



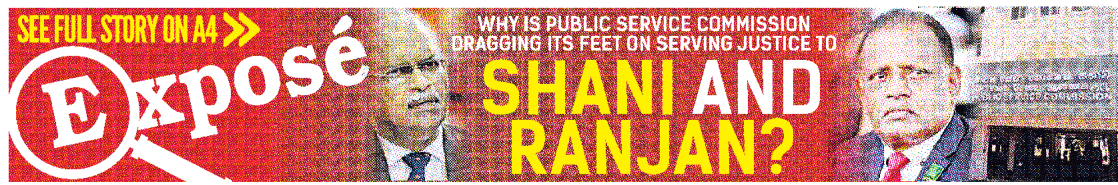
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# SECOND READING OF BUDGET PASSED WITH A MAJORITY OF 37

121 members voted in favour while 84 voted against

- 18 members were absent while MP C. V. Vigneswaran abstained from voting

BY YOHAN PERERA AND AJITH SIRIWARDANA

Second reading of the budget was approved by a majority of 37 votes in Parliament with 121 members voting in favour while 84 voted against.

SEE REST OF THE STORY ON A4 >>>

## POLITICAL GOSSIP

Set to do the cross-over in a quiet way!

Several Diyawanna members from the Ppohottuwa group in the government are maintaining close ties with the Telephone party these days, they say.

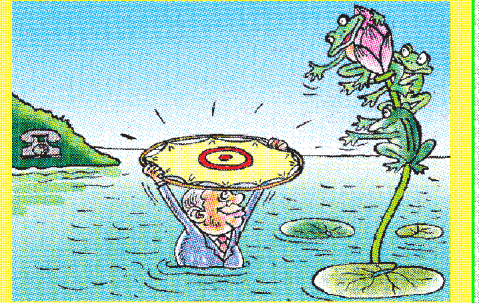
However, they seem to be reluctant to team up with the Telephone party immediately. So, they have, they say, found an indirect way of getting closer to that party.

They would at the outset join a minor political party led by a Top Team Member which would later ally itself with the Telephone party!

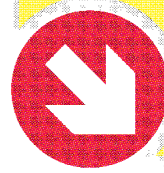
These dissident Ppohottuwa members are said to be having intense discussions on

the proposed move behind the scenes, these days, they say.

By the way, the Top team member in the government who has agreed to provide the rebel group with a stepping stone is said to be a politico carrying much clout!



Courtesy: සේන



Read more POLITICAL GOSSIP in the inside news pages

## 60 percent of US \$ 1 billion Indian credit line exhausted

- Out of US \$ 600 million, US \$ 200 million had been used for oil purchases

BY KELUM BANDARA

Sri Lanka has exhausted around US\$ 600 million of the US \$ 1 billion credit line offered by India to purchase essential items during the crisis time, a spokesman said.

SEE REST OF THE STORY ON A2 >>>

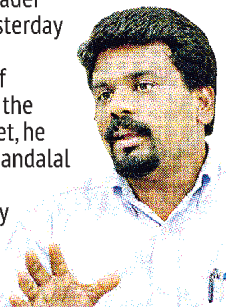
## CB'S ECONOMIC POLICIES HAVE BADLY AFFECTED PEOPLE'S LIVES: AKD

- Says CB Governor was harping on contracting the economy as the only solution to the economic crisis

BY AJITH SIRIWARDANA AND YOHAN PERERA

National People's Power (NPP) leader Anura Kumara Dissanayake said yesterday that people's lives have been badly affected by the economic policies of the Central Bank. Speaking during the second reading debate of the budget, he told Parliament that CB Governor Nandalal Weerasinghe was harping on contracting the economy as the only solution to the economic crisis.

SEE REST OF THE STORY ON A2 >>>



## Increase in viral flu similar to influenza among children

- There is no need to admit patients with mild symptoms to hospitals

BY CHATURANGA PRADEEP SAMARAWICKRAMA

There is an increase in the viral flu infection among children with similar or influenza-like infectious illnesses, Lady Ridgeway Hospital (LRH) consultant paediatrician Dr. Deepal Perera said.

SEE REST OF THE STORY ON A2 >>>

## Human trafficking Officer attached to SL mission in UAE suspended

- This officer will be arrested as soon as he arrives in Sri Lanka

BY YOHAN PERERA AND AJITH SIRIWARDANA

An officer attached to the Sri Lankan mission in UAE who has been involved in human trafficking has been suspended and will be brought back to Sri Lanka, Minister of Labour and Foreign Employment Manusha Nanayakkara told Parliament yesterday.

SEE REST OF THE STORY ON A2 >>>

## Danushka clicked!

Sri Lankan cricketer Danushka Gunathilaka, the accused of an alleged sexual assault on a Sydney woman he met on a dating app has been pictured for the first time since leaving custody on bail. The cricketer was pictured on Tuesday as he entered Eastwood Police Station, in Sydney's northwest, for his daily reporting condition. It is the first time he has been seen publicly since his release from custody.



## Dress code circular doesn't apply for teachers: Public Adm. Secy.

- Public administration circulars were not legally entitled to any schools whatsoever

BY CHATURANGA PRADEEP SAMARAWICKRAMA

The circular issued allowing government offices to report to work in an easy and decent dress is not applicable to school teachers, the Public Administration and Home Affairs Ministry said.

SEE REST OF THE STORY ON A2 >>>

## Statement on malnutrition Interdicted Doctor goes to court

- Files FR challenging Health Ministry Secretary's decision

BY LAKMAL SOORIYAGODA

The doctor who sent out a public warning on malnutrition among children in Suriyawewa yesterday filed a Fundamental Rights in Supreme Court challenging the Health Ministry Secretary's decision to interdict him from service by violating his Fundamental Rights.

SEE REST OF THE STORY ON A2 >>>

## Int'l force behind SL's economic crisis- MR

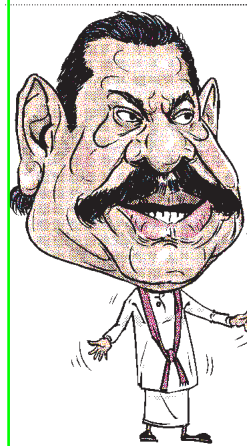
- Local agents of these forces are still active

- Protests taking place in the nation sponsored by them

BY YOHAN PERERA AND AJITH SIRIWARDANA

An international force is behind Sri Lanka's economy and this force is still active, former Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa told Parliament yesterday. Speaking during the second reading debate in the House, he said the local agents of these forces are still active. "It was they who sponsor protests that are taking place in the nation. Their action affects the tourism sector which has begun to recover," the former PM said.

SEE REST OF THE STORY ON A2 >>>



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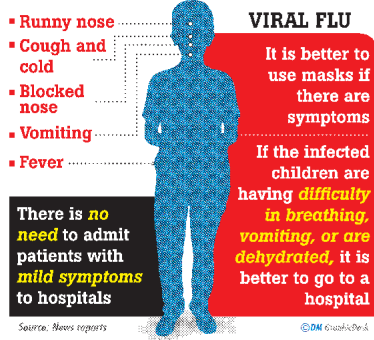
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Daily Mirror CONTD. FROM PAGE 1

Increase in viral flu similar to influenza among children

- This respiratory tract viral infection will infect children from the age of seven or eight months up to seven or eight years
These infections have increased due to the cold weather and rainy conditions in the country

He said symptoms like respiratory problems, cough, cold, fever, runny nose, blocked nose, and sometimes vomiting might be found.



There is no need to admit patients with mild symptoms to hospitals. With the mild symptoms, those infected children can manage at home, Dr. Perera added.

due to the cold weather and rainy conditions in the country, he said. However, there is a decrease in COVID infections among children.

Dress code circular doesn't apply for teachers: Public Adm. Secy.

- The Education Ministry should announce its decision on wearing comfortable clothes to school

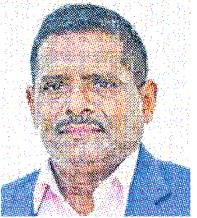
Ministry Secretary Priyantha Mayadunne said that the circular does not apply to persons who are engaged in other services.

several parties about the circular, Mayadunne said the Education Ministry should announce its decision on wearing comfortable clothes to school.

administration circulars were not legally entitled to any schools whatsoever. He further said that the circular clearly states that the dress code is only applicable to office workers.

Prof. Dayananda no more

Prof. Dayananda Ambalangodage, Professor in Accounting, attached to the Department of Accountancy, Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce, of the University of Sri Jayawardenepura passed away on Monday, November 21, 2022.



CABINET APPROVES FRAMEWORK FOR ELECTION EXPENDITURE

- The General Secretary of political parties collectively and candidates individually are responsible to adhere to the limit of expenditure at polls monitored by the election commission

BY SANDUN A. JAYASEKERA

The cabinet on Monday gave approval to introduce a legislative framework to control election expenditure, Justice Minister and acting cabinet spokesman, Dr. Wijeyadasa Rajapakse said yesterday.

"In many instances it is quite obvious that the most suitable and qualified individuals who have a genuine desire to serve the country and society are not elected to political office in our country as the money spent at the election campaigns plays a major in electing the candidate.

individually are responsible to adhere to the limit of expenditure at polls monitored by the election commission. Those who violate the law are deemed to lose the political office and serve a prison sentence and pay a fine on conviction," Minister Rajapakse stressed.

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DEATH ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

MERLIN PERIS Emeritus Professor of Classics, Peradeniya University. Husband of late Kshanthi (Mahamaya, Kandy) passed away peacefully at home on 15th November. A private funeral was held on the 19th. The family wish to acknowledge all who attended, sent messages of sympathy and floral tributes. 077 306 2000 / 077 510 8010

SECOND READING OF BUDGET PASSED WITH A MAJORITY OF 37

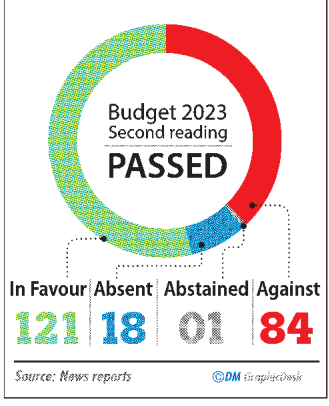
Some 18 members were absent at the time of voting while MP C. V. Vigneswaran abstained from voting.

SJB, some of the SLPP members led by Dullas Alahapperuma and Wimal Weerawansa, JJB members voted against while CWC voted in favour.

Among those who were absent were 10 TNA MPs, Minister Bandula

Gunawardene. SJB MP Rajitha Senaratne who was expected to vote in favour of the budget voted against it.

The second reading debate on the budget ended up in drama, with reciting of 'kavi' and reading the lyrics of a song. Minister Harin Fernando read lyrics of a popular Sinhala song while an SJB MP recited a 'kaviya'.



60 percent of US \$ 1 billion Indian credit line exhausted

- This is in addition to US \$ 500 million credit offered to buy fuel

India offered this credit facility upon Sri Lanka's request to tide over the foreign exchange crisis.

lines, a spokesman for the Indian High Commission said 60 percent of the US \$ 1 billion credit line had been used based on the priorities of the Sri Lankan government.

Out of US \$ 600 million, US \$ 200 million had been used for oil purchases. That is in addition to US \$ 500 million credit offered to buy fuel.

Officer attached to SL mission in UAE suspended

- More than 140 SL persons in special centres in Oman and Dubai, hoodwinked by their employment agents, will be taken care of soon
Arrangements have been made to suspend sending Sri Lankans for domestic work using visit visas

The Human Trafficking, Smuggling, and Maritime Crime Investigation Division of the CID had initiated an extensive investigation into an incident of human trafficking to Oman.

It was reported that further probes into the matter disclosed that this sex trafficking ring had been operated by a group of officers of the Immigration & Emigration Department through the representatives of employment agencies stationed in Sri Lanka and Oman.

- Nov. 19: The main suspect in the human trafficking ring was arrested by the airport police at the BIA
Nov. 20: The local agent of the main suspect was arrested by the CID
Nov. 21: A female suspect was arrested after surrendering to the CID
Nov. 22: She was granted bail by the Colombo Chief Magistrate's Court.
Nov. 22: Two more suspects were arrested by the CID

Source: News reports

The Minister said this officer will be arrested as soon as he arrives in Sri Lanka.

"We have sent some officers attached to our ministry along with the police to investigate the matter further," he said.

The Minister assured that more than 140 Sri Lankan persons who are in special centres in Oman and Dubai after they were hoodwinked by their employment agents will be taken care of soon.

uncovered by a committee appointed by the President's Office two months ago. The media reports which were published thereafter have also helped us to uncover the scandal. A woman who has been engaged in trafficking has been arrested on Monday as well," he said.

Also he said arrangements have been made to suspend sending Sri Lankans for domestic work using visit visas.

CB's economic policies have badly affected people's lives: AKD

- Even though Finance Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe criticized the economic policies adopted after 1977, he had proposed the same policies in his budget

"This has badly affected people's lives. It does not mean that I approve Cabraal's economic strategy. Weerasinghe's economic strategy represents an extreme of an economic strategy, while Cabraal's economic strategy represented an extreme of a different economic strategy. We need to identify the correct strategy," he said.

Mr. Dissanayake said contraction of the economy had lost a large number of jobs, imposed unbearable taxes including VAT, social security levy and payee tax and the brain drain had remarkably increased.

He said even though Finance Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe criticized the economic policies adopted after 1977, he had proposed the same policies in his budget.

"He has proposed to obtain Rs. 3 trillion of loans next year and to restructure state entities. No constructive proposal to revive the economy," he said.

Dissanayake proposed several moves to come out of the economic crisis which included proposals to obtain a new mandate, introduce a new constitution, ensure efficient state service, stopping fraud and corruption.

Interdicted Doctor goes to court

- The petitioner further said that at this juncture, he has come to understand that certain media outlets had embellished the statement made by him in their respective newspapers and TV channels

The petitioner, Dr. Galmangoda Guruge Chamal is seeking an order quashing the recommendation of the Health Ministry Secretary to interdict him from services as reflected in the letter dated October 25, 2022.

The petitioner states that on or around September 19, 2022, in his capacity as the President of the 'Medical and Civil Rights Professional Association of Doctors' visited Walsapugala Koswagawa village in Suriyawewa in Hambanthota District to conduct a medical clinic for children in order to check their nutrition levels, health.

The petitioner further said that at this juncture, he has come to understand that certain media outlets had embellished the statement made by him in their respective newspapers and TV channels.

The Doctor states that a letter dated 03.11.2022 preferred under the hand of the Secretary to the Ministry of Health indicates that a preliminary inquiry had already been conducted by the Ministry of Health, and accordingly it has been found that the Petitioner has acted in breach of section 31:1:15 of the Establishment Code.

The Petitioner states that actions or decisions of the Health Ministry and Public Service Commission are discriminatory, arbitrary, irrational, illegal and violative of equality and equal protection of law and Principles of Natural Justice. This petition had been filed through Attorney-at-law Praveen Premathilaka.

