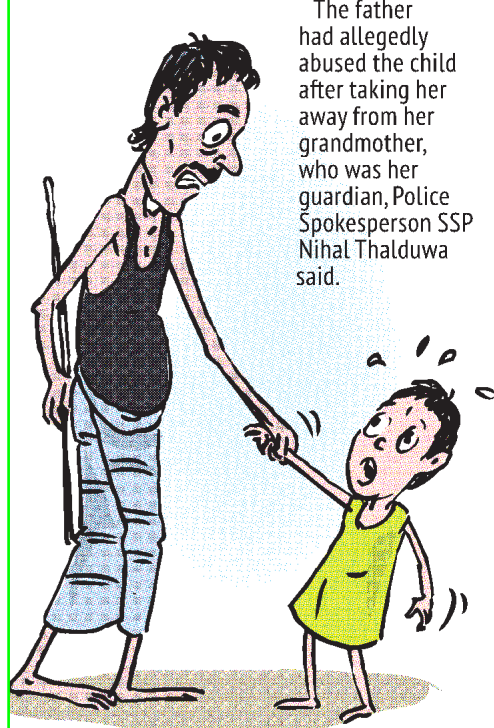




Father sends video of him abusing one-and-a-half year old daughter

He was trying to extort money from mother who works overseas

A father in Bakamoona, Matale was arrested after he had allegedly sent videos of himself abusing his one-and-a-half year old daughter in an attempt to extort money from his wife who is working overseas.



The father had allegedly abused the child after taking her away from her grandmother, who was her guardian, Police Spokesperson SSP Nihal Thalduwa said.

GAZETTE ISSUED BY DISTRICT RETURNING OFFICERS TO CONDUCT LG POLLS ON APRIL 25

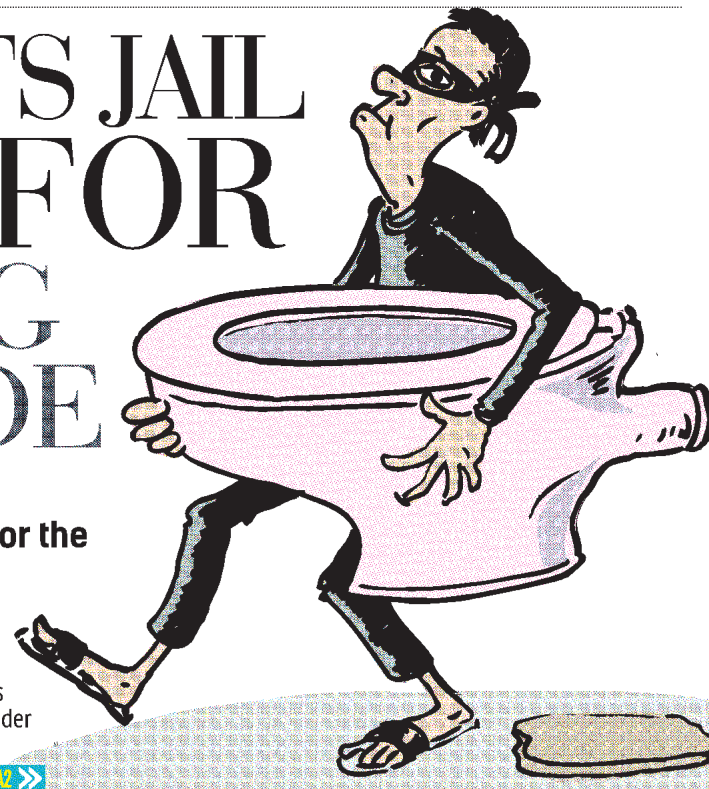
- Government Printer agrees to print postal ballot papers within five days and other ballot papers within 20 to 25 days
The EC said in a statement that Senior DIG (Elections) has agreed to assign the required number of police personnel during the printing of ballot papers as requested by the Government Printer

BY AJITH SIRIWARDANA The District Returning officers of respective districts have issued gazette notifications to hold the Local Government election on April 25, 2023, as per the Local Authorities Elections Ordinance, the Elections Commission announced yesterday.

MAN GETS JAIL TERM FOR STEALING COMMUNE

The suspect had stolen the commode used in a home for the aged in Rathgama

BY D.G.SUGATHAPALA A suspect who stood charged with stealing a toilet commode and retaining the stolen goods was sentenced to three years rigorous imprisonment under the two charges and fined Rs.3,000 by Galle Chief Magistrate Isuru Nettikumara.



SRI LANKAN RUPEE DEPRECIATES AGAINST USD

BY DARSHANA SANJEEWA BALASURIYA The Sri Lankan Rupee (LKR) which has been appreciating against the USD and other major currencies since last week has depreciated against the US Dollar (USD) yesterday compared to Thursday's buying and selling rates of the Central Bank.

Lawyer disbarred by Supreme Court

For professional misconduct BY LAKMAL SOORIYAGODA The Supreme Court yesterday issued a rule for the removal of a lawyer from the position of an Attorney-at-Law after he was found guilty of professional misconduct.

INDIVIDUAL ARRESTED FOR DRIVING LORRY USING FRIEND'S LICENCE

BY DAYARATNE EMBOGAMA An individual who used a friend's driving licence to drive lorries all over the country for several years was arrested by Oyamaduwwa Police.



High Demand for essentials as prices drop

People seen buying essential goods at a market in Colombo yesterday. Due to the rise of the Sri Lankan rupee against the US dollar, the price of many goods in the market had dropped. The price of gold has also fallen due to this reason.

ONE DEAD, TWO INJURED IN HEAD-ON COLLISION

BY KRISHAN JEEWAKA JAYARUK One died, and two others were injured in a head-on collision between a lorry and a trishaw at Nadugala in Matale last morning. The deceased and the injured were passengers of the trishaw and members of one family including husband wife and their son.



PUCSL Chairman challenges recent electricity tariff hike

BY CHATURANGA PRADEEP SAMARAWICKRAMA The Public Utilities Commission of Sri Lanka (PUCSL) Chairman Janaka Ratnayake yesterday filed a Fundamental Rights (FR) application challenging the electricity tariff hike.

Namal appointed Chairman of Oversight Committee on International Relations

The chairmanship was previously held by Justice Minister Wijeyadasa Rajapakse

SLPP MP Namal Rajapaksa has been appointed Chairman of the Oversight Committee on International Relations, Parliament media unit said. Commenting on the appointment on Twitter, MP Rajapaksa said he was honoured to be appointed to the post.

LG polls GOVT. REQUESTS NOT TO ACT ON SC INTERIM ORDER

BY AJITH SIRIWARDANA AND YOHAN PERERA State Minister of Finance Shehan Semasinghe requested Deputy Speaker to advice relevant authorities not to proceed and take any action on the interim order given by the

Supreme Court with regard to the Local Government election until the Parliamentary Committee on Ethics and Privileges concludes its hearing on the privilege issue raised by MP Premnath C. Dolawatte.

Stepmom remanded for assaulting girl while father abroad



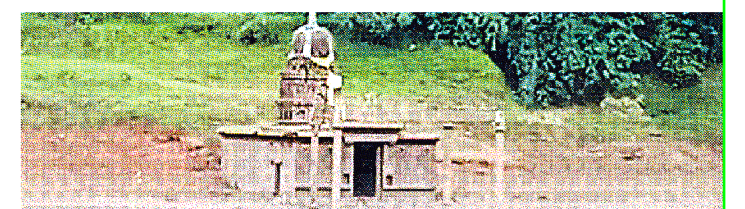
The father who installed a CCTV in the house helped police arrest the woman

BY DARSHANA SANJEEWA BALASURIYA A 39-year-old woman was arrested by the Ragama Police over the brutal assault of a 17-year-old girl in Ragama, Police Spokesman SSP Nihal Thalduwa said. It is reported that the woman in question is the stepmother of the girl and her father had gone abroad.

CID TEAM TO LEAVE FOR MADAGASCAR

to repatriate 'Harak Kata' and 'Kudu Salindu'

BY DARSHANA SANJEEWA BALASURIYA A team from the Criminal Investigations Department (CID) is scheduled to travel to Madagascar to bring two notorious underworld criminals Nadun Chinthaka Wickramaratne alias 'Harak Kata' and Salinduru Malshitha Gunaratne alias 'Kudu Salindu' who were arrested by security authorities in Madagascar recently.



MAUSSAKELLE RESERVOIR DWINDLING DUE TO PREVAILING DROUGHT

The Engineers in Charge said the water level in the reservoir stood 53ft below the spill level

BY GAMINI BANDARA ILANGATILLEKA The Maussakelle Reservoir has been fast dwindling due to the prevailing drought in the central hills. The Engineers in Charge said the water level in the reservoir stood 53ft below the spill level by last morning.



STOCK OF AMMUNITION SEIZED, TWO SUSPECTS ARRESTED

158 rods of gelnite, 200 electric detonators and 160 ft of server cords. The contraband was hidden under a stock of fish

BY SITHUM CHATURANGA A consignment of ammunition smuggled from India was seized in transit and two suspects were arrested by Mannar Police on Thursday night (9) during a raid in Pallimunai in Mannar.

LEGISLATURE CHALLENGING SC INTERIM ORDER

Judiciary may take drastic step: Opposition

MP Hakeem said challenging SCs decision and preventing the implementation of its ruling would create an unwanted conflict between the judiciary and the legislature

BY YOHAN PERERA AND AJITH SIRIWARDANA The Judiciary may take a drastic step if the legislature takes action against it with regard to the order issued by Supreme Courts to Finance Secretary and other officers to allocate funds for the local government election. Members of Opposition argued in Parliament yesterday.



# Daily Mirror

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CONTD.  
FROM PAGE 1

## Medicine shortage over in two weeks: Minister

BY YOHAN PERERA AND AJITH SIRIWARDANA

The shortage of medicines in Sri Lanka will end in two weeks, Minister of Health Keheliya Rambukwella informed Parliament yesterday. The Minister said the Ministry has been able to purchase 81 out of 151 medicines which were in short supply by Thursday. "The Finance Ministry had given priority to the health sector when it comes to state spending after allocating funds for salaries and pensions," he said. "There is no truth in halting surgeries in state hospitals as all emergency surgeries are being carried out while no emergency operations such as hernia operations have been postponed.

## Individual arrested for driving lorry using friend's licence

The 28-year-old driver from Kurunegala had been employed by a private company dealing with veterinary drugs. Police said they arrested the suspect driver who was on his way back after delivering drugs in several areas including Trincomalee, Batticaloa and Jaffna. He was not in possession of his national identity card to prove his identity at the time of arrest. Under interrogation, he stated

that his driving licence had expired, and he used a friend's licence. A senior police official said the suspect would be liable to legal action for driving a lorry without a valid driving licence and misusing another individual's licence. OIC Traffic K.D.S. Disanayake is conducting further investigations on the instructions of OIC Oyamaduwa Police IP Dimutu Gunasekara.

## One dead, two injured in head-on collision

The deceased Devalamulla Hewage Malkanthi (48) was the mother of three children. Her husband, a retired disabled soldier, who had driven the trishaw and their son received injuries, and they were admitted to Matara General Hospital.

Investigations revealed that the lorry had entered the main road haphazardly and bumped against the trishaw. OIC Traffic Samarawickrama and PC 97809 Vishmika conducted investigations.

## 75th AGM of Army Engineers Assn. to be held on March 25

75th Annual General Meeting of Sri Lanka Army Engineers Association will be held on March 25 at Mattegoda Army Engineers Camp Sports Complex at 9.30 am onwards. The Annual Raffle draw will also take place followed by lunch and fellowship. Major General Channa Gunathilaka, President of the Association will preside over all events. Transport will be provided to participants from Makumbura and Kottawa. Retired members of Army Engineer Regiments who served for National Security and National

development projects in Sri Lanka established the Army Engineers Association in 1948 with the then Royal Army Engineer members. The purpose of the association is to promote welfare activities and develop brotherhood among the members of Engineer Association. The association raises funds for welfare activities. For further details contact Major General Rohana Bandara on 0771 068 585, Brig. Amith Senarathne - 0778 966 541, Brig. Sarath Disanayake - 0777 798 008 or the Engineers Association Office on 0710 579 255.

## Changing fuel QR quota day to Tuesdays saves Rs. 30Mn monthly: Minister

BY CHATURANGA PRADEEP SAMARAWICKRAMA

The decision taken to change the weekly top-up day for the National Fuel Pass QR Quota to Tuesday midnight would save at least Rs.30 million monthly. Addressing an event at the Ministry, Minister Kanchana Wijesekera said the monthly direct cost of Ceylon Petroleum Corporation (CPC) and Ceylon Petroleum Storage Terminals Limited (CPSTL),

Muthurajawela and eleven regional depots every Sunday would be Rs.19.5 million. The indirect cost approx Rs.10 million, he said. Last Monday, the weekly top-up day for the National Fuel Pass QR Quota was shifted to Tuesdays instead of Sundays. The decision was taken to reduce the cost of distribution by operating CPC and CPSTL on weekends.

## Financial aid requested for cancer patient

Friends and well-wishers of the Board of Investment of Sri Lanka (BOI) are requesting financial assistance for their colleague, Ms Nayomi Priyangika Wickramasingha who is suffering from acute myeloid leukemia (AML). Her family needs a total of Rs. 20 Million for cycles of



chemotherapy and Bone Marrow Transplant (BMT). Ms Wickramasingha, a mother of two daughters, is currently receiving treatment at Lanka Hospital, Colombo. It is greatly appreciated if any generous contribution is made to the following bank account given below.

**Name - W. D. R. W. Kumara Bank- Sampath Bank**  
A/C No- 1026 5252 2076 Branch- Panadura Super Branch  
Contact Mr Chathura Prashanga- 0701724903 and Mr Dilshan Perera- 0775564403 for more information.

## GAZETTE ISSUED BY DISTRICT RETURNING OFFICERS TO CONDUCT

# LG POLLS ON APRIL 25

● Power and Energy Ministry and Ceylon Petroleum Corporation (CPC) have agreed to provide the required fuel stocks as requested by the EC

It said the Government Printer agreed to print and submit the postal ballot papers within five days and other ballot papers within 20 to 25 days. The EC said in a statement that Senior DIG (Elections) has agreed

to assign the required number of police personnel during the printing of ballot papers as requested by the Government Printer.

The officials of the Power and Energy Ministry and Ceylon

Petroleum Corporation (CPC) have agreed to provide the required fuel stocks as requested by the EC within the next few days.

The Commission said these agreements were reached during a meeting with relevant state institutions to remove the obstacles to holding the election as per the Supreme Court interim order.

## Govt. requests not to act on SC interim order

Raising a privilege issue, the Minister told Parliament that it is a serious offence to implement the interim order before hearing the privilege issue by the Parliamentary Committee on Ethics and Privileges. He said the letter sent

by the Chairman of the Elections Commission to the Finance Ministry with regard to the Interim order has further breached the privileges of the members of Parliament and requested the Deputy Speaker to refer the letter to the Committee

on Ethics and Privileges and conduct an inquiry.

Leader of the Opposition Sajith Premadasa and the SJB MPs who opposed the move alleged that this move is a part of a conspiracy to postpone the local government polls.

## Legislature challenging SC interim order

"Don't think the Judiciary will keep quiet if you try to inflict undue influence," Chief Opposition Whip Lakshman Kiriella told Parliament. He said this in response to a privilege issue raised by State Minister of Finance Shehan Semasinghe under which he requested them the legislature to take some action to prevent the spending

of funds for the local polls till the privilege committee looks into the issue raised by MP Premath Dolawatte who said earlier that the Supreme Court order had violated the privileges of Parliament. MP Rauff Hakeem said challenging the Supreme Court decision and preventing the implementation of its ruling would create an unwanted

conflict between the judiciary and the legislature.

