

# TRIBUNE

27TH YEAR OF PUBLICATION



Vol. 26 — No. 49 — August 28, 1982. Rs. 3.00



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# TRIBUNE

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A Journal of Ceylon and  
World Affairs  
Founded in 1954  
Every Saturday

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## LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

CERTAIN GOVERNMENTAL CIRCLES make a great deal of noise about exports. With drumbeating poojas and expensive tamashas consignments of rice and green chillies have been loaded on ships for export. No ministerial speech is complete today without some reference to the virtues and benefits of exports. **The word export is magic, a mantra for prosperity; and it is blasphemy for anyone to question its validity. For five years it has been a sacred cow which everyone was called upon to milk. Exports are necessary and are useful in building up a country's economy but what is really the Sri Lanka's export performance in the last three years?** Statistics are available (though not published as yet) that show that between 1978-81 the export performance has been most unsatisfactory. This is one reason why the Aid Consortium and the World Bank have applied the screw on Sri Lanka. This was made clear at the recent Tokyo meeting. In the period 1978-81 it is estimated that exports had grown in real terms (i.e., in constant SDRs) at an annual average rate of 5% and this is considered by the adherents of open liberalised economy to be totally unsatisfactory and inadequate to meet Sri Lanka's needs for imports and debt servicing. The exports of the three traditional crops—tea, rubber, coconut—declined at an average rate of 6.3% per annum between 1978-81. Likewise gem exports declined at the rate of 3% per annum (no doubt because of the vast quantities being smuggled out). During the same period non-traditional exports grew at a nominal rate of 28% per annum, but the petroleum products and the garments exported are the lowest foreign exchange earners and these two items constitute almost two-thirds of this group of exports—making the situation much worse than the statistics (28% growth) indicated. *It has been estimated that the needs of the country require a rate of growth of exports in real terms of 11.5% per annum during the period 1982-85. This can be achieved only if there is a marked increase in investments in export ventures (traditional and non-traditional) and to attain this export capacity additional investment of around Rs. 9 billion would be required during the 1982-85 period.* It is therefore, necessary for government to review its existing export policies and incentives, and devise new measures to promote additional investment in all export ventures not only in the non-traditional field but more especially to maximise export earnings from existing investments and production capacities notably in the plantation sector. Various schemes have been suggested by experts to accelerate the rate and volume of exports e.g., (1) a compensatory grant to offset the factors that contribute to loss of profitability, (2) investment relief (up to half their assessable income, (3) working capital to be provided at a reduced rate of interest (4) all exports to be exempted from T.T. as a general principle. According to reports, belated attempt one being made by Government to remove these constraints on our exports. **But more than anything else, it has become necessary to pay special attention to the traditional plantation sector, and that in addition to any special assistance and investments. all the incentives to be granted to the non-traditional sector (e.g., compensatory grant etc.) should be granted to tea, rubber and coconut industries—particularly because they benefit not only public sector plantation corporations but also small holders who produce a sizable part of the exports.** Experts, it is believed, have estimated that the incentives to pep up traditional and non-traditional exports (through a compensatory grant, working capital etc.) would cost about Rs. 1.3 billion and this is considered "modest" compared to expenditure on Housing and Urban Development, on Mahaweli and other long-gestation projects.

## Ananda Coomaraswamy

August 22 was the 105th birth anniversary of the great Sri Lankan scholar, Ananda K. Coomaraswamy. Coomaraswamy died at Boston in the United States on 9 September 1947, thirty five years ago. Recently *TRIBUNE* made, a special point to draw the attention of the Government to an extraordinary fact, namely the inexplicable neglect of the great savant by successive Sri Lankan administrations. We had hoped that our plea would lead to a realisation at the highest levels that a serious if not ludicrous omission existed and that, consequently, the first steps to some remedial action would follow. Alas, no such hope. The Ministry of Cultural Affairs, having brought out a badly printed collection of Coomaraswamy's essays where a list of errata is the most conspicuous feature, undoubtedly feels that it has done its bit and that a Sri Lankan whose stature is daily growing in other parts of the world can by and large continue to be virtually ignored in the country of his birth. So much for a Ministry of Cultural Affairs.

The question arises; in what adequate fashion can we commemorate the name and the great intellectual contribution of Coomaraswamy? We have named a prominent road in Colombo after him and, having done so, we have proceeded to decorate (or rather desecrate) it with large commercial advertisements thereby insensitively offering a gratuitous insult to the memory of so great a man. Anyone who has read his writings will appreciate how inappropriate these hoardings are on a street named after Coomaraswamy of all people! But this kind of contradiction passes over our leaders and life goes on as usual. Let us make it clear that *TRIBUNE* is not advocating the erection of some edifice called a Coomaraswamy Memorial Theatre or Art Gallery where the public and the would at large will be treated to so-called cultural displays that are likely to make Coomaraswamy turn in his grave. We have observed the fate of smaller men like Lionel Wendt. We pointed out (*TRIBUNE* 1 May 1982) that a ready-made opportunity for a truly fitting memorial to Coomaraswamy had presented itself and that this opportunity should be seized by the authorities. We refer, of course, to *The Sri Lanka Institute of Traditional Studies* which is concerned entirely with those very ideas and those values and beliefs to which Coomaraswamy devoted his mature writings, the culmination of his life's work, namely the principles underlying the essential unity of all religions and religious cultures and the consequences to society and to all human activity such as art which flow from these principles.