Int'l force behind SL's economic crisis - MR

- Budget 2023 is a giant leap to stabilize the economy though it does not fulfil aspirations of some sectors

"Some are questioning the defence allocation. I would like to tell them that a country's defence is more important than anything else. We will not allow the nation's security to be at stake," he added.

"The budget 2023 is a giant leap to stabilize the economy though it does not fulfil aspirations of some sectors. The emphasis made on the youth in the budget is welcome. Loss-making state enterprises should be

re-structured. However we are of the view that profit making enterprises should be safeguarded. We are against selling off national assets to foreign forces," he also said.



Death toll in Human Elephant conflict ups

BY THISARA SAMAL

Death toll of the human elephant conflict has been increasing in alarming proportions in the Anuradhapura wildlife zone, as revealed by the District Committee to Pay Compensation for Damages Caused by Wild Elephants.

Additional District Secretary Sandya Abesekera.

Wildlife Conservators told the meeting that 33 people and 70 wild elephants had been killed in the human elephant conflict for the first ten months of the year.

It transpired that the Committee had approved compensation payments amounting to Rs. 57 million for the first

ten months of the year and that Rs.33.9 million of it had already been paid.

Asst. District Secretary Ayomi Ratnayaka, Asst. Director Wildlife Conservation Department W.M.K.S.Chandrarathne, Asst. Director, Disaster Management I.A.K. Ranaweera, Officers-in-Charge of the Subject Lakmali Wanigasekara and Prasadhi Herath were present.

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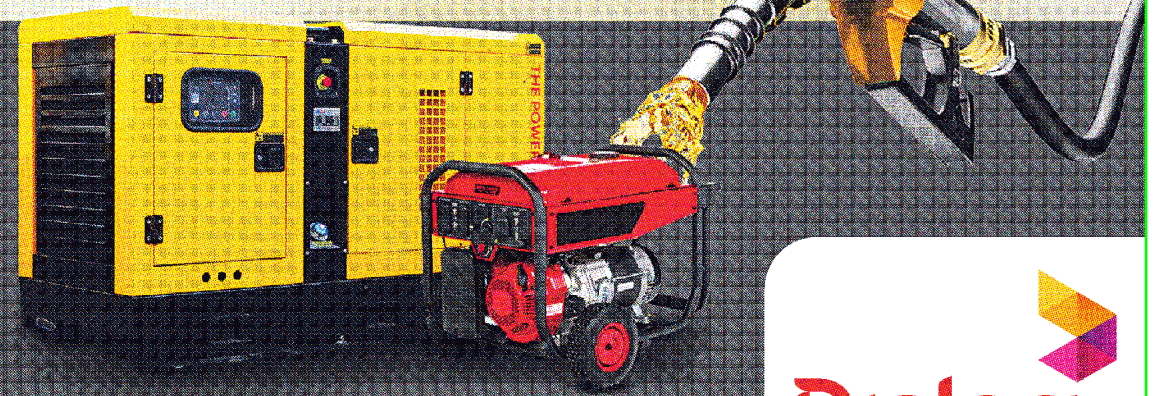


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Exposé

WHY IS PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION DRAGGING ITS FEET ON SERVING JUSTICE TO

SHANI AND RANJAN?

By Nirmala Kannangara



Former Director CID, SSP Shani Abeyskera



Former Director Preventive Customs Ranjan Kanagasabai



ALTHOUGH THE PSC IS DRAGGING ITS FEET ON SERVING JUSTICE FOR THOSE WHO HAVE WORKED TIRELESSLY FOR THE COUNTRY, THE COMMISSION IS ACCUSED OF GRANTING UNDUE SPECIAL FAVOURS TO THEIR IMMEDIATE FAMILY MEMBERS

The Public Service Commission (PSC) reportedly has blocked two retired senior public officers, their due salaries/pensions allegedly on personal grudges despite their eligibility to draw their dues.

The Public Service Commission (PSC), the apex authority handling appointments, transfers, promotions and disciplinary conduct of all public officers in the country is accused of taking revenge against those whom they believe are a threat to politicians and their stooges when requests were made seeking approval to obtain stalled salaries/ pensions.

Former Director CID, SSP Shani Abeyskera and former Director Preventive Customs Ranjan Kanagasabai have come under severe harassment at the hands of the PSC over the past two years; depriving their salaries/ pensions although legally they are entitled to draw their respective dues.

"What is the reason for the PSC to hold back our dues once our names have been cleared from courts? It is clear that they are pursuing personal grudges against us, as we have taken action against politicians and their stooges who were engaged in corrupt or criminal activities," both SSP Abeyskera and Ranjan Kanagasabai told the Daily Mirror.

SSP Abeyskera was interdicted from the police service on January 7, 2020, on an alleged accusation of bringing disrepute to Sri Lanka Police. But, the Police neither held a preliminary inquiry regarding the matter nor has it issued a charge sheet against this individual to date.

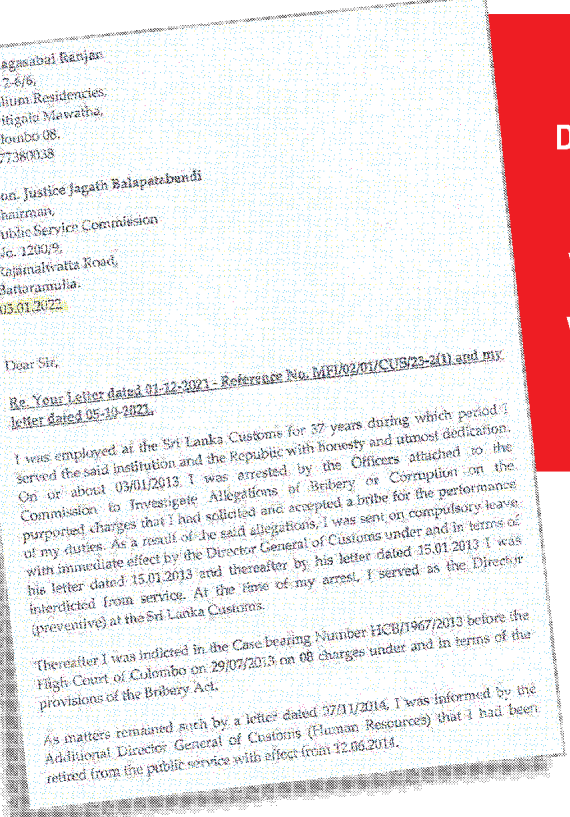
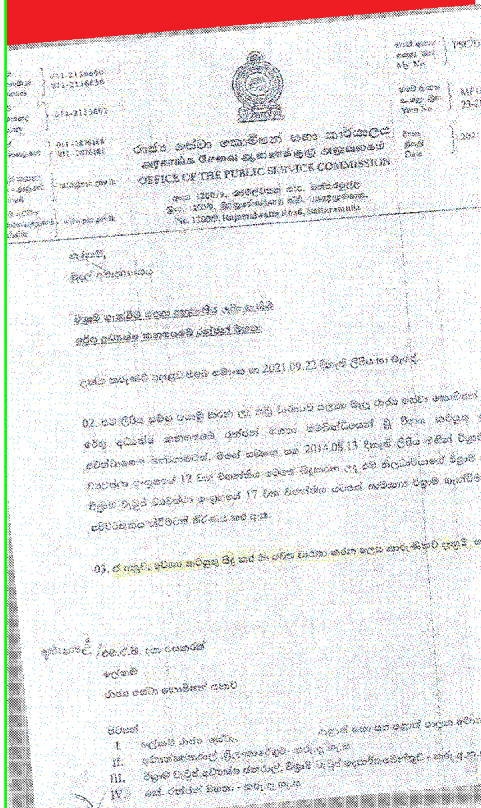
On February 24, 2020, Abeyskera had requested the Police Commission and the IGP to reinstate him or pay half his salary which was his entitlement, as there was no way for him to maintain his family without the income.

According to the Establishment Code, if a person is involved in terrorist activities, drug-related crimes, mischief of public property or charged in a court of law for a criminal offense and if an indictment has been served by the High Court, half the person's salary can be withheld until his name is cleared.

As SSP Abeyskera had no such allegations levelled against him, the Police Commission, by letter dated May 5, 2020, had recommended paying Abeyskera half his salary. However, till February 2021, he was not paid that amount, but later a combined half salary had been paid until he went on retirement on June 30, 2021.

"On June 29, 2021, I submitted my intended pension papers to the IGP, and in response I was requested to submit a certified copy of my birth certificate. Although I submitted the necessary documents, on July 7, 2022, I was informed

"WHAT IS THE REASON FOR THE PSC TO HOLD BACK OUR DUES ONCE OUR NAMES HAVE BEEN CLEARED FROM COURTS? IT IS CLEAR THAT THEY ARE PURSUING PERSONAL GRUDGES AGAINST US, AS WE HAVE TAKEN ACTION AGAINST POLITICIANS AND THEIR STOOGES WHO WERE ENGAGED IN CORRUPT OR CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES"



"IN ORDER TO IMPLICATE ME IN BRIBERY CHARGES, THE THEN BRIBERY COMMISSION UNDER BALAPATABENDI PRODUCED DOCUMENTS OF QUESTIONABLE AUTHENTICITY OF THE INVESTIGATION AND SERVED INDICTMENT WITHOUT ADHERING TO PROPER PROCEDURE. THE PROCEEDINGS WERE WRONGFULLY AND MALICIOUSLY INSTITUTED AGAINST ME BY THE BRIBERY COMMISSION WHICH MY COUNSELS WERE ABLE TO PROVE IN COURTS," ADDED THE FORMER DIRECTOR PREVENTIVE, SRI LANKA CUSTOMS RANJAN KANAGASABAI

two months and within six months the report should be submitted. With regard to the case associated with SSP Abeyskera the authorised officer has not held a preliminary inquiry even to date; and that period is over 35 months since his arrest.

Although the Senior Assistant Secretary first informed the Tribunal that there is a charge sheet against the complainant, the former when further questioned informed the Appeal Tribunal that the Law and Order Ministry has sent a report on the complainant to which the Hon. Judge has said that a report cannot be considered as charge sheet.

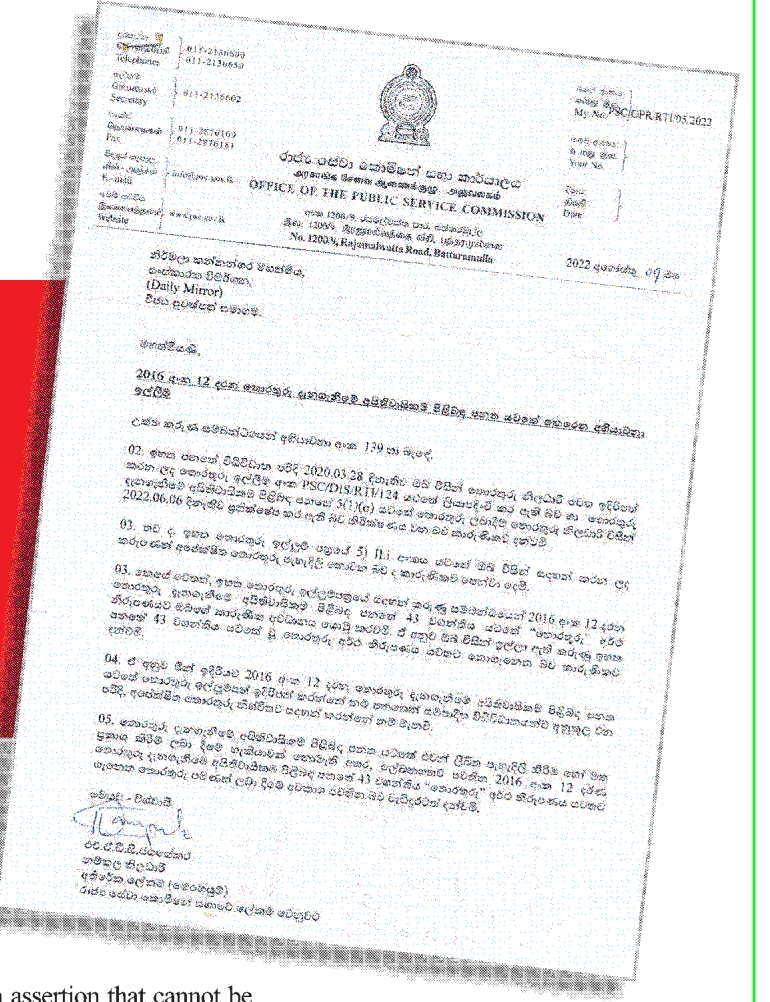
A similar harassment has been meted out against the former Director Preventive, Sri Lanka Customs Ranjan Kanagasabai by the PSC.

Kanagasabai was arrested (Case No: HCB/1967/2013) on January 3, 2013, on purported bribery charges for soliciting and accepting a bribe from a businessman to release a container he had detained. This businessman is alleged to be a friend of Justice (Rtd) Balapatabendi, the then Chairman Bribery Commission.

According to the court documents this businessman admitted during the cross examination of the said bribery case, that he telephoned Bribery Commission Chairman Balapatabendi on his personal mobile number and his residence landline number before Kanagasabai was fixed regarding the bribery.

The learned Judge in his order has stated, "When all of this evidence is taken together into consideration, I have come to the conclusion that the accused accepted a bribe from the virtual complainant is not evidence that could be accepted in any manner. And according to all these facts, I have decided the accusation that the accused has

SSP SHANI ABEYSKERA WAS INTERDICTED FROM THE POLICE SERVICE ON JANUARY 7, 2020, ON AN ALLEGED ACCUSATION OF BRINGING DISREPUTE TO SRI LANKA POLICE. BUT, THE POLICE NEITHER HELD A PRELIMINARY INQUIRY REGARDING THE MATTER NOR HAS IT ISSUED A CHARGE SHEET AGAINST THIS INDIVIDUAL TO DATE



the Secretary Finance Ministry, the Director General of Sri Lanka Customs, the Secretary Ministry of Public Administration and the Director General Pensions Department to pay Kanagasabai's salary and pension as per Section 17 of the Pension Ordinance. However, surprisingly several months after the said order, the PSC reverted the decision without any reasons given.

By letter dated July 12, 2022 PSC Secretary M.A.B. Daya Senarath terminated the order given on December 1, 2021, without giving any reason.

According to the documents this newspaper is in possession of, the said termination letter further states, "With Ref: PSC/DIS/081/201 to our letter dated December 1, 2021, the Public Service Commission has decided to withdraw the given order. I further request you abide by the PSC decision. Copies to the Secretary Finance Ministry, Director General Sri Lanka Customs and Director General Pension".