MP Dolawatte who responded to the opposition during the latter half of Parliament sessions said he is very well aware of what he is doing. "I am aware of what I say and do in and out of Parliament as I have given careful thought to what I am doing," he said.

## Stock of ammunition seized, two suspects arrested

It included 158 rods of gelignite, 200 electric detonators and 160 ft of server cords. The lorry transporting the stock of contraband hidden under a stock of fish was seized during the raid. Investigations revealed that the suspects were

transporting it to Narammala in the Kurunegala area, but the purpose for which it was to be used had not been revealed by the suspects. The two suspects 35 and 54 years of age were residents of Narammala area, and they

were to be produced before the Mannar Magistrate yesterday. A police team under OIC Mannar Division Crime Investigation Unit SI Jayawardene and Sergeant 36501 Ratnamalala had carried out the raid.

## Namal appointed Chairman of Oversight Committee on International Relations

Meanwhile, MP Chamal Rajapaksa was appointed chairman of the Committee on Privileges and Ethics. The chairmanship of

Privilege committee was previously held by Justice Minister Wijeyadasa Rajapakshe.

## Stepmom remanded for assaulting girl while father abroad

He said an investigation was launched after several complaints were lodged with Ragama Police over the incident captured on CCTV and shared on social media. The spokesman said the

father had installed the CCTV in the house so that he could view its footage from abroad. It had helped the police to arrest the woman over the brutal assault of the girl. He said the suspect, the

stepmother of the girl, a resident of Ragama, has been remanded until March 24 after being produced before the Welisara Magistrate's Court. The girl had been admitted to the hospital for a medical examination.

## Sri Lankan Rupee depreciates against USD

According to the Central Bank, yesterday's buying rate of the USD was Rs. 311.62 while the selling rate was Rs. 328.90.

The buying rate of the USD reached Rs. 307.36 yesterday while the selling rate was Rs. 325.52.

## Groups with sticks to control protesters could be Avant-Garde para-military: AKD

BY AJITH SIRIWARDANA AND YOHAN PERERA

The military groups that came carrying weapons and sticks (Kurundu Polu) to control protesters could be para-military maintained by the Avant-Garde, National People's Power (NPP) MP Anura Kumara Disanayake said yesterday.

He told parliament that a military spokesman had said that the military groups that came to control the protests could not be confirmed as the official government military. The MP said the military personnel had carried weapons and wooden sticks and added that the official military should carry standard batons with the

correct length, shape and colour. "These are thugs who came carrying clubs. It is a disgrace to the military in the country. Avant-Garde maintained para-military groups of this nature. We have doubts whether these military groups are para-military of the Avant-Garde," he said.

## Pavithra elected President SL European Union Parliamentary Friendship Assn.

Minister Pavithra Wanniarachchi has been elected President of Sri Lanka European Union Parliamentary Friendship Association.

MPs Diana Gamage, Upul Galappatti and Hector Appuhamy were elected Vice Presidents. While MP Yadmini Gunawardena was elected

Secretary. In addition MP Charles Nirmalanathan was elected Assistant Secretary and Janaka Wakkumbura was elected Treasurer.

## Maussakelle Reservoir dwindling due to prevailing drought

The five hydropower complexes of Laxapana, New Laxapana, Polpitiya, Canyon and Wimalasurendra are fed mainly by Maussakelle

and Castlereagh reservoirs. Several buildings including temples and Kovils in the old Maskeliya town that had gone under the reservoir have emerged.

## Lawyer disbarred by Supreme Court

Dr. Lakshman Lucian de Silva Weerasena a Medical Practitioner by profession had complained to the Registrar of the Supreme Court by way of an affidavit against the Attorney-at-Law namely Jayantha Attanayake and his wife regarding a series of transactions, that had taken place between 05.10.1992 and 01.08.1996 with regard to a property situated at Lauries Road, Colombo 04.

The Supreme Court issued a rule ordering the respondent lawyer's name to be struck off the Roll of Attorney-at-Law.

"There is no doubt that the conduct of the respondent has brought the legal profession into disrepute and it is plainly dishonourable, disgraceful, and unworthy of an Attorney-at-Law. Hence, it is clear that the respondent has also breached Rules 60 and 61 of the Supreme Court (Conduct and Etiquette for Attorney-at-Law) Rules

1988", the Supreme Court held. The Supreme Court three-judge-bench comprised Justices Vijith Malalagoda, Murdu Fernando and S. Thurairaja.

The inquiry into the complaint was commenced before the Supreme Court after issuing the rule for the alleged misconduct against both Attorneys at Law. However, the second respondent, the wife of Jayantha Attanayake had passed away during the pendency of the proceedings.

It was alleged that two respondents had fraudulently attested five deeds with the intention of depriving the lawful heirs of the Estate of the late Agnes Georgiana Fonseka, the owner of the property, who died intestate.

It was alleged that the first respondent had committed malpractice within the ambit of section 42 (2) of the Judicature Act No 2 of 1978 which renders, unfit to remain an Attorney at Law.

## CID team to leave for Madagascar

The security authorities in Madagascar arrested eight persons including 'Harak Kata' and 'Kudu Salindu' at Ivato International Airport in Madagascar on March 1.

It is said that among the arrested was a Malagasy woman who claims to be Harak Kata's wife.

According to the L'EXPRESS report, five people including Harak Kata arrived at the country's Nosy Be International Airport on February 12 in a private jet. They had later travelled to Antananarivo Airport on a domestic flight the following day.

According to media reports, they were arrested on March 1st when they were leaving Madagascar.

At the time of arrest, Harak Kata had posed as a rich businessman on a business trip. The rest of the group including Kudu Salindu had posed as bodyguards of Harak Kata. They had stayed at two hotels in Ivato and Ambohimangakely.

Following their stay, the group was dropped off at the airport in two luxury cars.

According to the orders obtained from the Sri Lankan courts and police reports INTERPOL has issued red notices against underworld criminals including Harak Kata.

The Madagascar police officers had recognized the drug traffickers from the red notices issued by the INTERPOL and arrested them at the airport.

According to the INTERPOL red notice, the Madagascar police officers have clearly identified only Harak Kata and after questioning, Kudu Salindu who had posed as Harak Kata's bodyguard has been identified.

At that time of the arrest, the authorities found more than 38 million in Madagascar local currency in the possession of the woman who claimed to be the wife of Harak Kata.

Harak Kata who operates his drug syndicate in Dubai, Malaysia, Singapore, Seychelles, the Maldives and Madagascar was previously arrested at the Dubai International Airport in August 2022.

However, he had changed his name to Herath Disanayakage Roshan Isanka in the passport which was found on him when in Dubai.

Dubai Police had released Harak Kata on October 03, 2022 as they were unable to complete the legal matters pertaining to his deportation.

## PUCSL Chairman challenges recent electricity tariff hike

While issuing a statement, he said the application is both in his capacity as an electricity consumer and in the public interest, especially in the interest of those falling within the lowest brackets of units consumed, who are the hardest hit by the tariff hike. The basis of the challenge is twofold.

He mentioned in his statement that he challenged the process by which the PUCSL has purportedly approved the tariff hike proposed by the CEB contrary to established legal procedures.

The approval of the PUCSL is a necessary requirement for a change in tariffs, and Ratnayake said that there was no such lawful approval of the Commission given to the proposal.

He also claims that the purported approval given by the Commission is an unlawful decision of three of the Members and not a decision of the Commission.

The second basis of the challenge is that the PUCSL is

duty-bound to ensure that the interests of all citizens are met when approving a change in tariffs. A tariff that disproportionately affects those within lower usage brackets would put those at the lowest income levels at risk of 'de-electrification,' making even the limited units of electricity consumed by them for basic necessities inaccessible, the statement said.

Ratnayake explains in his petition that the most economically generated hydropower-based electricity alone (approximately 4,400 GWh) would be more than sufficient to service all domestic consumers within the 0-30, 31-60 and 61-90 bands, with a significant portion of such electricity remaining for distribution among other categories.

Thus, it is unreasonable that consumers within these brackets are made to pay the price of electricity generated at a much higher cost.

## Man gets jail term for stealing commode

He was sentenced to further six month imprisonment in default of the fine. The suspect Thommadura Sudeah Pushpakumara (37) was a resident of Rathgama. Police told

court that the suspect had stolen the commode used in a home for the aged in Rathgama area which had been dismantled to be fitted in another location.

*"Only the dead have seen the end of war."*  
— GEORGE SANTAYANA

OPINION



By **D.B.S. Jeyaraj**

**M**any battles were fought during the long war between the Sri Lankan armed forces and the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE). Among these was the five-day battle fought at Ananthapuram in the Mullaitheevu District from March 31 to April 4, 2009.

The LTTE suffered huge losses with 625 Tigers cadres including many commanders being killed. It was a defining moment in the war as the military debacle at Ananthapuram sealed the fate of the LTTE. Six weeks later the war ended conclusively with the military defeat of the LTTE in the Mullivaikkala area.

LTTE Supremo Veluppillai Prabhakaran himself was killed in the Nandikkadal lagoon area.

The protracted war between the Sri Lankan armed forces and the LTTE began to take a qualitatively different turn from 2007 onwards.

The Tigers, though a guerrilla organisation had been engaging in positional warfare for a long by capturing and retaining territory like a conventional military.

However, the LTTE began losing territory gradually from 2007 with the Sri Lankan Army advancing and the Tigers retreating.

The fall of Paranthan in December 2008 was a major turning point. Paranthan's fall was followed by Kilinochchi and then Elephant Pass in January 2009. Even after losing the Jaffna-Kandy Road or the A-9 highway and all areas to its west, the LTTE was yet confident of withstanding the SL Army for a much longer period in areas east of the A-9 highway.

The final option was to 'carve' out an area of about 350-450 sq. km in the Mullaitheevu District with access to the coast and then defend it strenuously.

**On April 3rd a sizable number of cadres led by Col. Bhanu succeeded in breaking through the military cordon and escaping to safety**

**But the rapid progress of the Army during this phase took the LTTE by surprise. Within a relatively quick period, the various military divisions and task forces had made sweeping strides into Tiger territory.**

As a result, the LTTE and hundreds of thousands of civilians were boxed into a small space that kept on shrinking as the Army began advancing.

The military juggernaut rolled forward relentlessly and the Tigers and Tamil civilians were confined to a small littoral strip of territory located between the A-35 highway (Paranthan-Mullaitheevu road) and the Nanthikadal and Chalai lagoons on one side and the Indian Ocean on the other. Soldiers from five divisions and three Special Forces besieged the LTTE. The Tigers tried desperately to break out of this encirclement and drive the forces back.

The LTTE registered a minor success in late February 2009 when it launched a counter-strike led by senior commanders Sornam and Lawrence.

The LTTE pushed SLA soldiers back by about 600-700 metres from their forward defence line positions and then proceeded to the north for about eight km.

**PUTHUKUDIYIRUPPU AGA DIVISION**

The SLA soldiers however rallied and fought back in early March. They compelled the Tigers to retreat and regained their original positions in the Puthukudiyiruppu AGA Division of the Mullaitheevu District.

Thereafter it was a stand-off with the LTTE being in defence mode.

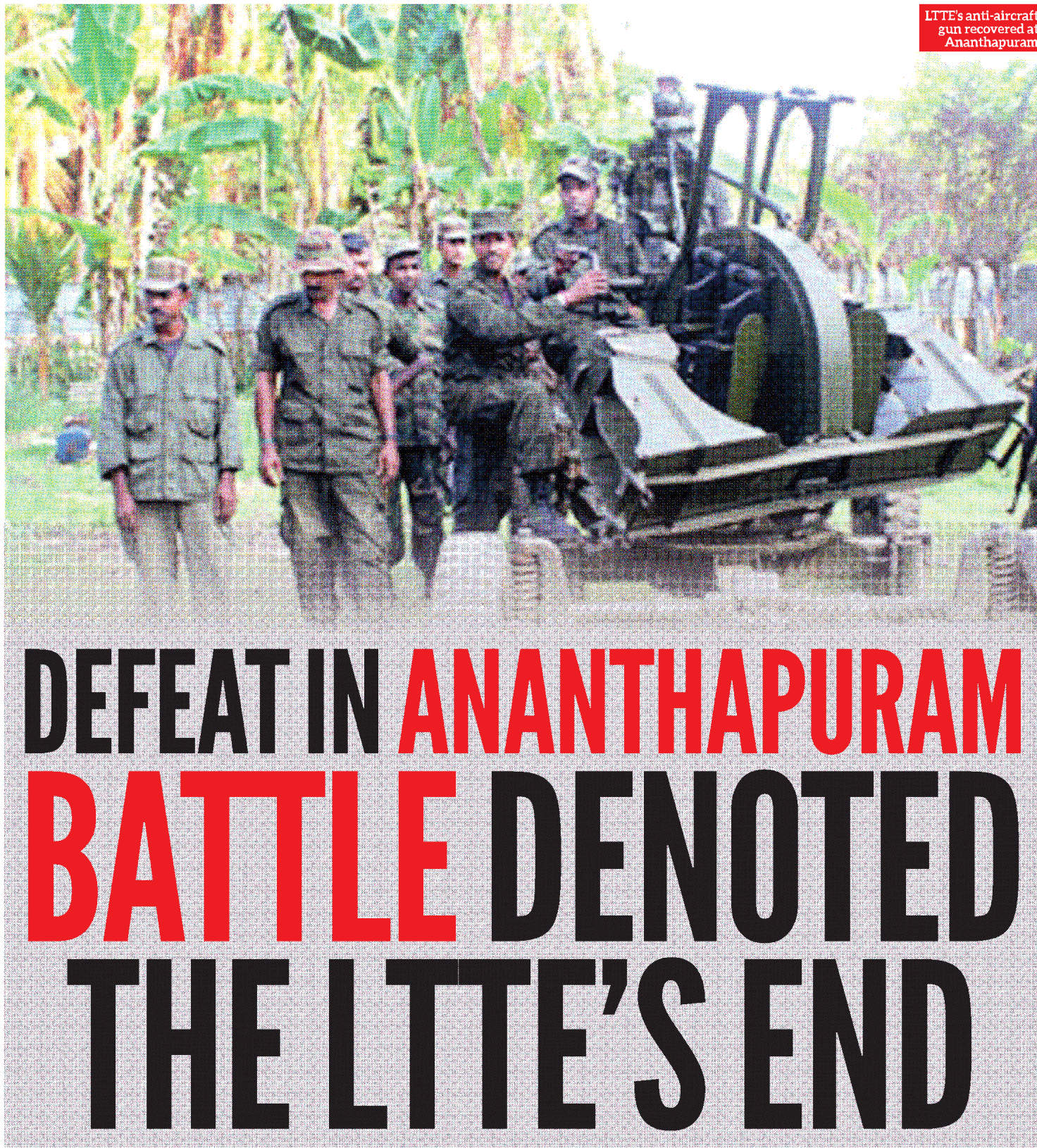
**It was in this situation that the LTTE planned to launch a massive counter-offensive against the armed forces. The idea was to conduct a meticulously planned multi-pronged operation that would deliver a crippling blow to the security forces.**

Several top Tiger leaders including its northern military commander Veluppillai Baheerathakumar alias Theepan were holed up in Ananthapuram busily planning a major counter-attack on the armed forces.

Ananthapuram is situated along the Puthukudiyiruppu-Iranappaalai-Puthumaathalan roads. The road to Iranappaalai proceeds eastwards from the Puthukudiyiruppu junction on the A-35 highway. Another road starts from Iranappaalai east to Puthu (New) maathalan along the coast.

There is another minor junction on this road at Pachaipullumottai from where a small road goes to Palam (Old) Maathalan.