Our readers will appreciate that such matters are for specialists and certainly not for politicians. We fervently hope that no attempt will be made to draw crude political benefit from so serious an issue. However for those who can only think in such terms, we might point out that while Coomaraswamy was not Sinhalese, it was he who showed the major community how they should evaluate their own past. What better symbol of communal harmony than this? The continued and blatant neglect of Coomaraswamy can only quite needlessly add to the already prevalent belief that the Tamils are discriminated against because they are Tamils. The *Institute of Traditional Studies* has, as we mentioned in the earlier issue, the unqualified support of the world's leading traditionalist scholars and should therefore be entrusted with the task of setting up a suitable memorial to Coomaraswamy. We are pleased to learn that the Government has declared the Institute an Approved Charity and we can only hope that matter will not end there.



### EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

## Polemics-3

On Sunday August 1, the *Weekend* and *The Island* had dropped the clamour over the alleged anti-defamation bill and had turned to other stories calculated to boost circulation. But columnists in the *Sunday Times* and the *Sunday Observer* did not give up. *Spectator* a new star in the ST firmament with a column *The Political Scene*: stated: "No Onslaught On Press Freedom was the headline to a news item in last week's *Sunday Times*. The story read, 'the fears entertained by some newspapers and journalists that the Government had drafted legislation on anti-defamation laws which would have curtailed press freedom have no basis or foundation at all'. Within 24 hours of this being published some newspapers screamed their heads (sorry headlines) off sniggering at the 'No onslaught .....' story. But the Cabinet spokesman, Minister Anandatissa de Alwis issued or rather articulated statements on Wednesday denying that the defamation laws did ever surface at Cabinet meetings. Thereafter, the spokesman for the Ministers fired back an emphatic 'No' at press snipers who kept taking potshots at the denial. From all accounts, the President asked each Minister in turn at Wednesday's Cabinet meeting whether any proposals to amend the existing laws of defamation were made by them. Everyone of them denied making any suggestions regarding these laws. The President then asked how such stories, without any roots in fact got into the Press. It was stated by some of the

Ministers that certain newspapers were carrying on a campaign against the Government, and they had exaggerated what was perhaps only a Ministerial proposal. Mr. Jayewardene maintained that newspapers had no right to pass off a Ministerial proposal as a Cabinet decision. It was a deliberate distortion. Such newspapers should be punished, he maintained. He urged that more responsibility should be exercised in granting interviews and advertisements to newspapers which were deliberately tarring the Government with lies. Truth was welcome but not half truths and distortions. The Cabinet spokesman, Minister de Alwis, made the point that a mere suggestion is not a firm proposal, nor is an individual proposal a Cabinet proposal, let alone a Cabinet decision."

But the columnist *An Observer in the Times* was indignant. DEFAMATION LAW: WHO'S FOOLING WHOM? With sledge-hammer blows he went after the gnat which had been sold a tendentious story which had bounced back with a bang: "My! my!—how angry a particular newspaper was that this column wrote last Sunday that there was no draft Bill or Legislation which the Cabinet of Ministers had approved new anti-defamation laws which would have curbed press freedom in Sri Lanka. In a headline outburst, quoting in turn—in a hitherto unprecedented manner—the Sunday columns of other newspapers, this particular newspaper berated this column and accused us of deception, of playing games with words ('pseudo-legalistic piffle', they said) and of attempting to fool the public. We are indeed extremely sorry if we hurt the newspaper concerned and also the susceptibilities of any individual journalist on its editorial staff. Also, we very humbly hasten to apologise to all of them, if our column had the unintended effect of taking the sting out of their 'exclusive report' or 'scoop'—as they themselves called it—of 18th July in reporting an alleged attempt by Government to muzzle the newspapers. **We had absolutely no intention of starting a news war between two newspapers—one private and one public—through competition between these two sectors is now fully encouraged by this Government unlike the previous regime.** We are also fully committed to the principle of press freedom. (We hope this particular newspaper does not consider press freedom in Sri Lanka its monopoly like Mr. Maithripala Senanayake saying that the SLFP (M) is the ONE and ONLY Sri Lanka Freedom Party). Like them we also feel that there can be no compromise on this principle of press freedom—whether it be in the guise of anti-defamation laws or otherwise. Like them we also appeal to the Government not to impose any curbs on the freedom of the press for any reason or under any pretext. However, at the same time, we seek their indulgence to express our point of view just as they are entitled to. We are

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as entitled as they, to state the facts we have got to know them or to comment on such facts as we think fit. They have their own sources of information. So have we. They have their own anonymous columnists. So have we. They have at times, we do not say too often, made mistakes and carried corrections; at times they have even had to apologise. So why shout with anger and write with such venom about another columnist in another newspaper? Why cast aspersions about his or her identity or anonymity? Why insult or downgrade his or her? Strangely enough, this appears to be a new type of press freedom for one newspaper to start attacking the views expressed by a columnist in another newspaper. As Mr. Nadesan QC recently said about the attempt to amend the constitution, it is simply not correct. One national newspaper must not feel that every exclusive story to scoop that or reports or reveals can never be wrong and must always be right; that what it writes is gospel truth and cannot and should not be corrected, modified or amended by anyone else. We do not wish to say anything more on this matter. It was they who cast the first stone. We will not return it even if they tempt us. Rather, we would turn our other cheek. **But in conclusion** we would like to say this. Our column of last Sunday was based on information that the Cabinet of Ministers had not discussed or approved any new anti-defamation law, that would curb press freedom. *We reassert that a memorandum prepared by an individual Ministry is not Cabinet decision unless and until it is discussed and approved by Cabinet. Nor is a memorandum a draft bill or legislation. This is not pseudo-legalistic piffle—as some may argue* (emphasis ours). The Minister of State—the amiable Mr. Anandatissa de Alwis is the Minister responsible for the media and the press and he is also regarded as a friend of the free press. So why was he not asked? Why was he not interviewed? He would have known as to who was fooling whom. **Finally** when talking of press freedom it is good to remember that under Mrs. Bandaranaike's Government with six out of the seven years being under emergency rule there was strict censorship of newspapers with a Competent Authority directing what should and should not be published. The Lake House group of newspapers was nationalised and rather than new newspapers opening up, existing newspapers like the independent *Sun* or *Dawasa* group was sealed up overnight for criticising the Government and its 'manic' and 'batala' economic policies. Newsprint was also denied to newspapers and when made available, its cost was made exorbitant by the high import duty levied. Legislation to compel journalists to disclose their sources of information was enacted and the Government Railway and the Ceylon Transport Board was prohibited from carrying and distributing newspapers other than Government con-

trolled ones. While we must prevent any inroads on press freedom now it would do us well to remember the situation of press freedom then."

