

# CEYLON *Today*

United Nations Day

United Nations  
Development Decade

Developing Ceylon's  
Fisheries

The Paintings from  
Vessagiriya

D. T. DEVENDRA

Ceylon Women in  
Public Life

DALTON DE SILVA

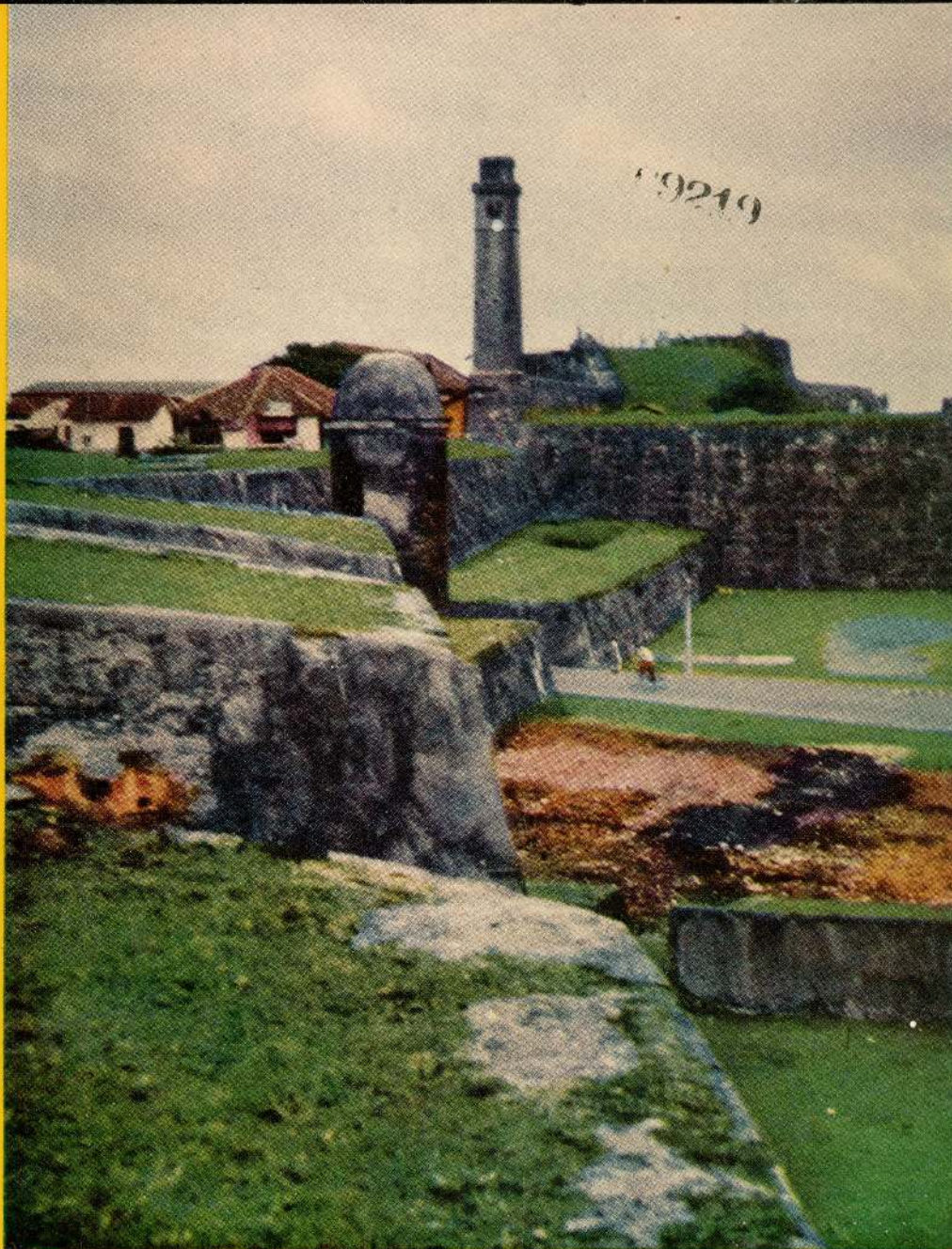
Training for Employment

Science Education in  
Schools

Policy Statement on  
Import Control

Foreign Affairs

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NOVEMBER, 1962



## CEYLON TODAY

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# CEYLON

# Today

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## United Nations Day

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THE seventeenth anniversary of the United Nations was celebrated in Ceylon on 25th October.

At a ceremony held on 25th morning in the premises of Royal College, the Minister of Justice, Senator Sam P. C. Fernando, hoisted the United Nations Flag and read out a statement from the Prime Minister, Mrs. Sirima Bandaranaike. Among those present at this meeting were Cabinet Ministers and Members of the Diplomatic Corps, whose countries are represented in the U. N.

Public meetings were also held throughout the country on this day in commemoration of the 17th anniversary.

Schools observed U. N. Day by holding exhibitions of posters and pictures drawn by students, by staging plays and pageants and by holding essay competitions, talks and discussions.

### P. M.'s Statement

THE Prime Minister in her statement said that this year the anniversary of the United Nations Charter coincided with the welcome and timely decision of the General Assembly

designating the present decade as the United Nations Development Decade. In her statement the Premier said :

“ In observing United Nations Day we join with other member-nations in proclaiming an act of faith in the Charter of the United Nations, in its principles and in the disciplined action of the organs it has created for co-operation among nations and the establishment of a lasting peace.

“ Today, in its seventeenth year, the numerical strength of the United Nations has increased by nine, bringing the total of member-states to 110. More and more it is therefore becoming the forum of the world where every member-nation, irrespective of its size or its significance in international politics, is the equal of the other by virtue of the principle : one member one vote.

“ We are aware that this development has caused some apprehensions in the minds of certain member-states. These apprehensions are based on the belief that new nations are unequal to the responsibilities attaching to membership. We believe that these fears are premature, that they are the outcome of a misconception that



the U. N. is already the ideal which its founders hoped it would be. We should rather accept the organization as a reflection of the state of our world—with its contradictions and its imperfections. It is the task of member-states in the organization to reconcile these contradictions and bring it closer to the ideal. While we welcome this growth in the membership of the U. N., we are also aware that wider membership alone will not endow the organization with the moral strength and effectiveness which it must possess. This it can secure only by its members observing both the word and the spirit of the principles embodied in the Charter. Our observance of U. N. Day is a re-affirmation of our faith in these principles and our willingness to abide by them.

“In the context of this increasingly wider representation in the U. N. it is a matter of concern that countries continue to be excluded from membership of the organization. Whether this exclusion is secured by the absence of unanimity among the permanent members of the Security Council or by the application of procedural measures, it is a negation of the spirit of the Charter.

### Global Effort

“THIS year, the anniversary of the United Nations Charter coincides with the welcome and timely decision of the General Assembly designating the present decade as the United Nations Development Decade. It is the inauguration of a global effort to mobilise, in co-operation with its specialised agencies, the accumulated experiences and resources of mankind in a full-scale and sustained attack on poverty, disease, hunger and illiteracy.

“Although many of us, in our part of the world, may not feel the full impact of the peace-making efforts of the United Nations, the programme for the Development Decade is one which is bound to have special significance for this region. National effort in the economic sphere must necessarily be the corner stone of the material prosperity for

the developing countries. Yet, by inaugurating the Development Decade, member-states of the United Nations have proclaimed their desire that the organization takes a decisive role in the determination of their economic well-being. We see the U. N.'s Development Decade as the natural corollary of the organization's more spectacular endeavours in keeping the peace. As peace is indivisible—so is prosperity. The Development Decade is the tangible evidence of our realization that peace cannot dwell alongside poverty.

“Yet we do not expect the U. N. to achieve a sudden transformation of our contemporary world. We know the U. N.'s limitations and imperfections. Nonetheless it remains our generation's best hope for the future. Its shortcomings are not of its own. They are essentially the shortcomings of us the members who constitute the organization, of us who pursue partisan goals to the detriment of the more universal aims which the Charter prescribes. If our observance of United Nations Day brings to us a better awareness of the principles and true spirit of the Charter, we shall have advanced one small step towards the United Nations' greater goal of an enduring peace.”

### U. N. Association holds Meeting

A PUBLIC meeting was held on the evening of 25th October, at Royal College, Colombo, under the auspices of the United Nations Association at which the Minister of Justice, Senator Sam P. C. Fernando, read out a further message from the Prime Minister.

In her message, the Premier said :

“On this 17th anniversary of the United Nations permit me to extend my felicitations to you the members of the United Nations' Association of Ceylon. The significance of the observances today has more than ordinary meaning to your Association which is devoted to the task of promoting an understanding of the mission of the United Nations.

In my statement this morning, I referred to the growing strength of the U. N. especially by the admission of new members. You will no doubt share our satisfaction that the organization is fast realizing one of its basic aims—that of universality. The U. N. itself has reason to be proud of this achievement, for the organisation played no small a part in hastening the emergence of these new members as Sovereign States.

“While it is the task of Governments to practise the principles of the U. N. in the conduct of their relations with the growing community of nations, voluntary organisations like your Association have no less an important task. You are making a valuable contribution to the implementation of the U. N. resolution which calls for today’s commemoration: “to making known to the peoples of the world the aims and achievements of the U. N. and to gaining their support for the work of the U. N.

“I would particularly recommend for your consideration the United Nations’ Development Decade which the Secretary-General has proposed as the theme for United Nations’

Day this year. The Development Decade is a measure which is of special significance to developing countries such as ours and its meaning and purpose is one which your Association is qualified to carry to our people. In the wider sphere of making known the aims and achievements of the U. N., I would commend to your Association that you consider the implementation of a regular Year-round programme on the U. N. in our schools. I mention our schools because it is our children who will ultimately benefit from and pursue the work of the U. N.

“This would also seem an appropriate occasion to express my appreciation of the valuable work hitherto performed by the organizers and members of your association. You have undertaken it without expectation of reward. I send you my best wishes for your continued success.”

Among the speakers at this meeting was the High Commissioner for Canada in Ceylon, Mr. James George.