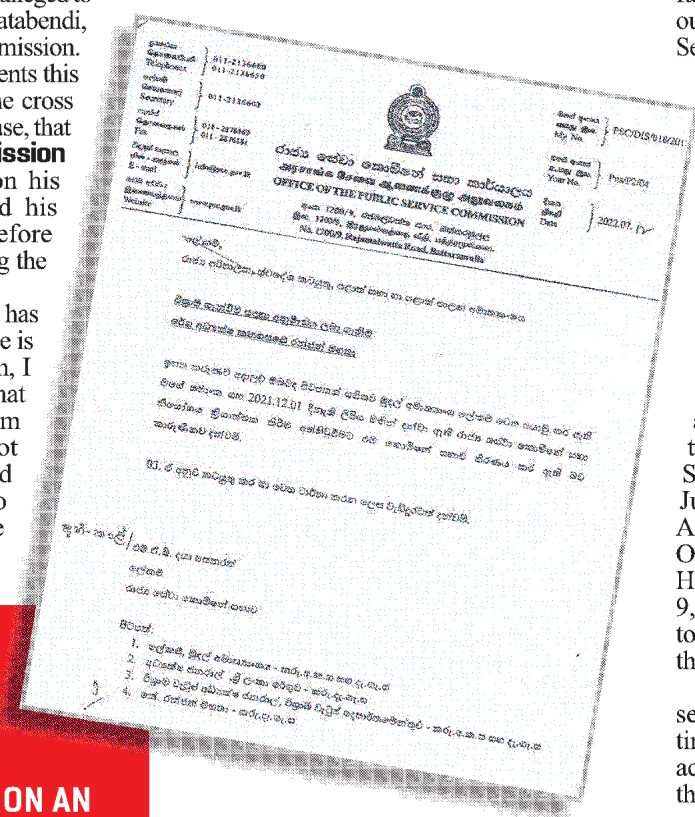
All attempts to contact PSC Secretary Daya Senerath to find out why the Commission has failed to approve Kanagasabai's request, were futile, as he did not want to talk to the media.

When an application was sent under the Right to Information Act on March 28th to find out why the PSC is delaying granting approvals to pay Kanagasabai, his entitlement, the Information Officer, Senior Additional Secretary R.K.R.R. Ranaveera by letter dated June 6, refused to provide the information. An appeal was then made to the Designated Officer, Additional Secretary (Operations) H.A.D.D. Jayasekera. By letter dated August 9, 2022, the Designated Officer too refused to release the information that was sought by this newspaper.

Although the PSC is dragging its feet on serving justice for those who have worked tirelessly for the country, the Commission is accused of granting undue special favours to their immediate family members.

This newspaper is in possession of official documents to establish how PSC headed by Justice (Rtd) Balapatabendi has acted in conflict of interest in favourably involving himself in the decision making process that had direct impact on the promotions of his kith and kin at the Attorney General's Department.

This is a clear indication of how the PSC headed by Balapatabendi is bypassing all rules and regulations to favour their kith and kin while harassing honest public officers on petty personal grudges.



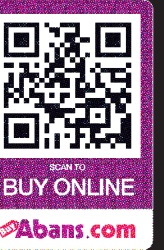
The proceedings were wrongfully and maliciously instituted against me by the Bribery Commission which my counsels were able to prove in courts," Kanagasabai added. By the time he was acquitted, Balapatabendi was Chairman of the PSC, to which Kanagasabai had to make a request to seek approval to get all his dues. After 11 months of his acquittal, the PSC on December 1, 2021, granted permission to

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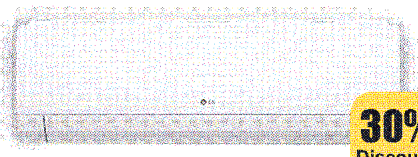
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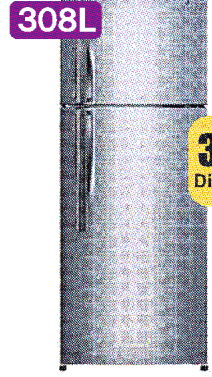
GL-K272SLBB

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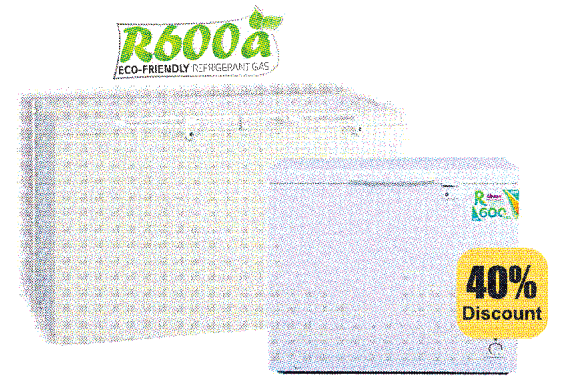
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# EDITORIAL

*"No one would have crossed the ocean if he could have gotten off the ship in the storm."*  
**CHARLES KETTERING**

**OUR THOUGHT**

## FIFA WORLD CUP AND HYPOCRISY IN QATAR

The world's biggest extravaganza, the quadrennial (four-yearly) FIFA World Cup, has begun in Qatar. It's been 12 years since it was announced that this year's World Cup (2022) would be held in Qatar - a country with a population of a little below three million people which follows tough Islamic law.

This particular World Cup, has unfortunately been dogged by controversy. Rather unfortunately in the West, more particularly in Europe, many have tried to bury the event under a storm of controversy accusing the host nation of disgraceful working conditions inflicted on migrant workers, its human rights record, deprivation of women's rights and mistreatment of people in gay relationships. Some even question FIFA for permitting Iran to compete at the tournament.

O tempora, O mores, what hypocrisy! Haven't other event-hosting nations had even worse human rights records?

In 1934, Benito Mussolini's fascist regime in Italy and in 1978, the brutal Argentine dictatorship hosted the event with the blessings of FIFA. In 1950 Switzerland, a small nation and the mother nation of 'money laundering' so-to-say, hosted the World Cup. Even worse in 1994, the World Cup was hosted by the US.

Yet, just two decades earlier, the US used chemical weapons in its war against the Vietnamese people. Vietnam estimated as many as 2,000,000 civilians and some 1,100,000 North Vietnamese and Viet Cong fighters were killed.

Even worse, the US remains the only country in the world to have used atomic weapons on purely civilian targets - the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki during World War II. The explosions immediately killed an estimated 80,000 people in Hiroshima. Tens of thousands more would later die of radiation exposure. Three days later, a second B-29 dropped another A-bomb on Nagasaki, killing an estimated 40,000 people, according to history.com.

Western nations accuse Qatar of disgraceful working conditions inflicted on workers who built the tournament's infrastructure. Unfortunately, these nations which present themselves as 'citadels of democracy, human rights and workers rights' tend to overlook their own role regarding workers' rights. They easily overlook the slave trade - where hundreds of thousands of African men, women and children were encircled and forcibly transported to the US to work as slaves on plantations in the US and the Caribbean. They choose to forget Britain shipped thousands of desperately poor Tamils from South India to create tea plantations in Lanka's hill country. The workers had no quarters when they reached the cold hill country.

Thousands of these 'migrant workers' died of cold and malaria. They were also paid slave wages. When 'housing' was ultimately provided, two to three families shared a 12 x 2 ft room, and worse with no running water or toilet facilities.

Despite their own culpability, high flyers and cheap political leaders of these nations continue to point the finger at other countries, not acknowledging past crimes and refusing to recompense countries and people who continue to suffer their rapacious deeds.

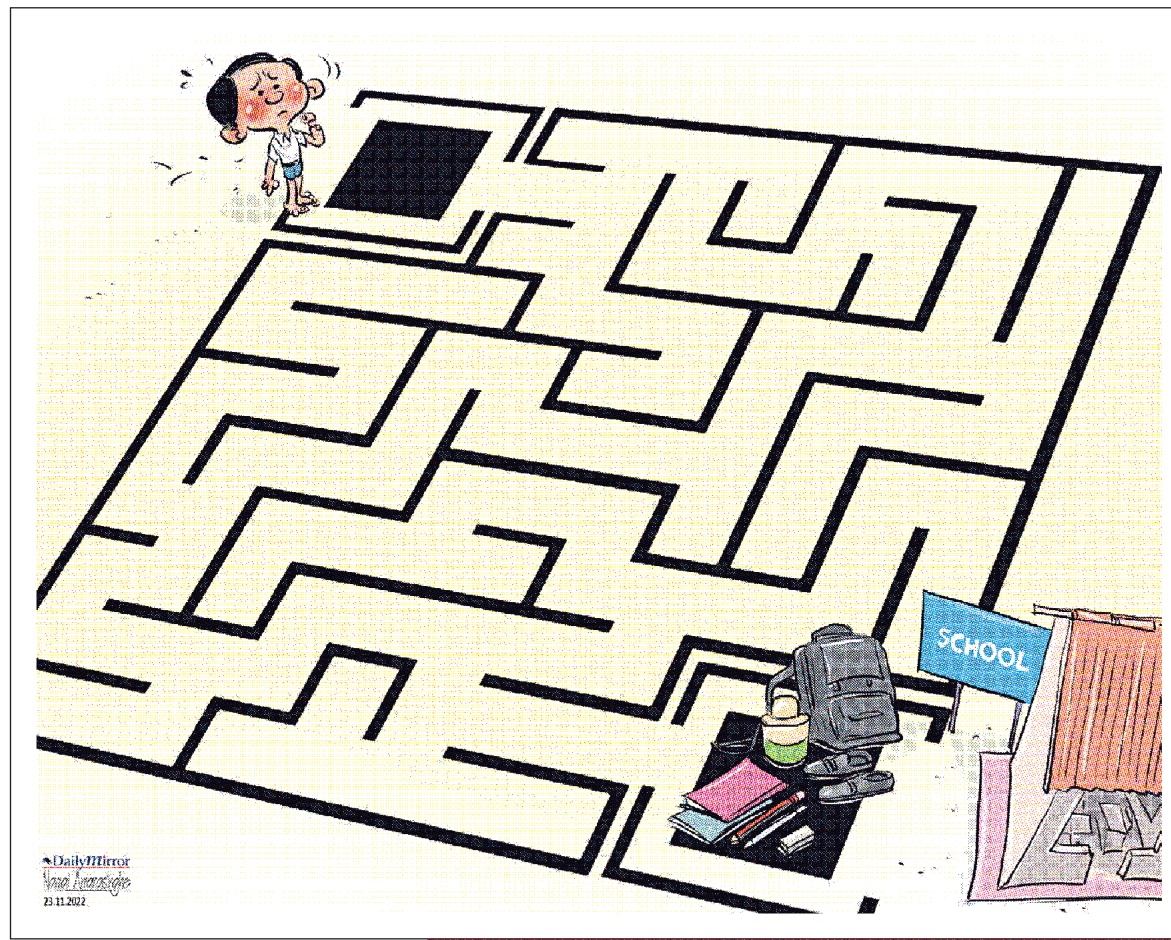
We do not condone exploitation of labour, infringement of women's rights or suppression of LGBT groups. But cannot feel, based on facts, the strident condemnation of Qatar stems from jealousy at that small nation's riches.

For instance, Qatar had a GDP per capita of \$124,100 as of 2017, while in United Kingdom, the GDP per capita is \$44,300 as of 2017.

The economy of Qatar is one of the richest in the world based on GDP per capita, ranking generally among the top ten richest countries on world rankings for 2015 and 2016 as per data compiled by the World Bank, the United Nations, and the International Monetary Fund (IMF). We do not deny that housing conditions provided to migrant workers in Qatar are not of the highest quality. They definitely leave much to be desired.

Sadly, the world economic system forces the poorer classes to accept these conditions. What is sad is that the US and the West while blaming Qatar, do not offer hope to the suffering masses in Africa and Asia which forces them to seek greener pastures in lands, believed to 'flow with milk and honey'. The present migrants' drownings off the coast of Britain and Europe, and the incarcerating of Latin American migrants desperately seeking employment in these US smacks of the pot calling the kettle names.

Let's cut the crap. It cannot be right for World's Richest 1% to own twice as much as the bottom 90% as Oxfam International reports. Instead of blaming one nation or the other, let's try to spread Earth's resources more equitably.



FOR MORE CARTOONS LOG ON [www.dailymirror.lk/cartoon](http://www.dailymirror.lk/cartoon)

# THAT TWITTER JOURNALISM GROOVE



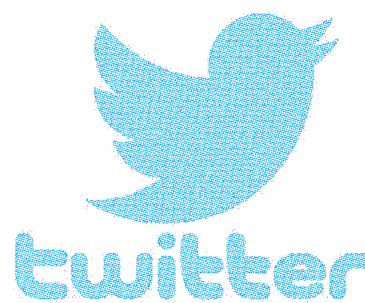
By **Amantha Perera**

**It was in 2009 that I first started using Twitter. It had been around for a while by then. During those days, the main network for instant news updates was SMS. I was linked to a group of journalists who reported on the conflict via one such group. I was also helping out in a volunteer capacity with a business venture that was based on SMS news updates. The latter crashed; the former did so too but with far more dangerous consequences.**

We all were aware that the SMS group had potential informants. What we did not know was the length they would go to. A message that was circulated through the group was instantly shared with military intelligence who were able to easily figure out the original details had come from a small military detachment in the Northwest which had come under attack in the middle of the night. With the help of the informant within the group not only was the source compromised but all of us stopped posting on to the SMS group. This went a valuable information source.

Twitter quickly became my-go-to-platform for breaking news and information. Using applications like Tweetdeck, I could easily curate it to groups, hashtags and feeds that were like a tailor-made news ticker for me. For the last five years or more I have had Tweetdeck running, mostly in the background when I work.

I have had very little issues with disinformation and misinformation and also online threats. I credit years of reporting the conflict for this; like my experience with that SMS group. Disinformation, misinformation were part and parcel of the game as was bold print of the same.



Twitter and journalism have become the two inseparable aspects of digital media.

**Disinformation, misinformation were part and parcel of the game as was bold print of the same. The hardest task was not getting the information, it was verifying it. All parties to the conflict played the game of making sure that they were in control of the narrative, sometime by any means possible**

**Twitter was and still is all the following rolled into one screen - public info, all the gossip some of which can lead to some of the best stories, the unverified junk, the lies, the slurs, the curses and the worst of the worst vitriol. I lived in this very universe before Twitter. Back then it was slower and by extension a bit more controllable**

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The hardest task was not getting the information, it was verifying it. All parties to the conflict played the game of making sure that they were in control of the narrative, sometime by any means possible.

Threats, physical and otherwise were common. The epithet 'traitor' was more common than my own surname linked to me. So, by the time I transitioned, I was used to all this.

But the vectors of online threats and dangers are really high on Twitter as with other social media platforms. My research work in fact centres around this - how do journalists navigate these dangers and keep working.

Now that Twitter, my personal, free, news ticker is in chaos, I have been left with looking for alternatives. The Elon Musk takeover of Twitter has been followed by mass disruptions with staff leaving and all kinds of changes being announced. There were a few that came through as I was writing this.