Columnist *Grassroots* in the *Sunday Observer* did not touch on this subject at all on August 1. He dealt with the "Freedom To Criticize" and harked back to days of the SLFP and Mrs. Bandaranaike when the freedom of expression was undoubtedly hampered in many ways -- direct, indirect, visible and invisible. He preached his sermon on the text of the President's speech at Dompe to mark the fifth anniversary of the UNP regime. The columnist was also probably sensitive about the charges that with the *Sunday Times* columnist he made a twin chorus. But next *Sunday*, August 8, *Grassroots* returned to the anti-defamation Bill (when the *Sunday Times* columnists were silent on the subject.) *Grassroots* in his column on August 8 repeated with greater verbiage everything *Spectator* and *An Observer In The Times* had said in the *Sunday Times* of August 1 about the Defamation Bill. He went on to recount what had been written and said about the matter during the past three weeks, and went on to recall the acts of commission and omission perpetrated by the Sirima Government (1970-77) against the "free press" in Sri Lanka. He then referred to the criticisms levelled at *Grassroots* in *The Island* for what he had written in the *Sunday Observer* of July 25. The question "Who is Fooling Whom?" seems to have got under the skin of *Grassroots* and his readers had an overdose of overkill verbiage. He went through the entire chorus set out in the *Sunday Times* columnists the previous Sunday with a bash at Pieter Keuneman and Mrs. Bandaranaike for some remarks they had made after August 1. Next he indulged in a pompous homily like a missionary of old preaching to the ignorant heathens: "The freedom of the press is as vital as the freedom of the franchise and any suggestion that the Government was trying to interfere with this freedom was bad enough. A responsible paper could have double-checked their information in this case with the Ministry of State which is responsible for the media -- and the matter could have been easily clarified."

Next with a patronising air *Grassroots* gave a little dose of advice to the government especially the Ministry of State: "The government must also take the blame to some extent for having permitted these newspaper stories on curbing press freedom to go unconcerned. It took almost two weeks for the government to make a firm pronouncement that there was no such decision by it. The period of two weeks was too long a lapse of time and one can well ask why the Ministry of State did not intervene and issue a correction and prevent certain newspapers from barking up a wrong tree

and howling about an abuse of press freedom." And finally he concluded like a monarch of old saying *Amen* and benevolently patting everybody on the back while telling newspapers how they should conduct themselves; "We are indeed very happy that this controversial issue has now been cleared. While we reiterate the view that newspapers must be vigilant to prevent any erosion of press freedom under any pretext, they must also be careful not to allege any such motives or attempts on the part of a government without verifying the facts very carefully."

We have dealt with this exercise in media polemics in some details because it is the first of the polemical battles that we likely to spring up before or during an election campaign. Though certain governmental circles may feel happy that it has nailed a "dirty lie" and given a bashing to *The Island* (and in a small way to the *Sun/Weekend*), the overkill hammer blows on a small matter that should have dismissed with a paragraph or two has made the public suspicious that there was more to the skeletons (memoranda) in the cupboard the Ministry of Justice than meets their eye. If anybody should have been taken to task it was the Minister of Justice (for what he said in the interview to *The Island*) and his officials for circulating confidential documents.

✕   ✕   ✕

CRM ON THE CALL FOR

## Return to the 1972 Constitution

The Civil Rights Movement (CRM) has expressed dismay at the call from some opposition circles for a return to the 1972 Constitution and for a general election to held under the law which existed in 1977. CRM's statement is not an exhaustive comparison of the two Constitutions. Nor does CRM at this stage say anything about the Executive Presidential system of government and the possible problems that can arise from it in the future. CRM merely highlights certain matters affecting fundamental rights and the democratic process in respect of which we are better off today than in 1972, though even here serious deficiencies and room for improvement exist.

The aspects dealt with by the CRM statement are (1) the electoral process and the superiority of the principle of proportional representation; (2) the wider range of fundamental rights under the 1978 Constitution; (3) the narrower and more precise formulation of the possible restrictions on fundamental rights; (4) the new judicial remedy in the Supreme Court where fundamental rights are infringed by executive action; (5) the better protection of certain basic rights, which cannot

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be altered by a two thirds majority of Parliament also require a referendum (e.g., the Kalawana-bill); (6) minorities and citizenship; (7) provisions relating to the independence of the judiciary; (8) provisions lessening and possibility of unjustified imposition or prolongation of emergency rule by requiring approval first by a simple, and after three months by a two thirds majority of Parliament.

The full text of the statement will be published next week.

### **MINISTRY OF LOCAL GOVT., HOUSING AND CONSTRUCTION, DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS.**

Tenders for Construction of Post Office at Panwila will be received by the Chairman, Tender Board, Department of Buildings, Colombo 1, up to 10.00 A. M. on Wednesday 08.09.1982.

02. Tender Forms could be obtained from District Engineer/ Kandy North before 4. 15 P.M. on 03.09.82 by registered contractors or "Trial Letter" holders of Department for Rs. 350,000/- and above on production of a tender deposit receipt for Rs. 250/- issued by Buildings Department, Colombo or any Kachcheri outside Colombo.