The meeting was followed by a Dinner-Dance at the Galle Face Hotel, in Colombo.



## United Nations Development Decade

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*"IT is an extraordinary fact that at a time when affluence is beginning to be the condition of whole countries and regions rather than a few favoured individuals, and when scientific facts are becoming possible which beggar mankind's wildest dreams of the past, more people in the world are suffering from hunger and want, than ever before. Such a situation is so intolerable and so contrary to the best interests of all nations that it should arouse determination on the part of advanced and developing countries alike, to bring it to an end. The United Nations has recognised the need for action by designating the current decade as the United Nations Development Decade."*

Thus, the United Nations Acting Secretary-General, U Thant, prefaced his report on "Proposals for Action" during the U. N. Development Decade, proclaimed by the General Assembly in December, 1961.

The main economic objective of the Development Decade, as decided by the General Assembly, is to accelerate progress toward self-sustaining growth of the economies of individual nations and their social advancement "so as to attain in each less-developed country a substantial increase in the rate of growth, with each country setting its own target".

The Assembly called for "intensified action" by the United Nations system in order to create conditions in which the national incomes of the less developed countries will be increasing by 5 per cent yearly by 1970, with continued expansion thereafter.

### **On Broad Front**

THE report of the Acting Secretary-General contains specific measures and targets to give effect to this injunction of

the General Assembly. If the 5 per cent annual growth rate of national incomes of the less-developed countries can be achieved, he declares, "personal living standards can be doubled within 25 to 30 years". Given the anticipated increase in population over the decade, the 5 per cent goal would represent a 2 per cent net increase each year in personal income. This is twice the present estimated growth rate and, as the Acting Secretary-General stressed, "can mean the difference between an economy which is going forward and one which is standing still . . . . the difference between order and chaos".

To reach the 5 per cent objective, U Thant recommends that the United Nations system of aid be expanded and intensified on a broad front through the UN itself and through its related agencies in order to improve education and training, increase food supply, exploit natural resources, promote industrial development and improved housing, and make better use of science and technology.

He further emphasizes the need for expanding international trade and increasing the flow of capital and assistance by \$5 billion annually.

### **In hands of each country**

THE Acting Secretary-General emphasizes in the 148-page report that the key to the problem of stepped-up development is in the hands of each individual country. "Each country", he declares, "has to determine its specific objectives, conditions and development potential, preferably embodied in a comprehensive development plan."

Equally important is the mobilization of human resources, which U Thant views as a pre-condition for achieving the aims of the Development Decade, and as a necessary



area for intensified action, and states: "The unutilized talents of their people constitute the chief present waste, and the chief future hope, of the developing countries".

The report also points to the contribution which expanded foreign trade and stabilized commodity prices can make to the developing countries. If the unfavourable trend in the trade of these countries could be reversed and their terms of trade improved by 10 per cent over present levels, much of the additional resources required would be provided.

### UN Programmes

To help meet the cost of the expanded role of the United Nations during the Development Decade, the Acting Secretary-General proposes a \$25 million annual increase in the resources of the Expanded Program of Technical Assistance and the Special Fund, in order to reach a level of \$300 million annually for the two activities by 1970. He also looks upon an expansion of the resources of the International Development Association as "one of the primary requirements" for the success of the decade.

This, however, would be only a small percentage of the net flow of capital required. U Thant notes in the report that the present flow of capital from some of the wealthier to some of the poorer countries approaches or even exceeds the desired 1 per cent, as urged by the General Assembly. If that 1 per cent target were achieved by all developed countries and effectively used, he states, "this alone should raise the growth rate of aggregate incomes of developing countries at least halfway from the present 3-1/2 per cent to the initial target of 5 per cent each year". And with the national incomes of the advanced countries expected to expand at a yearly rate of 4 to 5 per cent, the total flow of capital should more than double between now and 1970 and would add about \$4 to \$5 billion yearly to the net flow.

Whether this amount would be sufficient or more than sufficient to attain the objectives of the Development Decade would depend, U Thant states, on what happens in the field of trade and on the degree of success of the developing countries in mobilizing their own resources.

### Action proposed

HIGHLIGHTED in various chapters of the report are specific actions which the Acting Secretary-General considers necessary to realize the objectives of the Development Decade. Among his major recommendations are the following.

High priority should be given by the United Nations system to the working out of development plans, and assistance in carrying them out by the mobilization of an under-developed country's own resources and by securing external assistance and co-operation.

Emphasis on the mobilization of human resources must include better utilization of the labour force by creating higher levels of productive employment; improving the quality of the labour force by vocational education and training; and enlisting popular support for the tasks of national development, and the participation of broad social groups in them. Particular attention must also be given to the problems and needs of children and young people.

A major task will be to meet the food requirements of an increasing population and, at the same time, provide for moderately improved nutrition. The adoption of modern agricultural practices will be necessary in order to meet the requisite annual increase in food supplies of between 3.8 and 4.3 per cent annually.

To meet the expected large increase in requests for projects to develop natural resources, it will be necessary to expand cartographic services; intensify surveys of water needs and resources; prepare the



groundwork for integrated development of international river basins; intensify work on rapid mineral exploration and promote co-operation between neighbouring countries in this field; survey energy needs and resources; and develop small power units in rural areas.

Manufacturing output in the developing countries will have to increase by no less than 130 per cent if the goal of an increase of 5 per cent per year in aggregate incomes of the under-developed countries is to be met. Besides a strengthening of the UN Industrial Development Centre at Headquarters, the Acting Secretary-General proposes greater support of Industrial Planning.

In the field of housing, the Acting Secretary-General estimates that in Africa, Asia and Latin America from 19-24 million dwellings should be constructed annually throughout the decade 1960-1970 to eliminate existing shortages in 30 years, to house the increase in population and to meet current obsolescence.

### Health and Other Matters

IF the proposed health targets for the under-developed countries are met, each will have, by 1970, one physician per 10,000 persons; one nurse per 5,000; one technician (laboratory, X-ray, etc.) per 5,000; one health auxiliary per 1,000; one sanitarian per 15,000 and one sanitary engineer per 250,000 persons. A realistic appraisal of the health situation in individual countries is urged, together with the development of minimum basic health services.

Subsequent sections of the report deal with the development of transport and communications, with separate chapters on the expansion of international trade, development financing, and technical co-operation and other aids to development and planning.

On trade development, the Acting Secretary-General refers in the introduction to the report to the disappointing trade record of the developing countries which is due in part, he states, to obstacles hindering the entry of their products into industrial markets, and in part to the fact that production of many primary commodities has grown more rapidly than the demand for them.

The high-income countries, he adds, should be able to alleviate any hardships in this respect without shifting the burden of adjustment to the developing countries by restricting the latter's export markets. A related problem is that of stabilizing the international commodity markets on which the developing countries depend so heavily.

A final chapter of the report, on technical co-operation and other aids to development and planning, contains, among other things, an enumeration of what the Acting Secretary-General calls "key approaches" which should determine the growth of the technical assistance activities of the United Nations system during the decade.

It stresses that if the technical aid furnished by the United Nations is to make its maximum contribution, it must be thoroughly co-ordinated with development planning, and correspondingly placed on a long-term programming basis. Simultaneously, it must retain flexibility regarding individual experts and projects, and for special situations that may arise in newly dependent countries.

Also emphasized is the need to find new methods to educate and train larger numbers of scientists and to collect and disseminate new information in the science and technological field. "The scientific community of the world must be more closely related", the report states, and a way must be found to provide the necessary link between the research



problems of the developing countries and the research possibilities of the industrialized countries

### Report Discussed

THE report of the Acting Secretary-General was discussed at the 34th session of the United Nations Economic and Social Council held in Geneva in July-August this year.

In presenting the report the Acting Secretary-General emphasized the great importance he attached to the success of the U. N. Development Decade. He said it was gratifying to see that financial aid and technical assistance from the more advanced to the less advanced countries had become an accepted feature of the international economy. But the problem of increasing this assistance and maximizing its effectiveness had become more acute. He added: "In a world shrunken by the progress of communication media, the pressure of under-privileged citizens against national inequalities in levels of living becomes the impatience of entire populations with subnormal standards of nutrition, shelter, education and medical care while billions are spent on space research. I say this because, if everybody is not assured of a share in the benefits of the scientific progress which leads us into space, if the fast growing investment capital and technical know-how which are applied to push further the present boundaries of the kingdom of man are not also fully used to bring better life to all within such boundaries, then the fate of mankind itself is in serious jeopardy."

"It is now a recognised fact that with present population trends, the widening of the gap between affluent societies and low-income economies can only be countered by self-sustaining and accelerated growth in the latter. To achieve such growth in minimum time, efforts must proceed in the

most coherent manner towards pre-determined objectives. In recent years, the will to get more for more people at a fast pace has led governments to frame their major lines of action in the economic and social field in development plans and today we see the emergence of this approach on the international scene."

"The United Nations Development Decade is a pressing invitation to member governments to increase their social and economic investments in a most forward-looking, purposeful, co-operative and integrated fashion. In my report, a prospective presentation has been attempted which aims at determining how the current efforts of our organizations—as distinct from the sum of those of their members—could best be pursued and stepped up for a greater effectiveness of our response to the development challenge."

The Acting Secretary-General also referred to the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology to be held early in 1963 in Geneva which will survey the needs of the developing areas.

The Acting Secretary-General pledged all the resources available under the United Nations to the success of the Development Decade.

On the final day of the session (August 3) the Council unanimously adopted a 14-point resolution outlining action to give effect to goals of the U. N. Development Decade.

The resolution, among other things, calls on member governments to give particular attention in the five years of the Decade to industrial development; improved access to world markets for the developing countries; stabilization of commodity drives; an increased flow of development capital; the development of human resources through adequate programmes of education and training, nutrition, health, public administration and housing, and



exploration of natural resources aimed at establishing a raw material and energy basis for economic development.

### Trade and Development

IN another action on August 3, the Council unanimously decided "to convene a United Nations Conference on Trade and Development".