Last week there was fear that the platform could be gone within days. I was one of those who downloaded my Twitter archive and also joined an alternative platform. But I have not left Twitter yet and am unlikely to do so, at least any time soon.

It is still my go to platform for info, in the real time from the world cup to the minor hailstorms that have taken liking to my current neighbourhood. I am still searching for that alternative that can fill the Twitter journalism groove. Again, as I was typing this, Twitter was first notification of an earthquake near Solomon Islands.

Twitter was and still is all the following rolled into one screen - public info, all the gossip some of which can lead to some of the best stories, the unverified junk, the lies, the slurs, the curses and the worst of the worst vitriol. I lived in this very universe before Twitter. Back then it was slower and by extension a bit more controllable.

The digital replication has been like been in a digital storm of locust 24/7. My job right now is to train media professionals to safely deal with this storm.

To cut to the chase, despite the mass migration out of Twitter, it remains the go to pint for me. I could join the deserts, but for now, I am one of those who is hoping the platform survives this chaos.

Hopefully, Twitter would have survived from yesterday to today.

The writer is a journalism researcher and the Project Lead at the Dart Centre Asia Pacific. He can be contacted on [amantha.perera@cqumail.com](mailto:amantha.perera@cqumail.com)

## DM Poll

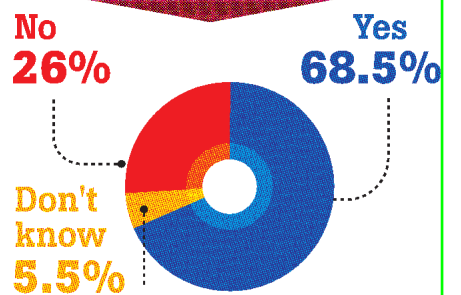
Do you think that rising electricity bills could have been avoided if the successive governments had better managed the energy sector in terms of opting for renewable sources?



- 1. Yes
- 2. No
- 3. Don't know

## LAST POLL

Do you think that liberalising the petroleum sector through the recently endorsed amendment to the petroleum law could positively affect the country's energy sector?



See web poll at [www.DailyMirror.lk](http://www.DailyMirror.lk)

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### Stop violence against Women!

One thing we all should remember that women are part and parcel of our lives and their supports and suggestions are significant for a perfect and prosperous lives of men, nonetheless they undergo various mental and physical inconvenience every now and then in every part of the world.

The recent incident in Panadura makes us feel sorry and sad the way in which the two female cops were treated by a policeman in full view of public. The women in the present world commit and contribute to the overall development of this universe, their contribution to the development of the country for instance as house wives, house maids, teachers, doctors, nurses, economists, administrators, rulers, social workers and so on. They are not only shouldering the heavy burdens of family life but also, they bear the tortures of opposite sex at homes, elsewhere in this country and the world. Some women in Oman recently faced inconvenience and stranded in that country.

It is high time for us to develop an effective system for overseas employment especially for women who go abroad as domestic aides and other employments. They should be guided and protected by proper career guidance and training before they embark on the journey of overseas employment. The government should also foster proper mechanism to deal with the women affairs and offences of women in a way to provide them compensation and justice for the injustice occurred to them in their personal and public lives. This is the common duty of everyone to teach our younger society to respect, rescue and treat their opposite sex with kind and love in every moment of their lives. We should also pay attention to fulfil the needs and necessities of women first and foremost at home and then elsewhere in the country.

We Sri Lankans and rest of the people in the world should grow and groom mutual respect for women wherever we mingle and interact with them for our daily businesses. We men should also raise our voice against the violence and injustice meted out to them and determine ourselves not to harm women but treat them with humanity.

M.JALALDEEN ISFAN

### No payment made by Basil

## To use VIP arrival lounge at BIA

### WEB COMMENTS

- KUMARAN WATTALA** - Get BIA officials to make the payment. They should be punished for ruining the country.
- OPERERA** - Do they allow any other passengers to enter VIP lounge without making payment first? Catch the airport official who allowed Basil and deduct the cost from the his/her salary.
- SRI** - Eating at the expense of poor people, what a shame? This is his patriotism...no wonder how this country suffers from the economic crisis. Yet we have some people to welcome him

See more web comments at [www.DailyMirror.lk](http://www.DailyMirror.lk)

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 Editorial: Tel: 011 2 436 998, 011 2 479 479 (ext.327,356). Fax: 011 2 304 545  
 Advertising - 2479597 / 2479519  
 Head of Circulation - (Dir.) 0112 479 672, 077 3 219 775  
 Subscription Manager-(Dir.) 2 479 626, 2 479 628, 077 3 502 183  
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FEATURE

SAI BABA'S TEACHINGS TO ALL MANKIND

In this spiritual journey when the road ends and the goal is gained, the pilgrim finds that he has travelled only from himself to himself.- Sai Baba.

Today (November 23) is the birthday of Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba who is known to the world as the incarnation of God. Sai Baba was born in a village called Puttaparthi in Andhra Pradesh, South India.

He spread his message based on love, truth, peace, non-violence and right conduct which are popularly known as Human Values through the principle of Sarwa Dharma. The writer has compiled this article based on his teachings to the world at large.

Throughout the evolution of human consciousness, the Universe has granted special beings from time to time whose teachings have shaped and changed mankind to become better human beings. Sathya Sai Baba, the Avatar of the Kaliyuga changed people by offering them unconditional love. His Divine purpose was to teach mankind to experience the divine within every human being. His teachings based on human values namely truth, peace, love, non-violence and right conduct are of great importance to realize the God within. These golden human values will undoubtedly direct mankind to self-realization or nirvana according to Lord Buddha.

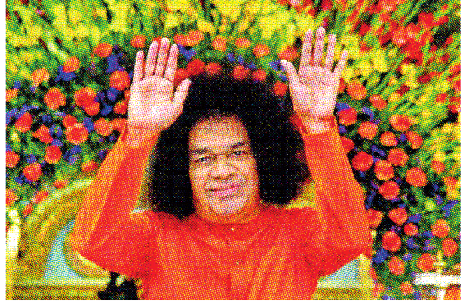
Most people who come to his fold have experienced an inner urge to change for the better to serve society at large. His teachings emphasize that there is only one caste - the caste of humanity, only one religion - the religion of Love, only one language - the language of the heart and only one God and he is omnipresent and resides within all of us and answers to our prayers in response to our karmic debts.

Sai Baba has mentioned on many occasions that the difference between him and us is that he knows that he is God and we do not know that God is within us and seek refuge from outside sources to find God.

Swami has clearly stated that God or Buddha cannot be found in temples or churches or kovils or mosques but inside the body of the man.

He never encouraged people to give up their respective religions. He specifically said to continue the worship of their chosen deity familiar to them and find inner peace; Shanthi.

Sathya Sai Baba preached Bhakti Marga, which elaborates on unconditional love towards the chosen deity. This will help people to



awaken the God within. Chanting or reciting God's name is the best practice in the Bhakti Marga to achieve peace & happiness according to Baba. We are all searching for peace & happiness. Unfortunately for many, it is a difficult task. Material or physical wealth cannot offer you lasting peace of mind. They are temporary illusions. One should develop selfless love or unconditional love to seek happiness and peace within which lasts forever.

The Sathya Sai Centre, Colombo will celebrate this week the 97th Year of Advent of Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba with a series of events. It will hold a Special Programme today (23) at Sai Mandir, Colombo 07 and Sivananda Nilayam, Colombo 06 and a public programme on Sunday November 27 at Ramakrishna Hall, Ramakrishna Road, Colombo 06

Unconditional love means seeing oneness in everyone. If you desire to become a member of the divine team you need to have the necessary qualifications. May the blessings of our Divine Lord Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba shower his blessings on our motherland to overcome the current economic crisis. Jai Sai Ram!- Sisira Baranage

Tender Notice Require a land for a vehicle yard in Kirulapone on Lease for SDB Bank PLC. The following requirements are to be fulfilled by the interested party: Land area should not be less than 1/4 acre (should not be a narrow strip), The land should comprise of a security room and washroom facilities, Should have water and electricity supply, Should have a gate and a safety fence. Interested parties are requested to submit the expected rent with tenor together with the copy of deed within 14 days of this advertisement to the below address. "SDB Bank PLC - Land for Lease in Kirulapone" should be mentioned on the top left hand corner of the envelope. Head of Administration Administration Department, SDB Bank PLC, No. 18/1, Edmondson Road, Kirulapone, Colombo 06. Telephone 074-0400974

Miscellaneous Notices

Notice of Winding Up

IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE WESTERN PROVINCE (HOLDEN IN COLOMBO) EXERCISING CIVIL / COMMERCIAL JURISDICTION.

In the matter of an application of Winding Up under and in terms of Section 272 and Companies Act No. 07 of 2007 and Act read together with Companies Winding-Up Rules of 1939.

G.T.B. Steel Corporation (Private) Limited No. 15, Boteju Lane, Off Thimblingasaya Road, Colombo 05, Sri Lanka

PETITIONER

Case No : CHC/38/2022/CO Nature : Winding Up Value : Rs 57,012,268.55/=

VS.

N AND A ENGINEERING SERVICES (PRIVATE) LIMITED No. 81B, Avissawella Road, Naganuwa, Ranala

RESPONDENT

NOTICE is hereby given that a petition for the winding up of the above-named company N AND A ENGINEERING SERVICES (PRIVATE) LIMITED by the High Court of Western Province Holden at Colombo and exercising Civil Jurisdiction was presented to the said court on the 20th October 2022 by the above - named petitioner. The said Petition is directed to be Inquiry on the 13th February 2023 and any Creditor or Contributory of the said company desirous to support or oppose the making of an order on the said petition may appear at the time of the hearing in person or by his registered Attorney-at-Law for that purpose and a copy of the petition will be furnished to any Creditor or Contributory of the said company requiring the same by the undersigned on payment of the prescribed charges for the same.

Mallawarachchi Associates,

Registered Attorney-at-law for the Petitioner,

No. 29/1, Belmont Street, Hulftsdorp, Colombo 12.

Note - any person who intends to appear on the Inquiry of the said petition must serve on or send by post to the above named registered Attorney-at-Law for the petitioner notice in his writing of his intention to do so. The notice must state the name and address of the person, or if a firm, the name and address of the firm, and must be signed by the person or firm, or his or their proctor (if any) and must be served, or if posted, must be sent by post in sufficient time to reach the above named not less than 06 clock in the evening (06 pm) of 12th of February 2023.

Mallawarachchi Associates,

Attorneys-at-Law for the Petitioner

International Conference on The Roadmap for Economic Recovery of Sri Lanka. 30th November 2022 at the Galadari Hotel, Colombo Sri Lanka. IET The Institution of Engineering and Technology.

THE SPEAKERS

Chief Guest & Keynote Speaker Dr. Nandalal Weerasinghe Governor/Central Bank of Sri Lanka

Moderator Eng. Rohan Seneviratne Additional General Manager, Ceylon Electricity Board Former Chairman, IET Sri Lanka Network

The role of the IMF in assisting the countries facing economic challenges for recovery Dr. Sharmine Cooray Member, Presidential Advisory Group on Debt and Ex-Director of the IMF's Institute for Capacity Development

Role of ADB in assisting the economic recovery of Sri Lanka Dr. Chen Chen Country Director/SI/SM - Asian Development Bank

Restructuring of external debt in the countries facing economic challenges for recovery Prof. Reza Baqir Former Governor/Central Bank of Pakistan Former Head/Debt Division at IMF

Implementation of structural reforms for the economic recovery Prof. Shanta Devarajan Professor/Practice of International Development, Georgetown University

Recovery process in Greece after the economic crisis in 2009 Prof. Panayotis Glavinis Dean of the Faculty of Law, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece

Role of export growth in economic recovery of Sri Lanka Prof. Sirimal Abeyaratne Department of Economics, University of Colombo

THE CONFERENCE

Currently, Sri Lanka is facing its worst economic crisis after its independence and is earmarked for sovereign default as the remaining foreign exchange reserves are not sufficient to pay the country's foreign debt obligations. The crisis is said to have begun due to multiple compounding factors like tax cuts, money creation, the 2019 Easter bombing, the impact of the COVID 19 pandemic, and inappropriate economic strategies adopted during the last few decades. It has led to unprecedented levels of inflation, near depletion of foreign exchange reserves, shortage and price increase of essential commodities such as food, medicine, fuel, gas, etc, and the political instability resulting people of Sri Lanka undergoing many hardships.

In order to bring economic stability to the country, the Government has to establish political stability in the country and formulate and implement new strategies with the support of external and internal organizations and the society at large. The International Conference on "The Roadmap for Economic Recovery of Sri Lanka" is an eye opener that offers a unique opportunity for CEOs, administrators, economists, and top decision-makers in the government and corporate sector to understand the problem and possible recovery measures and the role of each stakeholder in achieving the success.

IET - SRI LANKA NETWORK

The Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET), formed in 1871, is the largest professional engineering society in Europe that has over 150,000 members worldwide. The Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET) Sri Lanka Network, which was established in 1935, is organizing its Annual International Conference 2022 on "The Roadmap for Economic Recovery of Sri Lanka."

Eng.(Dr.) Lalith Liyanage Chairman IET, Sri Lanka Network. Eng. Naleen Jayasuriya Conference Chairman IET, Sri Lanka Network.

Date: 30th November 2022 Time : 0830 to 1730 Hrs Venue : Galadari Hotel - Colombo, Sri Lanka

REGISTRATION Registration Fee: LKR 10,000/- for Sri Lankan Participants LKR 7,500/- for IET Members US \$75 for International Participants Fee includes Lunch, Snacks and Conference Materials

For registrations please contact: Christine - 0740077865 | 0777870321 Email - futurewaves@gmail.com jayamini.futurewaves@gmail.com

For further details Eng. Ravi Rupasinghe, Honorary Treasurer IET Sri Lanka Network Tel : +94 71 469 8539 | e-mail: ieesrilanka@sltnet.lk

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INTERNATIONAL

# INDONESIA QUAKE TOLL RISES TO 268 AS RESCUERS COMB RUBBLE FOR SURVIVORS

**T**he death toll from the earthquake that shook the Indonesian island of Java leapt to at least 268 on Tuesday as more bodies were found beneath collapsed buildings. The Cianjur regional disaster mitigation agency said on its Instagram site that the number of dead increased from 162 reported the night before. Another 151 people remain missing and more than 1,000 have been injured.

The city of Cianjur, south of Jakarta, was near the epicenter of the 5.6 magnitude earthquake that hit Monday afternoon. The tremor sent terrified residents fleeing into the streets, some covered in blood and debris, and caused buildings around the rural area to collapse.

With hospitals already overwhelmed, patients lay on stretchers and cots in tents set up outside, with intravenous drips in their arms as they awaited further treatment.