Ananthapuram and Iranappaalai are part of the Puthukudiyiruppu AGA Division. Other areas belong to the Karaithuraipatru AGA division



LTTE's anti-aircraft gun recovered at Ananthapuram

# DEFEAT IN ANANTHAPURAM BATTLE DENOTED THE LTTE'S END

**Around 1000 Tiger cadres converged at Ananthapuram to prepare and launch a counterattack. LTTE leader Prabhakaran also visited the place. The defences in and around the Puthukudiyiruppu - Iranappaalai Puthumaathalan Road was in the hands of the Charles Anthony infantry brigade. Unmanned Aerial Vehicles**

What happened however, was that Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV) or drones used by the Armed forces detected a lot of movement in the Ananthapuram area.

Anticipating a counter-offensive, the Army jumped the gun with a pre-emptive operation.

The 58th Division Commanded by Brig. Shavendra Silva, 53rd Division led by Gen. Kamal Gunaratne and Task Force Eight led by Col. GV Ravipriya mounted a multi-pronged military operation on the night of March 30th 2009.

The 58th Division proceeding south by south-east from northern Puthukudiyiruppu and the 53 & TF Eight proceeding north by north-east from Southern Puthukudiyiruppu advanced rapidly and linked up at the Pachaipullumottai Junction along the Puthukudiyiruppu road behind LTTE positions.

The Tigers were taken by surprise.

**PACHAIPULLUMOTTAI**

There was very heavy fighting in the area of Pachaipullumottai. Tiger resistance was spearheaded by special commander Gopith and commander Amuthaab of the Charles Anthony infantry.

On March 31st evening both Gopith and Amuthaab were reported killed.

This proved to be a major loss to the LTTE. The deaths of Gopith and Amuthaab had a demoralising effect on cadres.

This loss of morale is attributed to the cause of weakened Tiger defences which in turn led to rapid breaching, linking and encircling by the armed forces.

**'MAROONED' ON LAND**

The LTTE cadres in Ananthapuram, who were engaged in preparing for the major assault, were suddenly and unexpectedly 'marooned' on land.

**Realising that top Tigers were stranded in Ananthapuram and suspecting that Prabhakaran himself may be there the Army moved swiftly and encircled Tiger positions.**

A siege was in progress. Prabhakaran was not there as he had left the place on March 26th. But the other important Tigers

**Realising that top Tigers were stranded in Ananthapuram and suspecting that Prabhakaran himself may be there the Army moved swiftly and encircled Tiger positions**

**Most occupants in the three vehicles were killed and the vehicles were virtually reduced to cinders. A few survivors escaped along with the other cadres in the two remaining vehicles of the convoy. Lawrence also returned to safety**

**There was very heavy fighting in the area of Pachaipullumottai. Tiger resistance was spearheaded by special commander Gopith and commander Amuthaab of the Charles Anthony infantry. On March 31st evening both Gopith and Amuthaab were reported killed**

**Among other senior Tigers killed were the Special Commander and Commander of the Jeyanthan Infantry Brigade, Manickapodi Maheswaran alias Keerthi and Selvaratnam Sundaram alias Nagesh**

including Theepan were still there. The 4th, 6th, 8th, 12th, 14th and 20th Gajaba Battalions, 5th Vijayabahu, 9th Gemunu Watch, 11th and 20th SL Light Infantry along with 1 Special Force, and two commando units got into action. A footpath from Ambalavanpokkanai to

Pachaipullumottai used as an emergency supply route by the LTTE was also interdicted.

Thus more than a thousand Tiger cadres and commanders were trapped and encircled in a two sq km area consisting mainly of coconut plantations, and palmyrah groves.

In a desperate bid to break the siege Sea Tiger Special Commander Soosai sent a contingent of 80 tigers in 15 boats by sea to aid his beleaguered comrades at arms.

These boats began sailing from Valinjarmadam and hoped to beach near Pattiaddy and fight their way through. This did not materialise as the Navy maintaining strict vigil engaged the flotilla and beat back the Sea Tigers, thus preventing the boats from landing.

The Tigers also sent 120 cadres as reinforcements under Lawrence, who was already injured. The Army using lethal devices scorched and destroyed two buses and a truck.

**Most occupants in the three vehicles were killed and the vehicles were virtually reduced to cinders. A few survivors escaped along with the other cadres in the two remaining vehicles of the convoy. Lawrence also returned to safety.**

Eventually, on April 3rd a sizable number of cadres led by Col. Bhanu succeeded in breaking through the military cordon and escaping to safety.

Bhanu himself was injured in the process. About 45 to 50 Tiger cadres blew themselves up to create the gaps through which Bhanu and others escaped.

**COL. THEEPAN**

Col. Theepan, Deputy Military Chief of the LTTE as well as its Northern Commander had an opportunity to escape along with Bhanu. Theepan was injured twice on both April 1st and 2nd. Bhanu wanted to carry Theepan along with him. But Theepan refused.

He said that he won't desert or abandon his fighter cadres and seek safety.

"If I come out I'll come with the cadres. Otherwise, I'll die with them," he reportedly told Bhanu and later informed Intelligence Chief Pottu Ammaan via radio.

The military intercepting this communication was amazed at Theepan's sense of loyalty to his cadres and his readiness to die willingly.

Subsequently, Theepan's conduct came in for praise among several officers from the Army's upper echelons.

Another intercept was an exchange between Intelligence Chief Pottu Amman and woman Tiger leader Vidusha.

She was heard pleading for reinforcements and supplies urgently. Pottu was virtually choked up with emotion saying all his efforts had failed and that they could not penetrate the blockade.

The writing was on the wall for the besieged Tigers.

Despite his commitment to his cadres, the rest of the Tigers under the overall command of Theepan were not lucky as those, who escaped with Bhanu. Despite the dangerous situation the Tigers led by Theepan continued to withstand the three-day siege. The Tigers were deprived of food, water and medical supplies. Nevertheless, the beleaguered tigers kept resisting.

Appeals were made in Tamil through amplifiers to the Tigers to surrender but the majority of the Tigers refused to heed the call to surrender.

116 tigers surrendered to the Sri Lankan Army in small groups at various times.

But the others fought on against overwhelming odds preferring to die fighting than surrender.

**BOMBING AND SHELLING**

From April 3rd night, the nature of combat changed.

**Massive aerial bombardment and strafing through planes and helicopters were on. Continuous artillery shelling was also done.**

Thousands of shells were fired throughout April 4th. It was all over on Sunday, April 5th and the soldiers began gradually recovering LTTE bodies and identifying them.

By Monday around 525 bodies had been recovered and around 60 identified.

Many Tigers had died biting the cyanide capsule and swallowing its contents.

By Tuesday a further 100 bodies were recovered.

**In a desperate bid to break the siege Sea Tiger Special Commander Soosai sent a contingent of 80 tigers in 15 boats by sea to aid his beleaguered comrades at arms**

About 60 of these were recovered in a bloated condition lying in a field. Another 40 were in charred condition inside two small buildings where the cadres had sought cover.

**At least 18-20 injured cadres were captured alive. Some of these were top-rung Tigers. Three girls were captured hiding in a makeshift pit, covered by leaves.**

**Hasty cremation**

The Army released some pictures of the dead Tigers including Theepan and Vidusha.

Some pictures of dead tigers laid out in rows were also released. The bodies of the dead Tiger cadres, shown in the pictures, were in abysmal condition. The deteriorating condition of the recovered bodies resulted in hasty cremation.

The death of its northern Military Commander Theepan was the single biggest loss to the LTTE in the Ananthapuram battle.

**The veteran Tiger was posthumously promoted to Brigadier. Along with Theepan, the top four woman fighter Commanders were also killed. They were Vidusha, Special Commander of Maalathy Regiment, her deputy and Maalathy regimental commander Kamalini, Durga, Special Commander of Sothia Regiment and her deputy cum Commander Mohanaa.**

Among other senior Tigers killed were the Special Commander and Commander of the Jeyanthan Infantry Brigade, Manickapodi Maheswaran alias Keerthi and Selvaratnam Sundaram alias Nagesh.

The Jeyanthan Brigade is raised from Eastern Province cadres.

Another huge loss was that of Gaddafi also known as Viduthalai and Amuthan.

Gaddafi was a specialist in firing anti-aircraft missiles. He has brought down several aircraft of the Sri Lankan Air Force through his shoulder-fired missiles.

The LTTE's elite Special Forces Division is named after former Tiger leader Radha.

This Special Force was led by Silambarasan. He was killed.

The Deputy-Commander of the Radha Regiment was Anbu. He was seriously injured and captured alive.

Likewise, Asmi, the leader of the Ponnammān Mines Unit was also seriously injured and captured alive.

The leader of the Kittu Artillery Unit, Manivannan and the Chief of Kutty Sri Mortar Unit Gopal were killed. Seralaathan, who was in charge of the Tiger TV Nitharsanam was also killed. Among other senior Tigers killed who have been identified are Ruban, Panjan, Nehru, Anton, Maankuyil, Amudha, Iniyawan, Aadithyan and Chitrangan.

A senior sea Tiger Mahindan was also killed.

**MULTI-BARREL PEDAL GUN**

**The Ananthapuram debacle also resulted in the LTTE losing many weapons including three 130 mm artillery, one 85 mm pounder, five 81 mm mortars, and four 12.7 mm anti-aircraft guns and a multi-barrel 30 mm pedal gun.**

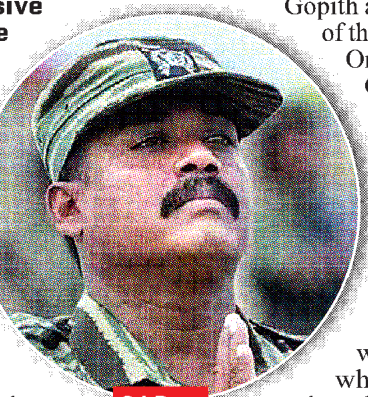
Four 30 mm barrels were fixed on this and they could be fired simultaneously like a multi-barrel rocket launcher. It could be fired by stepping on a pedal. This piece of equipment proved very lethal in previous rounds of fighting as it can be used both as artillery and an anti-aircraft gun.

In what was a rare, commendable gesture, a Defence Ministry media release praised the LTTE fighters who had died in combat as dedicated but misguided.

**D.B.S. Jeyaraj can be reached at dbsjeyaraj@yahoo.com**



Velayuthapillai Baheerathakumar or Col. Theepan



Col. Banu



Col. Vidusha

# EDITORIAL

*"The US in foreign policy is torn to the point of schizophrenia. .says it wants stability in the international system, but it is often the greatest disrupter of stability."*  
-ROBERT KAGAN

## OUR THOUGHT

### HYPOCRISY, DEMOCRACY AND THE SILENCE OF LAMBS

From the time we received independence, we Lankans have been warned by the US and the UK -our former colonial master- that democracy in our country was being endangered by various acts of omission and commission of our widely divergent different governments.

When Lankans did not pay heed to these foreign warnings, punishments have been imposed on governments of the day.

One of the best examples being the prosecution of Lanka before the UNRHC for alleged crimes committed during the LTTE insurgency of 1983 -2009.

The US and West European governments demanded the government of Mahinda Rajapaksa to halt military operations against that organisation and reach a political solution to the problem.

Rajapaksa rejected and the proposal and the LTTE was defeated on the battle field. The US and its allies are presently prosecuting Lanka for alleged crimes against humanity at the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC).

During the closing stages of World War II the US nuclear bombed two civilian cities in Japan -Hiroshima and Nagasaki- killing hundreds of thousands of civilians in addition to injuring hundreds of thousands more.

Apparently the UNHRC has not heard of these killings. Even today the US has neither expressed regret over the mass killings, nor has it been hauled up before the UNHCR and prosecuted for war crimes.

Examples of war crimes committed by the US around the world are too many to be covered in a single editorial column, so a single example will have to suffice.

Again in the land of our past colonial master -the UK- the government of Rishi Sunak published on Tuesday, draft legislation aimed at stopping migrants entering the UK illegally in small boats.

The United Nations refugee agency said the law would amount to an asylum ban, adding the legislation would be a clear breach of the Refugee Convention. Denying refugees access to asylum on this basis undermines the very purpose for which the Refugee Convention was established, it said.

Since last week, Georgia has been the scene of protests over a "foreign agents" bill backed by the ruling party. Critics allege it represents an authoritarian shift in the country.

Thousands took to the streets and clashed with the police on Tuesday over the proposed bill. Critics claim the bill has been moulded on a Russian law.

Under the proposed law, organisations receiving more than 20% funding from abroad will be required to register as such.

State Department spokesman Ned Price told reporters on Tuesday (7 March) Washington might impose sanctions against the Georgian government over the proposed law and the handling of the protests European Union Foreign Policy Chief Josep Borrell described the Georgian draft law on "transparency of foreign influence" as a "very bad development" for the country and could seriously affect its ties with the EU.

The US embassy in Georgia called the legislation "Kremlin-inspired" and said it was incompatible with the country's desire to join the European Union.

The joke, though a bad one, is the 2012 Russian law, was itself based on the American Foreign Agents Registration Act (FARA), passed in 1938!

In our own country government has come down harshly on protesters demanding local government elections and lowering the cost of living etc. One protestor died when police used water canon and other means of crowd control.

Even the political party which organized the protest has been largely silent regarding the incident.

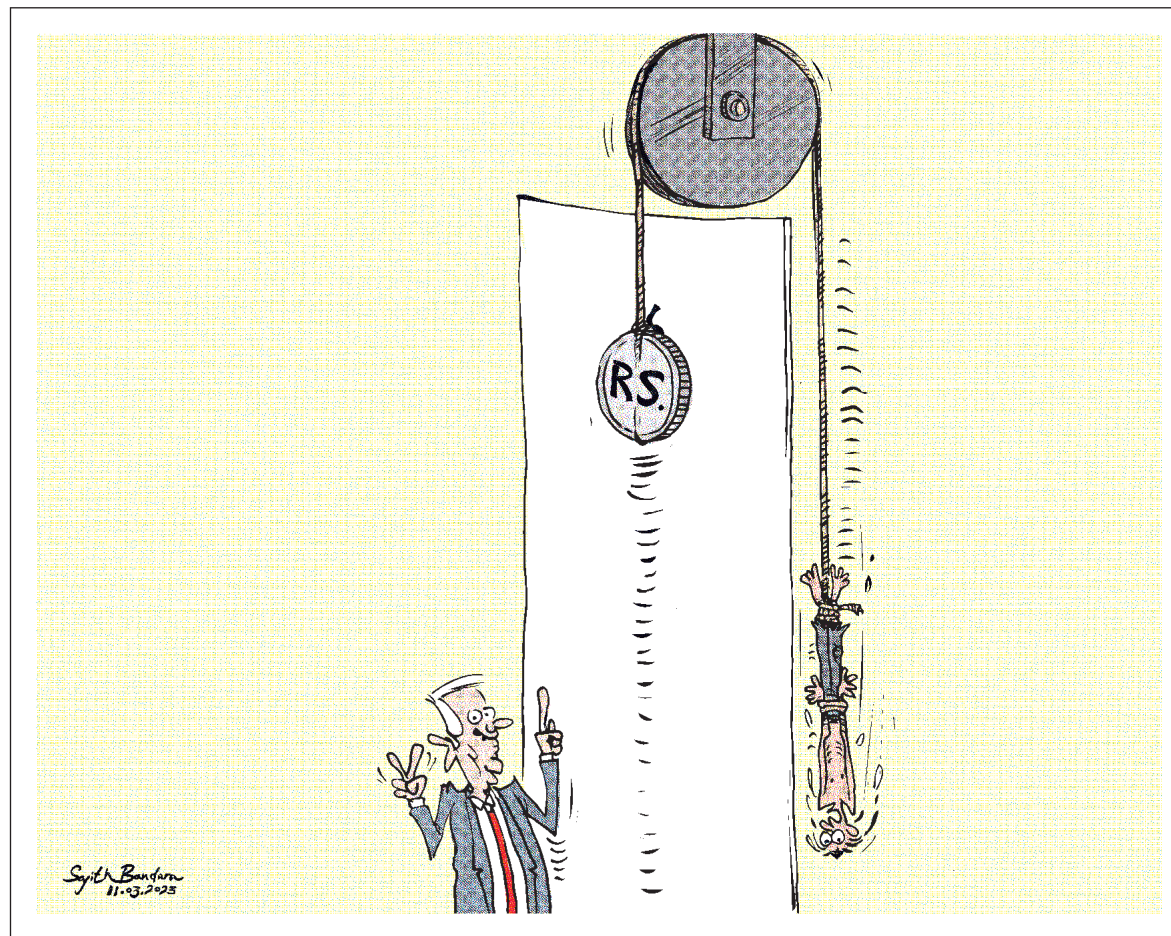
Our 'vibrant non government organizations' (NGOs) who in the normal course of events would be issuing condemnatory statements of 'violent police action', have suddenly fallen silent.