03. Any further particulars could be obtained from the above Engineer.

**K.C. Samaraweera.**  
Director of Buildings.

DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,  
P.O. BOX 504,  
COLOMBO 1.  
18th Aug., 1982.  
TRIBUNE, AUGUST 28, 1982

### **FILM FOCUS**

## **Social Themes**

An internationally known film maker with his roots in Bengal, Mrinal Sen, has set on the need for films, that would provoke society on a social plane and make audiences emotionally and genuinely active in this direction. He states that "In India and throughout the Third World, poverty is an important disturbing part of the social fabric, and film-makers should not escape it. Most producers do not accept this as their credo, which accounts for the large number of films made in India for example just for entertainment of a mass audience, which is largely illiterate or semiliterate. These films in the respective regional languages do not intend to conscientize these audience. Instead, they offer a fantastic dream world, into which the viewer can escape, of songs, dances, elaborate and rich costumes, palatial houses and thin story line, within, which the heroes and heroines defy every role of credibility." Many such films, toeing a formula line, even in Sri Lanka are meant to shake the money tree only, and *Tribune* readers were made aware recently in this column of the film "Ridee Nimnaya" that treaded a social theme. It has unfortunately faded out of the major circuits, all too soon. *Vidyajothi*, a journal of theological reflection in India, very forcefully focusses its attention on some South Indian film makers, who deliberately use the cine-arts to expose the level of social injustice in India, and to put forward social and political programmes for change and progress, aimed at remedying social evils, the emancipation of those oppressed, and the betterment of the under-privileged. "Through concrete images on the screen", this journal states, "the strangling grip of social structures, such as the caste system, the rehabilitation of prostitutes, and those with criminal records, are portrayed with a clarity, that overcomes the barriers of class and education or a complete lack of it. Powerful suggestions are made to the mind of the viewer that these are intolerable bonds, because they are irrational and inhuman." As social themes, do appear to be box office risks, it behoves the National Film Institutions, to actively promote such films, without profit motives, to educate the masses towards a healthy society, that is an imminent need in any Third World country such as ours. Initiative could emerge from the National Film Corporation, for such films projects, and religious bodies together with the Sarvodaya Movement could lend a helping hand, with short and pointed films for a beginning.

**MIDNIGHT EXPRESS** (English): This thought provoking film ran into heavy flak from over Foreign Ministry which requested its ban. Finally better counsel seems to have prevailed. A Columbia release and a Casablanca Filmworks Production, it is directed by Alan (Bugsy Malone) Parker. The title for information of *Tribune* readers is taken from the prison slang for escape—"catching the Midnight Express." Filmed convincingly on the island of Malta where the centuries old Fort St. Elmo barracks is used to duplicate the infamous SAGAMALCILAR Turkish prison. The film traces in detail the terrifying ordeal of an American college undergraduate, Billy Hayes (Brad Davis), arrested in 1972 in Istanbul on a narcotics charge—his first amateurish attempt for pin money. The brutal beatings that follow and the bizarre "vaccinating" courtroom trials that turn a short sentence in jail to a life one on a judicial flaw eventually opens the door to the snake pit when the youngster raises his voice for justice. Physically "minced", broken down in spirit and beyond human endurance and cowed down mentally, Hayes' story is a true one and hard to believe by civilized norms. A miraculous escape to his loved ones in the USA climaxes the film, but not before so much blood is drawn in a cold and cruel fashion for an offence, that should have been tempered with judicial mercy. If the shocking sequences were an exaggeration, then the Foreign Ministry's stand, stands vindicted, but since the film has been screened in other countries without a "Turkish official" protest, the lifting of the ban was a reasonable way out of the situation. Hayes — who is on the film's run almost all the way and Susan (Irene Miracle), his fiancée, indulge in an acutely erotic reunion (the sequence has been passed by the censor.) The theme song "Istanbul Blues" neutralises somewhat the horror of the chain of events that portray man's inhumanity to a fellow being. The story could turn the squeamish, as in the Idi Amin film, but Brad Davis' maiden effort in the main role was positively brilliant.

**KAAYALUM KAYARUM** (Malayalam): Brilliant camera artistry by V. Doss captures and caresses the palm fringed scenery from the word go. This film is spun around a rural village in Kerala by the seaside whose inhabitants earn their living by threshing coir yarn to rope etc. in family groups. Into the setting, Director K.S. Gopalakrishnan, who is well known to Tamil picturegoers by his creations, has blown in a love story, between an attractive belle and a boatman. The affair is complicated by the arrival on the scene of an innocently convicted tough with an axe to grind against the "villain." With every step for revenge, he also turns

"Good Samaritan" to the needy discovering that the diabolical killer's venom and lust was yet loose in the village. He closes in for the confrontation a trifle late to avert a tragedy in the love story, but avenges it. The few songs we recatchy, and the life style of the villagers captured very realistically. But the Malayalam language is a difficult one to understand the fullness of this good film. It is nevertheless worth a visit, for it certainly must have bagged an award or two in its country of origin. A bouquet to the NFC once again for making it possible for Sri Lankans to view such classics.

The Press Attache of the US Embassy once again made it possible for this column, to view Hollywood's two best films "*All About Eve*" with Bette Davis and "*Sunset Boulevard*" with Gloria Swanson that ran very close together for Oscars in the early fifties. The themes were alike in both films -- the story of fading stars in a system that did not permit them to retire from the screen with grace. The prints were brand new and the dialogue in both films so razor edged to send today's scripts to the shade. Just for the record "*All About Eve*" which also featured, Anne Baxter, Celeste Holme, Gary Merrill and Hugh Marlowe won six awards, to "*Sunset Boulevard*" three in 1950. The latter film featured a very youthful William Holden, who blazed a remarkable career in Hollywood before his tragic demise recently, while in the former there are fleeting glimpses of the "sex" queen Marilyn Monroe, over whose sudden death a couple of decades ago, a controversy still rages

James N. Benedict..

x x x

IN VERSE

## Yearning

It's another day's end  
in a faraway land  
strange faces everywhere  
a cold and lonely meal  
and I yearn.....for  
the bright lights of Colombo  
the airy Galle Face Green  
palm fringed beaches  
long and unending  
the Samudra devi rattling by  
Galle Road .....  
broad and busy  
kottu rotti, puree and potato  
sizzling egg hoppers, roadside  
the calm lake Beira  
belching buses, sardine packed  
Yes, I yearn.....

to be back home, amidst  
those smiling faces  
and home .....sweet home  
I yearn for thee

Kabarnet,  
Kenya.