Many of the dead were public school students who had finished their classes for the day and were taking extra lessons at Islamic schools when the buildings collapsed, West Java Gov. Ridwan Kamil said.

Initial rescue attempts were hampered by damaged roads and bridges and power blackouts, and a lack of heavy equipment to help move the heavy



Rescuers cut through cement to recover the body of an earthquake victim from under the rubble of a collapsed building in Cianjur, Indonesia

concrete rubble. By Tuesday, power supplies and phone communications had begun to improve.

Operations were focused on about a dozen locations in Cianjur, where people are still believed trapped, said Endra Atmawidjaja, the public works and housing spokesperson.

"We are racing against time to rescue people," Atmawidjaja said, adding that seven excavators and 10 large trucks had been deployed from neighboring Bandung and Bogor cities to continue clearing trees and soil that blocked roads.

AFP.com, 22 Nov, 2022

## 'A barking dog seized with fear': Kim Jong Un's sister to US

**HINDUSTAN TIMES, 22 NOV, 2022-** The powerful sister of North Korean leader Kim Jong Un slammed the UN Security Council for double standards. This comes as the UNSC convened a meeting over North Korea's launch of an intercontinental ballistic missile.

North Korea fired an ICBM on Friday - one of its most powerful tests yet - prompting the UN Security Council to convene an open meeting on Monday.

Kim Jong Un's sister, Yo Jong, accused the UNSC of turning "blind eyes to the very dangerous military drills" of Seoul. She also slammed US for "their greedy arms buildup".

"This is evidently the application of double-standards," Yo Jong said in a statement carried by the official Korean Central News Agency (KCNA). Likening US to "a barking dog seized with fear", Yo Jong said that Washington was pushing the Korean peninsula towards a new crisis and warned of "the toughest counteraction".

## More restrictions in Beijing after record Covid caseload

**HINDUSTAN TIMES, 22 NOV, 2022-** Beijing reported a new high in its Covid-19 caseload and two more deaths on Tuesday as authorities shut down parks, office buildings and shopping malls, moving the city's most populous Chaoyang district closer to a full lockdown and

urging residents not to venture out unless necessary. Health officials urged Chaoyang district's nearly 3.5 million residents to remain at home after it became the worst-hit area in the capital's latest Covid flare-up. Local authorities identified over 1,400 cases in Beijing

for Monday with 783 infections detected in Chaoyang alone. It was the first time that Beijing recorded over 1,000 new cases in a day since the pandemic began in late 2019 in the central Chinese city of Wuhan. The death toll in Beijing now stands at five.

## Five dead, 40 injured in Iraq gas tank explosion

**DOHUK (IRAQ) (AFP), 22 NOV, 2022-** Five people died and 40 were injured when a gas tank exploded and sparked a fire in a student dormitory in northern Iraq, authorities said Tuesday.

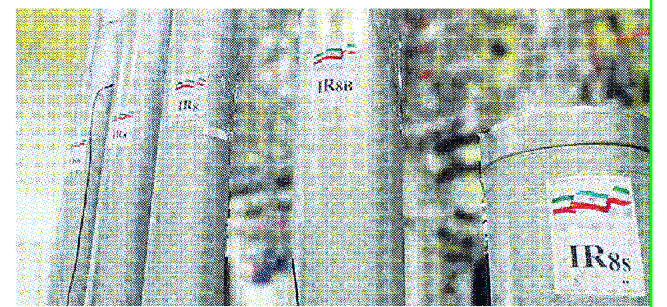


The explosion in Dohuk is the second LPG tank explosion to occur in Iraqi Kurdistan in less than a week (AFP)

The blast hit Monday night when a rooftop gas tank leaked at a building housing the student accommodation and a bakery in the Kurdish city of Dohuk. "The gas leaked, reaching the students' rooms, and police arrived to evacuate them," Dohuk's governor, Ali Tatar, told AFP. "Unfortunately at that moment, the explosion occurred."

A student, a bakery worker and three policemen who arrived as part of the emergency response were killed, including the unit's deputy director, Tatar said.

It was the second explosion of a liquefied petroleum gas tank in Iraqi Kurdistan in less than a week. Last Thursday, 15 people died in Sulaimaniyah when an LPG tank exploded and caused the collapse of a building.



Iranian uranium enrichment equipment (AFP)

## Iran retaliates against UN nuclear resolution: Media

**RT.COM, 22 NOV, 2022-** Tehran has for the first time started enriching uranium to 60% fissile purity at the Fordow facility, Iranian media reported on Tuesday. Such a move would be seen as a response to a critical resolution adopted by the UN's nuclear watchdog last week.

Iran is already enriching uranium at Natanz, its other major production site, to below weapons-grade 90% enrichment, but well above the 3.67% limit specified in the 2015 Iran Nuclear

Deal, or JCPOA. The US abandoned the deal with Tehran during the administration of Donald Trump, leading to its erosion and effective collapse. Other reported moves by Iran include upgrading cascade lines with more advanced gas centrifuges to boost production capacity at Fordow, as well as firing up additional chains at Natanz.

Tehran's action was described as retaliation in a resolution passed last Thursday by the Board of Directors of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

## Russia threatens to cut gas exports due to Ukraine's theft

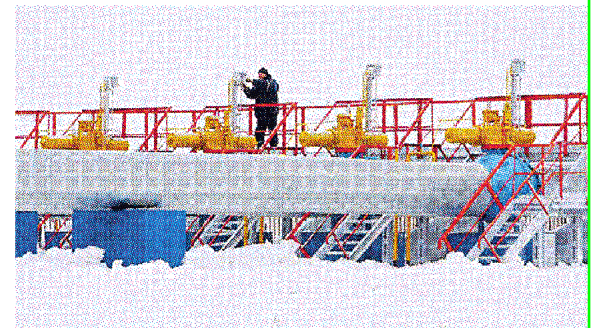
**RT.COM, 22 NOV, 2022-** Russia's energy giant Gazprom said on Tuesday that Ukraine was diverting natural gas supplies transiting to Moldova, and the company has threatened to curtail deliveries through a key pipeline in response.

"The volume of gas supplied by Gazprom to the 'Sudzha' gas measuring station (GMS) for transit to Moldova via Ukraine exceeds the physical volume transmitted at the border of Ukraine with Moldova," Gazprom's statement read.

Moldova paid for some November gas supplies on Monday, according to Gazprom, which said that Kiev had kept 52.52 million cubic metres of gas meant for Moldova on its territory.

The Russian energy company further warned that if the transit imbalance persists then it would begin slashing gas supply to the Sudzha GMS for transit via Ukraine from 10 am (7am GMT) on November 28, "in the amount of the daily underdelivery".

The Sudzha transit line through Ukraine remains the only route to supply Russian gas to western and central European countries after the Nord Stream network was damaged by a



suspicious explosion in September. Meanwhile, land-locked Moldova, which has been suffering massive blackouts lately, has called for international assistance as soaring energy costs and skyrocketing inflation are set to put a huge strain on consumers in one of Europe's poorest countries.

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| <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Prize</b>  | Rs. 110,000 Luxury Perfume gift hamper                            |
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| <b>7<sup>th</sup> Prize</b>  | 1 night stay, The Villa by Contemporary Ceylon, Wadduwa, DBL/BB   |
| <b>8<sup>th</sup> Prize</b>  | Rs. 55,000 Park Street Gourmet hamper                             |
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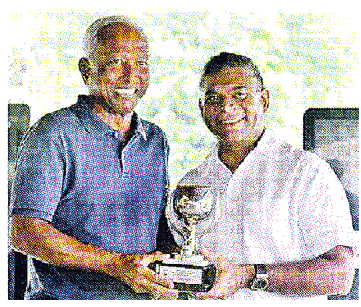


SPORTS

Royal Colombo Golf Club-North east Monsoon Meet 2022 KEN DE ALWIS IN SPARKLING FORM

Former Thomian cricketer and top class golfer, Ken de Alwis won the RCGC Centenary Trophy with the last round best card with a net score of 284 at the North East Monsoon Meet 2022 which took place at the Royal Colombo Golf Club (RCGC)

over the last four weekends. Meanwhile 12-year-old British School, Colombo and Junior Golfer, Thejas Rathis Kanth who was in top form ending as runner-up at the same event with a Nett score of 284 giving a good promise over the last couple of months with an excellent golf display.



Centenary Trophy Winner Ken De Alwis

CLIFFORD CUP

Winner - Chanaka Perera (Nett 136), Runner-up - Tariq Mohamed (Nett 137), Annual Gold Medal

Winner - Chanaka Perera (Gross 73), Runner-up - Avancha Herat (Gross 76), RCGC Centenary Trophy

Winner - Ken de Alwis (Nett 284) last round best card, Runner-up - Thejas Rathis Kanth (Nett 284), Mackinlay Quash

Winner - Deanath Kulatunga (Nett 68) B/B9, Runner-up - Toshiki Tanaka (Nett 68), Nandasena Perera Trophy (Best gross score round 2)

Winner - Chanaka Perera (Gross 146), Runner-up - Husni Uwise (Gross 150), Havelock Trophy 2022

Joint Winners - Dulitha Perera and Romesh Abhayaratne (49 points each), Joint Runners-up - Jacob Norton and Prabath Gamage (48 points each), George Hayley Mixed Foursomes 2022

Joint Winners - Anashya Weerakody and Manjula Chandrasoma, Runner-up - R. Sangani,

Sir Earnest Fernando Trophy 2022 Joint Winners - Preshan Peiris and Mario Fernando, Joint Runners-up - Reshan Algama and Keshav Algama, Grand Prix 2021/2022

Nett Winner - Nayana Dehigama, Gross winner - Sachin de Silva, Master's Division

Gross winner - Bandula Weerasinghe, Nett winner - Phillipe Covarel, Senior Division

Gross winner - Sarath Wickremaratne, Nett winner - Rinzie Fernando.

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HATTON NATIONAL BANK PLC Resolution adopted by the Board of Directors of Hatton National Bank PLC under section 4 of the Recovery of Loans by Banks (Special Provisions) Act No. 04 of 1990 Branch: KADAWATHA KURUKULASURIYA NUWAN BUDDHIKA PERERA At a meeting of the Board of Directors of Hatton National Bank PLC held on 29th September 2022 it was resolved specially and unanimously: Whereas KURUKULASURIYA NUWAN BUDDHIKA PERERA as the Obligor mortgaged and hypothecated property morefully described in the schedule here to by virtue of Mortgage Bond No. 1253 dated 18th July 2018 attested by M L A D Gunathilake, Notary public of Gampaha in favour of Hatton National Bank PLC as security for repayment of Housing Loan Facility of Rs.10,000,000/- granted by Hatton National Bank PLC to KURUKULASURIYA NUWAN BUDDHIKA PERERA. And whereas the said KURUKULASURIYA NUWAN BUDDHIKA PERERA has made default in payment of the sum due to Hatton National Bank PLC on the said Bond and due on the said Housing Loan of Rs.10,000,000.00 extended to you among other facilities and there is now due owing to Hatton National Bank PLC as at 03rd August 2022 a sum Rupees Nine Million Four Hundred and Sixty One Thousand Two Hundred and Seventy Seven and Cents Seventy Five only (Rs.9,461,277.75) on the said Bond and the Board of Directors of Hatton National Bank PLC under power vested by the Recovery of Loans by Banks (Special Provisions) Act No. 4 of 1990 do hereby resolve to sell mortgaged property as described in the schedule hereto and mortgaged to Hatton National Bank PLC by the said Bond No. 1253 be sold by Public Auction by K P N Silva Licensed Auctioneer of All Island for recovery of the said sum of Rs. 9,461,277.75 together with further interest At the rate of 14.5% p.a from 04th August 2022 on the Capital outstanding of Rs.8,623,324.22 to date of sale together with costs of advertising and other charges incurred less payments (if any) since received. THE SCHEDULE ABOVE REFERRED TO All that divided and defined allotment of land marked Lot 2B depicted in Plan No 2262 dated 30th December 2016 made by K M Sarda Hewamanage Licensed Surveyor of the land called "GORAKAGAHAWATTE" together with everything standing thereon situated at Rammuthugala Village in the Grama Niladhari's Division of Rammuthugala and Divisional Secretary's Division of Mahara within the Naranwala Sub-Office of Mahara Pradeshiya Sabha Limits in the Adikari Pattu of Siyane Korale in the District of Gampaha Western Province and which said Lot 2B is bounded on the NORTH by Lot 2A on the EAST by Ranaviru Mawatha on the SOUTH by Road and on the WEST by Land of Deepika Gunawardena (Lot 1 of the same Land) and Containing in Extent Six Decimal Five Nought Perches (A:0 R:0 P:6.50) according to the said Plan No. 2262 and Registered under Volume / Folio M 245/82 at the District land Registry of Gampaha. Together with the right of way over and along the reservation for road depicted in Plan No. 2262 dated 30th December 2016 made by K M Sarda Hewamanage Licensed Surveyor confirmed to be a public road now. By order of the Board of Directors. K A L T RANAWEEERA DGM (LEGAL)/BOARD SECRETARY