Even a particular NGO well-known to take up cudgels in the halls of justice at the drop of a hat so-today has not commented.

The international NGOs too have remained perfectly silent on the developing situation here.

Could it be they have realized the gravity of our financial meltdown and the need to proceed with IMF dictated policy changes? If so this is good.

On the other hand, could it be, these worthies are simply following the dictates of their paymasters and are being as silent as lambs.



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

# THE RISE OF RUPEE AND RISE OF POLITICAL HOPES

By **M.S.M. Ayub**

Can the continuous appreciation of the Sri Lankan Rupee against the US Dollar since February 28 change the current political alignments among voters which were indicated by recent opinion polls is a major question one might raise these days.

However, yesterday LKR slightly depreciated against the USD. While the Bloomberg News Agency reported that the international rating agency Fitch Ratings as saying that the Rupee would decline about 20 per cent by the end of 2023.

Opinion polls conducted last month showed that the voters were heavily slanted towards the two main Opposition parties, the Samagi Jana Balawegaya (SJB) and the Jathika Jana Balawegaya (JJB), the political movement created by the Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna (JVP), with the latter having a slight edge over the former.

They also showed the two parties gaining over 60 per cent of public support while the two ruling parties, the Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna (SLPP) and the United National Party (UNP) lagging far behind with eight per cent and nine per cent public support respectively.

Hence, whatever the reasons that were given by the SLPP and the UNP for their reluctance to hold the much-delayed local government election, it is clear even to their supporters that it is Atychiphobia-the fear of failure that is behind their actions.

The sudden appreciation of the Rupee on February 28 and the continuation of it thereafter resulting in the reduction of prices of some food items seems to have blown some sort of hope and courage into the souls of the supporters of two ruling parties, who are still remaining with those parties.

They, who had hitherto been hiding in a cocoon post comments on social media as if the country which was reeling from an unprecedented economic crisis is now out of the woods.

Their enthusiasm might have definitely and justifiably been doubled with reports that China which has been dragging its feet for the past six months over supporting Sri Lanka's debt restructuring programme confirmed its assistance on Monday.

President Ranil Wickremesinghe on Tuesday said in Parliament that a Letter of Intent - signed by him in his capacity as the Finance Minister and Central Bank Governor Dr Nandalal Weerasinghe - on the assurances received from Sri Lanka's largest bilateral creditor has been forwarded to the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

On the same day, IMF Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva said that the Executive Board of the global lender will decide on Sri Lanka's Extended Fund Facility (EFF) of about US\$2.9 billion at its meeting on March 20.

Now, the Government is upbeat and



hopeful that the first tranche of IMF assistance will be released this month.

In fact, the \$ 2.9 billion EFF facility - a 48-month arrangement that was agreed upon during a staff-level meeting of the Government and the IMF on September 1, last year - is not a big deal, in terms of monetary assistance, compared to the amounts of country's foreign loan repayments and some other expenses. President Wickremesinghe himself told Parliament during his Tuesday speech that an annual amount of approximately Rs. 6-7 billion foreign loans are due to be repaid until 2029.

But what is important in the programme involving the IMF is its impact on the creditor confidence in Sri Lanka and the possible breathing space it might provide for the country to save it from the clutches of foreign debt, in the long run. Only time will tell if the leaders would succeed in utilizing that breathing space successfully.

The current appreciation of the Sri Lankan Rupee, despite its potential to provide some respite in foreign exchange pressure, is neither an indication that the country is out of the woods, as the supporters of the government attempting to portray nor is it an illusion created by the Government, as some Opposition supporters prefer to believe.

The day the local currency started to spring up last month would give some insight into what happened. It was February 28, a day after the International Finance Corporation (IFC) offered to pump into the country US\$ 400 million that the appreciation was first witnessed.

Several other factors too have contributed to the latest Rupee appreciation. Against the backdrop of import restrictions, NDB Securities (NDBS) said that "banks are flushed with FX liquidity" and "the average daily volume in the interbank FX market is now at \$ 42 million vs. \$ 8-10 million in the initial days of the crisis (May/June 2022)."

This is attributed to several recent developments. Main among them were the recent tourism and worker remittance

inflows, and the reduction of the export proceeds surrender requirement to 15% from the previous 25%, effective from February 27 by the Central Bank, apart from the prospects of the IMF bailout package being unlocked soon. In January 2023, tourism inflows increased by 7%, and the remittance flows rose by 69% - YoY, according to NDBS.

Foreign exchange conversion by exporters in anticipation of a further appreciation of the rupee and a drastic drop in importer demand (Due to a decline in real sector economic activities and import restrictions) are also contributory factors.

That the rupee that depreciated for the past several decades under "normal circumstances" is now appreciating by leaps and bounds while the country has been declared bankrupt, is in fact ironic.

Yet, it is not surprising. It is a fact. The local currency is appreciating against a backdrop of import restrictions and economic contraction. The current foreign exchange liquidity cannot cope if the economy is activated to the level that existed before the crisis. On the other hand, the country cannot survive for long unless the economy is activated. The authorities seem to be contemplating doing it carefully with further foreign exchange inflows from the IMF deal and thereafter from Asian Development Bank, World Bank and Japan. It was reported on Wednesday that Sri Lanka is negotiating with India as well for a US\$ 1 billion credit line. All these would have to be repaid in future along with the past loans with interest.

The debt restructuring process with possible haircuts would definitely provide a breathing space for the country to implement a strong plan to strengthen the balance of payment of the country without which the generations to come would have to face even huge debt problems and resultant crises.

However, any such plan is yet to see the day of light.

Nevertheless, the possibility of the Government using the current positive developments, though temporary, to turn the electoral prospects in its favour and crush the protests and agitations by the people is high.

## DM Poll

Which political party leader has the vision and the capability to put Sri Lanka on a recovery path and lead to sustainable development?

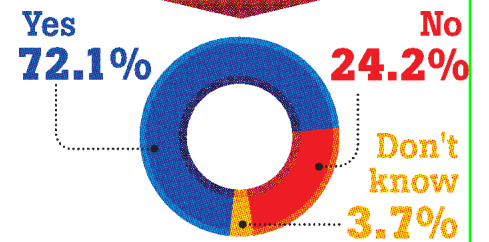
- Ranil Wickremesinghe
- Sajith Premadasa
- Anura Kumara Dissanayake
- None of them



Scan to Vote

## LAST POLL

Can the holding of local government elections be justified from a financial perspective during a period of bankruptcy?



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

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Measures to contain corruption

It is heartening to note that some initiative is in the pipeline to curb the menace of bribery and corruption that is quite rampant in our country. The present predicament that our country has plunged into with an ever-deteriorating economy is the result of a callous and corrupt governance system that held sway under various regimes. It is hoped that the new anti-corruption law to be mooted in Parliament would see the light of day.

The stringent preconditions stipulated by the IMF which has come to rescue our ailing economy with the much-awaited USD 2.9 billion relief package, will instil a sense of discipline to conduct affairs transparently and ethically henceforth.

The measures taken to demonstrate the credibility of our Government can be further enhanced by implementing a mechanism for accountability.

We know how blatantly the decision-makers and people in power who ruled our country plundered it with mismanagement, corruption and bribery that led to economic haemorrhage and virtual poverty.

Our Parliamentarians who are good at hoodwinking the masses with all sorts of ridiculous histrionics should now prove to the world that accountability for misdeeds committed cannot be swept under the carpet.

Sri Lanka now faces the ignominy of being ranked as the 37th of the most corrupt countries in the world, as per the corruption perception index.

Whither Good Governance in our paradise isle?

Don Peter, Dehiwela

### Has Old MACO failed?

People say all our current troubles and economic chaos are due to old MACO. (Previous Election Commissioner).

Some opinions say that when nominations were received by him for the last presidential elections, he should have rejected the ex-president's (GR) nomination because he did not attach documentary proof of his relinquishing US citizenship and he did a favour by accepting the nomination without such documentation. Hence we are now experiencing the after-effects of a runaway failure.

What can a failed top-notch powerful Government (old Maco) servant can do in the same office in a junior toothless capacity is our question?

Can he take the Bull by the Horns?

-Sumith De Silva

### 59% of families in SL unable to meet food requirements: Report

#### WEB COMMENTS

**AEYOO** - When you see Colombo, you wonder where this economic crisis is.. all the hotels, and restaurants are full.

beg in the streets and some temples! Some religious places support them and yet many people out shy don't ask or beg

**AG** - All those AGA offices in all electorates must have a Welfare Office so that people can go and ask for help... They can't

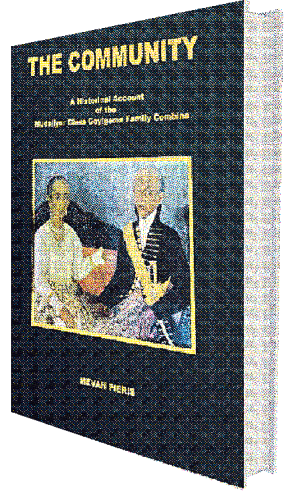
**JUDE** - Now you believe what I say!!! Half of the population lives on one meal a day!!!

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

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No 8, Hunupitiya Cross Road, Colombo 2. P.O. Box 1136, Colombo.  
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  
E-mail: [dmnews@dailymirror.wnl.lk](mailto:dmnews@dailymirror.wnl.lk)

# 'The Community' MEVAN PIERIS WRITES ON 'MUDALIYAR CLASS GOYIGAMA FAMILY COMBINE'



**A** book titled 'The Community' and penned by Mevan Pieris will be launched on March 21, 2023 at the Sri Lanka Foundation Institute at 6 pm. Prof. G.L Peiris is expected to grace the occasion as the Chief Guest while S. Skandakumar and S.Thomas' College Mount Lavinia Warden Marc Billimoria will be the Guests of Honour. The book is a historical account of the Mudaliyar class Goyigama Family Combine, which several previous writers have written to say were a powerful Community that wielded much power and influence during Dutch and British times. The book traces its

**The book traces its evolution from Portuguese times and covers a period of 500 years**

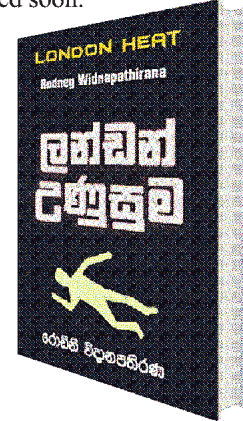
evolution from Portuguese times and covers a period of 500 years. 'The Community' comprises 580 pages and carries 159 photographs in colour and black and white. The thrust of the book is to bring to light who the Master Spirits of the Community were and the enormous contribution to the good of society done by the Community. Those interested can contact <mevanpieris@gmail.com>

# Rodney's 'London Unusuma' launched

Veteran journalist, novelist, filmmaker and lyricist Rodney Vidanapathirana's second novel, 'London Unusuma' (London Heat) was launched on March 6 at the Wellawatte Tamil Sangam auditorium. This is the first Sinhala novel published by the London Tamil Literary Association. The Tamil translation of 'London Unusuma' - a light reading suspense story- will be released soon.



From left: Subramaniam Muralitharan (Tamil translator and poet), Vavuniyoor Ra Uthayanan (President of London Tamil literary Association and Award winning novelist Rodney Vidanapathirana (Novelist -London Unusuma) and Hassim Omar (Adviser-Sri Lanka Broadcasting Cooperation) at the book launching ceremony



## Sarojini Kadurugamuwa

# She was loved and respected in the banking sector

Sarojini Kadurugamuwa is no more. She left us on February 10 as she wished; a mere 6 weeks after she lost her husband, Kaduru, whom she cared for with single-minded devotion. This was after he was diagnosed with a terminal illness over a decade ago. We, who mourn her loss, are left with the fragrant memory of a beautiful life well-lived, in selfless service to those she loved.

Sarojini was beautiful. Her face, like the legendary Helen of Troy, could launch a thousand ships. She coupled that face with a powerful intellect and a sharp and incisive mind. Yet, she was incapable of arrogance. Sarojini accepted her physical and intellectual attributes with the same humility, generosity of spirit and self-deprecating humour with which she lived her life. She reached out to all, even to the rare few who may have wished her ill.

Sarojini's father, Mr. T.B. Subasinghe, a man of unquestionable integrity, was a gentleman politician of a by-gone era who lived by his principles. Sarojini was very close to her only sibling, her beautiful, talented, older sister, Swinee. Theirs was a home in which they imbibed sound values and a love of Sri Lankan history and culture from both parents. Having grown up in an intellectual political environment, Sarojini was always interested in politics and governments. She enjoyed discussion and debate on the same. She provided interesting insights and clear, unbiased opinions. An avid reader and deep thinker, she would despair over the wrongs she saw taking place in our own Sri Lanka and in the world we live in. Yet, she never judged harshly. She always sought to try and understand the other point of view, searching for reasons why individuals, groups, societies, governments and leaders acted the way they did, to the detriment of their own people and humanity at large.

I had met Sarojini socially in our formative years, through mutual friends. Both of us studied at two leading girls' schools in Colombo. However, it was only after I joined the Central Bank in 1983 that I got to know her well. We

worked especially closely when she was Director, Legal Department and I was Director, Bank Supervision Department, almost 25 years ago. Having an entirely mathematical academic background, I had to learn from scratch to interpret the law, especially as applicable to the banking and financial system. I could not have asked for a better mentor.

Throughout my professional career, I have read, listened, questioned and concluded that many in the legal profession hide their limited understanding of other subjects and their inability to interpret the law in the context of those subjects, by resorting to confounding legal language which no non-lawyer can be expected to understand easily! Sarojini was different. She could dissect and analyse the facts about any subject and interpret the relevant law within that context. She would convey the same in simple non-legal jargon, for the layperson to be able to understand. She never made the listener feel inadequate, however junior or senior the officer she was working with. Those facets of her personality made her loved and respected by her superiors, peers and subordinates, within the Central Bank and in the legal and financial professions.

She was also a very wise and mature friend, whose advice I valued greatly. She taught me to recognise and accept the shades of grey in my naive black and white world view. When I went into battle in the Central Bank, usually with my superiors, including the Governor, on what I considered a matter of principle, she would gently get me to back off, making me realise that one needed to prioritise one's battles, choosing the really important ones and letting the insignificant ones go, rather than fight them all.

On rare occasions in retirement when she would put pen to paper, her articles were excellent reads. I tried to get her to write more,



Sarojini Kadurugamuwa

but she replied "Thanks for all your encouragement. But you really wouldn't want me to write-I do it only when things get unbearable!" I would get her to review my own presentations and articles prior to finalisation. She was very encouraging of my efforts to try and raise public awareness on socio-economic issues and always found the time to provide constructive criticism, however busy she was.