## OMAN

### DIVIDED LOYALTIES.

Today you brought her home,  
Your new wife,  
And felt the pull,  
Of old forgotten thoughts,  
In the sad face  
Of your Mother.

She was your choice,  
This woman of the town,  
The result  
Of those acres that they sold  
To help you  
Reach your goal.

Would she share with you,  
The drugging scent,  
Of the Sepalika blooms,  
In the backyard  
Of your inheritance—  
Your simple village home.

Or would she long  
For the strident call  
Of telephones,  
Blaring horns,  
Neon lights—  
The life she left behind.

Too late now,  
To think of might-have-beens,  
These two  
Of unfamiliar worlds  
Your Mother  
And your Wife.

The one Slaking your thirsts,  
The other  
The mainstay of your life—  
There mustn't ever be Divided Loyalties.

## LORRAINE.

## FOR THE RECORD

# At The Next Elections

There are 8.1 million voters on the electoral register today—an increase of 1.5 million from the number entitled to vote at the 1977 general elections. The 1981 register which has been certified will be used if an early presidential election is called. Meanwhile the Elections Commissioner Mr. Chandrananda de Silva has determined the number of MPs to be returned from each of the 22 electoral districts. Under this determination required by the Constitution, Moneragala will gain one seat and Polonnaruwa will lose one from last year's number. These determinations are based on the number of voters in each electoral district according to the latest certified electoral register. In the polls chief's latest determination the number of MPs to be returned by each district as follows: Colombo District 21; Gampaha 17; Kalutara 11; Kandy 12; Matale 5; Nuwara Eliya 6; Galle 11; Matara 9; Hambantota 7; Jaffna 11; Vanni 5; Batticaloa 4; Digamadulla 6; Trincomalee 4; Kurunegala 16; Puttalam 7; Anuradhapura 7; Polonnaruwa 5; Badulla 8; Moneragala 4; Ratnapura 10 and Kegalle 10.

## THE MIRACLE

### MORE ABOUT THE TELEPHONE

*In last week's issue we had a note dated August 14 that TRIBUNE's telephone had miraculously started working on August 11th through an act of kindly Ministerial intervention. From the 11th to the 14th (Saturday) the phone functioned as it should although there were back-ground noises and sounds will every call.*

*We do not know whether the phone was alright on Sunday 15th, but when office opened on Monday 16th it was again dead. Once again from other telephones we reported to Faults, Engineers etc. etc. This time we were told "a card has been written" and the next day (17th) the angels turned up once more. Then the phone worked for 10 minutes and it was dead thereafter. The angels came again and said something about "underground cables" and disappeared. Even we go to press, the phone is still dead.*

*What do we do now?*

August 24th

## MINISTRY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT HOUSING AND CONSTRUCTION NATIONAL WATER SUPPLY AND DRAINAGE BOARD

### GREATER COLOMBO WATER SUPPLY IMPROVEMENTS TENDER FOR THE SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF MECHANICAL AND ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT AT AMBATALE CLEAR WATER PUMP STATION AND KOLONNAWA BOOSTER PUMP STATION CONTRACT NO. 14

1. The National Water Supply and Drainage Board, of the Ministry of Local Government Housing and Construction, the executing agency of the above project, invites sealed tenders for the supply and installation of mechanical and electrical equipment for the Ambatale clear water pump station and Kolonnawa Booster pump station. Tenders will be accepted only from tenderers located in countries which are members of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and Switzerland.

2. This tender provides for the supply and installation of 3 No. clear water pumps, 4, No. Booster pumps, valves, pipes, fittings travelling bridge crane and other accessories. The clear water pumps shall be of split case centrifugal type set in vertical position with a drive shaft and electric motor mounted on the upper floor. The booster pumps shall be of horizontal shaft, split volute constant speed type. The capacities are as follows:—

	Number of pumps and Motors	Capacity in m <sup>3</sup> /hr	Total delivery head in M
a.	3 Nos.	636	45.0
b.	2 Nos.	303	18.3
c.	2 Nos.	676	25.0

3. Tenderers should have experience in the type of work for which tenders are invited and should furnish proof of such experience before Tender Documents are issued to them. Tender Documents will be issued in the names of Principals/Manufacturers only, and **not** in the names of the accredited local agents when such local agents apply for Tender Documents.

4. Tender Documents will be available for inspection or purchase on normal working days of the Board between 9.00 A.M. and 2.30 P.M. at the office of the Deputy General Manager (project) National Water Supply and Drainage Board, Ratmalana from 1st September 1982 onwards and up to the closing date.

5. A set of documents (3 copies) may be obtained on payment of a non refundable fee of Rs. 1000/— or U.S \$ 50/- to the National Water Supply and Drainage Board. Additional sets of the Tender Documents may be obtained by tenderers on payment of a fee of Rs. 500/—per set.

6. Foreign tenderers who wish the Board to dispatch the documents by post to them should forward in addition air mail Charges amounting to Rs. 2000/—per set of documents.

7. Tenders will be received by the Chairman, Tender Board, Ministry of Local Government Housing and Construction, Transwork House, Colombo 1, Sri Lanka up to 10.00 A.M. on 1st December 1982.