HATTON NATIONAL BANK PLC Resolution adopted by the Board of Directors of Hatton National Bank PLC under section 4 of the Recovery of Loans by Banks (Special Provisions) Act No. 04 of 1990 Branch: KALUTARA UDAWATTAGE UDESH RANGA SILVA At a meeting of the Board of Directors of Hatton National Bank PLC held on 29th September 2022 it was resolved specially and unanimously: Whereas UDAWATTAGE UDESH RANGA SILVA as the Obligor mortgaged and hypothecated property morefully described in the Schedule hereto by virtue of Mortgage Bond No. 2401 dated 10th October 2018 attested by Y N P de SILVA, Notary Public of Kaluthara in favour of Hatton National Bank PLC as security for repayment of Housing Loan facility of Rs. 9,100,000.00 granted by Hatton National Bank PLC to UDAWATTAGE UDESH RANGA SILVA. And whereas the said UDAWATTAGE UDESH RANGA SILVA has made default in payment of the sum due to Hatton National Bank PLC on the said Bond and due on the said Housing Loan of Rs.9,100,000.00 extended to you among other facilities and there is now due owing to Hatton National Bank PLC as at 09th June 2022 a sum of Rupees Seven Million Four Hundred and Eleven Thousand Five Hundred and Thirty Six and Cents Four Only (Rs. 7,411,536.04) on the said Bond and the Board of Directors of Hatton National Bank PLC under the power vested by the Recovery of Loans by Banks (Special Provisions) Act No. 4 of 1990, do hereby resolve to sell mortgaged property as described in the Schedule hereto and mortgaged to Hatton National Bank PLC by the said Bond No. 2401 be sold by Public Auction by J W E Jayawardena Licensed Auctioneer of all Island for recovery of the said sum of Rs. 7,411,536.04 together with further interest at the rate 15% p.a from 10th June 2022 on the capital outstanding of Rs.7,140,594.61 to date of sale together with costs of advertising and other charges incurred less payments (if any) since received. THE SCHEDULE ABOVE REFERRED TO Allotment of land marked Lot 1 depicted in Plan No. 1210 dated 22nd October 1999 made by K D L Wijenayake Licensed Surveyor of the land called Portion of Nagoda Estate situated at Maha Heenatiyangala in the Grama Niladhari Division of 727 A Atawila within the Pradeshiya Sabha Limits and Divisional Secretariat of Kaluthara Badda of Kaluthara Totamune North in the District of Kaluthara Western Province and which said Lot 1 is bounded on the NORTH by Lot 1 of the same Land (Filed of Record in the District Court of P 5328) on the EAST by Lots P & 3 of the same Land on the SOUTH by Lots 2 & 3 and on the WEST by Lot 2 in Plan No. 1153 and Lots 2 & 4 and containing in extent ONE ROOD ZERO DECIMAL SIX THREE PERCHES (AO-R0-P63) as per the said Plan No. 1210. Which said Land is recently surveyed and shown in Plan No. 354 dated 06th February 2013 made by Lasantha Hewagama Licensed Surveyor and described as follows: Allotment of land marked Lot 1 depicted in Plan No. 354 dated 06th February 2013 made by Lasantha Hewagama Licensed Surveyor of the land called Portion of Nagoda Estate situated at Maha Heenatiyangala in the Grama Niladhari Division of 727A Atawila within the Pradeshiya Sabha Limits and Divisional Secretariat of Kaluthara in Kaluthara Badda of Kaluthara Totamune North in the District of Kaluthara Western Province and which said Lot 1 is bounded on the NORTH by Lot 1 of the same Land (Filed of Record in the District Court of P 5328) on the EAST by Lots P of the same Land & 3 of the same Land in Plan No. 1210 on the SOUTH by Lots 2 & 3 of the same Land in Plan No. 1210 and on the WEST by Lot 4 & 2 in the same Land in Plan No. 1210 and Lot 2 in Plan No. 11153 and containing in extent ONE ROOD ZERO DECIMAL SIX THREE PERCHES (AO-R0-P63) as per the said Plan No. 354. Together with the Right of way of other similar rights over and along the road Reservations marked Lots 4 & 5 depicted in Plan No. 1210 dated 22nd October 1999 made by K D L Wijenayake Licensed Surveyor. By order of the Board K A L T RANAWEEERA DGM (LEGAL)/BOARD SECRETARY

HATTON NATIONAL BANK PLC Resolution adopted by the Board of Directors of Hatton National Bank PLC under section 4 of the Recovery of Loans by Banks (Special Provisions) Act No. 04 of 1990 Branch: KEGALLE GREEN CAFÉ HOTEL MANAGEMENT SERVICES (PRIVATE) LIMITED At a meeting of the Board of Directors of Hatton National Bank PLC held on 29th September 2022 it was resolved specially and unanimously: Whereas GREEN CAFÉ HOTEL MANAGEMENT SERVICES (PRIVATE) LIMITED as the Obligor and CHAMANI PAVITHRA GUNASEKARA as the mortgagor and MASS INTHANI GUNASEKARA as the Life Interest Holder mortgaged and hypothecated property morefully described in the schedule here to by virtue of Mortgage Bond No. 5302 dated 30th July 2018 attested by S S Hewapathirana Notary public of Kurunegala in favour of Hatton National Bank PLC as security for repayment of Term Loan facility of Rs.9,732,000.00 granted by Hatton National Bank PLC among other facilities to GREEN CAFÉ HOTEL MANAGEMENT SERVICES (PRIVATE) LIMITED. And whereas the said GREEN CAFÉ HOTEL MANAGEMENT SERVICES (PRIVATE) LIMITED has made default in payment of the sums due to Hatton National Bank PLC on the said Bond and due on the said Term Loan of Rs. 9,732,000.00 extended to you among other facilities and there is now due owing to Hatton National Bank PLC as at 25th May 2022 a sum of Rupees Nine Million Nine Hundred and Fifty Nine Thousand Eighty and cents Ninety Five Only (Rs.9,959,080.95) on the said Bond and the Board of Directors of Hatton National Bank PLC under power vested by the Recovery of Loans by Banks (Special Provisions) Act No. 4 of 1990 do hereby resolve to sell mortgaged property as described in the schedule hereto and mortgaged to Hatton National Bank PLC by the said Bond No. 5302 be sold by Public Auction by L B Senanayake Licensed Auctioneer of All Island for recovery of the said sum of Rs.9,959,080.95 together with further interest at the rate of 19.38% from 26th May 2022 on the capital outstanding of Rs.9,641,371.20/- to date of sale together with costs of advertising and other charges incurred less payments (if any) since received. THE SCHEDULE ABOVE REFERRED TO All that divided and defined allotment of land marked Lot 04 depicted in Plan No. 4351 dated 22.01.2008 made by P R T B Ratnayake Licensed Surveyor of the land called "HONATMULLA AND NELLIKOTUWA AND MINEEMARUWAWATTA" together with the buildings and everything standing thereon, situated at Hathugoda Village within the Grama Niladhari's Division of 1068, Wallahagoda within the Divisional Secretariat Division of Ganga Ihala Korale within the Pradeshiya Sabha Limits of Ganga Ihala Korale in Ganga Ihala Korale Udapalatha in the District of Kandy Central Province and which said Lot 4 is bounded on On the North by : Path and wire fence separating Bogahawatta On the South East by : Ela On the South West by : Lot 3 in the said Plan On the North West by: Road proceeds from Keselwatta to Gampola And containing in extent thirty Eight Decimal Six Eight Six Perches (AO-R0-P38.686) By order of the Board of Directors. K A L T RANAWEEERA DGM (LEGAL)/BOARD SECRETARY

REGISTRATION OF SUPPLIERS AND CONTRACTORS - 2023 SUPPLY OF CONTRACTS, GOODS, REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE AND SERVICES Applications are invited from reputed manufacturers/suppliers or their accredited agents, authorized dealers, contractors and other business establishments, who are interested in registering with the CBSL to supply the undermentioned Contracts, Goods, Repairs and Maintenance and Services during the year 2023. Category 01 - Contracts Subcategory Architectural Consultancy, Engineering Consultancy, Civil Construction, Interior Decoration, Electrical, Computer and Networking, Mechanical. Category 02 - Goods Subcategory Audio & Visual Equipment, Telephone Instruments, Access Control System, Surveillance Systems, Computers, Network Equipment & Accessories, Printers, Photocopiers & Scanners, Software Packages, Machinery & Equipment, Strapping Materials, Electrical Tools and Accessories, Electrical Equipment, Mechanical Equipment, Mechanical Tools and Accessories, Chairs & Sofas, Steel Furniture & Equipment, Tables, Building Material, Janitorial Requirements, Laboratory Equipment, Pharmaceutical Products, Surgical Instruments, Medical Clinic Equipment, General Office Equipment, General Office Stationery Items, Paper Rolls, Paper-based Products, Toners, Cartridges & Ribbons, Restaurant Equipment & Kitchenware, Gym Equipment & Accessories, Library Equipment & Supplies, Safety Equipment, General Textiles, Sports Clothes, Uniforms & Accessories. Category 03 - Repairs and Maintenance Subcategory General Repairs, Heavy Machinery, Security Equipment, Vehicles. Category 04 - Services Subcategory Advertising, Airline Ticketing Services, Construction Related Services, Clearing & Forwarding Services, Event Management, Housekeeping, Marketing Services, Media & Advertising Services, Manpower Services (Contract Basis), Moving Services, Other Services, Professional Services, Publicity Material, Printing Services, Tailoring, Transportation Services. Terms and Conditions for Applicants (i) Quotations will generally be called from the registered suppliers/ authorized dealers and manufacturers/ contractors. The CBSL, however, reserves itself the right to invite quotations from non-registered authorized dealers/ suppliers and manufacturers/ contractors. (ii) The CBSL reserves itself the right to reject any application received for registration whose credentials upon evaluation are found to be unsatisfactory. (iii) Suppliers, authorized dealers, manufacturers and contractors who are already registered with the Bank for the year 2022 shall re-apply for the registration for the year 2023. (iv) Only the contractors who are registered with Construction Industry Development Authority (CIDA) or National Construction Association of Sri Lanka (NCASL) will be eligible to get registered for constructions. (v) Only the airline ticketing agents who are registered with the Civil Aviation Authority/ Sri Lanka will be eligible to get registered for airline ticketing services. (vi) Only the firms registered with the Provincial Council/Divisional Secretariat and approved by the Ministry of Defense for providing Security Services will be eligible to get registered for the supply of Security Services & Security Personnel. (vii) Copies of the necessary documents certified by the company to prove that the applicants fulfill the conditions required under (iv), (v) and (vi) above should be submitted along with the duly filled application forms. (viii) All the applications which do not contain the necessary supporting documents and reach after the deadline will be rejected. (ix) Names of those who fail to quote promptly when required or fail to deliver goods and services on time or who supply substandard goods, services, repairs and maintenance will be expunged from the register. Submission of Applications (i) Application Form for registration could be obtained from the CBSL website by visiting https://www.cbsl.gov.lk/en/tenders. Applicable non-refundable fees for the registration are given in the Application Form. Instructions for filling the application are available on the website. (ii) Duly filled Application form with relevant documents should be sent only via email to supreg@cbsl.lk on or before 09 December 2022. Applicants can fill the applications digitally or by hand and send the scanned copies. (iii) Hard copies of applications should not be sent. Payments (i) The applicants are required to pay the corresponding fee for each subcategory for the items they are applying for. Applications of the suppliers who fail to pay the required amount of fees will be rejected and any excess amount will not be refunded. (ii) Registration fees can be paid through any licensed commercial bank. Any further information could be obtained from the Assistant Secretary/Procurement Division on Telephone No. 011-2477123. Secretary Central Bank of Sri Lanka





# Mirror Business

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Full Stock Market P12

## CB chief says no going back to old ways; urges politicians to walk the talk

- Calls for consistent policies; says can't go back to old ways once IMF deal clinched
- Stresses need to end repeating cycles of balance of payment deficits once and for all
- Urges need for Cabinet and Parliament to work towards one direction to resurrect economy

By Shabiya Ali Ahlam

Central Bank Governor Dr. Nandalal Weerasinghe yesterday stressed the need for the country's political authorities to be consistent with their plans to pull the island nation out of the ongoing economic crisis, so that the

cycle of economic mismanagement can be broken once and for all.

Dr. Weerasinghe asserted the need for the higher-ups to be consistent with the policy decisions already taken and ensure they do not go back to old ways and practices once the International Monetary Fund (IMF) deal is clinched.

"What happens all the time is that they (politicians) are not consistent in their activities, specially with the macro-fiscal framework. We need to maintain consistency over a period of time," said Dr. Weerasinghe during a forum that was organised to celebrate Sri Lanka Internet Day 2022, yesterday in Colombo.

"Whenever we go to the IMF, we agree to go towards a certain path and once the programme is over, we go back to old ways and end up in repeating cycles of balance of payment deficits," he added.



Dr. Nandalal Weerasinghe  
PIC BY NIMALSIRI EDIRISINGHE

Dr. Weerasinghe stressed on the importance to understand who has fiscal authority and the roles of the Cabinet and Parliament, so that all sections are working in one direction towards achieving a single goal.

According to him, this time around,

the majority of the political parties appear to have identified the need for fiscal consolidation and the ongoing debates in Parliament show that all sides are determined to increase government revenue and reduce the deficit, so that the ongoing economic crisis can be tackled at the earliest.

"This is a positive that I see. Going forward, if this continues, I think we can see a positive outcome," he said.

Sri Lanka is facing its worst economic crisis at the moment, as a result of decades-long mishandling of the economy. The latest of such blunders include the 2019 tax cuts, excessive money printing through the pandemic, ban on chemical fertilisers and botched rupee devaluation in March this year.

Sri Lanka has already gone to the IMF 16 times, after printing money to boost domestic demand and losing foreign reserves.

## Initial Cabinet nod for proposed new anti-corruption legislation

The initial Cabinet nod has been granted for the proposed new Anti-Corruption Act, which includes provisions to protect whistleblowers along with provisions to carry out investigations independently.



Wijeyadasa Rajapakse

"I presented an anti-corruption bill to the Cabinet of Ministers and the Cabinet endorsed it as a policy decision," Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms Minister Wijeyadasa Rajapakse told the weekly post-Cabinet media briefing held in Colombo yesterday.

The minister pointed out that the current Commission to Investigate Allegations of

Bribery or Corruption (CIABOC) has lost public confidence, as many of the complaints go unaddressed, with no accountability.

Therefore, he noted that the new draft legislation would address all shortcomings

in the current commission by making it more accountable.

"Along with the public, we also don't have confidence in the Commission to Investigate Allegations of Bribery or Corruption. There is a large number of complaints lodged at the CIABOC but we cannot question the action taken on these complaints."

MORE ON P12

## SDB bank appoints Priyantha Talwate as CEO

Sanasa Development Bank PLC (SDB bank) yesterday announced the appointment of the veteran banker Priyantha Talwate as its Chief Executive Officer (CEO).



Priyantha Talwate

A filing by SDB bank said the Central Bank approval was received on November 22 to appoint Talwate as the bank's CEO.

Talwate is a transformational business leader, with 30 years of senior leadership experience and a track record of delivering sustainable stakeholder value.

MORE ON P12

## New German supply chain law presents Lankan exporters with new opportunities

■ German Act on Corporate Due Diligence Obligations in Supply Chains to come into effect from January 1, 2023

■ New law is an effort by German govt. to protect human rights and manage material environmental risks through supply chains of companies operating in Germany

■ EU has a similar or much more sophisticated legislation in the making that may come into effect in 2024



From left: AHK Sri Lanka Chief Delegate Marie Antonia von Schönburg, Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom Sri Lanka and Bangladesh Head Wolfgang Heinze, EDB Chairman and Chief Executive Suresh de Mel and EDB Director Export Services Indumini Kodikara

PIC BY NIMALSIRI EDIRISINGHE

The German Act on Corporate Due Diligence Obligations in Supply Chains, which comes into force from January 1, 2023, presents an excellent opportunity for Sri Lankan exporters to strengthen and showcase their high sustainability standards while increasing high

value-added exports, according to experts. "The Supply Chain Due Diligence Act is an excellent opportunity for the export sector to strengthen and showcase their high standards."

MORE ON P12

## CB widely expected to maintain policy rates tomorrow

■ Pressure is gradually building on CB to support faster recovery and reboot growth

The Central Bank is widely expected to keep the policy interest rates at the current levels while skewing a bit more towards a dovish stance at the monetary policy meeting scheduled for today, after the softer than expected inflation prints, which came during the last three weeks.

This year's eighth and final monetary policy announcement is expected on Thursday (24) morning.

