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GOVERNMENT OF CANADA ALLOWING

Canada benefits when diverse, engaged, and empowered youth are able to come from abroad to gain meaningful work and life experiences here. On December 1, 2022 the Honourable Sean Fraser, Minister of Immigration. Refugees and Citizenship, launched the 2023 International Experience Canada (IEC) Program with a 20% increase in the number of applicants who can apply. Applicants will be able to apply as of January 9, 2023. IEC is a reciprocal program that allows Canadian and international youth to work and travel in each other's countries. This increase means that nearly 90,000 candidates will be able to work and travel in Canada, including Francophone youth, which will help employers fill labour gaps, including for seasonal work opportunities in Canada's tourism industry.

By allowing more international youth to work and travel in Canada, the Government of Canada is helping employers, including those in the tourism industry, find the workers they need. Canada has a long-standing history of supporting Canadian and international youth to travel and work abroad. IEC helps youth explore new cultures, languages, and societies, all while developing life skills and improving their job prospects for the future. "Our government is helping more international youth to work and travel in Canada, effectively helping employers, most of those in the tourism industry, find the workers they need. By giving youth the opportunity of international travel and work experience, we are strengthening our

economy and helping our businesses succeed, particularly in places like Banff that need seasonal help," said the Honourable Sean Fraser, Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Meantime, The Honourable Marci len, Minister for Women and Gender Equality and Youth said that, "International youth bring so much to our country. From building people-topeople ties to helping our businesses succeed, international youth add value to communities right across Canada. This announcement will benefit sectors like the tourism industry, to find the workers they need to fill labour gaps all while providing youth the opportunity to explore Canadian cultures, languages and societies." Canada has youth mobility arrangements with 36 countries and foreign territories through the IEC Program that allow youth from Canada's partner countries to work and travel in Canada for up to 2 years. The ages range from 18 to 35 depending on the country. There are 3 categories of participation under the program: 1. Working Holiday participants receive an open work permit that allows them to work anywhere in the host country to support their travels. 2. International Co-op (Internship) participants receive an employerspecific work permit that allows students to gain targeted experience in their field of study. 3. Young Professionals participants receive an employer-specific work permit to gain targeted, professional work experience that is within their field of study or career path. You can get more information at 2023 International Experience Canada





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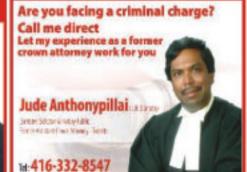


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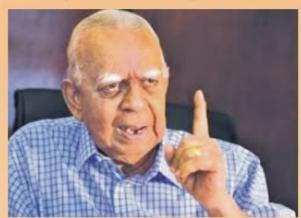


RANIL: BLOWING HOT AND COLD.

By Thambu Kanagasabai, LLB







73 year old Ranil Wickremasinghe after serving as a prime minister for five years achieved his ambition of becoming the President of Sri Lanka on 21 of July 2022 as an appointed member of parliament, not elected by the people in an election but through the national list thanks to the peoples uprising and fleeing of Gotabayas family on 9th of July in 2022. The Presidentship to Ranil was like a fruit slipping and falling into a pot of milk as a Tamil proverb says.

He also created a rare precedent to become the President without his party or peoples' mandate even after being defeated in the elections. The electoral system of national list provided the golden opening for him to be sworn as a member of Parliament enabling him to achieve his lifetime ambition to claim the coveted Presidential chair of Sri Lanka.

The peoples' fury and uprising [Aragalaya] resurrected Ranil with the blessings of Rajapakshas. Obviously Gotabayas' family crowned Ranil as the President, levying a heavy price for him which has to be paid by him sooner or later. Firstly it could be that Gotabayas' alleged commissions of war crimes, crimes against humanity etc. which are hanging as a sword of damocle over his head would not be pursued. Secondly the mounting pressure and hold of Human Rights Council and United Nations on them as alleged war criminals. There could be a deal between Ranil and Gota to shield Gota from any prosecution in Sri Lanka and elsewhere while Ranil holds the reins of power.

Now, Ranil has successfully secured the backing of Podhu Jana Peremuna and SLFP headed by Maithiripala Sirisena. He hopes to survive as president for the next two years until the next elections in 2024.

As aptly commented by Rajeeva Wijeyasinghe a former MP and state minister of Higher Education who said "Ranl has been desperate for the presidentship for centuries. He would do anything to get it to become a tool of the Rajapakshas through his own manoeuvring."

In his throne speech, he promised to form a National Assembly of all political leaders. He also said that "It is essential to provide a political solution to the issues faced by the Tamil community for a long time as they are suffering with many social and economic issues due to hardships of war." He also pleaded "Let us plant the seeds of truth and freedom".

The President has conspicuously and ominously omitted to mention the political hardships being suffered by the Tamil community since 1948 all of which are due to the short-sighted policies and actions of Sri Lankan Governments ruling the country since 1948.