### Sarojini accepted her physical and intellectual attributes with the same humility

Sarojini also took a great interest in Sri Lanka's performing arts, both dance and drama, and in our country's history and archaeology. These interests she shared with Kaduru. As a schoolgirl, she had trained under the legendary Vajira, and went on to perform with the Chitrasena Dance Company until 1985. Later, she and Kaduru supported the establishment of the Chitrasena Foundation and continued to support their work throughout their lives. She also supported Kaduru's efforts, with Dr. Roland de Silva, former Commissioner of Archaeology, Mr. Kanageesvaran, President's Counsel, and others, to establish the National Trust of Sri Lanka. She and Kaduru loved to visit their "Watte" in Ingiriya, to indulge in another mutual interest, agriculture and landscaping. She followed Sinhala theatre avidly. Our co-Central Banker, the immensely talented Asoka Handagama, launched a new production at the Lionel Wendt Theatre on 31st January this year. With many of us in the

audience, Sarojini was a notable absentee.

Sarojini and Kaduru were a couple who loved their close-knit families. They found great joy in their only daughter Anuradhi, her husband, Chamilal, and their two sons. From all I have heard, Sarojini and Kaduru were the pivot and organisers of most extended family get-togethers. Through her many varied interests and her love of people, Sarojini had a wide circle of family and friends. She remained close to all, never neglecting one individual or group for another.

I was one of such a group of 5 Central Bankers who retired within a few years of each other. In retirement, we would meet regularly for lunch, to reminisce, exchange a bit of gossip, laugh, discuss a new book, film or play, and analyse the country's and the world's problems over our meal. As Kaduru got weaker, we were no longer able to meet regularly.

When Kaduru passed away at end-2022, I optimistically hoped that we, her friends and family, could help Sarojini build a life without Kaduru, around her many interests. No one knew that she had kept her own seriously deteriorating health condition hidden from all, in her single-minded determination to nurse Kaduru to the end. By then, it was too late. Sarojini was disillusioned with a country and a world increasingly controlled by lust for power, position and wealth, rather than concern for people and the environment. With Kaduru gone, she was ready to move beyond this world. I believe that all who knew and loved her, including Anuradhi, Chamilal and Swinee, respected her decision. And so, she drifted away from us, gently and peacefully.

I have lost my friend and one of the most multi-faceted, unpretentious and humane individuals it was my privilege to have known. We, who knew her, are all the poorer for it. I will miss her radiant smile, her wisdom and her infectious laugh, but I remain forever grateful for many precious memories of her. May she rest in peace.

Anila Dias Bandaranaike

## Dr. L. B. L. De Alwis

# He was a genuine, sincere and amiable person

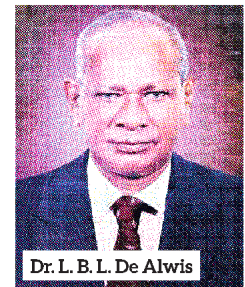
It was sad and shocking to come to know of the untimely death of Dr. Lucian Bernard Lalantha de Alwis, retired Chief Consultant Judicial Medical Officer of Colombo. He was the eldest son of the late Mr. Lucian de Alwis, former magistrate and Senior Attorney-at-Law and of Mrs. Monica de Alwis, a scion of the Chevalier C.L.W. Perera dynasty in Kurunegala.

Lalantha was obedient, respectful, and caring towards his father whose guidance and counsel he never failed to seek. His fond attachment to his mother was remarkably well seen with a love and affection which knew no bounds.

Lalantha was the head of a charismatic family highly qualified in many spheres of medical dimensions. He himself was an esteemed medical legal Doctor while his spouse Dr. Nirmala is a past experienced medical officer. His sons Angelo and Praneeth are both doctors. His only daughter Melanie is a recognised practising Attorney-at-Law.

We have witnessed in Lalantha the profile of a unique personality, a graceful character, an eminent professional, a devout catholic and a patriotic citizen brightened by fulfillment, accomplishments and charity.

After the demise of his parents Lalantha was a father figure to his family. He was in the constant care of their well-being and welfare ready with assistance and relief; providing support



Dr. L. B. L. De Alwis

and healthcare and pursuing their progress. Lalantha was lovable and convivial enjoying happy company at weddings, get-togethers and other functions. He was genuine, sincere and amiable. Lalantha viewed with pride and acceptance the attainments and successes in the extended family.

The hallmark of his professional career was his standing recognition, prowess and competence in to the forensic field and aspects of the medico legal fraternity.

### The hallmark of his professional career was his standing recognition, prowess and competence in to the forensic field and aspects of the medico legal fraternity

Lalantha was also a welcome Don in Forensic Medicine in the Medical Faculties of many universities including Colombo. His dissertations, lectures, analysis, acumen and references were significantly contained in the books he authored. He will be warmly respected by his many students who will continue to bear pleasant memories of an outstanding guru.

May he be rewarded with benign heavenly blessings in the blissful presence of God Almighty? (Ronnie)

## Ayya Malo'

# A political parody that offers a stimulating experience



By Chathushkie Jayasinghe

Asanka Sayakkara's 'Ayya malo' (අය්‍යා මාලෝ) is a stage drama that I had both the opportunity and fortune to witness recently at the Faculty of Technology auditorium, University of Sri Jayewardenepura.

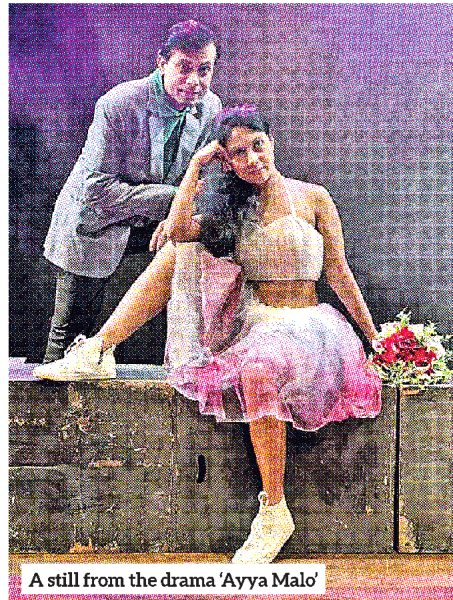
As a political parody, it is a stimulating experience that ought to be enjoyed sitting in the theater; something that ought not to be narrated in any other way or form. But I must comment on Asanka Sayakkara's sarcastic twist on the concept of Utopia, a word that the actors take upon themselves to verbally repeat on roll-along everything that takes place on stage says otherwise.

While overt attempts to promote the illusion of a perfect system are showcased, the lack of independent thought or freedom, the mass propaganda at play and the underlying fear, violence and corruption suggest that this State is, in fact, in constant dilemma. What caught my attention the most was a particular technique that Sayakkara has used to maximise this havoc and bring the audience a step closer to living it. Throughout the play, from beginning to end, the actors constantly break character, making the line between reality and illusion quite hazy for the audience. They forget lines, bring the wrong props on stage, mix costumes and talk amongst each other as actors and not as the characters they portray. These constant

disruptions prevent the audience from entirely immersing themselves in the illusion of a play and creates in them a feeling of unease and discomfort, all necessary in producing the epiphany that Sayakkara seems eager to generate.

He adds to this catastrophic blend, a handful of mismatches in time, which takes the play a step further in creating a state of confusion in the audience. The actors get the timings of lines and songs wrong and one protagonist, "lokuaiya", who is supposed to be a lifeless dead body, wakes up (both in character and out of character) and talks with the mortician as himself and as the character he portrays. While this act of giving voice to the dead undoubtedly showcases the power that this character single handedly possesses before and after his death, the way Sayakkara chooses to represent it adds to the numerous disruptions on stage. It ought to be noted that the representation as well as its supposedly intended meaning both come together in showing that everything in the drama takes place in a Dystopia, contrary to what the actors claim.

The fourth wall is another concept that he has incorporated, which, though present at times, disappears when the performers acknowledge and talk with the audience, mirroring very rare exceptions found in the Greek theater where illusion is deliberately breached for comedic purposes. Rather than intending to induce humour, I believe that this transgression may be to inform on a rather serious note about the decaying system that they are in, while the humorous undertone



A still from the drama 'Ayya Malo'

nevertheless prevails in every aspect of the production to support the satirical drama that it is.

With such an infusion of elements which I understand to be quite a clever choice, Sayakkara builds a compelling social commentary, a political satire and a powerful criticism of the State and its citizens. This potent creative blend helps him to repeatedly bring the audience back to reality, which is perhaps a wakeup call he is trying to send to his viewers and a practice which he likely wants them to continue applying once stepping outside the theater.

## Three Day Miracle Prayer To The Blessed Virgin Mary

(Repeat these prayers for three consecutive days)

Oh most beautiful flower of Mount Carmel; Fruitful Vine, Splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. O Star of the Sea, help me and show me here you are my Mother. Oh Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech Thee from the bottom of my heart to succour me in my necessity.

(Make your request)

There are none that can withstand your power. O Mary conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to Thee. Amen (repeat three times)

Holy Mary, I place this cause in your hands. Amen (repeat three times)

Say this prayer for three consecutive days each time followed by 3 Our Fathers, 3 Hail Mary's, 3 Glory be to the Father. Then you must publish it and it will be granted. It is never known to fail.

Thank you Blessed Virgin for hearing My Prayers and Miraculous favours granted. S.G

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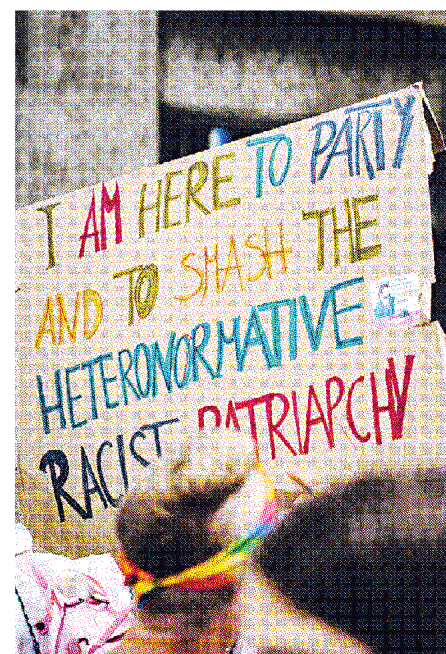
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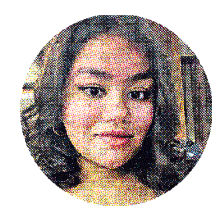
Although perceived by members of older generations to be a new-age movement that is beyond their grasp, the origins of the word, 'woke,' in its current use can be traced back nearly a hundred years. Originating in African American Vernacular English (AAVE), the word began being used in the 1940s to mean being sensitised to injustice and discrimination. In 1962, the New York Times Magazine included the word, 'woke,' in its glossary to mean being politically conscious; and in 1972 the play 'Garvey Lives!' based on the life of black civil rights activist, Marcus Garvey, famously included the lines, "I been sleeping all my life. And now that Mr Garvey done woke me up, I'm gon' stay woke. And I'm gon' help him wake up other black folk." The word then entered mainstream media in 2008, through singer-songwriter Erykah Badu's song, 'Master Teacher,' which includes the line "I stay woke." In 2014, after Michael Brown was murdered as a result of police brutality in Ferguson, Missouri, the culture of wokeism took on a central role in the Black Lives Matter movement; and in today's socio-cultural climate that culture has expanded to include any acts that strive towards inclusivity and acceptance for all people. In 2017, 'woke' was added to the Oxford English Dictionary, originally defined as the act of being well informed and up to date, and later revised to mean being alert to racial or social discrimination or injustice. Unfortunately, despite its historical origins, the word 'woke,' has now been weaponised by right wing ideologists to insult and condescend those on the left, resulting in a botched understanding of what woke culture is, and what woke individuals are fighting for.

It can be understood, then, that woke culture exists at the centre of the discourse surrounding identity politics. It is a movement that aims to educate the masses on the nuances of belonging to different marginalised societal groups; and more so, it is a movement that fights for systematic changes to be made so that individuals in these groups can have their needs met. Much of the controversy in identity politics today seems to be centred around individuals belonging to minority gender identities and sexualities. Especially in the US, recent years have seen bills passed that prevent the discussion of LGBTQ issues in schools and prevent trans youth from accessing gender affirming healthcare. Unfortunately, these bills cause far more harm than good. Taking away young peoples' freedom to discuss their identities and associated hardships does not result in them changing their identities, but rather only results in heightened isolation and societal ostracization.



# Wokeism

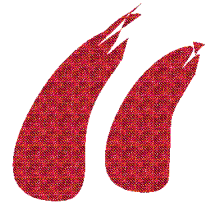
## Is it destructive, or are you afraid of change? A Response



BY ZARA ESUFALLY

*In order to critically discuss a movement, we must first understand its etymology. The word, 'woke,' has become a buzzword across today's media outlets, with the culture of wokeism being the subject of much controversy and debate. So, what does it truly mean to be woke? Is it, as English broadcaster Piers Morgan claims, a modern-day form of fascism, or is it the undercurrent that drives the ongoing fight for inclusivity for all people?*

Furthermore, for youth with hostile home environments, removing their ability to treat school as a safe haven has proven to have drastic negative impacts on mental wellbeing. Anti-trans bills result in trans youth being unable to access hormone replacement therapy or puberty blockers, and the resulting gender dysphoria is a major contributing factor as to why transgender individuals have some



*I been sleeping all my life. And now that Mr Garvey done woke me up, I'm gon' stay woke. And I'm gon' help him wake up other black folk"*

of the highest rates of depression, anxiety, and suicidal ideation/attempts in the world. Other such bills, such as those that prevent transgender people from using certain bathrooms despite not offering to provide a gender-neutral option, or those that prevent transgender women from participating in gendered sporting events despite there being no conclusive evidence to suggest an innate advantage over biological women serve no real purpose other than to discriminate against a marginalised societal group and make them feel lesser than.

An often-cited argument by those who stand against the LGBTQ community, is what they believe to be the indoctrination of children.



*So, do I stand behind woke culture? Absolutely. A friend recently told me of an age-old African proverb that says, 'if you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together"*

However, the fact of the matter remains that there is no secret agenda- these individuals are only fighting to be accepted and respected as they are. In fact, it poses a greater risk to children to restrict their awareness of the LGBTQ community as it fosters hateful ideology and encourages them to treat other people badly. Children who are brought up in such an environment who themselves have a minority gender or sexual orientation often struggle deeply with feelings of self-hatred, resulting in heightened risk of developing mental illnesses such as depression and anxiety.

Furthermore, conservatives have, for a long time, painted individuals belonging to minority gender and sexual orientations in a predatory light in an attempt to further ostracise this community. However, gender and sexual orientation are unrelated to one's moral compass, and in fact, a growing evidence base suggests that children are at a far higher risk of child sexual or domestic abuse from members of their own family or others close to them, than from any other societal group.

So, is the culture of wokeism really so bad if it is rooted in the fight for equality? Throughout history, we have seen groups discriminated against for reasons beyond their control. There was once a time when women could not vote nor hold jobs, people of colour could not live in certain neighbourhoods or enter certain establishments, and gay men could not access lifesaving medical treatment. Although we may have made strides in the fight for inclusivity, there is a still a long way to go. In the UK alone, women on average, earn 8.3% less in an hour than men do; and black and minority ethnic (BAME) individuals are twice as likely to die in custody compared to their white counterparts. Globally, homosexuality is still criminalised in 68 countries, and same-sex marriage is only legal in 32 countries. Surely, it is not wrong to ask ourselves to do better. The notion of a world in which we are all treated equally does not need to remain a utopian fantasy.

In order to implement change at a systemic level, it is important to foster the right mindsets early on. Teaching children to use inclusive, and inoffensive language in school, and teaching them to appreciate and respect people from all walks of life will result in them maturing into forward thinking, progressive adults who will strive to make the world a better place for generations to come. Allowing children to express themselves how they see fit and teaching them to stand up for those around them does not make them oversensitive or sheltered; rather, it makes them genuine, emotionally intelligent individuals who have a strong sense of right and wrong. Truthfully, it is near impossible for children to remain sheltered in today's digital age. With access to all the information in the world at their fingertips, they will develop opinions and a value system of their own in no time – it is all we can do to nudge them in the right direction.