In a precursor to what could be expected at the upcoming policy meeting, Central Bank Governor Dr. Nandalal Weerasinghe last week said interest rates might have peaked and the Central Bank may intervene to ease the liquidity conditions in the interbank money market, which could

put downward pressure on short-term rates.

"The recent rise in interest rates should turn around because the inflation has turned around," Weerasinghe told a post-budget forum, filled with bankers and financial sector executives, last week.

The short-term government securities yields promptly responded to the governor's remarks, as some were looking for a pivot in the interest rates policy amid easing inflation. As of late, calls have been growing louder to support economic recovery and growth before the downturn becomes entrenched, causing irreparable damage to the economy.

After aggressively raising the key policy rates, taking the cumulative hike in rates to 950 basis points this year through July, the Central Bank paused to see if its actions were sufficient to break the relentless cycle of runaway inflation.

MORE ON P12

## Cabinet greenlights proposed Banking (Special Provisions) Act

The Cabinet greenlight has been granted to draft the Proposed Banking (Special Provisions) Act that aims to strengthen the bank resolution framework, under the Crisis Management Framework of Financial Institutions Regulated by the Central Bank on a priority basis.

President Ranil Wickremesinghe, in his capacity as the Finance, Economic Stabilisation and National Policies Minister, sought the approval of the Cabinet of Ministers to advise the Legal Draftsman to prepare the

bill based on the initial draft bill prepared by the Central Bank.

As the International Monetary Fund and World Bank have highlighted the importance of strengthening the resolution framework to strengthen the financial sector safety nets, the proposed Banking (Special Provisions) Act is to be drawn up as a supplement to Banking Act No. 30 of 1988, introducing provisions for resolution of licensed banks, deposit insurance and winding up/liquidation of licensed banks.

MORE ON P12

## Private sector, economists take aim at massive defence allocation in Budget 2023

■ Defence spending at a mammoth Rs.532bn for 2023

■ Govt. urged to reallocate such spending to strengthen social security, health and education

■ Treasury Secy. says defence expenditure remains rigid but would tackle it over medium term

■ IPS chief calls to ensure an economic recovery, which puts lower income segments at core

The private sector representatives and economists took aim at the inexplicably massive defence allocation in Budget 2023, at a time when the country is facing no major security threats and when large swaths of the population are undergoing the worst living conditions, being pushed into starvation and poverty.

PwC Sri Lanka Chief Executive Officer Sujeewa Mudalige said the budget had allocated a thumping Rs.532 billion for both



Dr. Dushni Weerakoon  
PIX BY PRADEEP DILRUSKHANA



Sujeewa Mudalige

defence and public security, which according to him, doesn't make sense, given Sri Lanka being an island and having completed 13

years since the end of the conflict.

He showed that defence spending has continuously increased in every budget

and if left unchecked, it could easily touch a trillion rupees per annum in the next couple of years.

"As a taxpayer, I have to say this and I believe most of the taxpayers here will agree. The elephant in the room is defence," Mudalige told a recent post-budget forum, commenting on the expenditure rationalisation.

"We are spending Rs.500 billion to maintain the tri forces and police. That's a huge amount of money."

MORE ON P12



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Table with columns: SECURITY, VOLUME, VWAP, OPEN, HIGH, LOW, VWAP TODAY'S, CHANGES. Lists various securities and their market data.

Exchange Rates table with columns: CURRENCY, BUYING RATE, SELLING RATE. Lists rates for various currencies like Australian Dollar, Canadian Dollar, etc.

Indices recover after six sessions

The ASPI closed in green as a result of price gains in counters such as Expolanka Holdings, Lanka IOC and Ceylinc Insurance with the turnover crossing Rs 1.5 Bn.

NDB Securities logo and text: Telecom, First Capital Treasuries and The Colombo Port Land & Building. Foreign participation in the market activity remained at subdued levels with foreigners closing as net buyers.

turnover (due to Sunshine Holdings and Lankem Developments) whilst the sector index gained 3.50%. The share price of Sunshine Holdings gained Rs 1.10 (3.44%) to close at Rs 33.10.

Contd. from Page 11

Initial Cabinet...

Therefore, a specialist team led by President's Counsel Sarath Jayaramana and former director of the CIABOC have already drafted this new anti-corruption bill, in accordance with the concepts of 2003 United Nations Convention against Corruption.

outflows reasonably well, with what the country receives from exports and remittances. Hence, this relative calm in the domestic foreign exchange market would provide the Central Bank the space to refrain from being hawkish and consider cutting rates towards early next year.

The German Act on Corporate Due Diligence Obligations in Supply Chains is an effort on the part of the German Federal Government to protect human rights and manage material environmental risks through supply chains of companies operating in Germany.

requirements with the new act. Further, de Mel also viewed this legislation as an opportunity for Sri Lankan exporters to increase exports, in particular value-added food exports, to Germany and other premier markets.

Lanka and abroad. He set up the American Express Cards franchise for NTB from the initial phase of conducting feasibility studies to setting up and growing the business to become the market leader in Sri Lanka's credit card issuing and acquiring business space.

that could be made in the areas of social security, health, education and skill development with only a 10 percent of the defence budget reallocated into each of these areas.

New German...

In the context of worldwide diversification of supply chains, the current effort by Sri Lankan exporters would strengthen the national economy through higher exports to Germany, Europe and beyond."

He made these remarks in taking part in a press conference yesterday in Colombo, which was organised to award certifications to 26 Export Development Board (EDB) officials, who completed a capacity building programme in preparation for the forthcoming German Act on Corporate Due Diligence in Supply Chains.

This includes transparent value chains, sensible trade agreements that enable lasting good economic relations, the observance of fundamental human rights and international conventions in commerce and the guarantee of economic standards across value chains when doing business with Germany."

Cabinet greenlights...

Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms Minister Wijeyadasa Rajapakshe noted that the proposed act would be followed by a comprehensive new Banking Act, replacing Banking Act No. 30 of 1988 at a later stage, as it is difficult to enact a new complete banking law in a short period.

SDB bank...

He was a pioneering senior leader shaping the ascend of Nations Trust Bank PLC (NTB) in Sri Lanka from a small size lender to a top banking powerhouse. He spent the last 20 years at NTB, joining it as Corporate Manager in 2002 and was CEO/Director for the last two years.

Private sector...

"I think one thing we have forgotten is that we are an island nation and it has been 13 years since the end of the conflict. I think a review is required on this," he remarked.

# Thailand helps SL to procure portion of country's maize seed requirement for Maha season

To address the looming shortage of grains for the animal feed industry and maize-based food items, due to the ongoing socio-economic crisis in Sri Lanka, as part of the response efforts through the United Nations (UN) joint Humanitarian Needs and Priorities (HNP) Plan, the Royal Thai Embassy in Colombo has supported the procurement of a portion of the country's maize seed requirements, working together with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

In addition to the livestock feed industry, maize is a staple input for food items such as Thripasha and Samapasha, for which the demand for seeds has swelled over the recent years.

The UN has since June been responding to the crisis through its joint HNP, which was recently revised to target the provision of life-saving assistance for 3.4 million Sri Lankans and extended through the end of December. Foreign exchange shortages and reduced household purchasing power, exacerbated by two consecutive seasons of poor harvests, have triggered a dramatic increase in food insecurity. Twenty-eight percent of the population or 6.3 million people, face moderate-to-severe acute food insecurity. The Royal Thai Embassy recognised the immediate need to import



Thai ambassador hands over contribution cheque to UN RC and representatives from Agricultural Ministry and UNDP. Pic by Kithsiri De Mel

Maize seeds and supplement the requirement for the Maha harvest season.

Thai Ambassador to Sri Lanka Poj Harnpol handed over the maize seeds to Agriculture Minister Mahinda Amaraweera yesterday, in the presence of United Nations Sri Lanka Resident Coordinator Hanaa Singer-Hamdy and UNDP Sri Lanka Deputy Resident Representative Malin Herwig, along with representatives from humanitarian partner organisations.

Highlighting the role of the Government of Thailand

in contributing towards food security needs, Harnpol stated, "Thailand supports the concerted efforts of the UN programmes to maintain sustainable livelihoods of the affected Sri Lankans. This contribution is one of the packages of Thailand's donation to Sri Lanka, including medicines, medical supplies, food and financial support from both the government sectors as well as people's sectors from Thailand."

The procurement of maize seeds will supplement the ongoing overall food security

efforts working with farmer organisations in the dry zone districts of Sri Lanka.

Speaking to the timeliness of the intervention, Amaraweera commented, "We are grateful to the Royal Kingdom of Thailand, for their generous support, for providing 14.5 metric tonnes of hybrid seeds, which is sufficient for 2900 farmers, at this crucial time. This will help to strengthen the bilateral relationship, between Thailand and Sri Lanka. My sincere appreciation to the UNDP, for speeding up the procurement and purchasing seeds, within a short period."

# Emirates to operate double daily direct flights to Colombo from December 1

Emirates yesterday announced plans to add one more daily direct flight between Dubai and Colombo from December 1, 2022 to cater to the seasonal increase in the demand for travel.

The additional service, EK648/EK649 will increase the number of daily flights between the two cities to three, including two direct flights and one operating via the Maldivian capital Male.

Emirates' additional daily service will operate direct between Dubai and Colombo, except during December 16 to 30, when the service from Dubai to



Colombo will stop over in Male. From December 1 to 15 and from December 31 to March 26, EK648 will depart Dubai at 16:10hrs daily and arrive in Colombo at 21:55hrs, all times local.

Flight EK648 will be routed via Male from December 16 to 30 and will during that period, depart Dubai at 10:30hrs, arrive in Male at 14:45hrs, depart for Colombo at 17:15hrs and arrive in Colombo at 19:15hrs.

From December 1 to March 26, flight EK649 is scheduled to depart Colombo at 02:55hrs and arrive in Dubai at 05:55hrs.

Emirates operates its modern Boeing 777-300ER aircraft in a three-class configuration on flights to Colombo, offering private suites in First Class, lie flat seats in Business Class and spacious seats in Economy Class.

# Could privatising profitable businesses to foreign investors deteriorate BOP?



BY INDIKA HETTIARACHCHI

The official data shows that deterioration of Sri Lanka's external balance is partly due to the increase profit repatriations by foreign direct investment (FDI)-backed businesses. The low level of new FDIs coupled with the existing FDI stock already reaching the profit repatriation phase has exacerbated Sri Lanka's balance of payment (BOP) woes.

The government appears to be looking at privatising state-owned businesses to foreign investors as a remedy to the current economic crisis. However, such privatisations could lead to further weakening of BOP in the medium term, especially if the privatised business is not going to generate significant foreign income.

### Growing gap between (new) FDI and FDI venture profit repatriation

As shown in the table, the gap between profit repatriations by FDI ventures and net cash FDI inflow has been negative since 2015, suggesting the majority of Sri Lanka's existing FDI ventures have reached the profit repatriation phase. The FDI cash inflows exceeded profit repatriations in 2018 and 2019, due to the proceeds from the sale of the Hambantota Port.

It is likely that a high level of profit repatriations seen during last few years is from FDI ventures in non-tradable sector investments like property development, thus causing an unusual imbalance in the external account.

Also, the gradual deterioration of the overall economic and political stability appeared to have encouraged investors to take profits out rather than to reinvest. For example, for the first half of 2022, the FDI ventures have repatriated 97 percent of profits made, despite a 74 percent surge in profits compared to the first half of 2021.

Table: Foreign Profit Repatriations by FDI ventures vs. FDI inflows

|   | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015  | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019  | 2020  | 2021 | 2022 (1H) |
|---|------|------|------|-------|------|------|------|-------|-------|------|-----------|
| FDI (net, cash)                           | 692  | 565  | 564  | 328   | 449  | 872  | 1386 | 494   | 243   | 308  | 285       |
| Profit Repatriations                      | 200  | 422  | 386  | 435   | 504  | 414  | 565  | 599   | 445   | 357  | 433       |
| FDI (net, cash) less Profit Repatriations | 492  | 143  | 178  | (107) | (55) | 458  | 821  | (105) | (202) | (49) | (148)     |
| Profit payout ratio                       | 45%  | 55%  | 50%  | 55%   | 53%  | 45%  | 72%  | 69%   | 70%   | 55%  | 97%       |

Source: CBSL Reports

This is an unfortunate situation, despite that FDI ventures in Sri Lanka have earned an average of 9.8 percent during the 10-year period between 2011 to 2020 compared to the global average of 6.9 percent. Again, this is a reflection of the true nature of FDI – their short-term focus and preference to take out earnings from Sri Lanka quickly. As Sri Lanka descended into a deep economic crisis in early 2022, FDI ventures have taken out almost half a billion dollar in profits during the first six months of 2022 alone.

### Rising foreign private debt stock and equity stock without inflows

Another way FDI ventures exert pressure on the country's BOP is through loading the company with private (intercompany) debt and raising equity value through revaluations. During the ten-year period between 2012 to 2021 FDI debt stocks have surged by over 200 percent when the growth in FDI equity stock has been almost flat. However, in 2021, there has been an extremely unusual increase in (net) FDI equity value by almost US \$ 4 billion (a 46 percent increase YoY). Such surge in equity FDI stock without corresponding (actual) foreign inflows, is possible through massive revaluation of assets (in large FDI venture like the Port City project). However, such high revaluations suggest possible hefty foreign exchange outflows in the future.

### What happens when a profitable local company is sold to a foreign investor?

When a profitable local company is

sold to a foreign investor, Sri Lanka could benefit from the inflow of the sales proceeds, which could help remedy short-term BOP constraints as well as fiscal constraints. It is expected that any strategic or financial investor, investing in small emerging markets like Sri Lanka typically targets a very short investment payback period (around five to seven years). Hence, after this short payback period is over, Sri Lanka will start experiencing negative foreign outflows from the investment – unless such business generates large foreign income after privatisation.

Usually, FDI ventures also repatriate money through many other channels other than profits – these channels include management fees, royalty and licence fees, etc., which thus exacerbating negative pressure on the country's external balance.

Privatisations do have many benefits like improving financial and operational performance as well as technological advancement. However, Sri Lanka's core economic problem centres on its inability to generate sufficient foreign income to sustain itself. In such scenario, selling profitable state assets to remedy short-term liquidity issues may lead to large BOP deficits in the future unless major interventions are done to remedy the core foreign exchange problem.

(Indika Hettiarachchi is an independent international advisory professional in private market investment and projects. He has an MA in Economics from the University of Colombo and a BS in Management from University of Wisconsin. Email: indika.h@jupitercapitalpartners.com)

# Ceylon Chamber's SLES 2022 to explore factors vital for SL to achieve economic stability

Sri Lanka Economic Summit (SLES) 2022 organised by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce, will explore the factors vital to Sri Lanka achieving macroeconomic stability as the work to emerge from the economic crisis begins, under the theme 'Resetting from Turmoil to Opportunity', on December 5 and 6, at Shangri-La, Colombo.

