good experience with Sri Lanka players while Sri Lankan leg spinner Wanidu Hasaranga is the key attraction of the Sri Lanka side.

Sri Lanka: Dasun Shanaka (capt), Danushka Gunathilleka, Pathum Nissanka, Kusal Mendis, Charith Asalanka (Vice Captain) Bhanuka Rajapaksa, Ashen Bandara, Dhananjaya de Silva, Wanindu Hasaranga, Maheesh Theekshana, Jeffrey Vandersay, Praveen Jayawickrama, Chamika Karunaratne, Dilshan Madushanka, Matheesha Pathirana, Nuwanidu Fernando, Nuwan Thushara, Dinesh Chandimal
Afghanistan: from Mohammed Nabi (C), Najibullah Zadran (VC), Afsar Zazai (WK), Azmatullah Omarzai, Farid Ahmad Malik, Fazal Haq Farooqi, Hashmatullah Shahidi, Hazratullah Zazai, Ibrahim Zadran, Karim Janat, Mujib ur Rahman, Najibullah Zadran, Naveen ul Haq, Noor Ahmad, Rahmanullah Gurbaz (WK), Rashid Khan and Samiullah Shinwari

Schedule of matches for Asia Cup 2022

- August 27 (Saturday):** Afghanistan vs Sri Lanka in Dubai - Match starts at 7:30pm (SL time)
- August 28 (Sunday):** India vs Pakistan in Dubai - Match starts at 7:30pm SL time
- August 30 (Tuesday):** Afghanistan vs Bangladesh in Sharjah - Match starts at 7:30 pm SL time
- August 31 (Wednesday):** India vs Hong Kong in Dubai - Match starts at 7:30 pm SL time
- September 1 (Thursday):** Bangladesh vs Sri Lanka in Dubai - Match starts at 7:30 pm SL time
- September 2 (Friday):** Pakistan vs Hong Kong in Sharjah - Match starts at 7:30 pm
- September 3 (Saturday)** in Sharjah: Super 4 - B1 vs B2 - Match starts at 7:30 pm
- September 4 (Sunday)** in Dubai: Super 4 - A1 vs A2 - Match starts at 7:30 pm
- September 6 (Tuesday)** in Dubai: Super 4 - A1 vs B1 - Match starts at 7:30 pm
- September 7 (Wednesday)** in Dubai: Super 4 - A2 vs B2 - Match starts at 7:30 pm
- September 8 (Thursday)** in Dubai: Super 4 - A1 vs B2 - Match starts at 7:30 pm
- September 9 (Friday)** in Dubai: Super 4 - A2 VS B1 - Match starts at 7:30 pm
- September 11 (Sunday)** in Dubai: Final - Match starts at 7:30 pm SL time

S. Thomas' face acid test against Vidyarthi today

CHRIS DHAMBARAGE

S. Thomas' College will face an acid test when they take on the giant killers Vidyarthi College in their President's Trophy Knock-Out Rugby Tournament quarter-final match at Havelock Park today.

Vidyarthi completed a successful League Tournament as they narrowly missed out the Super Round stage before finishing the tournament with three impressive victories from their five outings. Vidyarthi had the satisfaction of reaching the semi-finals of the President's Trophy Knock-Out Tournament in 2019 before losing to Wesley College 25-36.

However, this time, Vidyarthi

will have a tough time as they will take the field without their Captain Arosh Ratnayake and few other senior players, who have been banned by the Sri Lanka Schools Rugby Football Association for misconduct.

Meanwhile, the Thomians have also bounced back into recognition with back-to-back victories in the League Tournament against St. Anthony's College (32-25) and Kingswood College (36-8) as they finished in fourth place in Group-1 of the points table.

In addition, S. Thomas' had the satisfaction of retaining the Archibald Perera Memorial Trophy by defeating St. Peter's College 23-22 in their annual encounter

played at Bambalapitiya last week. In contrast, the newly crowned 'A' Division League champions Isipathana College should be able to overcome their quarter-final hurdle quite convincingly when they take on Dharmaraja College at the Royal Sports Complex today.

Isipathana are looking for a grand double following their success in the League Tournament and are hoping to regain the President's Trophy after a lapse of six years having last won the title in 2016. The Rajans, of course, were able to make it to the quarter-finals after the defending champions St. Peter's College were handed a suspension for fielding an

ineligible player during the League Tournament.

The schedule

- August 27 (Royal Sports Complex):**
- (Segment 'C'):** Piliyandala Central vs President's College at 10.00 a.m.
- (Segment 'B'):** D. S. Senanayake vs Mahanama at 2.00 p.m.
- (Segment 'A'):** Isipathana vs Dharmaraja at 4.00 p.m.
- (Segment 'C'):** Sri Rahula vs Devapathiraja MV at 10.00 a.m.
- (Segment 'B'):** Sri Sumangala MV vs Maliyadeva at 2.00 p.m.
- (Segment 'A'):** Vidyarthi vs S. Thomas' at 4.00 p.m.

St. Anthony's enter Under 15 cricket semi-final

St. Anthony's College Katugastota advanced to the semi final of the Under 15 division 1 inter schools cricket tournament conducted by Sri Lanka Schools Cricket Association sponsored by Sri Lanka Crick-

et at Darley Road yesterday. St. Anthony's College Katugastota won on first innings against Gurukula College Kelaniya in the quarter-final.