It agreed that a preparatory meeting should be held, "by the early spring of 1963", of a committee of experts to be designated not later than November, 1962, by governments represented on the Council. This meeting will consider the agenda and documentation for the conference, "with particular reference to the problems of the developing countries".

The preparatory committee's report is scheduled for consideration at the Council's 36th session (Summer of 1963).

### Committee on Co-ordination

THE resolution calling a trade conference was one of a series grouped together within the framework of the Development Decade.

Under a related resolution, the Council decided to set up an 11-member "special committee on co-ordination with particular emphasis on the United Nations Development Decade". The Committee is asked to hold its first meeting in February, 1963.

In addition, the Council asked U. N. member states to "give the importance" to programmes for children and youth in working toward the objectives of the Development Decade and to take full advantage of aid offered by the U. N. Children's Fund and other bodies in this field. A resolution on this subject was adopted unanimously.

### Commodity Problems

REGARDING commodity problems and ways of lessening the effects of fluctuations in export earnings, the Council endorsed the

creation of a technical working group to examine various proposals for compensatory financing.

Such a working group has been decided upon—subject to approval by the Council—by the U. N. Commission on International Commodity Trade at a meeting in Rome in May. As members of the working group the Commission had named Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Ceylon, France, Mali, Pakistan, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the United States. Its terms of reference include these:

(1) To examine the proposal for a Development Insurance Fund submitted by a U. N. Group of Experts, and a plan for compensatory financing for fluctuations in export receipts drawn up by the Organization of American States, and submit its views to the U. N. Commission on International Commodity Trade in 1963, together with a draft agreement for the purpose of illustrating a specific mechanism for compensatory financing and for the purpose of facilitating decision by governments on this subject.

(2) To inquire whether and to what extent a scheme of compensatory financing can be adapted for offsetting the long-term declines in export receipts of primary exporting countries.

The Council also adopted a resolution on Commodity problems which was presented as part of the series relating to the Development Decade.

It requests the Secretary-General, after consultations with interested governments and with the executive heads of the other international organizations concerned, to appoint "a small group of experts" to prepare a report reviewing "the activities of various international organizations on the commodity and other trade problems of the developing countries".



This group would propose any additional activities that might be desirable and suggest how they might be most effectively pursued, taking into account the capabilities of the various organizations "and the desirability of concentrating effort and of avoiding duplication".

### **Capital Development Fund**

THE Council decided to transmit to the Assembly a report by the 25-member Committee on a United Nations Capital Development Fund which contains, among others, a draft statute for such a fund as approved by a majority of the Committee in June.

(The draft statute states that the purpose of the Fund would be "to assist under-developed countries in the development of their economies by supplementing existing resources of capital assistance by means of grants and loans, particularly long-term

loans made free of interest or at low interest rates." Its financial resources would come from voluntary contributions by participating states. An annual pledging conference for this purpose would be convened by the Secretary-General at the United Nations.)

In a resolution on the subject, the Council urged economically advanced countries to reconsider, in consultation with the Secretary-General, possibilities of undertaking measures designed to ensure the establishment of a U. N. capital development fund and its employment in the field of capital development.

In other resolutions relating to the financing of economic development, the Council requested the Secretary-General to continue his study on ways of promoting the flow of private capital to the developing countries.

*(By courtesy of the U. N. Information Centre, Colombo.)*



# Developing Ceylon's Fisheries

A TEN-YEAR PLAN for the development of the Fishing Industry having 1958/59 as its base years was published in 1959. Although attempts have been made since then to adhere to the main features of the Plan, investment in the last 3 years has fallen far short of the targets and consequently the phasing of the Plan has had, of necessity, to be revised.

In essence the Plan is a "Production Plan" aimed at achieving self-sufficiency in fish and fish products, over a period of ten years. This was aligned to the assumption that the fish consumption per capita in 1957 of 36 lbs.

adequately meets the minimum protein requirements in the diet of the people and that the population increases will roughly be about 2.8 per cent. per year. On this basis, it was estimated that only a production of 3,950,000 (nearly 4 million) cwts. of fish will meet the demands of self-sufficiency and help to eliminate the imports of this commodity—the cost of which in 1957 alone amounted to Rs. 81 million.

The Ten-Year Plan target of production can be divided up into the areas of the sea to be exploited by different methods. This has been done in the table that follows:—

	<i>Number</i>	<i>Area of Operation</i>	<i>Estimated Production cwts.</i>
Existing non-mechanised craft	.. 10,000	.. Coastal waters (10 mile limit)	.. 531,639
Beach Seines (Madel)	.. —	.. Operated from beach	.. 228,492
New mechanized craft (mostly of 2-3 ton class)	.. 8,000	.. Operate up to 30-40 miles from coast	.. 2,744,709
Trawlers	.. 15	.. Operate in Wedge and Pedro Banks	.. 266,200
Pelagic tuna boats	.. 10	.. 400 miles away in Indian Ocean	.. 162,856
		Total	.. 3,933,957

The only limiting factor to this development is the productivity of the ocean. The conclusions inferred in the Ten-Year Plan that the marine resources are adequate to meet this concerted exploitation still hold good. There are no indications at present that the resources of the sea around us are in danger of depletion.

Fundamentally the Plan is directed towards the mechanization of fish-capture operations and the promotion of modern techniques of fishing. Ancillary to this development, and equally important, is the phased provision of essential facilities such as harbour, cold storage and ice plants, boat building yards, training centres, etc. Attention is also paid to the development of fresh water and brackish water fisheries and the intensification of culture operations.

It also recognises a fundamental reorganisation of the system of fish marketing in Ceylon, the establishment of modern market halls, and the extension of transport facilities both by road and rail.

The implementation of the proposed plan clearly depends on the availability of capital for investment. The total investment over the 10-year period amounts to Rs. 345 million of which the gross cost to Government will be Rs. 337 million as the financing of certain aspects in this development programme, such as road transport, has been left in the hands of the private sector.

The targets laid down in the Plan however have not been attained in the last three years. In fact the short-fall has been quite considerable. The delay in the construction of



fisheries harbours due to the imperative need of investigation and designs, and the lack of skilled personnel, etc., has not made it possible to make the necessary target provision in the preceding budgets for—

- (a) the harbours themselves ;
- (b) shore facilities (cold stores, ice plants, etc.) ;
- (c) increased investment in trawlers ;
- (d) increased investment in small boats.

Consequently the expenditure has been substantially less than the Plan targets.

Partly as a result of under-investment, the goal of self-sufficiency has been gradually receding. There has also been an increase in the import bill on fish and fish products in the last three years. A major reason for the increased imports is that the per capita consumption has risen from 36 lbs. to 41.1 lbs.

The figures of products and imports over the last four years are as follows :—

	1957	1958	1959	1960
Local production ..	761,301	802,648	985,618	980,170
Imports ..	2,130,453	2,613,920	2,436,662	2,689,590
Total ..	2,891,754	3,416,568	3,332,280	3,669,760
Per cent. of Local Production to				
Total ..	26.3	23.5	26.9	26.7
Cost of Imports ..	80,311,746	92,307,046	88,993,735	105,416,621

The increase in the per capita consumption is as follows :—

1957	1958	1959	1960
lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
35.3	40.77	38.80	41.79

These figures explain why in spite of increased local production which, incidentally, compare very favourably with the targets laid down in the 10-year plan, there is an increase in the imported fish products.

The increase in the per capita consumption to 41.1 lbs. merits further examination of the Plan structure, as self-sufficiency in the Plan was equated to a total production in 1968 of 4 million cwts.

### Structure of Industry

LET us now examine the structure of the fisheries industry in relation to its operations out at sea. There are close upon 14,000 traditional fishing craft of which about 60 per cent. are in actual operation in any year. These craft commonly known as *vallams*, *orus*, *catamarans*, and *teppams* now produce

approximately 60 per cent. of the fish harvested from our seas. The average annual catch per boat varies from 5-6,000 lbs. This figure can be increased for some of the individual *vallams*, *orus*, *catamarans*, and *teppams* by motorizing the vessels by means of inboard or outboard engines or by using improved fishing gear, etc., nylon nets, long-lines. While the ultimate goal is the gradual replacement of the traditional craft by modern power-driven boats, it is both desirable and necessary that the indigenous craft continue to operate side by side with the new craft. The new mechanized boats, both small and large, need shelters or harbours from which they could operate and harbours take 2-3 years for construction. The local craft on the other hand can be easily beached and do not need harbours. Methods of improving the catch from the local craft are therefore of practical importance.



Provision was accordingly made in the Ten-Year Plan for motorizing—

	<i>Rs.</i>
1,000 orus at a total cost of .. ..	1.5 million
200 catamarans at a total cost of .. ..	0.3 ..
500 vallams at a total cost of .. ..	4.0 ..

and issuing modern fishing gear to—

1,000 orus at a total cost of .. ..	1.5 ..
500 vallams at a total cost of .. ..	1.5 ..
1,300 catamarans at a total cost of .. ..	2.7 ..
2,370 teppams at a total cost of .. ..	2.1 ..
Total ..	13.6 ..

The total cost of this programme will be Rs. 13.6 million.

In the light of experience gained, however, this programme is being modified. Incidentally, mechanization of existing craft has been carried out in the past three years and partly by the private sector and partly by departmental funds and partly from aid received from the international agencies.

### Vallams

THE Ministry of Agriculture, Land, Irrigation and Power under which the Fisheries Department operates is working on the basis that mechanization of vallams with inboard engines and use of new types of gear will improve the productivity of these vessels. The average cost of an inboard engine is about Rs. 6,000-7,000.

Loans can be obtained for the purchase of these engines from the Loan Scheme which the Department of Fisheries operates.

Then again by the introduction of outboard engines on orus and the simultaneous use of more efficient forms of fishing gear, specially long line, the productivity of orus can be increased two to three-fold. This has already been successfully done at several places on the west coast and the practice is gaining popularity.

### Catamarans and Teppams

ALTHOUGH catamarans and teppams have been dealt with separately in the 10-Year Plan, teppams are really a smaller edition of the catamarans. Further, as the improvements to which they lend themselves are similar, it is convenient to group them together. There are about 4,400 teppams and 2,200 catamarans registered with the Department of Fisheries. Spectacular results have been obtained recently through the mechanization of these craft.