The summit will be inaugurated by the chief guest President Ranil Wickremesinghe on December 5. The guest of honour will be World Bank Regional Vice President for South Asia Region Martin Raiser, who will participate in a Fireside Chat, where he will discuss key levers that will lead to macroeconomic stability that can play a fundamental role in Sri Lanka's journey toward economic recovery. The keynote speaker at the summit will be Parameswaran Iyer, Chief Executive Officer of the National Institution for Transforming India (NITI) Aayog, which serves as the apex policy think tank of the Government of India.

Day 2 of the summit will see some of the keenest minds in the arenas of monetary and fiscal policy, economic reforms, technology, investment and private sector-led growth, from both the public and private sectors, come together to discuss key macroeconomic issues and viable solutions to the current crisis.

In addition to Raiser, the summit will feature several high-profile international speakers including Aleksis Aleksishvili - former Finance Minister of Georgia Prof Nihat Bulent Gultekin - Associate Professor of Finance, Finance Department, The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania and Artak Melkonyan - Senior Advisor, Equity Financing and Funds, Sustainable Finance Hub, UNDP.

Key local speakers include Dr. Nandalal Weerasinghe - Governor, Central Bank of Sri Lanka, Mahinda Siriwardana - Secretary to the Treasury, Ministry of Finance, Yvette

Fernando - Deputy Governor, Central Bank of Sri Lanka, Renuka M. Weerakoon - Director General, Board of Investments, Dr. Sharmini Cooray - former Director, Institute of Capacity Development, IMF, Chamindry Saparamadu - Director General, Sustainable Development Council, Chandanie Wijayawardhana - Senior Additional Secretary to President, Presidential Secretariat and Suresh Shah - DG, SOE Restructuring Agency. Session panellists will also comprise a high-profile line-up of industry leaders, economists, policymakers and the next generation of Sri Lanka's corporate leaders.

Day 2 of the summit will begin with technical sessions that will focus on the macroeconomy and the reform process, while sessions thereafter will explore how the private sector can be a part of the reform process and leverage the opportunities that will become available through such reforms, as well as the opportunities for sustainable finance in the economic reset. The themes will focus on domestic policies and the reform outlook for key state institutions, facilitating private sector-led growth and investment and meeting Sri Lanka's Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) targets. In addition, the implication of an IMF programme and unfolding global dynamics on Sri Lanka's journey to economic revival will also be explored in depth. This year, the summit will also feature a session with the next generation of Sri Lanka's corporate leaders, who will share insights on their vision for a reset Sri Lanka.

In-person registrations for SLES 2022 is sold out. For further information on virtual participation in the Summit, please contact Niroshini on niroshini@chamber.lk or 0115588852; or Alikie on alikie@chamber.lk or 0115588805 or the hotline number 0770228855.



From left: Ceylon Chamber of Commerce Secretary General/CEO Manjula de Silva, Deputy Vice Chairman Krishan Balendra, Chairman Vish Govindasamy and Deputy Chairman Duminda Hulangamuwa. Pic by Pradeep Ditruckshana

# Palm oil: A diamond purposely kept in the rough!



BY MANJULA DE SILVA

Sri Lanka is purposely ignoring the economic opportunities of oil palm cultivation, at a time when the rest of the world is strengthening economies through the cultivation of productive and economically important crops, such as oil palms.

The use of palm oil extends beyond cooking to the production of margarine, biscuits, sweets, bakery products and even other non-food products. However, while the annual consumption of vegetable oil in Sri Lanka is estimated to be around 250,000 tonnes, domestic production is only about 50,000 tonnes. As a result, Sri Lanka spends a huge amount of foreign currency on vegetable oil imports. Thus, if our annual vegetable oil requirement can be met through domestically produced palm oil, it is estimated that Sri Lanka can reduce its external spending by 27 to 44 million US dollars, each year.

However, unfortunately, the public does not have a clear understanding of oil palm cultivation, which has the highest yields among crops grown for vegetable oil. This is a result of the many myths and misconceptions about palm oil, which people sadly believe without bothering to do any research.

These unfounded and unscientific misconceptions have even led to a government ban on further oil palm cultivation, even though the global body of scientific research concerning it has empirically demonstrated that cultivation and consumption of palm oil poses no significant threat to the environment or public health.

In fact, driven by scientific research, India, Malaysia, Indonesia and others have successfully and sustainably, expanded their palm oil production, with huge positive impacts accruing to their economies, particularly in rural areas. Additionally, in Sri Lanka at least, oil palm cultivation, by law, does not take place on virgin land and must occur on previously cultivated land. In fact, oil palms are a most suitable alternative to fields of rubber, tea and other crops that have begun to see yields dropping after decades.

Thus, by increasing the production of palm oil, Sri Lanka can meet its vegetable oil needs at a lower cost. Furthermore, palm oil is required for a large number of manufacturing and industrial processes, often operated by SMEs. These businesses have repeatedly reiterated that substitutes to palm



oil are economically unviable and result in decreased product quality and higher prices.

Considering the evidence supporting oil palm cultivation, it is indeed a pity that the government, not just refuses to support the industry but actively inhibits its growth and operation; without proper study, research or any need to the growing, globally concurrent body of scientific and empirical evidence supporting the cultivation of oil palms, merely to appease certain groups of activists, driven no doubt by those with vested interests.

Any decision taken with regard to palm oil must, therefore, be backed by scientific evidence, logic and foresight. Particularly amidst the present economic difficulties, government policy should be supportive of oil palm cultivation.

Many pleas to reconsider the ban have been made to authorities, through various bodies, including the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce and the Palm Oil Industry Association of Sri Lanka, highlighting the high yields obtainable, as well as the potential for economic emancipation in rural areas, particularly through the diversification of cultivation away from solely large regional plantation companies and towards smallholders, which can truly strengthen rural communities and the national economy.

However, still, at present, the government stubbornly sticks to its ban on the expansion of cultivation, much to the detriment of Sri Lanka's foreign exchange position, rural communities, SMEs, which make up the backbone of commerce and economic activity in Sri Lanka, and the national economy as a whole.

Today, every Sri Lankan is losing out as a result of this and many other, myopic, self-serving and grandstanding policy decisions taken to grow voter bases, rather than the economy. This must stop. It is now up to every Sri Lankan to call upon their leaders to pay heed to reason, empirical data, scientific evidence and expert advice, and repeal the ban on oil palm cultivation, while empowering the industry, so it can benefit all Sri Lankans!

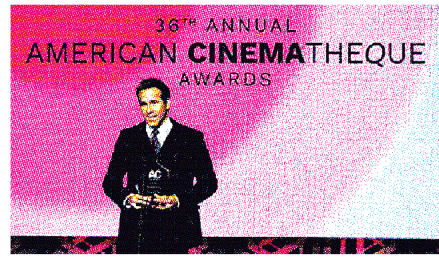
(Manjula de Silva is Secretary General and CEO of the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce)

# DailyMirror

# Life

WEDNESDAY  
NOVEMBER 23, 2022

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## SUPERHERO TURNED SOCCER CLUB OWNER RYAN REYNOLDS....

From subversive superheroes to sports documentaries, Hollywood A-lister Ryan Reynolds said he is focused on exploring new forms of storytelling, as he received a prestigious film industry honour. The star of comic-book movies such as "Deadpool" and "Green Lantern" made headlines last year when he bought lowly Welsh soccer team Wrexham, along with fellow actor Rob McElhenney. **AFP**

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## THE LIONESS OF BORALUGODA

The late **Vivienne Goonewardene** was known as a firebrand among women politicians in her time. She was a doctory fighter against any form of injustice and a left wing politician who was a stalwart of the Lanka Sama Samaja party like her husband the late Leslie; both played key roles in founding the party and travelled all over the country taking its message to the masses. She was one of the first female Ministers and was famed as a strongly anti colonial activist. She was educated at Musaeus College, Ceylon University College and The London School of Economics and led many a political struggle against the powers that be. Brave, courageous she feared no one or anything to fight for any cause that she believed in. She had a vibrant personality and great charm when one met her socially. I'm glad I had the privilege of meeting her in my youth as she was a role model to many young people at that time. One couldn't help admiring her although differing from her left wing politics. She was a woman of substance, education and a National heroine. She came from a prominent political family, and the niece of Philip and Robert Goonewardene. She has also been called the lioness of Boralugoda.

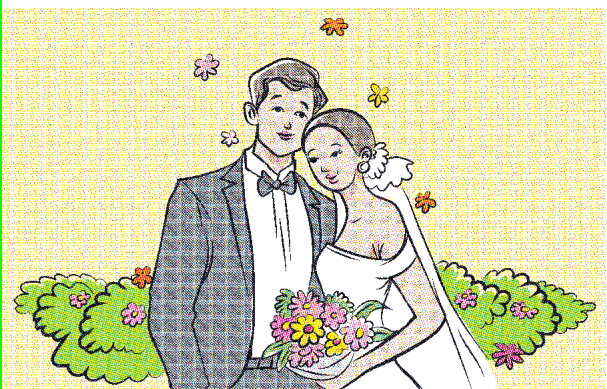


## DOGS HAVE THEIR MOODS...

In Britain many people buy the breed of dogs favoured by Royalty. Queen Elizabeth's favourite dogs were corgis, and these were most popular during her reign. King Charles's favourites are Jack Russel Terriers and there has been a surge in popularity of this breed after he became King. My golden retriever Popsy is at the moment imagining that she has had a puppy after I found a lost toy of hers while cleaning out my bedroom. She thinks that this is her puppy and is suffering from depression after I hid it as this obsession was annoying me. Dogs have their moods as well but their love and loyalty make up for their changing moods.

## HAPPY HUSBAND DAY

Some famous quotes for Happy Husband Day. 'After marriage a husband and wife become two sides of a coin, they just can't face each other, but they still stay together.' **Al Gore**. 'By all means marry. If you get a good wife, you'll be happy. If you get a bad one, you'll become a philosopher', **Socrates**. 'Wife inspires us to great things and prevents us from achieving them', **Mike Tyson**. 'I had some words with my wife and she had some paragraphs with me' **Bill Clinton**. 'There's a way of transferring funds that is even faster than electronic banking, it's called marriage', **Michael Jordan**. 'A good wife always forgives her husband when she's wrong' **Barrack Obama**. 'When you are in love, wonders happen. But once you get married, you wonder what happened' **Steve Jobs**. 'Marriage is a beautiful forest where brave lions are killed by beautiful deer' **Brad Pitt**. While getting married most of the guys say to the girls parents, 'I will keep your daughter happy for the rest of her life.' Have you ever heard of a girl saying something like this to the boy's parents? NO because women don't tell lies! 'A small argument between a husband and a wife turns violent. Husband says 'don't let the animal in me come out.' The wife says 'Who's afraid of a mouse!'



## 'Journey of Promise'

An event heralding in Advent as a prelude to Christmas will be 'Journey of Promise' by the Choir of The Cathedral of Christ the Living Saviour on **Sunday the 27th November at the Cathedral**. The choir is excellent and is led by **Ishan de Lanerole**. It is an Advent Cantata to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Cathedral.

## A WARM, KIND PERSON

A great bonus of these years of health issues and old age to me are visits from **Ramani Muttetuwegama** who now lives in Amsterdam. She never fails to boost my spirits. She is close to all my children which I'm so happy about as her late mother **Manouri**, an unforgettable person, who made a noticeable entrance wherever she went and I were friends. Her late father Sarath and my late husband were friends although on opposing sides in politics and my late father and her famous grandfather the late Colvin

Manouri Muttetuwegama

R. de Silva were friends. It's so good that these friendships are carried through generations. She always visits me when here and inquires before she comes as to what she can bring for me. I always say 'bring just yourself; but she always brings me something special which is unavailable here. She is a warm, kind person like her parents.

## FISH SAMBOL

- INGREDIENTS**
- 500 gms any fish boneless
  - 2tbsps coriander powder
  - 2tbsp chillie powder
  - 1/2 tsp turmeric powder
  - 1/2 inch piece ginger
  - lemon grass
  - 1/2 cup coconut milk
  - 2 b onions
  - 2 tomatoes
  - lime juice & salt to taste
  - 2 tsps oil
  - coriander leaves
- METHOD**
1. Slice fish.
  2. Mix spices with lime juice salt and oil.
  3. Grind onions with ginger and garlic. Grind tomatoes, lemongrass. Heat oil fry fish till golden brown and leave aside.
  4. Strain oil and sauté onion ginger garlic paste.
  5. Add spices and lemongrass.
  6. Add coconut milk and simmer for a few mins. Add fried fish.
  7. Cook for a few mins and serve hot with rice or roti.

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# CRITICAL ZONES

Science Meets Art at This International Exhibit as it Explores Mankind's Search for a Common Ground

**BY PANCHALI ILLANKOON**

International travelling exhibition project 'Critical Zones' invites visitors to engage with the critical situation of the Earth's critical zone in an interactive and stimulating curation of art works, installations and experiences. Critical Zones is open to the public at the **J.D.A Perera Gallery, Colombo till 27th November 2022**.

Critical Zones is based on a concept by Bruno Latour and Peter Weibel and was first exhibited in Germany. In collaboration with the Goethe-Institute in South Asia, the exhibit is set to travel through India and Sri Lanka in 2022 and 2023, complemented by further works from local artists.

The Critical Zone is Earth's land surface where most terrestrial life - including humanity and all that they need to survive such as water, soil, plants, rocks and animal life - resides. It's the zone where rock meets life; the very bare bones of all existence. Yet human behaviour has disrupted this thin and fragile zone and scientists are calling this domain 'critical' as this tiny part of the Earth on which humankind is totally dependent upon has entered into a sort of intensive care.

The Critical Zones exhibit is where critical zone science meets art; exhibiting a series of projects, installations, art works and research that sheds light into the topic. Curator of the exhibit, **Mira Hirtz** explaining the concept shared, "[the exhibit] is to make people rethink our relationship with Earth. We place ourselves as all important on this Earth, happy to use the resources it provides as and when we need it and now, we've exhausted it and the consequences are coming back to us. What happens if we damage this zone upon beyond repair?"

The exhibit occupies all three floors of the JDA Gallery with installations ranging from documentaries and research experiments to artwork and multimedia setups. A particular favourite from the exhibit was 'Atmospheric Forest' - a virtual reality installation that provided visitors with an immersive visualisation on the complex relationship between a forest, climate change and the atmosphere. "Critical Zones is a thought experiment that is based on the notion that we don't live from the land we live on. It's a response to the ecological crisis."

**PIX BY Waruna Wanniarachchi**

Critical Zones exhibit will be on view till 27th November 2022 at J.D.A Perera Gallery and will be accompanied by a vast activation programme consisting of workshops, film screenings and discussions. For more details - <https://www.goethe.de/ins/lk/en/ver.cfm>