St. Anthony's College, Kandy:

237 (39.1) (Yohan Senanayaka 41, Sanuka Kalpana 40, Sandew Amarakoon 35, Minon Kemitha 22, Tishan Fernando 22, Chanithu Mihisara 2/20, Iduwara Oshada 2/31, Lithila Oneth 2/38, Minura

Iduwara 2/41, Javidu Madusanka 2/55) and 2/0 (0.1)
Gurukula College, Kelaniya: 112 (40) (Yuwan Danulanga 38, Okitha Fernando 4/19, Kaveesha Pamuditha 2/17). (YK)

Rizly Ilyas to be re-elected SLR President

CHRIS DHAMBARAGE

President Rizly Ilyas is set to be re-elected uncontested for a second term as President when Sri Lanka Rugby (SLR) holds their Annual General Meeting (AGM) at the National Olympic Committee of Sri Lanka (NOCSL) Auditorium in Colombo today.

Veteran rugby administrator Ilyas is set to take over the reins of SLR once again as he has been nominated for the post of President by all seven Provincial Unions.

In addition, Group Captain Nalin de Silva is set to be elected as the Deputy President while SSP Nizam Jamaldeen will be elected as the Secretary.

The SLR office-bearers: President: Rizly Ilyas; Deputy President:



Rizly Ilyas

Group Captain Nalin de Silva.

Vice-President: H. A. U. D. Hettiarachchi. **Secretary:** SSP Nizam Jamaldeen.

Treasurer: Dinesh Anthony Perera. Committee/Council Members: Sanjeeva Lakmal Jayawardena, Sanjeeva Abeygoonewardena, Lasantha Wijesuriya, Roshan Deen, Dissanayake Kishan Mohan de Silva, Dr. Mrs. J. P. D. S. V. D. Nanayakara, SSP Neranjan Abeywardena and Kamal Mahendra.

Under 17 Youth League Cricket

Colombo North and South record victories

SHAUN WEERASURIYA

Colombo North and Colombo South teams managed to achieve victories in the matches held yesterday in relation to the fourth day of the Under-17 Youth League Cricket tournament organised by Sri Lanka Cricket.

In the match held at Kurunegala Welagedara Stadium, the Colombo North team defeated the Kandy team by 3 wickets. Colombo South recorded a 4-wicket win against Dambulla in Dambulla.

This is the third win in a row for the Colombo North team in this tournament, and the second win for the Colombo South team.

The Colombo North players,



only 4 wickets. There are no matches today, which is a rest day, but the preliminary round finals will be held tomorrow.

The Kandy - Galle match will be played in Dambulla and the Colombo North - Dambulla match will be played at the Welagedara Stadium.

Chief scores

- Colombo North - Kandy** - 193 (45.1 overs) Supun Waduge 98, Charuka Ekanayake 36 (Tarusha Kodikara 36/2, Garuka Sank 37/2, Lahiru Amarasekara 41/2, Koojana Perera 42/2)
- Colombo North - 195/7** (43.5 overs) Kavindu Amameth 61, Vihass Thevika 36 (Akila Wickramasinghe 37/3, Nisal Abeyratne 30/2)
- Dambulla - Colombo South** - 166 (50 overs) Janajith Dilumika 35 (Randesh Bandaranaike 26/4, Ryan Dissanayake 21/2, Kavindu Dias 42/2)
- Colombo South - 167/6** (27.5 overs) Gaviru Senhas 47, Uneth Peiris 43 (Janit Fernando 68/3, A. Asanth 24/2)



Supun Waduge (98)

Joe-Pete clash in under 15 quarter finals

Two quarter finals of the Under 15 division 1 inter schools cricket tournament conducted by Sri Lanka Schools Cricket Association sponsored by Sri Lanka Cricket will be played today.

St. Joseph's College Colombo will meet their arch rivals St. Peter's College Bambalapitiya in the quarter final at St. Sebastian's College grounds Moratuwa today. St. Joseph's College Colombo advanced to the second round as runner up of their group in the first round. St. Joseph's College Colombo beat Mahinda College Galle in the second round and they beat St. Joseph Vaz College Wennappuwa in the pre quarter final round.

Nimthaka Gunawardane will lead St. Joseph's College Colombo and Joshua Sebastian will lead St. Peter's College Bambalapitiya.

St. Joseph's College Colombo squad: Nimthaka Gunawardana (Captain),

Nushan Perera, Kasun Silva, Avesha Samash, Senuja Dinhas, Shalinda Dissanayaka, Ameesha Guruge, Sadev Perera, Jevaan Hettiarachchi, Sahas Godage, Prahas Perera, Kavith Fernando, Thanuj Hettiarachchi, Mathisha Premadasa, Bosilu Vithanage, Sandinu Dissanayaka, Keshan Koralage, Tharindu De Mel, Kavindu Ranasinghe, Lesandu Dinsada, Sanjeeva Fernando (Master in charge), Kalpa Fernando (Head Coach), Dinal Damburage (Asst. Coach)

St. Peter's College Bambalapitiya squad: Joshua Sebastian (Captain), Hiruka Silva, Shanon Fernando, Jason Fernando, Sandaru Meedum, Raphael Hettige, Oshanda Akalanka, Rehan Jayasinghe, Raveen Gunawardane, Janith Panditharathne, Dineth Keshan, Gaveesha Baddegama, Lakmal Subasinghe (Master in charge), Mohan Liyanage (Coach). (YK)