As stated earlier the delay in the preparation and execution of harbour designs has led in no small measure to a retardation of the entire Plan Programme. Without harbours there can be only casual increase in the trawler fleet. The small mechanized boats too will be constrained to operate from existing anchorages. Hence the early construction of artificial harbours is of paramount importance if the pace of the mechanization scheme is to be maintained. Another important point is that cold storage, ice plants and other shore facilities have to await the completion of harbour designs as this development must form part and parcel of an integrated scheme for economic reasons.

The need for speedy action in harbour construction cannot be over-emphasized.



The Japanese Mission recommend to the Government that 17 Fisheries harbours be constructed and action has already been taken in connexion with the construction of two fisheries harbours at Beruwela and Tangalla. The other fisheries harbours proposed are for :—

Trincomalee	Point Pedro
Jaffna	Puttalam
Negombo	Arippu
Kalpitiya	Chilaw
Batticaloa	Hambantota
Mannar	Valaichenai
	Mirissa

The estimated total cost of this programme, if all these harbours are constructed, will be about Rs. 140 million.

### New Mechanized Boats

COMING back to fishing craft again, it should be noted that the biggest and most spectacular strides in the last few years were made in the introduction of the new mechanized boats. At the moment there are 900 mechanized boats. This is likely to be increased shortly. Loan schemes operate under the Fisheries Department for the purchase of 2-ton boats. Fishermen and even others interested avail themselves of this loan scheme and a 2-ton boat costs Rs. 17,500.

Greater progress could have been made in the 2-ton mechanized boat scheme but this type of boat building was a virgin industry and the development had of necessity to be slow. Accelerated development would have resulted in shoddy workmanship and poor quality of the end product.

Slow progress in the construction of fisheries harbours to which reference has been made earlier was also a limiting factor. No figures are available to show the total catch for which these boats have been responsible for any one year of operation but the Japanese estimate of annual catch for

one of these boats was 313 cwt. (or) 30,000 pounds. The Department of Fisheries was inclined to the view that production of three times this figure should be possible and in fact almost this figure has been reached by one boat for which figures are available.

### Trawlers and Tuna Boats

NO expansion by Government has taken place in this sphere in the last three years. Government activity is still limited to the two trawlers that operate on the Wadge Bank. However, a sum of Rs. 1.8 million has been already provided for the purchase of a new trawler. Increased investment in trawler negotiations are on for the purchase of four more boats. It must be repeated that absence of adequate harbour facilities will be a serious limiting factor to the operation of these trawlers.

The existing facilities at Mutwal now cater to the two departmental trawlers, a private tuna fishing boat, 2 tuna charter vessels and a number of smaller boats both departmental and private. The proposed expansion to the Mutwal harbour will however facilitate the accommodation of 4 to 5 additional trawlers. Shore facilities like freezing chambers, cold rooms and ice plants are also to be expanded in view of the Ministry decision to obtain more trawlers.

### Fisheries Harbour at Galle

THE Port Commission has already undertaken the construction of a Fishery Harbour at Galle on the basis of plans and estimates already drawn up by them in consultation with the Department of Fisheries. The total cost of this harbour is estimated to be Rs. 6.6 million.

The Galle harbour is being planned as a base for the operation of pelagic tuna long line boats as it will be the most suitable harbour for the operation of these boats.



### Marketing and Transport

APART from what is strictly private enterprise, the Ceylon Co-op. Fish Sales Union is the only other body engaged in fish purchase and sale on a large scale. The Department of Fisheries does not engage in this activity and gives what support it can to the Union. Primarily the Union has directed its energies to trying to extend the sale of frozen fish as a less perishable and more easily handled commodity than wet fish. For this purpose the Union needs insulated trucks for transport of fish from production points to processing centres and from there to wholesale and retail points, and also needs freezer cabinets at its sales points. The Union has such selling points in operation today and as soon as it is able to import additional freezers the number will be further increased.

### Wholesale Fish Market

THE present wholesale fish market at Pettah has been adversely commented on by visitors. Steps are however being taken to obtain the release of a suitable block of land in Fort from the railway authorities. This site is very suitable for the purpose and once its release is finalised, plans and estimates will be drawn up for this market which will provide :—

- (a) Access by road and rail ;
- (b) Facilities for the washing and packing of fish for despatch ;
- (c) Cold storage and ice production ;
- (d) Facilities for the wholesale auction of fish.

The project is likely to cost about Rs. 500,000. The request for the land has been made by the Co-op. Fish Sales Union which intends putting up the necessary installations.



# The Paintings from Vessagiriya

D. T. DEVENDRA

IN September this year, after a month's work, the copying of fragments of paintings on the rock ceiling of an ancient cave in Anuradhapura was completed by an artist who had been commissioned by the Director of Cultural Affairs. These paintings were described as faded, over fifty years ago by Archæological Commissioner H. C. P. Bell, who explored this particular area in 1907. The site is now called Vessagiriya, and was in thick jungle when his department acquired it in 1900. Now it is undoubtedly the most picturesque and untouched of all the very ancient places in the Sacred City.

Situated about a mile south of the Sacred Bodhi Tree the ruins are on the left of the road to Kurunegala. On the way hither the visitor may see the pretty group, now known as Isurumuniya, which is on the right and closer to Anuradhapura. One of our best authorities, Prof. S. Paranavitana, has pointed out inscriptional evidence that both Isurumuniya and Vessagiriya had anciently comprised one single establishment under a name equivalent to the former meaning (originally) Hermits' Delight. A delight, indeed, it is to this day with its hummocks shadowed by giant banyan trees, its numerous caves and very ancient inscriptions, dagaba mounds, clusters of pillars and the whole wind-swept at all times from the encircling fields, making even a noonday outing enjoyable enough.

Vessagiriya's true name seems affected by academic disquisitions, but let us keep it here. The several caves have on their brow short legends of the B.C. times which describe them as the donations of pious folk to the monks of old. Four records of a few centuries later on the sides of some caves are testimony of simple individuals who have got wife or children released from

servitude in the monasteries, and proffered the benevolence resulting from good action to all beings in their strivings towards heavenly bliss. Inscriptions, this time rather elaborate ones of royalty in the closing centuries of the city's dominance, tell of benefactions to the establishment from time to time.

## Three Sections

THE remains of Vessagiriya have been sectioned into three, each being separated by level ground from the other. The feature of each is rock; there are three groups of rocks. The central one is a longish ridge (B) and it is here that the paintings are seen. The particular cave is a double one, Nos. 9 and 10 as they face outward. A flight of steps cut on the rock face leads to them. The ceiling or roof itself is quite low and one has to bend in passing into the bowels of the cave, where is yet a third cave behind. Although this last one is in the maw of the others, it had its own doorway (holes on the rock floor prove it) and a moonstone worked on the natural floor at its entrance.

Thus the trio of caves seem, from the remains of painting, to have been a very special place. The name occurs in the two sets of inscriptions, noted above, as the Royal Monastery of King Kassapa I of Sigiriya fame. His name is joined to that of his two daughters Bodhi and Uppalavanna in whose names he offered it to the monks. But they rejected the gift because his hands were tainted (so the "Mahavamsa") with the blood of his father. He then dedicated it to the Buddha Himself, whereupon the monks were willing to take it as sort of estate—they being sons of the Buddha in spiritual lineage.



The triple caves must have extended in front by means of a level and paved floor, held up by a revetment and enclosed by a parapet beyond the present mouth. With the collapse of these structures after the tenth century when the city ran into neglect, only what we see today is always likely to remain—and that is natural rock.

The paintings are on the ceiling, as it were, and on the side of this rock. They are scarred and scraped by irresponsible visitors and much of the plaster has fallen off. Nevertheless a few figures, male as well as female, have been clear enough to be taken in copy. A large painted device, somewhat like three long stalks issuing from a great vase, is a special motif not known from other paintings. The central stalk is more or less straight and the other pair branches out in a slight curve. Each is in colour and segmented like the representation of the underside of a snake. The terminal or head is shaped into a bulb, so to say, very much like the hood of a cobra. In the "vase" can be seen open lotus flowers at the "foot" of this "snake" device. The women are sometimes in adoration. At least one man is a sky-figure, being shown in the motion of flying. Bell, in his description of a male figure in 1907, mentions a high ornate headdress on him.

The plaster upon which the painting was done is thin but not brittle. The roof seems to have been mostly left undressed, for the natural indentations remain as they were, unfilled by the artist—who took in all the inequalities in his stride. Two layers are distinctly seen. Where the fracture of the upper has exposed the other, the colouring of the face differs. But only a laboratory test can prove whether the present top layer is the result of a restoration in the times of our last inscriptions—for the exposed parts are too few and undefined to show whether they had been painted. (Such painted restorations are known at the Northern Temple or

Tivanka Pilimage at Polonnaruwa, and at a cave in Dimbulagala, alas! since obliterated by a demented intruder.)

### Inexplicable Point

AN inexplicable point about Vessagiriya paintings is the total silence in which everybody seems to have covered them. The sole reference is in Bell's Annual Report for 1907. And yet they survived clearly enough for copying in 1962. Scholars (Ananda Coomaraswamy, Vincent Smith, S. Paranavitana, are among them) have mentioned paintings at Anuradhapura, such fragments as from the Vahalkadas of Ruwanveli—illustrated by James G. Smither in his folio volume on the architectural remains. Though the colours of these fragments were richer, not one of them is in a "gallery" as the Vessagiriya work is. Nor do they show variety in treatment and theme, being merely tit-bits. It is possible that people relied solely on Bell's judgment as to the state of the paintings and the absence of reproductions induced others to overlook Vessagiriya. In terms of archæological recording, the paintings suffered more from man than from time.