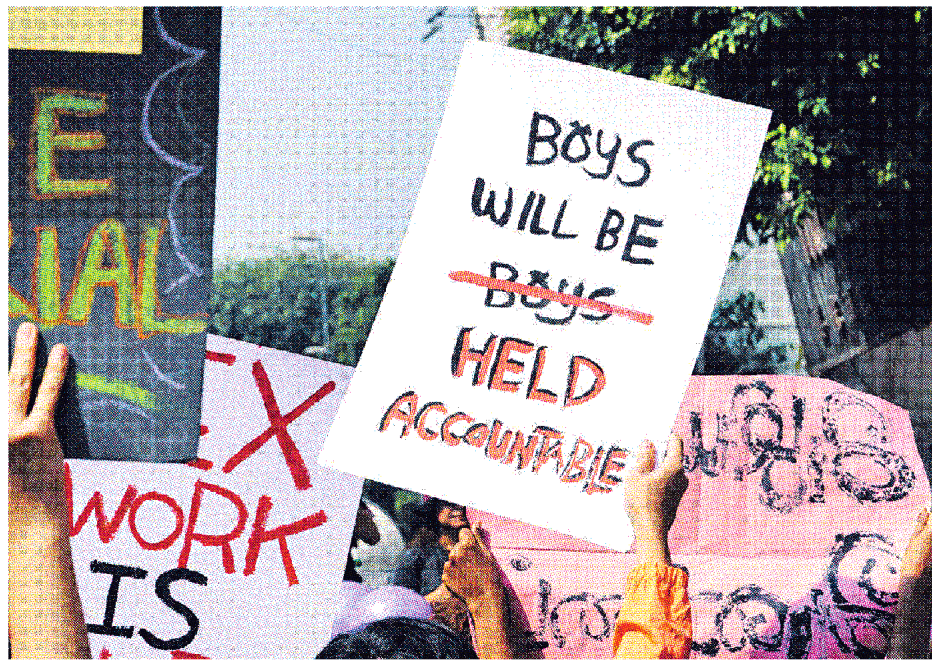
So, do I stand behind woke culture? Absolutely. A friend recently told me of an age-old African proverb that says, 'if you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together.' It reminds us that there is only so much we are capable of on our own, and that if we just remember to lean on each other, we will be able to go so much further. So, let's continue to work together towards a world in which we love each other without conditions; and if the only argument you might have against that is the re-writing of Roald Dahl books, then I urge you to consider that there are bigger things to worry about.

Whilst writing this article, I reached out to a few individuals and asked them to share their thoughts on woke culture with me:

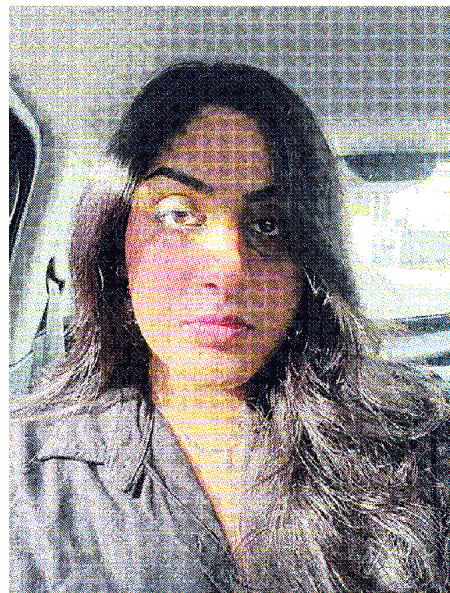
## KUMUDINI DAVID

WOMEN'S RIGHTS & MENTAL HEALTH ADVOCATE, ADVOCATE AGAINST CHILD ABUSE.

For me the word "Woke" stands for being a wake, meaning being aware, being present, and actually "seeing" the people around me, accepting them for who they are, not what I want them to be. As with all things, the word "Woke" means many different things to different people. I don't think I have a right to own a definition of a word and force it down everyone else's throats. Inclusivity and diversity are bigger than a word. I don't follow any movement as my way of life. I believe in everyone having the right to choose how they want to be seen and who they want to be. I also believe that no one remains the same.



Every time we learn something new, we evolve and become more than what we were before we learned it. We are in constant evolution, all of us. Gender identities and sexualities are personal decision, and the basic tenant of respect is respecting another's decisions about their bodies. That's it. The end. You accept it and move right along with your business. I have no say in another's sexuality or gender identity. Classic media and plays being edited to be more politically correct is fine as long as they play it as a rendition of the original. Respect goes both ways. We must respect the creators and their visions as well. I am a mum. I have never forced my son to choose anything according to how I like them. I always asked him to choose what he likes, and I've never tried to change his mind. A child must feel he owns his thoughts and bodies in order to grow into a responsible citizen of the world. If he had chosen to be a girl, I would have supported him. If he wants to be gay, I will support him completely. Unconditional love is just that it has no conditions.



## MAHIKA PANDITHA

FREELANCE WRITER AND BUSINESS OWNER.

What does being woke mean to you and where do you stand in the fight for inclusivity? Has woke culture impacted your life in any way, and if so, how? When 'woke culture' came about, it was a shock to me only because it was beyond me that the basics suddenly had a name. Being 'woke' to me means being aware of your surroundings both in people and place, and to be respectful of them. What started off as a term coined amidst the BLM movement, has now grown to general terminology around being socially and politically aware. It's impacted me in an educational way – I have learned a series of things that I didn't know about fully before, which has pushed me to further learn and continue learning about the diverse cultures and communities around me.



Where would you draw a line between actually being woke, and losing sight of the original goals of the movement? I think people do tend to get ahead of themselves sometimes. Getting ahead of themselves by jumping on a bandwagon they don't understand, but just because it's 'trending' in the moment. That is where I would draw the line. If you were to title yourself as being 'woke', I'd question whether or not you truly knew where the term was derived from and why it is being used in the first place. Of course, there are times where people can lose sight of their original goals and things get out of hand, but it is up to their peers and community to enlighten them on what is true, and right so that they don't end up changing the greater narrative which ends up causing further issues.

What are your opinions on gender roles - what roles do people belonging to different gender identities / sexualities fill in society?

We have been brought up with a rich culture and strong traditions, it is something I harp on about when I get the chance. That being said, there are predetermined norms of what you should do and how you should look if you are a girl, and the same for a boy. This concept is extremely limited and forces people to be in a mould that they did not choose. It is unfair to put someone in a position simply because of the way they choose to identify.

What are your opinions on classic media such as books and plays being edited to be more politically correct / culturally sensitive / inclusive?

As time goes on, we must adapt. It would be absurd of us to not change with the times, that is how people and assets of the media get left behind, regardless of if they are classic or not. I personally don't see the idea of editing certain things in books or plays because you must keep in mind that the consumers of these pieces of media are the current youth. If we, as adults don't make the changes for a better humanity, there will be no change and history will repeat itself. There is no necessity to keep slurs or insensitive terms and words in media, it does not necessarily add any pizzazz to the piece. Something that shouldn't be forgotten is that language is ever-growing, you can always find an alternative.

If you were to have children of your own, how would you go about implementing / not implementing wokeism into their upbringings? When I have children of my own, I would definitely educate them about how things were in the past or in the time we grew up in, to explain why they are the way they are when they are young.

I am a firm believer of teaching a child about their history and allowing them to learn on their own so that they can form their own opinions from it. It would be selfish of me to confine their thoughts and personality to a box, when it is their life, not mine. As they grow up, they will continue to learn and develop and I would only like to facilitate that, without interfering to the point where they feel they are wrong for the opinions or personalities that they have. I would not want to force my child do something that she/he/they wouldn't want to do, but of course, till my child is old enough to voice their opinions or show clear like or dislike towards something, I will be making it a point to show them the world and their options in it.

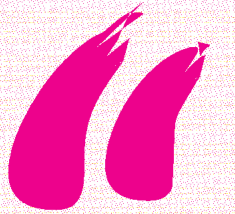
# Top 50 Professional & Career Women Global Awards 2023

## Nominations Now Open!

Marking its 13th year of honoring inspiring Sri Lankan women, Women in Management (WIM), in collaboration with Women in Work, a partnership between IFC and the government of Australia, have now opened nominations for the 'Top 50 Professional and Career Women Global Awards 2023' under the theme of 'Women Taking Center Stage for Economic Recovery.'

This will be IFC's eighth consecutive year, fourth under the IFC-DFPAT Women in Work program, in co-hosting the awards, which recognizes and celebrates Sri Lankan women who have excelled in their careers, businesses, and everyday life, inspiring others. Spanning over a decade, the Top50 Professional and Career Women Awards has recognized over 540 Sri Lankan women and 360 women across the world representing a wide array of professions and careers. "This year, the Top50 awards will recognize local and global women leaders in chosen fields and businesses, the ones who challenged their talents and skills to reach higher in their professions locally and internationally," said Dr. Sulochana Segerera, Founder and Chairperson at Women in Management.

With presence in Canada, Maldives, and the United Arab Emirates, the Top50 Professional and Career Women Awards have set the stage for the award winners' own career or business trajectory, and importantly, have encouraged many other aspiring Sri Lankan women from diverse backgrounds to explore new opportunities, propelling them to reach higher in their chosen field. Speaking about this year's Awards, Chair of the Panel of Judges, Kasturi Chellaraja Wilson said that "as WIM spreads its wings to the global arena, we are looking forward to receiving nominations of women who have impacted society and economy." Dinesh Weerakkody, Chairman of the Board of Investment, and member of the 2023 Judging Panel said that "WIM Global Awards' celebrates the achievements of women who inspire others through their outstanding achievements in their careers, enterprises, and everyday lives. The awards are presented to extraordinary and inspirational woman who have made a significant contribution within their fields. It is a privilege to be associated with the global award program for the 2nd time".



As WIM spreads its wings to the global arena, we are looking forward to receiving nominations of women who have impacted society and economy."

This year's panel of judges will be chaired by Kasturi Chellaraja Wilson, Executive Director and Group Chief Executive Officer Hemas Holdings PLC, Dr. Mariyam Shakeela, Honorary Consul of Belgium in Maldives, former Cabinet Minister in Maldives and CEO of SIMDI, Sarah Twigg, Program Manager of Women in Work at IFC, Santosh Menon, Chairman of FCB KLLK, Dinesh Weerakkody, Chairman of Board of Investment of Sri Lanka, Prof. Selvaraj Oyyan Pillay, UUNIMAS Kuala Lumpur Learning Center at GIA, Dunston Pereira, CEO Private Office of HH Sheikh Ahmed bin Faisal Al Qassimi, Ngozi Oyewole, CEO of Noxie Limited and President of Women in Africa, and Gowri Rajan, Director of Sun Match Company.

With the aim of receiving nominations from across the world, this year, WIM has also included a global representation in the judging panel as well. Representing the African continent, Ngozi Oyewole, CEO of Noxie Limited and President of Women in Africa, said that "inclusiveness and gender equality are part of the DNA of real-world women who are making their entrepreneurial journeys and who share their insights and making a change in the world. With the nominations now open, we are looking forward to recognizing and celebrating the many achievements of women from across borders – whose stories will help break barriers and shatter stereotypes, creating a more inclusive world."

Online: [www.womeninmanagementawards.org](http://www.womeninmanagementawards.org).



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SPORTS

# SRI LANKA RIP THROUGH TOP ORDER TO LEAVE NEW ZEALAND IN TROUBLE

Sri Lanka's bowlers ripped through the New Zealand top order, including snaring the key wicket of Kane Williamson, to leave the hosts in trouble at 162-5 after the second day of the first Test yesterday.

After posting a competitive 355 on the green Hagley Oval wicket in Christchurch, Sri Lanka gave New Zealand a soft start before gaining momentum.

A productive burst either side of the tea break from Asitha Fernando and Lahiru Kumara claimed Devon Conway, Williamson and Henry Nicholls as New Zealand slumped from 67 without loss to 76-3.

A pin-point Fernando yorker then dismissed opener Tom Latham for 67 before Kasun Rajitha accounted for Tom Blundell for seven.

"We're doing pretty good," an elated Rajitha said at stumps.

"This can happen tomorrow as well. This wicket is helpful for the fast bowlers, that's why we were trying to get wickets before tea."

"It's a good wicket for the batsmen but they can't trust the bounce."

Daryl Mitchell was on 40 at stumps with Michael Bracewell on nine, and although New Zealand were still 193 in arrears, Latham denied they were out of the contest.

"If we can get as close to their score as possible then hopefully we'll be able to put a bit of pressure on them with the ball because as we've seen there's plenty in it for the bowlers," he said.

Sri Lanka need to sweep the series to keep their World Test Championship hopes alive.

Their ambition was evident as they celebrated each wicket and every saved single.

Fernando, guilty of straying too often down the legside in his opening spell,



New Zealand's Kane Williamson (C) walks back to the pavilion after his dismissal during the second day of the first Test cricket match between New Zealand and Sri Lanka at Hagley Oval in Christchurch

## Sri Lanka

**1ST INNINGS (OVER NIGHT 305)**

O. Fernando c Blundell b Southee	13
D. Karunaratne c Latham b Henry	50
K. Mendis lbw b Southee	87
A. Mathews c Mitchell b Henry	47
D. Chandimal c Latham b Southee	39
D. de Silva c Blundell b Southee	46
N. Dickwella lbw b Bracewell	07
K. Rajitha c Williamson b Henry	22
P. Jayasuriya c Blundell b Henry	13
L. Kumara not out	13
A. Fernando lbw b Southee	10
<b>EXTRAS:</b> (2w, 6lb)	08
<b>TOTAL:</b> (all out, 92.4 overs)	355

**FALL OF WICKETS:** 14-1, 151-2, 151-3, 233-4, 260-5, 268-6, 316-7, 331-8, 336-9, 355-10

**BOWLING:** T. Southee 26.4-10-64-5, M. Henry 26-8-80-4, B. Tickner 20-2-103-0, N. Wagner 10-1-68-0, D. Mitchell 7-3-17-0, M. Bracewell 3-0-17-1

Official Sponsor of the National Cricket Team

uncharacteristic big cover drive but could not get the ball over Dimuth Karunaratne.

Nicholls, with a question mark over his Test future, had only faced six balls when a rash attempt to pull Kumara to the boundary saw him caught at mid-wicket.

Latham persevered to bring up his 27th half-century and looked well set until he was bowled by Fernando.

Sri Lanka had frustrated New Zealand from the start of the day when they resumed at 305-6 and added another 50 as they stretched the innings for a further 17 overs.

Overnight pair Dhananjaya de Silva and Rajitha clipped 11 off the opening over of the morning before skipper Tim Southee entered the attack and had De Silva caught behind for 46.

When the new ball became due, Matt Henry had Rajitha caught at mid-off for 22 and New Zealand sensed the end was near.

But Prabath Jayasuriya and Lahiru

## New Zealand

**1ST INNINGS**

T. Latham b Fernando	67
D. Conway lbw b Fernando	30
K. Williamson c Karunaratne b Kumara	01
H. Nicholls c Rajitha b Kumara	02
D. Mitchell not out	40
T. Blundell c Dickwella b Rajitha	07
M. Bracewell not out	09
<b>EXTRAS:</b> (1w, 5lb)	06
<b>TOTAL:</b> (6 wickets, 63 overs)	162

**FALL OF WICKETS:** 67-1, 70-2, 76-3, 134-4, 151-5

**BOWLING:** K. Rajitha 19-7-38-1, A. Fernando 19-5-42-2, L. Kumara 14-5-34-2, D. de Silva 6-1-14-0, A. Mathews 3-0-18-0, P. Jayasuriya 2-0-11-0

Kumara, while only adding five runs, lasted 38 deliveries for the ninth wicket.

Henry eventually had Jayasuriya caught behind for 13, leaving Kumara (13 not out) and Fernando (10) to add a further 19 runs off 26 deliveries for the final wicket.