8. Tenders will be opened at 10.15 A.M. on 1st December 1982 at the Ministry of Local Government Housing and Construction, Transworks House, Colombo 1. Tenderers or their accredited agents may be present at the time of opening of tenders.

9. Tenders should be valid for 120 days from the date of closing of Tender.

10. Any further particulars may be obtained from the Deputy General Manager (Project).

**N. D. Peiris**  
Chairman

National Water Supply & Drainage Board,  
P. O. Box 14  
Mount Lavinia,  
Sri Lanka.

**August 8 - 14****DIARY OF EVENTS IN SRI LANKA  
COMPILED FROM DAILY NEWS-  
PAPERS PUBLISHED IN COLOMBO**

CDN—Ceylon Daily News; CDM—Ceylon Daily Mirror; CO—Ceylon Observer; ST—Sunday Times; SO—Sunday Observer; DM—Dinamina; LD—Lankadipa; VK—Virakesari; ATH—Aththa; SM—Silumina; SLDP—Sri Lankadipa; JD—Janadina; SU—Sun; DV—Davasa; DP—Dinapathi; CM—Chinthamani; WK—Weekend; RR—Riviresa; DK—Dinakara; EN—Eelanadu; IS—Island; DI—Divaina; IRDP—Information Dept. Press Release

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 8:** President J.R. Jayewardene said on Friday that there will be elections soon, and that he was confident that the UNP will emerge the winners. The Survey Department and the Sri Lanka-Swiss Satellite Imagery Project Center for Remote Sensing have brought out a map demarcating the forest coverage of Sri Lanka for the first time in the department's 182-year history; the map shows that 16,318 square kilometers of the total land mass of 60,610 square kilometers is covered with forests; this works out to 24.9 percent—*SO*. Six districts in Sri Lanka with two million inhabitants, will benefit from a health and population project which the Asian Development Bank (ADB) is supporting with a US \$ 9.3 million concessional loan; the Districts of Mullaitivu, Batticaloa, Kandy, Kegalle, Nuwara Eliya, Ratnapura, Matara and Hambantota have been selected for this project—*ST*. Valuable foreign exchange has steadily been drained over a long period of time by a highly organized ring which has been utilising the passports of unsuspecting Lankans seeking employment in West Asia to carry out a multimillion rupee racket; members of the ring who pose off as sub agents for job agencies are found to have used the passports surrendered by the applicant to draw large sums of foreign exchange as basic and business allowances for purpose of travel abroad. Ministers have been authorised an additional entertainment allowance of Rupees 500 each. Over a lakh of rupees was paid as compensation to those who lost their lives during the previous year in West Asian countries; these have been monies received from the employers of these people, by the Ministry of Labour in collaboration with the employment agencies both here and abroad—*WK*. Vigilance and Peace Committees are to be formed throughout the country on a directive President J.R. Jayewardene, to prevent the outbreak of any form of violence during the politically-sensitive months ahead—*IS*. 81 lakhs, forty five thousand people have become eligible to vote in the next Presidential and Parliamentary elections. The first woman Government Agent is to be appointed for the Ratnapura District—*CH*.

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**MONDAY, AUGUST 9:** The Agriculture Department will try out a salt tolerant strain for paddy BW 266-7 developed at the Bombuwela Research Station in Mutturajawela, next month. The licences of 26 employment agencies have been cancelled by the Commissioner of Labour following complaints by job hunters, a Labour Department spokesman said. There has been a vast improvement in the use of fertilizer during the first six months of this year, mainly due to improved weather conditions Mr. Rajah Kuruppu Director of the National Fertilizer Secretariat said yesterday—*CDN*. A non-political trust fund was established yesterday to assist in the socio-economic progress of the Sinhala community; called the Sinhala Subasadaka Sanwidana Trust Fund, it has been set up for the benefit, welfare and advancement of persons of the Sinhala race resident in Sri Lanka or overseas. The Mahaweli Project, which will be completed around 1990, will be able to irrigate one million acres of paddy land and thereby provide employment to several millions, said the Minister of Finance and Planning Mr. Ronnie de Mel, when he addressed a large gathering at Ingiriya on Saturday, after he declared open the 300th branch of the People's Bank there—*CDM*. Sri Lanka, a one-time chairman of the Non-aligned Movement is facing a difficult problem about the next Summit of the movement scheduled to be held in less than one month in war-torn Baghdad. Security forces in the north have once again been placed on a red alert for a possible terrorist strike; the order for a state of military preparedness followed a threat on police or security forces similar in nature to the one at Nelliaddy where four Police officers were killed—*SU*. Educational television programmes scheduled to be telecast at the start of the schools' third term has been put off by another six months and will now begin only in 1983—*IS*. Officers in Charge of Police stations and Assistant Superintendents of Police of the respective areas will themselves inquire into crimes committed in the respective areas and also carry out secret investigations; an order to this effect has been issued by the I.G.P. Mr. Rudra Rajasingham—*DP*.