An expert from India reported to our government some years ago that Ceylon has more examples of ancient painting than India. This informed opinion should stimulate us to work out a tolerable painting sequence between the traditions of Sigiriya and of Polonnaruwa; that is to say, to bridge a seven-centuries gap. To help in that we should now utilize the examples at Vessagiriya, which (Bell suggested) were by the same hands as at Sigiriya. We have now found stones marking the way: Hindagala, Mihintale relic-chamber, Mahiyangana, Gonagala (Gal Oya Valley), Kandalema (off Kibissa) and Pulligoda Galge (off Dimbulagala)—a portion of the last-named has collapsed, according to a reliable visitor,

*(Continued on page 21)*



# Ceylon Women in Public Life

DALTON DE SILVA

WHEN a Ceylon woman, Mrs. Ezlyne Deraniyagala, boarded a plane in Colombo recently en route to New York to attend the General Assembly of the United Nations as a member of her country's delegation, Ceylonese women entered another field which up to now had been the preserve of the men.

It is perhaps but fitting that Ceylon, which is governed by the world's first woman Prime Minister, should also have a woman in her delegation to the United Nations.

Ceylonese women have progressed rapidly during the past few decades. From the sanctuary of the home to Parliament, then to the office of the Prime Minister and on to the U. N., is their proud record. This is certainly a great achievement for the women of any country. This feat is all the more remarkable when it is considered that the women of Asian countries have always been regarded as conservative and backward.

Actually, Ceylonese women have never been fettered by such customs as purdah. It is true that like in other Asian countries the traditional role of the Ceylon woman has been in the home, feeding the husband and looking after the children. But even during the times of ancient Sinhalese kings, Ceylonese women have played their part in the life of the community.

It was to be expected that following close contacts with the West during 450 years of foreign domination of the country (first by the Portuguese, then the Dutch and finally the British) and following the spread of literacy, the educated women from the wealthy families should have desired to play a more active part.

Towards the end of the last century, the educated women formed voluntary associations to do social service and welfare work

among the people. Today there are several such women's voluntary organisations doing useful work among the poor.

## Social Workers

MRS. BANDARANAIKE was herself an active social service worker before she became Prime Minister. For nineteen years she was a member of the Lanka Mahila Samiti (Ceylon Women's Association) which has 2,000 branches in various parts of Ceylon. This association is similar to the Women's institutes of England and is affiliated to the Associated Country Women of the World.

Mrs. Deraniyagala, Ceylon's first woman delegate to the U. N., has also been a keen social service worker for many years. She was President of the All-Ceylon Women's Conference and was also the first Asian woman to be elected President of the International Alliance of Women, a world organisation. Mrs. Deraniyagala is Ceylon's first woman barrister. She obtained a degree in law at Oxford and was later called to the bar of the Inner Temple.

Ceylonese women reached a landmark in their advancement when they were given the right to vote in 1931. Three years earlier they had banded together to form a Women's Franchise Union. The purpose of this Union was to make representations to a Commission which Britain was sending out to Ceylon to discuss the question of granting adult franchise. The women achieved their aim.

When Britain gave independence to Ceylon in 1948, the women received another fillip to promote their political ambitions. A Parliamentary system of Government was established and women soon entered the Senate and the House of Representatives.



Within a few years a woman was elected Vice-President of the Senate. In 1956 a woman was appointed Minister of Health. The women then crowned their achievements when the country voted Mrs. Bandaranaike as the Prime Minister in 1960. During the two years she has been Prime Minister, Mrs. Bandaranaike has not only done a man-size job, but she has also confounded her critics by tackling the problems of the country with courage and determination.

### Learned Professions

BESIDES politics, Ceylonese women have today entered most of the other professions too. One has only to watch the streets of Colombo any morning to see the many women decked in colourful saris and frocks trekking to their places of work. There are women in the usual roles such as teachers, nurses, stenographers and receptionists. There are also women doctors, lawyers, farmers and police officers. They have even entered the Overseas Service and Ceylon may soon produce her own Frances Willis (America's woman Ambassador in Ceylon) or Clare Boothe Luce (America's former woman Ambassador in Italy).

A few years ago no mother would have allowed her daughter to step out of the house unchaperoned. That was a concession to custom. Today, girls with make-up and sporting the latest hair styles copied from the West, not only travel alone in crowded buses and trains, but also drive cars and ride scooters.

The emergence of the Ceylonese women has been accelerated during the past few

years by the wide facilities provided for education. Today any poor village girl can go to school, whereas 20 years ago education was the privilege of the rich. Education was made free in 1943 and Ceylon became the only country in the world to provide free education for both girls and boys from the kindergarten to the University. A curious result of free education in Ceylon is that during the past few years more girls than boys have gained admission, through a highly competitive entrance examination, to the only resident University in the country situated at Kandy.

Ceylonese women have entered not only politics and the other professions but also the field of sports. They have taken to net ball, tennis, golf, hockey and athletics. For the first time a women's contingent was sent out of Ceylon this year to compete in an international athletics meet when four women took part in the Asian Games held recently at Djakarta. They did creditably well for a first attempt, winning a silver medal in tennis and a bronze medal in another event. A few years ago the Ceylonese women showed their prowess in cricket too when they fielded a team against a British women's cricket team that called at Colombo on their way to Australia.

The natural beauty of the Ceylonese women have induced them to enter even show business. Ceylon girls have won applause in such cities as Bombay, Hong Kong, Singapore and Tokyo, while in the West they have appeared on the stage and on T. V. in London, Paris and New York.



# Training for Employment

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TRAINING Schemes under the Department of Labour envisage the intensive training of unemployed adults and even youth in various vocations and trades. These schemes have been set up specially to meet the demand for various skills for the growing industrialisation of the country. These schemes which were started a few years ago on a very modest scale by the Labour Department, have since trained thousands of young people in various vocations, almost all those trained are today engaged in gainful employment. This bears ample testimony to the fact that the Department of Labour not only finds employment for the unemployed in the country via the Labour Exchange system but also gives a training to young persons so as to fit them out to set up their own trade or find employment which is always available for skilled persons.

Centres imparting skilled training have been set up in all parts of the country and it has been ascertained that the activities in this field of training have been of signal service to the community for various reasons.

Among the trades and skills in which training facilities are available are schemes for carpenters, masons, hairdressers, garden labourers, conservancy labourers, domestic helpers, toddy tappers, fleshers of leather, radio servicemen, electrical wiring, electricians, tractor operators and tractor mechanics, draughtsmen and tracers, tinkers, welders, plumbers, motor mechanics, machinists and fitters.

The extension of Government sponsorship to such training schemes has resulted in breaking, to a considerable extent, the traditional aversion of the local population to certain trades and vocations which had been delegated to particular castes.

As a direct result of these schemes, the dignity of labour, in whatever field it is applied, is now being happily given more and more recognition and the social stigmas attached to persons engaged in certain trades are withering away. And this change in attitudes augurs well not only for the future of the training schemes project as such, which, as stated earlier, was started by the Labour Department on a modest scale, but it also gives confidence to unemployed people that they can face the challenge of society, armed as it were, with a skill with which before long they can find suitable employment.

## Training Centre

THERE is another aspect to the training schemes which also has had an important social bearing. That is in regard to the preparation of the local population to take up to vocations in which non-Ceylonese were hitherto, as a matter of course, engaged. Today we find Ceylonese launching out on pursuits which were hitherto the exclusive conclaves of non-Ceylonese. An event which marks an important milestone in the development and expansion of the training schemes project was the opening by the Hon. Prime Minister, Mrs. Sirimavo Bandaranaike, in October of the Central Vocational Training and Trade Testing Centre at Urugodawatte on the Baseline Road near the Avissawella-New Kelaniya Bridge.

This Central Vocational Training and Trade Testing Centre has been built and equipped mainly with foreign aid, largely from the United States of America. This institute will train fitters, machinists, sheet-metal workers, welders, motor mechanics, electrical wiremen and radio mechanics, and others.



A sum of Rs. 205,124 was spent by Government on this Centre in regard to construction etc., during 1960-61 and a sum of Rs. 48,275 has been spent during 1961-62. The proposed expenditure this year is in the region of Rs. 550,000. This sum of money will be spent on the purchase of equipment such as lathes, air-compressors, generators, transformers, drilling machines, grinding machines, milling machines, radio drills, shaping machines, etc., which are necessary to provide basic skills to the trainees.

Meanwhile a sum of 10,000 dollars has been set aside from American aid for the purchase of demonstration equipment and machinery such as motion pictures, projectors, tape recorders, film strips, movie screens and special machine tools for demonstrations for the Centre.

The five instructors for this Centre who were trained in the Central Training Institute at Poona have already taken up duties after a full course training in basic engineering trades. They have under training now at the Urugodawatte Centre nearly 50 Ceylonese young men mainly as welders, fitters, electrical wiremen, radio mechanics and machinists.

While this type of training is going on an application has been made again to the U. S. Aid Mission for additional aid which is anticipated in connection with additions and improvements to the Training Centre. New courses are now planned for foundry works, forging and moulding and pattern-making at the Centre. When these courses are opened more and more youth will be recruited to undergo specialised training at this Centre.

### Trade Testing

THE Trade Testing aspect of this training centre is concerned with testing those who have already undergone their scheme of training; it is only thereafter that trainees will be issued with certificates of competence

in whatever field they received their training, much in the same manner as, for instance, a driver of a motor vehicle gets his certificate.

Trade testing, which will be a new feature in the industrial sector, will be welcomed both by employers in the public and private sectors, and will be of considerable assistance to the Employment Exchanges to register the unemployed according to their skills.

The Ministry of Labour & Nationalised Services is actively considering a proposal to set up similar Central Vocational Training Centres in the larger cities like Kandy, Matara, Galle, Anuradhapura, etc., during the present financial year.

Central Vocational Training Centres are proposed in addition to the normal training schemes referred to earlier under which carpenters, barbers, masons and the like receive training for particular forms of employment.

The services of Mr. Carlberg, a Swedish expert, were obtained by Government to work out the whole Vocational Training Centre Scheme and his suggestions in regard to expanding the Urugodawatte Training Centre, in the first instance, and thereafter setting up similar centres in other parts of the country are being implemented gradually.