For New Zealand, Southee finished with 5-64 and Henry 4-80.



## Thomians edge Royalist to reclaim Fred de Saram Trophy

The Old Boys of S. Thomas' College edged their traditional rivals Royal College in sensational fashion at the 53rd Royal-Thomian golf tournament, winning 29 points to 28 and reclaiming the Fred de Saram trophy.

In a keenly contested final, Royal College held a slender one-point lead, before the Thomian pairing of Christopher Dias and Arjun Gunaratna pulled off the win in the 17th hole.

It was a reminiscent of last year's result, when Royal pulled-off a win by half a point.

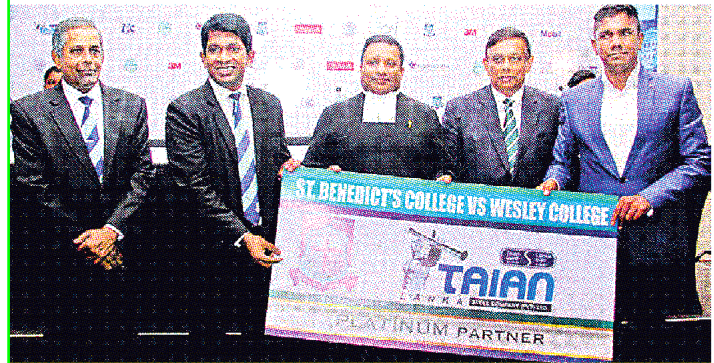
Meanwhile, the Play Golf for Charity Fund exceeded Rs 5 million.

The Royal-Thomian Golfers' Guild in partnership with Mornern Cricket Australia had raised significant sums of money that will be presented to The Royal College of Anesthetist and Intensivists of Sri Lanka.

This is in line with the College's Heal Sri Lanka programme that will ensure these funds be used to secure much needed medical equipment to service the ICU and Critical Care units located in the peripheries.



## Wesley – St. Benedict's confront for Cartman Cup and Luke Shield



Avanka Fernando Principal of Wesley (second from left) and Rev. Bro Pubudu Rajapakse Director of St. Benedict's (third from left) are seen receiving the Platinum sponsorship package from K. Pathmanathan, Chairman Taian Lanka Steel Company Pvt Ltd.

BY M. SHAMILAMIT

Two leading cricket playing schools Wesley College and St. Benedict's College will face off for the James Cartman Cup which is played over two days and followed by the Rev. Bro. Luke Gregory FSC Shield encounter.

This was revealed at the launch event held at the Jetwing Hotel which was attended by distinguished guests from the two schools along with the Principal of Wesley Avanka Fernando and Rev. Bro. Dr. Pubudu Rajapakse Director St. Benedict's.

The two matches are played in honour of two former principals of the schools.

James Cartman was a former principal of Wesley while Rev. Bro. Luke Gregory was a former Director of St. Benedict's.

The two-day encounter for the James Cartman Cup will be played on March 17 and 18 at P. Sara Stadium and the limited over encounter for the Rev. Bro. Luke Gregory Shield will be played on March 25 at the SSC ground which will coincide with the Wesley Walk to be held from the school premises to the SSC ground.

The series was inaugurated three years ago but unfortunately two full

days of play at the first encounter was not possible due to bad weather and the match ended in a draw.

The limited overs encounter had to be cancelled due to the Covid pandemic.

However though the matches were not played the officials of the two schools along with the sponsors made donations to Diyagala Boys School which was received by the Managing Director Rev. Bro Granville Perera in 2021 and last year donations were made to 150 schools that are being supported by Wesley in conjunction with the Sesquicentennial celebrations in 2024.

Taian Lanka Steel Company Pvt. Ltd., has come forward as the Platinum sponsor to these two events which was appreciated by the Principal of Wesley and Director of St. Benedict's for the support extended.

The joint committee under the guidance of Rev. Bro. Dr. Pubudu Rajapakse, Director St. Benedict's and Avanka Fernando, Principal of Wesley have made arrangements for the spectators expected to witness the two matches. In addition both the matches will be telecast live and also on Quadrangual's YouTube channel.

## MCA Sixes in Galle Stadium today for first time

BY SUSIL PREMALAL

The Mercantile Cricket Association (MCA) for the first time in their 112-year cricketing history, will venture out to conduct a tournament at an outstation venue.

Implementing the idea initiated by the incumbent MCA President, Nalin Wickremesinghe, the MCA Tournament Committee will conduct a coloured clothing / white ball, six-a-side cricket tournament today (11) at the Galle International Cricket Stadium, from 8:00 a.m. onwards.

Nine teams will be participating in this historic tournament, consisting, three banks, namely, HNB,



Head table (from L to R) - Lakmal de Silva, Chairman (Tournament Committee), Nalin Wickremesinghe, President, MCA, Mahesh de Alwis, Senior Vice President, MCA and Tharindra Kaluperuma, Secretary, MCA

Commercial Bank and Union Bank; and six non-banking institutions namely, LB Finance, Citizens Development Business Finance, LOLC, Peoples Leasing, Orient Finance and Assetline Leasing.

The nine teams will be drawn into three groups to play a round-robin and at the completion of the league stage, the three group winners and

the best second of all three groups will advance to the knock-out stage.

The tournament will be conducted according to the Hong Kong International Cricket Sixes Rules and Playing Conditions.

The four special awards on offer are for the best Batter, Bowler, Most Sixes and Man of the Final.

## 16th Battle of the North

# Jaffna Central in line to record convincing win

Jaffna Central College continued their domination for the second successive day against traditional rivals St. John's College in the 116th Battle of the North big match and have put themselves in line to record a convincing win when play ended on the second day at the Central ground in Jaffna.

St. John's made to follow on and left with the daunting task of erasing a deficit of 152 runs were in dire straits as they succumbed to right arm spinner Vikneswaran Paruthi and pacie Ranjithkumar Newton who tormented them in the first innings and were struggling on 137 for 7 needing a further 15 runs to avoid an innings defeat when play gets underway on the final day.

The morning sessions proceedings on day two saw the left and right pacies Ranjithkumar Newton and Ananthan Kajan turning the tide in favor of the Centralites as the duo ran through the Johnians batting sharing seven wickets between them to have them struggling. The Johnians were struggling for survival after resuming from their overnight score

of 43 for 3 and found the pacie double too hot to handle. They lost wickets at regular intervals as Newton and Kajan combined with effect and the Johnians from a position of 109 for 5 lost their last five wickets for the addition of just 18 runs and was bowled out for a low score of 127 runs. This was in reply to the Centralites score of 279 runs.

The match will be continued today. -MSA

**Result:**  
**Jaffna Central** 279 (Nishanthan Ajay 74, Jegatheeswaran Vithushan 71, Matheeswaran Sansayan 42, Sutharshan Anushanth 27, Thakuthas Abilash 15, Yogathas Vithushan 4 for 70, Anton Abishel 3 for 67, Kirupananthan Kajakarnan 2 for 38)  
**St. John's Jaffna** (43/3 overnight) 127 (Nesakumar Jezial 43, Kamalapalan Sabesan 34; Ranjithkumar Newton 4 for 27, Ananthan Kajan 3 for 8, Sudarshan Anushanth 2 for 62) and 137 for 7 (Kamalapalan Jananthan 26, Nesakumar Jezial 25, Arulseeelan Kavishan 22 n.o.; Vikneswaran Paruthi 4 for 50, Ranjithkumar Newton 3 for 41)

## Thurstan - Isipathana Golf Tourney on Sunday

BY SHAMSEER JALEEL

The 6th annual golfing encounter between Thurstan College and Isipathana College will take place on Sunday (12) at the picturesque Royal Colombo Golf Club.

This encounter played for the Neomal Fernando Challenge Trophy will tee off at 7

a.m. Both teams have two wins each under their belts, while the last was a tie.

Thurstan will be led by the evergreen golfer Milinda Ratnayake, who will have Noel Joseph, Suredha Amerasinghe, Harendra de Silva, Chaminda Prabath, Sunil Jayakody, Pandula Kuruppu, Bingumal Thewathanthri, Chamikara Wijesinghe, Thushara Rupesinghe,

and Lakshman Sumathipala in his ranks.

Isipathana College, famous for its rugby football, will see Ravi Liyanage leading the outfit. Ravi, who led the National University in rugby and later played for CR & FC, will have Anura Somaratne, Brig. Nanda Hathurusinghe, Anura Wimalaratne, Mervin Preena, Roshana Samaranyake, Kishan

Serasinghe, Chamara Dayaratne, Ajith Kulasinghe, Faiz Omar, Laki Wickremesinghe, Saman Manchanayake, Neroy Marso, Himal Randhima, and Sooriya Perera.

This year, the Green Machine will miss out on top-class players such as Manjula Lanerolle, Majid Awn, and Gayan Amerasinghe, who are all away overseas.





# Mirror Business

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Full Stock Market

10

## SL in need of institutional reforms to achieve long-term debt sustainability: Prof. Hanke

- Says SL will remain same unless necessary changes take place
- Sceptical on IMF bailout helping SL come out of crisis

In a bid to achieve long-term debt sustainability, senior economist Steve Hanke said Sri Lanka needs institutional reforms.

The professor of applied economics, who is known for his work as a currency reformer in emerging market countries, asserted that unless institutional changes take place, along with the rules of governance, the situation in countries such as Sri Lanka would remain the same.

"In fact, most of the personalities involved in Sri Lanka at the high level are exactly the same as they've been for years. So, nothing has

changed," he said in an interview with CNBC this week.

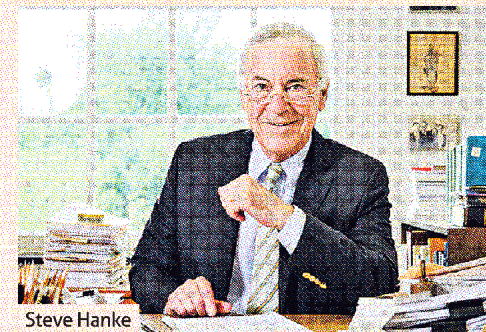
While the island nation is looking to unlock the much-awaited bailout package with the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the economist was sceptical on the relief helping Sri Lanka's crisis-stricken economy in the long term. He pointed out that the country has gone to the IMF several times, cap in hand for relief.

"You have to remember that we have a country that since 1965 has had 16 IMF programmes and they've all failed. You get

temporary relief in anticipation of a bailout. But in the long run ... none of these IMF programmes work," he said.

Earlier this week, the IMF announced that Sri Lanka has been successful in securing financial assurances from all the key creditors, with China finally giving the nod for debt restructuring. The move paves the way for the IMF to approve the US \$ 2.9 billion bailout.

The IMF board will meet on March 20 to review the four-year agreement that was first signed in September.



Steve Hanke

## SL's RD status to come off only after completion of debt restructuring process: Fitch

- Notes talks with private sector creditors could raise further complications
- Long-Term Local Currency IDR to be further downgraded if govt. restructures or defaults on its local currency debt
- Expresses confidence in SL securing financing support from IMF
- Says unlocking bailout package would bolster official foreign exchange reserves



Picture courtesy Getty Images

Sri Lanka is making good progress towards unlocking the International Monetary Fund (IMF) bailout package but its Restricted Default (RD) status would only come off after the debt restructuring process reaches completion, rating agency Fitch said yesterday.

As there are no timelines fixed for discussions on debt restructuring to close, after the IMF approves the support package, Fitch Ratings said it believes that even if the official creditors are more aligned in Sri Lanka's case, talks with private sector creditors could raise further complications.

It "may" move the IDR out of 'RD', upon the sovereign's completion of a commercial debt restructuring, after it is certain that Sri Lanka's relationship with the international financial community has normalised.

"Sri Lanka's post-default ratings would depend upon our assessment of its credit profile."

**MOREON P10**

## Selendiva Investment Company to be voluntary wound up

By Lakmal Sooriyagoda

Selendiva Investments Limited Company and Selendiva Leisure Investments Limited, a real estate and property development company fully owned by the government Treasury, have informed the Supreme Court that the two companies are in the process of voluntary winding up.

Professionals National Front of Sri Lanka Secretary G. Kapila Renuka Perera had filed a fundamental rights petition, seeking an order prohibiting the Treasury secretary from selling, leasing or alienating state properties vested in Selendiva Investments Limited Company.

When the petition was called before the Supreme Court three-judge bench comprising Justices

Murdu Fernando, Kumuduni Wickremasinghe and Priyantha Fernando, the counsel appearing for Selendiva Investments Limited revealed the company's move for voluntary winding up.

This petition is to be taken up again on July 18, in order to record the petitioner's stance regarding the future action.

According to the petitioner, Selendiva Investments Ltd was formed in accordance with a Cabinet approval granted on or around March 24, 2020, with 100 percent ownership vested in the Treasury secretary, with the goal of transforming the state-owned hospitality portfolios to optimum performance levels through appropriate restructuring.

**MOREON P10**

## UK economy rebounds as Rishi Sunak says confidence is returning

**BBC:** The prime minister has said "confidence is returning" after official figures showed the economy grew by more than expected in January.

Rishi Sunak said the data confirmed the government's plan is "the right one and we need to stick to it".

The economy expanded by 0.3 percent in January, rebounding from a sharp fall in December.

Higher school attendance and the return of Premier League

football after the World Cup helped boost the figure. The data comes ahead of the Budget next Wednesday when Chancellor Jeremy Hunt will set out the government's growth plans.

January's growth followed a 0.5 percent contraction in the economy during December. However, the ONS figures also showed that the economy stagnated in the November to January period compared with the previous three months.

**MOREON P10**

## Standard Chartered provides insights on global and Sri Lankan economic outlook

The Global Research team of Standard Chartered Bank, which was in Sri Lanka recently, provided key insights on the global and Sri Lankan economic outlook at its research briefing.

The team was in Sri Lanka to deliberate at the annual Global Research Briefing (GRB), themed 'A year of two halves'. The event was attended by approximately 150 corporate, commercial and institutional banking (CCIB) clients of Standard Chartered Bank.

**MOREON P10**



From left: Standard Chartered Sri Lanka CEO Bingumal Thewarathanthri, Global Head Fixed Income Research and Head Asia Research Kaushik Rudra, Economist South Asia Saurav Anand and Head of ASA FX Research Divya Devesh

## National tea sales average dips in February



The national tea sales average for the month of February 2023 recorded Rs.1,438.20 (US \$ 3.96), which is a dip from the previous month.

The sales average in February dropped by Rs.28.56 from January 2023, where the average was Rs.1,466.76. In comparison to the February 2022 average of Rs.725.63 (US \$ 3.61), a significant increase of Rs.712.57 and US \$ 0.35 year-on-year (YoY) is shown.

The analysis of the elevational averages for the month of February 2023 shows that the High Grown

had a sales average of Rs.1,402.55 (US \$ 3.86), recording a marginal increase of Rs.7.52 month-on-month (MoM). When compared to the February 2022 average of Rs.696.48 (US \$ 3.47), a significant increase of Rs.706.07 and US \$ 0.39 is recorded YoY. The Medium Grown average of Rs.1,257.27 (US \$ 3.46) for February 2023 recorded an increase of Rs.14.45 MoM as well. When compared to the February 2022 average of Rs.645.08 (US \$ 3.21), a significant increase of Rs.612.19 and US \$ 0.25 YoY is shown.

**MOREON P10**

## Bonuses, allowances and benefits of employees of loss-making CPC and CEB scrapped

■ 25% salary increment to be offered every three years

■ Min. secretary instructed to kick off process to terminate collective agreement

Power and Energy Minister Kanchana Wijesekera said the annual bonuses, allowances and other benefits would not be continued. However, a salary increment of 25 percent would be offered every three years, he said in an update on Twitter last evening.

Wijesekera shared that the collective agreement entered into with the trade unions of the CEB and CPC would not be continued. "I have



Kanchana Wijesekera

instructed Secretary to the Min of Power & Energy to commence the process to terminate them (agreements)," tweeted Wijesekera.