His call "To plant the seeds of truth and freedom" is simply nothing but superficial and farcical as truth and freedom will not survive or take a hold unless embedded in Tamils and until accountability and justice are dispensed to them with adequate reparations for the plethora of war crimes, crimes against humanity etc. allegedly committed by the Sri Lankan security forces and government officials during the genocidal killings which commenced from 1956.

It is simply alarming to note his "Inviting the people to put aside the past and come together". His call is simply an endorsement and cover up of impunity discarding accountability and justice and offering impunity for the past offenders who allegedly committed war crimes etc. as comprehensively detailed and tabled in various UN High Commissioners and UN Special Rapporteurs Reports.

The President has also completely omitted to mention the importance and necessity to implement the UN and UNHRC Resolutions passed so far and ironically including the Resolution 30 of October 2015 co-sponsored by Ranil ostensibly to thwart the direct UN, UNHRC and International involvement and intervention in Sri Lanka.

It is history that all the UN and UNHRC Resolutions passed since 2012 are rested, ignored, discarded and are lying in cold storage. There is not an iota of doubt that Ranil or any otherPresident will never or ever implement the Recommendations of all those Resolutions.

[1] In short he President has omitted and deliberately ignored to deal and solve the ongoing accumulated grievances of Tamils and offer suitable remedies. [2] The President has also failed to mention the proposed political proposals to deal with the ethnic problem but obviously employing his usual dilly-dallying tactics. [3] He has ignored the basic human rights principles of accountability and justice which have to be delivered to the thousands of innocent victims of genocidal offenses allegedly committed by the security forces since 1948.

[4] He is also actively pursuing the genocidal tools of Sinhalization, Buddhisization and Militarization like the buildings of Buddhist Viharas and erection of Buddha statues like the current encroachment of Buddhist priests in Kuruntoor Malai and erection of Buddha statue and the construction of a Buddhist Vihara .defying the Court Order of anyone to construct any new buildings in this place.; Ranil's promise to repeal the Prevention of Terrorism Act and set up an internal independent investigative mechanism also remains forgotten while on the contrary the PTA is being vigorously enforced by the Ranil's government.

{5] Ranil's latest threatening statement to employ security forces to crush demonstrations and agitations to topple his government is a foreboding of a dictatorial rule and attitude taking shape while striking at the democratic ideals of freedom of assembly, speech and expression.

For a nation building as called by Ranil, it is a prerequisite to win the hearts and minds of all citizens particularly the victimized Tamils, but this appears to be a distant dream.

In the proposed all party talks held on 13th December 2022 as fixed by Ranil, TNA has stated that they will talk about a federal system of government which has already been rejected by Ranil during a telephonic discussion with Gajendrakumar Ponnambalam.

In the meantime, Sampanthan in an interview with 'Frontline' commented "We cannot go on like this. We are not prepared to trust the government anymore". Furthermore on November 30th 2022, Ranil as reported by Daily Mirror stated that he is ready to reintroduce District Development Councils in place of Provincial Councils. The idea of the District Development Council is nothing but a sinister ploy to get rid of Provincial Councils and snatch the limited powers of Provincial Councils controlled by the Tamil Councillors and Chief

All in all Ranil's move simply confirms his deceptive sincerity and lack of deep political commitment and dedication to solve the 60 years old ethnic problem and the grievances of Tamils. His focus on economic hardships and issues of North and East while avoiding the nagging deep seated political issues has amply demonstrated his eye washing of Tamils' 'problems and a whitewashing of past promises. However, it is still hoped that the proposed all party talks will yield constructive results unlike the earlier all party conferences in order to keep the unity and a united Sri Lanka.

By: Thambu Kanagasabai, LLM [London] Former Lecturer in Law, University of Colombo, Sri Lanka. & President, Tamil Canadian Elders for Human Rights Organization.

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Sales and New Listing down in November

Homeownership market activity in November continued to be influenced by the impact of higher borrowing costs on affordability. Sales were down markedly compared to the same period last year, following the trend that unfolded since the commencement of interest rate hikes in the spring. New listings were also down substantially from last year, and at a very low level historically. The fact that the supply of homes for sale has remained low, has supported average selling prices at the \$1.08 to \$1.09 million mark since August.

Greater Toronto Area (GTA) REALTORS® reported 4,544 sales through TRREB's MLS® System in November 2022 – down 49 per cent compared to November 2021, but remaining at a similar level to October especially after considering the recurring seasonal downward trend in the fall. New listings, at 8,880, were down on both a year-over-year basis and month-over-month basis.

"Increased borrowing costs represent a short-term shock to the housing market. Over the medium- to long-term, the demand for ownership housing will pick up strongly. This is because a huge share of record immigration will be pointed at the GTA and the Greater Golden Horseshoe (GGH) in the coming years, and all of these people will require a place to live, with the majority looking to buy. The long-term problem for policymakers will not be inflation and borrowing costs, but rather ensuring we have enough housing to accommodate population growth," said TRREB President Kevin Crigger.

"We have seen a lot of progress this year on the housing supply and related governance files such as the More Homes Built Faster Act. This is obviously good news. However, we need these new policies to turn into results over the next year. Otherwise, the current market lull will soon be behind us, population growth will be accelerating, and we will have done nothing to account for our growing housing need. The result would be enhanced unaffordability and reduced economic competitiveness," said TRREB CEO John DiMichele.