On the occasion of the opening of the Urugodawatte Vocational Training Centre on October 5, the Prime Minister thanked the Minister of Labour & Nationalised Services for providing this vocational training and trade testing centre. The Prime Minister stated that the welfare of workers was uppermost in the mind of the late Prime Minister, Mr. Bandaranaike, and she was happy to open this centre. The policy of the Government was to raise the standard of living. The wealth of a nation was its man-power. It was necessary therefore to make the best use of this man-power for national development.

Her advice to trainees was to make the best use of their skills for the development of the country. The aim should be progress

for the advancement and prosperity of the country. The time has come for people to think more of technical training which should be harnessed for the development of the country, and not to turn out clerks. She thanked the U. S. Government and the United Aid Mission for the assistance given to set up that centre.

Miss Frances Willis, U. S. Ambassador for Ceylon, said that although this was a machine age still people would be doing work with their hands. For the purpose of building and operating machines, men should have

technical skills. In technical skills lay the key to increased production, because without increased production there could be no progress.

Very soon hostel facilities would be provided for the trainees. The U. S. Government had given assistance for the training of teachers and had also given assistance in other directions. The International Labour Organisation had lent the services of Mr. Carlberg, an expert in the training of skills, and he had rendered great service.

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## THE PAINTINGS FROM VESSAGIRIYA

*(Continued from page 16)*

a short while ago. In the Anuradhapura tradition itself we have now three landmarks: Vessagiriya, the Vahalkada fragments and Mihintale relic-chamber. To fix them in their places by a study of style, technique and material by laboratory tests, is certainly much more possible today than in the past years when the principal guide

was a general pronouncement. This triple survival put relatively to one another, it should not be so difficult to assess them along with the remains in the other places and work out a chronology from the fifth century (Sigiriya) to the twelfth (Polonnaruwa). That, to one's ear, is the call of Vessagiriya paintings.



# Science Education in Schools

IN 1956 only 253 schools, the majority of which were in provincial towns, were teaching science. The number of pupils that appeared for the S. S. C. Examination in science subjects was approximately 5,400. In the same year teaching science in the Sinhala and Tamil media was given a serious start, the first batch of science trained teachers, produced by Maharagama and Palaly Training Colleges, being the pioneer teachers of the subject.

With the establishment of a special division of the department charged with the organization, administration and supervision of science education in 1957 a planned programme for development of science education was initiated. UNESCO science consultants were obtained to advise the Ministry on matters relating to the development of science education. At the initial phase of planning the following critical factors were recognized :—

- (a) Improving facilities in the existing science teaching schools.
- (b) Extending science teaching facilities to rural areas which had not received adequate attention.
- (c) Development of a limited number of schools widely distributed over the island on a population basis for teaching science at the Higher School Certificate level.
- (d) The need to strengthen the general education programme for the compulsory age group 5-14 by introducing General Science into the middle school curriculum.
- (e) Provision of adequate facilities for science teaching at the appropriate levels :—

- (i) Science laboratories.
- (ii) Equipment and materials.
- (iii) Syllabuses and schemes.
- (iv) Staff.

- (f) Supervision of science teaching and the organization of in-service training courses for teachers.

Measures were also taken to provide science teaching units at G. C. E. level at selected venues in different parts of the country. The number of science teaching units has been increased progressively within the available financial and personnel resources, and today the number of schools teaching science at the G. C. E. level has increased to 397.

Three or more of the following science subjects are being taught in these units :—

Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Pure Mathematics and Applied Mathematics.

The number of pupils appearing for science subjects at the G. C. E. (O) Level Examination rose to approximately 15,000 in 1961, which is three times the corresponding number for 1956.

The regions which have been brought under Land Development Scheme are being adequately taken care of and an attempt has been made to provide all areas with their fair share of the available resources.

In fact the remotest electorate has one or more schools with facilities for science teaching today.

## Science Scholarships

A science scholarship scheme for pupils in schools which do not have facilities for teaching science in the G. C. E. (O) Level classes was started in 1957.

The numbers of pupils who were awarded scholarships under this scheme are as follows :—

1957	..	..	444
1958	..	..	459
1959	..	..	675
1960	..	..	668
1961	..	..	310
1962	..	..	825



The scholars have been admitted to schools which have adequate facilities for studying science up to University Entrance level and the scholarships are tenable for a period of 5 years.

114 schools are teaching science at the H. S. C./U. E. level and approximately 3,000 pupils are studying science in the H. S. C./U. E. level. Of these the maximum that the University can take is only one-fifth.

A scheme has been approved whereby those pupils who obtain the necessary credit requirements to proceed to the U. E. class but have no convenient schools offering such courses in their school areas, are offered bursaries.

General Science is being taught in the Junior departments of all the G. C. E. and H. S. C. Science schools as well as in another 300 schools.

### Laboratories and Equipment

ALTHOUGH the number of schools teaching science in 1956 was 253, not all of them had regular laboratories. But today there are 373 schools with regular laboratory buildings. In addition to this, several associations have donated laboratories for their schools.

Equipping all the new laboratories in a single phase to bring them up to the maximum level of efficiency is a commitment that the country cannot meet immediately. However, they are being fed so as to maintain a minimum level of efficiency. A development programme is afoot which envisages full development of all the new laboratories in approximately six years' time and the future laboratories within two years of their construction.

### Teachers

ONE of the problems that looms large in the science development project is the lack of adequately qualified teachers.

H. S. C./U. E. science teaching is in the hands of Science Graduates, Emergency Trained teachers (Science) and in some instances Advanced Level teachers in the case of Sinhala medium schools. The English medium classes composed of Sinhalese pupils are more adequately taught by English/Sinhala medium graduates in the absence of Sinhala medium graduates. Due to the scarcity of such graduates, teaching in the Sinhala medium and English medium classes composed of Sinhala pupils have had to be assigned to Emergency Trained teachers and Advanced Level teachers in many instances. The category of teachers referred to as Emergency Trained teachers are Mahara-gama Trained teachers who have undergone a special additional course of science training at the Ceylon Technical College.

The majority of Sinhala medium G. C. E. (O) classes too have been assigned to trained teachers due to the scarcity of graduates proficient in the medium.

General science teaching in the middle school is in the hands of S. S. C. qualified teachers as the rate of production of trained teachers at Maharagama cannot meet much more than the increasing demand for teachers for G. C. E. level teaching. Therefore the position today is that the full requirements of qualified teachers for teaching at the appropriate levels in the English medium or Sinhala medium classes for Sinhala pupils have not been adequately met.

The H. S. C./U. E. and G. C. E. (O) level science teaching schools are understaffed by 628 Sinhala/English medium graduates. Approximately 5,000 Science Trained teachers are required for General Science teaching in the middle school section of all schools.

Adequate measures are being taken by the department to meet the needs of General Science teaching in the middle schools and in fact the immediate needs of G. C. E. (O) classes and perhaps the future needs of G. C. E. (O) Prep. classes.



The proposed Science Training College at Veyangoda is expected to train approximately a 100 science teachers annually. Land has been acquired for the Training College. Plans for buildings have been designed and the estimated costs have been worked out.

The preliminary work in connection with the first phase of the project is under way. If the programme works to schedule the first batch of the science trainees at the new Science Training College should be admitted in January, 1965.

A scheme of work in General Science for 6, 7 and 8 Std. was prepared in 1959 by the Department and the UNESCO Consultants. This is being tried out in a large number of schools under the supervision of Inspectors of Schools (Science). The necessary revisions of the schemes will be effected after a further year of trial.

### Schemes of Work

A team of specialist teacher-educators under the supervision of UNESCO Consultants and the Assistant Director of Technical Education is revising the existing syllabuses in specialised science subjects for the G. C. E. (O) Level. The new syllabuses will be amplified through appropriate schemes of work. These schemes will suggest desirable changes in methodology as well. Some of the main objectives of the new syllabuses would be to cater adequately to the G. C. E. (O) Level terminal pupils in the field of general education as well as meeting the pre-requisites of those proceeding to higher academic or professional fields through the University and Technical institutions.

Until 1958 there was no organized supervision of science teaching by specially trained staff. In 1958 four Senior Circuit Inspectors of Schools with qualifications in science were selected for a special assignment, namely, to organise and supervise science teaching in a limited number of schools in three provinces. The work done by

these officers was of an exploratory nature. They succeeded in enlisting the co-operation of several P.T.A.A. in providing low cost but functionally satisfactory accommodation for science teaching in remote schools. Weekly study circles were conducted for the G. C. E. Level qualified Science Assistant Teachers to help them in the organization of available resources and planning and preparation of teaching programme and materials.

In 1959, six Science Graduates were recruited to the Science Inspectorate. A programme of local training in organisation and teaching science within limited resources was designed for these recruits. For this purpose they were posted to schools which had limited facilities, to serve as assistant teachers and study the various problems attendant on the project and devise ways and means of resolving them. The UNESCO Science Consultants and the Assistant Director of Technical Education provided them with the necessary guidance. At the end of one year's training these Inspectors were assigned regular supervisory duties.

During the same year two District Inspectors of Schools and two of the four Inspectors who were working on the pilot project of organisation and supervision of science teaching were awarded fellowships by UNESCO and by U. S. Aid and proceeded for specialized studies in England and U. S. A. respectively. The Assistant Director of Technical Education was awarded a similar fellowship by the U. S. Mission in 1960. All officers recruited to the Science Inspectorate are given the local training outlined above, and when appropriate foreign aid is available they will be provided with specialized foreign training too.

Today the supervisory staff consists of nineteen Inspectors of whom three have had the local as well as the foreign training, three who have just left for U. S. A., one who has left for England, seven who have completed the local training and are working in the field and five undergoing training locally.



# Policy Statement on Import Control

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THE following statement on Import Control policy was issued on November 20 by Mr. T. B. Ilangaratne, Minister of Commerce, Trade, Food and Shipping.