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 10:** Prime Minister R. Premadasa visited the areas affected by the disturbances in Galle yesterday morning and promised both Sinhalese and Muslims that the government had taken all necessary steps to restore law and order and that the law enforcement officers would remain there until everything was put in order. The Maithripala group of the SLFP has had talks with both the LSSP and the CP about a common anti-UNP candidate for the presidential elections, a party spokesman said yesterday—*CDN*. President Jayewardene in a television address via satellite from Colombo to the second UN Conference on the Exploration And Peaceful Uses of Outer Space in Vienna, said that the developing countries will not be satisfied with remaining mere spectators to the march of progress in Space Science and Space Technology—*CDM*. The controversial young lawyer S.C. Chandrasenan is being actively considered by the

Tamil United Liberation Front for the vacant Vaddu-koddai seat in Parliament, political sources said yesterday; the seat fell vacant following the death of T. Thirunavukkarasu, last week. India and Sri Lanka have reached accord on the exchange of data and closer cooperation for the exploration of petroleum resources in the Park Straits; the exercise will be undertaken by the Ceylon Petroleum Corporation and India's Oil and Natural Gas Commission. A committee of inquiry will be appointed shortly to investigate the acts of violence in Galle recently and to suggest measures to prevent such incidents in future, Prime Minister R. Premadasa revealed yesterday—*SU*. Political functions and the image building of Ministers should cease and all officials should carry out their duties without giving any thought to elections that may be held shortly, the Minister of Lands, Land Development and Mahaweli Development Gamini Dissanayake said, addressing his officials at the Operations Room of the Mahaweli Authority recently. Security personnel in the North are now grappling with a new problem in the form of parcels that appear to be bombs but have been found to be harmless objects; security personnel who rush to the spot where suspected bomb parcels are found discover that the parcels are in effect dummies; three instances have been recorded in the last ten days where security forces alerted to mystery parcels have found them to be dummies—*IS*. Fifty seven Tamil and Muslim families who were living in houses almost 100 years old entered into occupation in houses yesterday with all facilities; they were allocated houses in the Housing Scheme at Abdul Hameed Street in the Colombo Central Electorate yesterday—*DP*. The CWE will sell Bombay onions and Masoor dhal. A kilo of Bombay onions is Rs.13/- and a kilo of Masoor dhal will be Rs.20/25—*DV*.

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 11:** The Government Press has completed printing 8.6 million polling cards for the parliamentary elections; these were despatched to the Elections Commissioner on Friday, Government Press sources said yesterday. Mr. Bernard Soysa, the general secretary of the LSSP, yesterday denied the *Daily News* report of August 10 that his party and the Maithripala group of the SLFP had discussed the presidential elections. The Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna led by Rohana Wijeweera has written to all opposition political parties canvassing the idea of fielding a common independent candidate without any party labels to contest President J.R.Jayawardene at the presidential elections—*CDN*. Government MPs will be able to voice their opinion on the Third Amendment to the Constitution when the Government's Parliamentary Group meets on August 19; an official spokesman said yesterday that President J.R.Jayawardene will explain to MPs the significance of the third amendment and government plans for the forthcoming Presidential polls. A special envoy of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein told the President J.R.Jayawardene yesterday that Iraq would not insist on next month's Non-aligned

Summit being held in Baghdad, if countries in the Movement agree to hold it elsewhere. Colombo's Chief Magistrate Keerthi Wijewardene yesterday remanded hijacker Sepala Ekanayake till August 12 under the provisions of the Offences Against Aircraft Act—*CDM*. Uma Maheswaran and Prabakaran the Liberation Tiger leaders have given an assurance that their feud will not resurface in India again; this was done in the presence of party leaders and their counsel. Measures to ensure the effective working of Government machinery and the smoother implementation of on-going development projects during the forthcoming Presidential elections will be worked out by the Government shortly. The presence of 6,500 Sri Lankans in Lebanon has now been established by the Red Cross—*SU*. Representatives of the Nava Samasamaja Party and the Lanka Samasamaja Party yesterday agreed on fully supporting Dr.Colvin R. de Silva as the common Presidential candidate of the anti-UNP forces—*IS*. Government has made provision for people employed in foreign countries to invest their monies in profitable enterprises; a separate section had been formed in the Bank of Ceylon to assist in such investment and to give advice; this branch situated at Galle Road, Colpetty will operate under the name of Sri Lanka Merchant Bank—*VP*.

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 12:** President J.R.Jayawardene yesterday appointed Mr. A.C.Alles, retired Supreme Court Judge as a one-man commissioner to probe the recent violence in Galle, Mr. Anandatissa de Alwis announced after the weekly meeting of the Ministers. The Ceylon Petroleum Corporation has been granted approval to build SPBM (Single Point Buoy Mooring) offshore; this is a facility which will enable large tankers to come in close proximity to Colombo harbour and discharge crude oil which will be passed through pipe lines along the seabed across land to the refinery. On the recommendation of President Jayawardene as Minister in charge of Power and Energy, Cabinet approved the award of a tender for a diesel power station project for Sapugaskande; the tender is in a sum of Rs.906.5 million and was awarded to Messrs Alstrom Atlantique. Cabinet yesterday approved amendments to the Finance Act to give legal effect to complete state corporations to conduct their affairs rationally. Lt.Col.L.E.Oscar de Livera, Sri Lanka's Ambassador in Pakistan, died of a heart attack in Pakistan on Tuesday night. He was 62—*CDN*. Sri Lanka is nearly self-sufficient in rice; at 2 measures per head per week for 2 meals for 15 million people, allowing 15 percent for wastage, the total requirements per annum was 118,125 million bushels of paddy; the total production in 1981 was 106,845 million bushels; this was said by Mr. Ranjan Wijeratne, Chairman, Agricultural

Development Authority at a Press Conference at the A.D.A. Headquarters—*CDM*. Six youths, heavily armed with revolvers and machine guns broke into the Jaffna Education Department at 2 a.m. last morning; the men threatened the watcher at gun point, entered the store-room and record-room, and removed a typewriter and rotary duplicating machine valued at Rs.22,800, Police said—*SU*. A Sinhala Welfare Organisation Trust Fund to meet the needs of the Sinhala community and to extend its benefits to other communities was formed recently under the leadership of the Minister of Justice Mr. Nissanka Wijeratne; a sum of Rs.2.5 lakhs was pledged at the inaugural meeting and the total collection of the fund is expected to reach Rs.2,000 million in another 20 years. If the opposition parties decided to put forward a common candidate to defeat the UNP in the forthcoming Presidential Election his party would support it, leader of the SLFP(M) Mr. Maithripala Senanayake said addressing the first election meeting of the SLFP (M) held at Layards Broadway Junction, Grandpass on Tuesday evening—*IS*. The Ceylon Electricity Board recently received approval from President J.R.Jayawardene to reduce the surcharge for small commercial consumers all over the country from the existing rate of Rs.120 to Rs.40 a month with immediate effect—*CO*. Vehicles proceeding to Jaffna from Colombo and those going to Colombo from Jaffna were stopped at the Murikandi junction at the same time and the goods in the vehicles were taken away by two gangs of twenty persons on Tuesday night; in the struggle that ensued during the robbery eight people were injured by swords and have been admitted in the Mankulam, Kilinochi and Jaffna hospitals in a critical condition—*VK*.