The MLS® Home Price Index Composite Benchmark was down by 5.5 per cent year-over- year in November 2022. The average selling price for all home types combined was down by 7.2 per cent year-over-year. Annual price declines continued to be greater for more expensive market segments, including detached and semi-detached houses.

"Selling prices declined from the early year peak as market conditions became more balanced and homebuyers have sought to mitigate the impact of higher borrowing costs. With that being said, the marked downward price trend experienced in the spring has come

to an end. Selling prices have flatlined along side average monthly mortgage payments since the summer," said TRREB Chief Market Analyst Jason Mercer.



Home design trends for the new year

(NC) Style trends often draw inspiration from the world around us, whether that means embracing something positive or offering a retreat from the negative. The year 2023 is no exception, with designers taking a cue from exotic travel destinations, gathering together again and our desire to always be comfortable. Here are some top trends to keep in mind for your next home design:

Escapist décor. More and more people want to be transported to their favourite vacation spot as wanderlust enters our minds again. Think rustic terracotta earthenware and warm natural wood to suggest an Italian villa, or blue-and-white Mediterranean tiles and billowy linen textiles reminiscent of a Greek island.

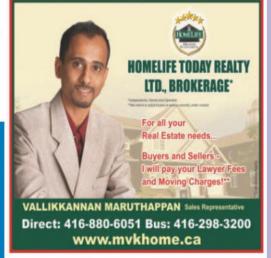
The new "it" decade. While fashion is deep in its 90s and 2000s throwback phase, home décor is focused on an entirely different time period—the 70s. Incorporate the best of this decade in your home with warm paints and fabrics, low-slung furniture and leather accents. Instead of buying something new at a pricey store, scour online listings and flea markets for vintage finds you can breathe new life into.

Easy-going entertaining. Hosting is officially back, and that means furnishings and layouts that encourage conversation and mingling. Indoors, the armchair is making a strong comeback, and an overstuffed sofa can help your guests feel comfy. Meanwhile, you can upgrade your outdoor living situation with pieces inspired by the "coastal grandmother aesthetic," like Muskoka chairs in seaside colours, rattan side tables and decorative poofs in beachy prints.

Blended exteriors. For a sophisticated statement, designers and architects are mixing materials on exterior walls. Look to balance timeless, natural surfaces of stone alongside wood, or add visual and textural interest to traditional siding by pairing it with sections of stone. For a new exterior, stone veneer is an affordable, durable option that makes an impact and ties in well with other design choices like a metal roof. Look for a no- maintenance, sustainably made option, like Canadian company Shouldice Designer Stone, which also carries a lifetime warranty.











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தமிழ் மிர்ரர் ஆங்கில பத்திரிகையின் 17 வது ஆண்டு விழாவும் விருது வழங்கல் வைபவமும் நவம்பர் 6 ம் நாள் சீன கலாச்சார மண்டபத்தில் விமரிசையாக இடம் பெற்றது. பேச்சாற்றலில் கின்னஸ் சாதனை படைத்த தமிழ் நாட்டை சேர்ந்த கலாநிதி அ. கலியமூர்த்தி அவர்கள் சிறப்பு விருந்தினராக கலந்து கொண்டு உரையாற்றினார். ஆடல், மற்றும் வாய்ப்பாட்டு பயிற்றுவிக்கும் போது வட இந்திய அல்லது வேற்று மாநிலத்தவரின் கலப்பில்லாமல் தமிழர் பண்பாடு சார்ந்த விடயங்களை கற்றுக்கொடுக்கும் படி இங்குள்ள ஆசிரியர்களை தமிழ் மிர்ரர் ஆசிரியர் சார்லஸ் தேவசகாயம் வினயமாக வேண்டி கொண்டார். அதன் படி அன்று நடந்த ஆடல் மற்றும் பாடல்கள் அநேகமாக முப்பாட்டன், மூத்த குடியோன், தமிழ் குடியின் முதல்வன் முருகன் பற்றியதாக அமைந்திருந்தது குறிப்பிட தக்கது என்பதுடன் பலராலும் பாராட்டபட்டது. மேலும் சமூகத்தில் பன்முக ஆளுமை கொண்ட பலரும், குறிப்பாக இளையோர் விருது வழங்கி உட்சாக படுத்தப்பட்டனர். அங்கு நடந்த நிகழ்வுகளில் சிலவற்றை இங்கு காணலாம். தர்மினி





















































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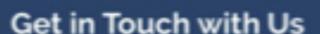




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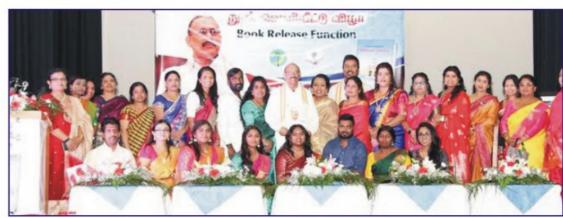












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