On the 10th of October this year, all the imports of the Island—excluding Food, Petroleum, Fertilizers and Drugs (approved by the Hospitals Formulary Committee)—were brought under Import Licence Control. This decision was taken by the Government for three main reasons :

- (i) to prevent the large-scale abuses of trading facilities under the Open General Licence system ;
- (ii) to conserve foreign exchange and promote industrial development ;
- (iii) to provide for the proper utilization of our limited external resources in accordance with a carefully planned scheme of priorities.

The immediate objective of import control will, however, be to check the continuous drain on our foreign exchange resources by preventing wasteful expenditure on luxuries and non-essentials and on imports which bear no relation to genuine local needs.

## Essential Imports

IN the administration of import control every effort will therefore be made to permit the smooth flow of all imports which serve the essential needs of the country. In other words, *imports will be regulated in such manner as to permit essential goods into the country, to the full extent of actual requirements.*

In accordance with this policy licences will be issued as from December this year, for essential items in the following groups of commodities :

1. Industrial raw materials
2. Chemical elements and compounds

3. Machinery and capital equipment
4. Pharmaceutical raw materials
5. Medicinal herbs used in indigenous medicine
6. Scientific and medical instruments and appliances
7. Books and periodicals
8. Sports goods
9. Optical lenses
10. Newsprint and paper (other than writing and printing paper)
11. Photographic and cinematographic supplies (other than apparatus and appliances)
12. Spares for road motor vehicles (other than "embellishments" and accessories)
13. Components and spares for essential machinery ; implements and tools
14. Base Metals
15. Approved items of—
  - (a) electrical apparatus and appliances
  - (b) building materials
  - (c) manufactures of iron and steel

It is estimated that, on this basis, import licences will be granted for 1963 for the import of these goods to the extent of 80 per cent to 100 per cent of their 1961 levels of imports (the estimated figure for industrial raw materials is around 130 per cent).



### Other Essential Imports

OTHER "essential goods" (some of which, in the recent past, have been imported in unprecedented quantities, in anticipation of import restrictions) will be permitted to be imported in reasonable quantities during 1963. This group of imports will include the following :

1. Textiles
2. Tyres and tubes for motor vehicles
3. Specified Food items : cheese, etc.
4. Drink and tobacco
5. Cosmetics and toilet preparations
6. Distemper, paints and enamels
7. Wax, polishes and similar preparations
8. Musical instruments, phonographs and records
9. Fountain pens
10. Sewing machines (components)
11. Radio components
12. Electric fans (components)
13. Specified items of electric apparatus and appliances
14. Chassis (with engines mounted) of lorries, trucks and vans
15. Specified items of office requisites
16. Miscellaneous manufactured goods

*On this basis of exchange allocation, it is estimated that licences will be granted for 1963 for the import of these goods to the extent of 50 per cent to 80 per cent of their 1960-61 levels of imports.*

### Licensed Imports (1962-63)

WITHIN the last two months the Department of Import Control has provided for the importation, during the next four to five months, of goods to the value of over Rs. 220 million—this is nearly one quarter of the annual value of goods under licence control. About Rs. 150 millions in foreign exchange will be consumed by imports covered by irrevocable Letters of Credit which had been opened by local importers prior to the introduction of import control. On the basis of prior commitments, textiles to the value of nearly Rs. 45 millions (approximately one fourth of our average annual Textile Import Bill) will arrive in the island within the next two or three months. In regard to tyres and tubes for motor cars, lorries, and vans, the imports during the eight months of 1962 have exceeded the 1961 value of imports. For these reasons the saving in foreign exchange anticipated this year will not be realised on these two import items.

### "Non-Essential" Imports

AMONG the other imports which will arrive in the island within the next five months—on the basis of irrevocable commitments under Letters of Credit, etc., are :

	Rs.
(1) Sun glasses .. ..	50,000
(2) Cigarette lighters ..	100,000
(3) Cigarette lighter flints ..	1,000,000
(4) Perfumery .. ..	83,000
(5) Bangles and Beads ..	7,000
(6) Wall paper .. ..	1,500
(7) Waste paper and old paper ..	700,000
(8) Floor tiles .. ..	65,000
(9) Domestic ware .. ..	100,000
(10) Ball point pens .. ..	2,200,000
(11) Plastic sheets with floral designs	1,200,000
(12) Floor covering .. ..	32,000
(13) Chilled/Frozen fruits ..	21,500
(14) Bicycle parts ("banned items")	100,000
(15) Electric lamps .. ..	235,000

### Some Problems

A disconcerting fact that emerges from an analysis of our trade is the enormous waste of our foreign exchange resources on a wide range of non-essentials and on *goods for which there does not seem to be any justifiable basis for importation*. It is all too clear, for instance, that the import of over two million rupees worth of cigarette lighter flints during this year could not have been inspired by local demand, or the import of three years' supply of razor blades was by no means a normal reaction to consumer demand in this country.

These are some of the problems which will engage the attention of the import control administration. *The creation of "artificial scarcities" and profiteering in goods under licence are some of the other dangers we must guard against.*

### Proposed Measures

HAVING regard to these various issues the following measures are also contemplated :

- (1) Special arrangements are proposed to prevent the smuggling of goods out of the island ;
- (2) It is proposed to amend the Imports & Exports Control Act, No. 9 of 1955, in order that *further measures which are considered to be necessary for the proper administration of import control*, may be implemented ;
- (3) A comprehensive scheme of *Registration of Importers* will be introduced in order that—
  - (a) "Open-licence imports" are under surveillance ;
  - (b) Exchange Control formalities are observed ;

(c) Import Quota registration scheme may be based on fuller information relating to change of business, change of agencies, etc. ;

(d) Investigations into the trading activities of registered importers may be carried out to prevent trafficking in licences.

- (4) In order to ensure a *proper distribution of industrial raw materials and other essentials in short supply*, a special licensing scheme directly related to the requirements of "Actual Users" will be introduced ;
- (5) The Import Control Department will release for public information (from time to time) *full particulars of its licensing programme*—the quantity and value of imports released on licence and the quantity and value of goods cleared from the Customs ;
- (6) In appropriate cases, the Import Control Department will also *make available to the public* information relating to the names of importers and the annual import quotas allocated to them.

A new organisation is being set up by the Department of the Controller of Imports and Exports to give effect to all these various decisions of the Government. These measures are being carried out in the best interest of the nation and therefore they demand the full co-operation of all persons residing in this country—the general public, the trading community and, above all, those officers of the public service who may be in a position to help in the successful implementation of this scheme.



## Foreign Affairs

THE annual report of the Colombo Plan Council for Technical Co-operation in South and South East Asia, which was released on 22nd October stated that technical activities, which have been growing from the inception of the C-Plan in 1950, had reached the highest figures so far in 1961-62, the twelfth year of operation of the Plan.

The total value of technical assistance that has flowed into the region since the inception of the Plan had amounted to over £102 million (285 million dollars). 24,062 persons from the countries in South-East Asia have received training in other Colombo Plan countries, and 4,163 Colombo Plan experts in agricultural, industrial, administration and other fields have visited the area to perform a wide variety of highly technical tasks. Scientific, technical and training equipment to the value of over £32 million (69 million dollars) have been supplied to the area as an integral part of technical co-operation under the Plan.

The report pointed out that the proportion of spending on technical co-operation had been in the order of over 25 per cent on some 24,062 trainees, nearly 40 per cent on 4,163 experts and advisers and the balance on books, films and technical assistance equipment ranging from eye pieces for microscopes to shipyard equipment and road constructing and testing machinery.

The report recorded that during the year July 1, 1961 to June 30, 1962 the number of new trainees had risen from 4,417 in the previous year to 4,529 and that of experts—not counting those already in the field—from 786 to 1,008. The cost of equipment rose from £5.6 million to £17.5 million which brought the total expenditure of Colombo Plan Technical Co-operation during the year to nearly £36 million, compared with £20.2 million in 1960-61.

The statistics revealed that the United States (which joined the Colombo Plan Council in 1958-59) was the largest donor of training places having provided 2,223 places last year—i.e., nearly 50 per cent of the total training awards made last year, with Britain (656), Australia (541), India (369), Canada (246), New Zealand (218) and Japan (189), following in that order.

India has taken position as the recipient of the largest number of training awards (830), followed by Indonesia (737), Thailand (579), Pakistan (436), Vietnam (341), Nepal (340), Philippines (293), Federation of Malaya (242) and Ceylon (200).

An analysis of the fields in which training has been provided indicates that General Education (785) has taken first place on account of the large numbers following University degree courses in Australia, India and the United States, while Food, Agriculture and Forestry (768) and Administration (544) occupy second and third places and Medical and Health (528) fourth.

The greatest demand during the year has been for specialists in the field of Transport and Communications, some 253 experts (a quarter of the total number of expert personnel sent) having been assigned to the region. This is followed by Engineers (194) Educationalists (130) and Food, Agriculture and Forestry Experts (122).

### Trade Agreement with China

THE Ministry of Commerce, Trade, Food and Shipping announced on 5th October that a Five-Year Trade Agreement with China has been signed in Peking.

The following communique was issued by the Ministry in this connection:—

“A Five-Year Trade Agreement for the period 1963/67 between Ceylon and the People's Republic of China was signed



in Peking on 4th October, 1962. The Hon'ble T. B. Ilangaratne, Minister of Commerce, Trade, Food and Shipping, signed for the Government of Ceylon, and the Hon'ble Yeh Chi-Chung signed for the Government of the People's Republic of China. This renews the Five-Year Agreement that expires at the end of this year. A protocol specifying the commodities to be traded between the two countries in 1963 was also signed. In pursuance of this protocol, a contract for the supply by Ceylon of 33,000 metric tons of sheet rubber to China, and a contract for the supply of 200,000 metric tons of rice by China to Ceylon were also signed.

"At the same time an Economic Aid Agreement was also signed under which the Government of the People's Republic of China undertakes to give the Government of Ceylon grant aid in a sum of Rs. 50,000,000 spread over a period of five years.

"The talks which resulted in the above agreements between the two countries were held in an atmosphere of utmost cordiality and friendliness."