Towards the end of February, the Ceylon Electricity Board Trade Union Unity launched a strike over several issues, which included demanding annual bonuses and medical payments, which were not paid in 2022 and 2021.

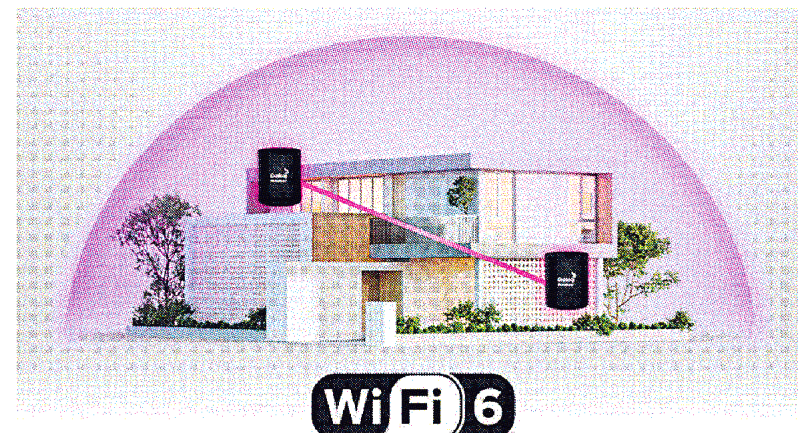
Efforts are underway to restructure the CEB and CPC, which have employees far in excess.

## Dialog 'WiFi 6' for first time in Sri Lanka

Staying true to its brand ethos of delivering 'The Future. Today.', Dialog Axiata PLC, Sri Lanka's premier connectivity provider, introduced 'WiFi 6' - the next-gen standard in Wi-Fi technology for the first time in Sri Lanka.

With most homes having significantly more Wi-Fi-enabled devices, from smartphones, tablets to TVs and smart home devices, which require seamless connectivity, Wi-Fi 6 enables better communication between these multiple devices, which require data simultaneously at faster speeds and lower latency along with wider coverage.

WiFi 6 will enable devices to work in an optimal manner even in interference zones (i.e. multiple Wi-Fi networks), where the beam forwarding feature of this technology provides overall superior Wi-Fi experience, due to the Wi-Fi signal only targeting Wi-Fi 6-enabled devices. WiFi 6 is a substantial upgrade



over previous generations and introduces new technologies to help mitigate issues that arise when using multiple Wi-Fi devices on a single network, keeping connections strong even as more and more devices start demanding data. Further, the lower latency enabled by Wi-Fi 6 technology provides the best gaming

and streaming experience. Dialog Smart Home recently launched the Wi-Fi 6-enabled 'Wi-Fi Mesh', a holistic and highly-secure home Wi-Fi system designed to boost Wi-Fi connectivity to every corner of the home, thereby eliminating low-coverage blind spots.

**MOREON P10**



SARVODAYA DEVELOPMENT FINANCE PLC

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10.03.2023

SECURITY	VOLUME	V.W.A. %	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	V.W.A. TODAY'S	CHANGES	SECURITY	VOLUME	V.W.A. %	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	V.W.A. TODAY'S	CHANGES	SECURITY	VOLUME	V.W.A. %	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	V.W.A. TODAY'S	CHANGES
<b>A MAIN BOARD</b>								LANKA ASHOK	11	713.25	725	725	722.75	713.25	-	EML CONSULTANTS	239,310	4.3	4.4	4.5	4.3	4.40	0.10
ASPEN HOT.HOLD	4,007	61.4	60.5	60.5	59.5	59.50	(1.90)	LANKA HOSPITALS	14,147	105	107.75	109.75	105	108.25	3.25	<b>DIRISAVI BOARD</b>							
ABANS	195	165	166.5	166.5	158	158.75	(6.25)	LANKA IOC	497,771	199	199	199	194.75	195.25	(3.75)	AGSTAR PLC	915,804	13.3	13.4	13.4	12.9	13.00	(0.30)
ACCESS ENG SL	573,292	13.9	13.7	13.9	13.4	13.50	(0.40)	LANKA REALTY	164,231	12.6	12.6	13	12.3	13.00	0.40	ALUMEX PLC	506,715	8.8	8.8	8.9	8.5	8.70	(0.10)
ACL	341,822	85.1	85.9	85.9	82.4	82.50	(2.60)	LANKA TILES	546,840	53.2	54	54.5	52.7	53.10	(0.10)	AMANA TAKAFUL	3,000	12	12	12	12	12.00	-
ACL PLASTICS	231	416	410	410	400.25	404.50	(11.53)	LANKA VENTURES	2,017	36.9	37.1	39	36.2	38.50	1.60	AMBEON HOLDINGS	107,794	33.8	34	35	34	34.90	(0.10)
ACME	29,600	6.7	6.8	6.8	6.8	6.80	0.10	LANKA WALLTILE	1,362,036	59.3	61	62	58.7	58.80	(0.50)	AMF COLTD	3,103	7.7	7.7	7.7	7.6	7.60	(0.10)
ACMAWATTE	51,610	32.2	32.2	32.2	31.2	31.70	(0.50)	LANKEM DEV	88,540	28.7	27.3	27.7	26	26.20	(0.80)	ASIA SIYAKA	272,873	4.2	4.3	4.3	4.1	4.20	-
AHOT PROPERTIES	4,719	40.3	40	41.5	40	40.00	(0.30)	LAUGFS GAS	41,143	28.2	26	28.1	26	27.60	(0.60)	BANSEI RESORTS	100	11.3	11.3	11.3	11.3	11.30	-
AITKEN SPENCE	2,986	139.25	139.25	139.25	138.5	138.50	(0.75)	LAUGFS GAS [LGL.X0000]	3,446	18.5	18.7	18.7	17.1	18.00	(0.50)	BOGALA GRAPHITE	43,295	66.3	67.7	68	65	66.80	0.50
ALLIANCE	7,737	67.5	68	68	65	67.40	(0.10)	LAXAPANA	21,899	14.1	14.2	14.2	13.8	13.90	(0.20)	BOGAWANTALAWA	1,075	45	44.1	45	44	44.60	(0.40)
AMANA BANK	454,398	2.8	2.8	2.9	2.7	2.80	-	LB FINANCE	159,363	55.3	55	55.4	53.9	55.00	(0.30)	BPPL HOLDINGS	41,628	22	22	22.1	22	22.00	-
ASIA ASSET	1,000	8.5	8.4	8.4	8.4	8.40	(0.10)	LION BREWERY	2	694.75	680	680	680	694.75	-	BROWNS	62,230	122	120	121.5	117.75	120.25	(1.75)
ASIA CAPITAL	301	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.20	-	LMF	204	145.5	146.75	146.75	143	143.00	(2.50)	BROWNS INVSTMTS	4,458,773	6.3	6.4	6.4	6.1	6.20	(0.10)
ASIRI	1,507	26.9	26.6	26.6	26.4	26.40	(0.50)	LVI ENERGY	17,861	7.3	7.1	7.4	7.1	7.40	0.10	CL T.LAND	1	24	24	24	24	24.00	-
ASIRI SURG	6,466	12.5	12.5	13	12.3	12.40	(0.10)	MALWATTE	3	82	72.4	72.4	72.4	82.00	-	C.W.MACKIE	1,346	82.1	81	82.7	81	82.60	0.50
BAIRAHA FARMS	19,475	150.75	151	157.25	151	152.75	2.00	MELSTACORP	694,540	60	59.9	59.9	57.5	58.00	(2.00)	CALT	2,271,233	35.2	35	35	33.8	34.30	(0.90)
BALANGODA	9,085	64.2	64.5	65.9	64.1	64.30	0.10	MERCHANT BANK	51,132	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.6	3.60	(0.10)	CEYLON TEA BRKRS	97,622	4.1	4.1	4.1	4	4.00	(0.10)
BUKIT DARAH	16	405	405	405	405	405.00	-	MULLERS	58,129	1.3	1.2	1.3	1.2	1.20	(0.10)	CFI	3,386	69.8	63.1	63.1	63.1	63.10	(6.70)
C M HOLDINGS	9,534	76.9	76	79.4	76	77.00	0.90	NAMUNUKULA	2,326	360.25	360	367.75	360	366.25	6.00	CITRUS HIKKADUWA	28,144	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.1	5.10	(0.40)
CT HOLDINGS	3	178.5	183.5	183.5	183.25	178.50	-	NAT. DEV. BANK	183,336	52.5	52.9	52.9	49.6	50.10	(2.40)	CITRUS WASKADUWA	33,449	2.6	2.7	2.7	2.6	2.60	-
CARGILLS	84	232.5	227	232.25	226	232.50	-	NATION LANKA	1,343	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.60	-	COM CREDIT	4,658	27.9	28	28	26.8	27.10	(0.80)
CARGO BOAT	206	47	48	48	47	47.50	0.50	NATIONS TRUST	11,569	68.5	65.1	66.4	64.7	64.90	(3.60)	COMMERCIAL DEV.	18	108.75	108.75	111	108.75	108.75	-
CARSONS	100	285	285	285	285	285.00	-	NATIONS TRUST [NTB-X-0000]	729	65.3	55	68.9	55	56.40	(8.90)	DILMAH CEYLON	1	1,060.00	1,059.75	1,059.75	1,059.75	1,060.00	-
CDB	1	196.25	195	195	195	196.25	-	OVERSEAS REALTY	37,934	15.5	15.7	15.7	15.5	15.50	-	E-CHANNELLING	4,489	11.9	12.4	12.4	11.7	12.30	0.40
CDB [CDB.X0000]	50	70.9	70.8	70.8	70.8	70.90	-	PAN ASIA	129,691	14	14.3	14.3	13.3	13.30	(0.70)	ELPITIYA	5,907	80.5	80.1	80.4	79.2	79.90	(0.60)
CENTRAL FINANCE	574	81.5	81.5	81.5	79	80.90	(0.60)	PANASIAN POWER	26,123	3.6	3.5	3.6	3.5	3.50	(0.10)	EQUITY TWO PLC	1	42.9	42.8	42.8	42.8	42.90	-
CENTRAL IND.	42,924	90	92.4	92.4	85	91.20	1.20	PEOPLE'S INS	89,952	24.3	24	24	22.9	23.00	(1.30)	EXTERMINATORS	9,369	7.2	7.2	7.5	7.1	7.30	0.10
CEYLINCO INS.	8,360	2,100.00	2,195.00	2,195.00	2,195.00	2,195.00	95.00	PEOPLES LEASING	664,011	9	9.1	9.1	8.7	8.70	(0.30)	FC TREASURIES	288,605	23.6	23.5	23.5	22.4	22.60	(1.00)
CEYLINCO INS. [CINS.X0000]	98	1,074.75	1,052.50	1,052.50	1,052.50	1,074.75	-	PGP GLASS	347,031	17	16	17.2	16	17.00	-	FIRST CAPITAL	163,974	37	37	37	35.6	35.90	(1.10)
CEYLON GUARDIAN	5,653	73.1	72	72	71.1	71.20	(1.90)	PRINTCARE PLC	107,383	53.5	54.8	55	54.1	54.60	1.10	FORTRESS RESORTS	567,900	22.2	22.7	23	21.8	22.70	0.50
CEYLON INV	8,166	38.7	37.1	38.4	36	36.10	(2.60)	R I L PROPERTY	129,157	6.2	6.1	6.1	5.9	6.00	(0.20)	GALADARI	121,506	13.8	13.8	13.8	13.5	13.60	(0.20)
CEYLON TOBACCO	1,432	686.25	685.75	708.25	680.25	694.75	8.50	REGNIS	20	45	45.4	45.4	45.4	45.00	-	HAPUGASTENNE	1,656	45	46	46	46	47.50	2.50
CHEMANEX	81	82	79.1	79.9	79.1	82.00	-	RENUKA AGRI	983,502	5.7	5.6	5.7	5.4	5.50	(0.20)	HATTON	9,245	22.5	23.9	23.9	21.5	21.70	(0.90)
CHEVRON	107,411	95	95	95.8	94.1	95.00	-	RENUKA CITY HOT	71	371.25	371.25	384	365	371.25	-	HNB FINANCE	266,401	5.8	6	6	5.7	5.70	(0.10)
CIC	38,655	77.8	78	79.5	76.6	79.00	1.20	RENUKA FOODS	49,323	13.7	13	13.7	13	13.20	(0.50)	HNB FINANCE [HNBFX-0000]	7,889	5.3	5.5	5.5	4.9	5.00	(0.30)
CIC [CIC.X0000]	273,518	56.6	56	56	54.5	55.00	(1.60)	RENUKA HOLDINGS	49,323	13.7	13	13.7	13	13.20	(0.50)	HVA FOODS	1,190	4	3.9	4.2	3.9	4.00	-
CITRUS LESURE	28,255	6.3	6.3	6.3	6.1	6.20	(0.10)	RENUKA HOLDINGS [RHL.X0000]	1,976	12.6	12	12	12	12.00	(0.60)	JANASHAKTHI INS.	7,011	31	29.7	29.8	29.6	29.70	(1.30)
COLD STORES	30,481	35.8	36.9	37	36	36.90	1.10	RESUS ENERGY	14,728	13.8	13.8	13.9	13.6	13.60	(0.20)	JETWING SYMPHONY	6,284	7.4	7.4	7.4	7.2	7.30	(0.10)
COLOMBO CITY	203	1,153.50	1,145.00	1,145.00	1,030.00	1,054.25	(9.25)	RICHARD PIERIS	70,593	23	23	23	22	22.70	(0.30)	JOHN KEELLS	6,234	66.7	67	71	67	70.00	3.30
COLOMBO LAND	121,158	18.4	18.5	18.5	18	18.10	(0.30)	ROYAL CERAMIC	2,771,203	34.3	34.6	35.1	33.8	34.00	(0.30)	KAHAWATTE	93,440	20.9	21	21.5	19.9	20.10	(0.80)
COMMERCIAL BANK	65,959	69.1	69	69	66	67.00	(2.10)	S M B LEASING	204,415	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.80	-	KEELLS FOOD	170	160.5	167.75	167.75	160	161.00	0.50
COMMERCIAL BANK [COMB.X0000]	9,981	59.9	60	60	59	59.00	(0.40)	S M B LEASING [SEMB.X0000]	290,181	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.30	-	KEELLS HOTELS	27,582	18	18.2	18.3	18	18.00	-
CONVENIENCE FOOD	1	1,208.00	1,208.00	1,208.00	1,208.00	1,208.00	-	SAMPATH	1,331,255	56.4	55.5	56	54.6	55.00	(1.40)	LANKEM CEYLON	503	84.8	90	90	89.7	89.80	0.50
DANKOTUWA PORCEL	35,754	23	23	23.3	22.6	23.00	-	SAMSON INTERNAT	2	253.75	250	250	250	253.75	-	LAUGFS POWER [LPL-X-0000]	801	7	7.1	7.1	7	7.00	-
DFCC BANK PLC	23,636	47.3	46.2	47.5	45	47.00	(0.30)	SANASA DEV BANK	19,659	30	30	30	28.1	29.40	(0.60)	LCB FINANCE PLC	112,849	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.3	2.30	(0.10)
DIALOG	6,645,574	10.7	10.6	10.8	10.1	10.50	(0.20)	SARVODAYA DEVFIN	1,200	11.3	11.8	12	11.8	11.90	0.60	LIGHTHOUSE HOTEL	637	28.2	28.5	28.5	28.1	28.10	(0.10)
DIMO	46	486.5	489.75	503.25	487	486.50	-	SEYLAN BANK	12,985	37.7	37.7	37.9	37	37.30	(0.40)	LGLH GENERAL INS.	57,527	7.5	7.6	7.6	7.1	7.20	(0.30)
DIPPED PRODUCTS	174,908	30.																					