### Rice Agreement with Burma

AN agreement was signed in Burma on 22nd September, between the Ceylon Minister of Commerce, Trade, Food and Shipping, Mr. T. B. Ilangaratne, and the Burmese Minister of Trade Development and Industry, Brigadier Aung Gyi, under which Burma would supply 225,000 tons of rice to Ceylon in 1963 with a further 25,000 tons at her option.

The Ministry of Commerce, Trade, Food and Shipping issued the following communique in this connection :—

"The Ceylon Trade Delegation led by the Hon. T. B. Ilangaratne, Minister of Commerce, Trade, Food and Shipping, reached Rangoon on 16th September, 1962, and had

talks with a Burmese Trade Delegation led by Hon. Brigadier Aung Gyi, Minister of Trade Development and Industry. The matters discussed were the development of Burma/Ceylon trade and the sale of Burma rice under the agreement of September 1959 between the two countries.

"In regard to the contract for the supply of rice in 1963, it was agreed that Burma will supply 225,000 tons of rice to Ceylon with a further 25,000 tons at her option at the following prices:—

- (1) Ngasein S. M. S. 42 per cent—£ 34 per ton f.o.b.
- (2) Full-boiled—£ 34.12.0 per ton f.o.b.

"It was also agreed that Burma will increase her imports of Ceylonese products such as coconut oil and coir yarn in the coming year.

"Letters were exchanged on 22nd September, 1962, between the Hon. T. B. Ilangaratne and the Hon. Brigadier Aung Gyi embodying the above conclusions."

### Cotton Agreement with U. S. S. R.

AN agreement was signed on 21st September between the U. S. S. R. and Ceylon under which the former has agreed to render technical assistance in clearing and planting 2,000 acres of cotton in the Hambantota District.

The following communique was issued by the Ministry of Finance :—

"In accordance with the agreement on Economic and Technical Co-operation signed between the Governments of Ceylon and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on 25.2.58, a contract was signed this morning between the Ministry of Finance, Ceylon, and the All Union Export Import Corporation 'Technopromexport' of Moscow. The latter has agreed under this contract to render technical assistance in clearing and planting



2,000 acres of cotton in the Hambantota District. The contract provides for the supply of machinery, equipment, and specialists necessary for the project.

"The total cost of the project so far as provision of equipment alone is concerned amounts to Rs. 189,450 (roubles 35,813).

"Mr. C. Balasingham, C. C. S., the Deputy Secretary to the Treasury, signed on behalf of the Ministry of Finance and Mr. S. Samu-senko, Counsellor for Economic Affairs of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics Em-bassy in Ceylon, signed for 'Technopromex-port'."

### **Cultural Pact with U. A. R.**

THE exchange of the instruments of ratifica-tion in respect of the Cultural Agreement signed by the Minister of Industries, Home and Cultural Affairs, at Cairo on 3rd October, 1961, took place on 19th October, 1962, at the Ministry of Industries, Home and Cultural Affairs. The following were present on the occasion:—

#### *On behalf of the Ceylon Government :*

The Hon. Maitripala Senanayake, Minister of Industries, Home and Cultural Affairs.

M. J. Perera, Esq., C. C. S., Senior Assis-tant Secretary, Ministry of Industries, Home and Cultural Affairs.

R. G. B. Forbes, Esq., Assistant Secretary, Ministry of Defence and External Affairs.

P. E. Weeraman, Esq., Director of Cultural Affairs.

#### *On behalf of the United Arab Republic :*

His Excellency A. Fouad Naguib, Am-bassador of the United Arab Republic in Ceylon.

Ahmed Fouad Hosny, Esq., Second Secretary, Embassy of the United Arab Republic in Ceylon.

Amin Ahmed Yousry, Esq., Attache, Embassy of the United Arab Republic in Ceylon.

Hanafi Soliman, Esq., Press Attache, Embassy of the United Arab Republic in Ceylon.

### **Commerce Minister returns**

THE Minister of Commerce, Trade, Food and Shipping, Mr. T. B. Ilangaratne, who returned to the Island on 17th October, said that his mission to Burma, Thailand, China and the Philippines has afforded opportu-nities to develop the country's trade with those countries.

He said that protection for common agri-cultural commodities, their development, marketing and problems of mechanisation should be considered.

"As a result of our mission to Burma," he said, "not only were we able to obtain a certain supply of rice even above our requirements but also to get it at a reasonable price. In Thailand too the mission turned out to be successful.

"In China I was able to secure the grant of a Rs. 50 million aid scheme for the re-habilitation of rubber. This aid will be supplied in the form of industrial equipment, machinery, etc.

"At the talks held in the Philippines it was decided that all coconut producing countries should co-operate with each other for the protection of production and the marketing of coconut."

### **Malayan Premier Visits Ceylon**

THE Prime Minister of Malaya, Tunku Abdul Rahman, arrived in Colombo on 6th October on board the "Asia." He was met on board ship by the Minister of Justice, Senator Sam P. C. Fernando and the Permanent Secretary to the Ministry of Defence and External Affairs, Mr. N. Q. Dias.



The visiting Premier later called on the Governor-General and the Prime Minister. He was accorded a luncheon by the Prime Minister at "Temple Trees".

He resumed his voyage in the afternoon.

### **Envoy presents Credentials**

HIS Excellency Dr. Ivan Rohal Ilkiv, who has been appointed by the Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic as their Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Ceylon in succession to His Excellency Dr. Ladislav Simovic, presented his Letter of Credence to His Excellency the Governor-General at Queen's House on 9th October.

His Excellency Dr. Ivan Rohal Ilkiv, who is concurrently accredited to Ceylon and India, will reside in New Delhi.

### **Gift of Wagons from China**

THE Prime Minister, Mrs. Sirima Bandaranaike, received on behalf of the Government, at a ceremony at Fort Railway Station on 9th October, a gift of 202 goods wagons, 13 tanker wagons and 8 passenger coaches from the People's Republic of China. The gift was handed over by the Chinese Ambassador in Ceylon, Mr. Hsieh Ke-Hsi.

This is the first consignment of 653 goods and tanker wagons and 70 passenger coaches valued at Rs. 25 million, which the Ceylon Government Railway is receiving from China under the Economic Aid Agreement.

### **Agriculture Minister addresses F. A. O. Campaign Committee**

THE Minister of Agriculture, Land, Irrigation and Power, Mr. C. P. de Silva, addressing the preliminary meeting of the F. A. O. National Campaign Committee on 21st September, requested the committee to

formulate a programme of action projects in suitable order of priority for concentrated attention over a period of a year.

He said that the campaign launched by the F. A. O. was intended to cover the entire world and its subject was no less than an intense and purposively directed war against all the problems of hunger, malnutrition and under-development that still affect many millions in the world. The campaign had been conceived on a global scale and they could not but admire the nobility and imagination of the ideals that inspired this immense conception. The highest tribute must be paid to the Director-General of the F. A. O., an Indian and an Asian, for the major part he had taken in initiating this campaign and securing its acceptance both by the F. A. O. and by the General Assembly of the United Nations.

Mr. de Silva said one of the first steps required of this country was that it should have a National Campaign Committee with the constitution and powers commensurate with the objectives and constitution of the Central Organization. It was with that purpose in mind that he had now decided to reconstitute the present purely official National Committee. It was now hoped that a reconstitution of their National Committee on the lines proposed would be received by the United Nations and the F. A. O. as an earnest of their intention as a nation, of accepting the obligations Ceylon required of in that field, and of sincere desire to carry into execution within that campaign. "I am sure we all realise, however, that mere intentions and desires are not sufficient and that our efforts must hereafter be concentrated with the maximum energy towards implementation in concrete programmes of action which would achieve results in tangible form in the improvement of the standard of living, the reduction of our heavy food bill, the conservation of our Foreign Exchange resources and the achievement of the maximum degree of self-sufficiency," he added.



The Minister said that the efforts of the National Committee should be directed towards :

- (a) The creation of a sense of national urgency in the development of Ceylon's food and agricultural resources ;
- (b) The effective harnessing of this sense of urgency for properly directed objectives. This involves not merely the drafting of people to work, but also a great deal of initial study, planning and research to determine the most suitable national objective ;
- (c) The continuous review of progress in relation to the targets to ensure that the energy harnessed is not dissipated ;
- (d) Persisting with the country's efforts until Ceylon had satisfied itself that targets have been achieved, or that the maximum potential on each action programme has been realized.

He continued :

"Next the field of research. We should work towards a purposive programme of research leading within the short term as well as the long term to concrete action projects. It would be of great value if this committee could assess the research work now being done in the fields of agriculture and food, evaluate this work item by item if possible and prepare both a short-term research programme and one for the longer term. Measures should also be examined for ensuring that the progress is continually reviewed keeping in mind always that research must bear fruit in practical application."

Mr. C. P. de Silva represented Ceylon at the F. A. O. sessions held in Rome in mid October.

### Children's Exhibition and Film Festival

THE Prime Minister, Mrs. Sirima Bandaranaike, declared open on 5th October, at the Sedawatte Maha Vidyalaya in Colombo, the International Children's Exhibition and Film Festival organised by the All-Ceylon Coordinating Council for Child and Youth Welfare, and the Sedawatte Siddharta Welfare Society. The exhibition had been organised in connection with the observance of International Children's Week.

The Minister of Industries, Home and Cultural Affairs, Mr. Maithripala Senanayake, said that the Government needed the assistance of all people to tackle the problem of delinquent and under-privileged children. The Government of the late Prime Minister had established the Department of Probation and Child Care Services. Although the Government was doing its best regarding child welfare, still the assistance of voluntary social service organisations was very necessary.

He said that the Department of Probation and Child Care Services had endeavoured to give a technical education to children between the ages of 12 and 16, who are under its care.

### Indo-Ceylon Talks resumed

THE Ministry of Defence and External Affairs issued the following communique on 23rd October :—

"The talks on the Indo-Ceylon Problem between representatives of the Indian Government and the Ceylon Government were resumed today (23.10.62) on an informal basis in a cordial and friendly atmosphere. There was an exchange of views on various aspects of the problem. Details of the discussions cannot at this stage be published for the reason that the talks themselves were informal. The talks will be continued at a later date."



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