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 13:** The Criminal Investigation Department (counterfeit division) has bared a massive racket at the dutyfree shopping complex at Kollupitiya, involving several lakhs of rupees, a CID spokesman said; he said the racket involves the forgery of travellers cheques, passport, customs endorsements and the use of irregularly endorsed travellers cheques. Industry in Sri Lanka is profiting substantially from the kerosene oil subsidy which has been largely intended to cushion the poor against the high cost of living. A team of experts from Cuba will arrive here shortly to advice the Government on the cultivation of citrus—*CDN*. The Police are investigating into the organized holdup of vehicles on the Colombo Jaffna road near Murukandi, last Tuesday night—*CDM*. A massive 1.3 billion rupee package deal for exporters has been approved by the Export Development Council of Ministers presided over by President J.R.Jayawardene; the Ministers on Wednesday unanimously agreed that the measures contained in the deal should be given effect in the

government's sixth budget due to be presented in Parliament in November. Government revenue for the first five months of this year recorded a fourteen per cent increase over the revenue earned in the same period last year. Government expects the private sector to import at least a 1000 buses under the Lump Sum Depreciation scheme, Transport Minister M.H.Mohamed said yesterday—*SU*. A roundtable conference of seven opposition parties is to take place next month to select a joint candidate for the forthcoming Presidential elections; the meeting, convened by the Communist Party is to be conducted under the terms and conditions drawn up by the SLFP (S)—*IS*. Travellers' cheques are being sold at high prices and some are being stolen. Due to this valuable items are being bought by the people at the duty free shop; the CID is now investigating into this matter and they say that this racket has been going on for some time now—*DV*.

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 14:** A case is being made for a second dutyfree shopping complex to be located at Reclamation Road, Colombo where a foreign property developer is completing a high investment project. Selvarajah Yogachandran alias Kuttamani and Ganesanathan Jeganathan alias Jegan accused of murdering a police constable were yesterday sentenced to death by the Colombo High Court Judge Tudor de Alwis—*CDN*. A special envoy from Iran arrived in Sri Lanka yesterday with a message from the President of Iran to President J.R.Jayawardene; Sheik Al-Islam flew into Colombo on a special flight yesterday afternoon; he is the Political Deputy Foreign Minister of Iran—*SU*. An appeal will be submitted to the Appeal Court of Colombo against the verdict of the High Court sentencing Kuttamani and Jegan to death for the murder of Police constable Sivanesan. Notices have been pasted on walls in the north giving details of the eleven persons wanted for terrorist activities in the north; a reward of Rs.25,000/- to Rs.100,000/- will be given to those who give information the notice says—*DP*.

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WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

## August 8 - 14

AS/A

**INDIA:** Visiting French Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson discussed bilateral issues with his counterpart in India. As a protest against a Press Bill passed in the Bihar Assembly journalists decided to boycott the Indian Parliamentary Sessions for a day. Iranian Majlis Speaker said in New Delhi that his country would

be happy to see the venue of the next Non-aligned summit shifted to New Delhi from Baghdad. Iranian Majlis speaker said his country was demanding a free passage through Iraq to Lebanon to free the PLO guerillas as a condition to end the war with Iraq. **PAKISTAN:** Foreign Secretaries of Seven South Asian nations decided at a conference to recommend the convening of a Foreign Ministers' Conference next year. President Zia will undertake an official visit to the US in December next. President Zia said that he would announce the framework for a new Islamic Government in a year. **SAUDI ARABIA:** Saudi Arabia has responded favourably a Moroccan call for an Arab Summit on Lebanon. **IRAQ:** Iraq has finally agreed not to insist on holding the September summit of the Non-aligned countries in Baghdad. **IRAN:** Iran has sent several delegations to canvass non-aligned nations not to accede to Iraq's request to hold the 7th Non-aligned Summit or the Foreign Ministers' Conference in Baghdad. Former Iranian Foreign Minister Qotbzadeh appeared before military tribunal charged with plotting to overthrow Iran's Clerical Government. Defending himself without the aid of a lawyer, the former foreign Minister agreed to have involved in a plot to rid the Government of fundamentalists but denied that he ever thought of killing Khomeini or overthrowing the Republic. **ISRAEL:** Israeli planes continued to pound PLO camps inspite of the political negotiations conducted by Philip Habib. **SYRIA:** Palestinians residing in Damascus staged a demonstration and attacked the US and Jordanian Embassies and shouted slogans outside the Saudi Arabian embassy. **LEBANON:** Syria, Jordan, Sudan, North and South Yemen and Tunisia have agreed to afford shelter to the PLO guerillas. Iraq has also agreed to accept all the PLO's without any conditions. **SINGAPORE:** Premier Lee said that the economic boom days for Singapore was over and a sharp slide would begin very soon. In an article in a trade houranal Singapor's Premier Lee has welcomed professionalse from other countries to work in Singapore, but he was against Singaporean professionals leaving for Canada, Australia and the US. **PHILLIPINES:** Opposition political parties have called for the retirement of President Marcos and have warned the public that martial law may be proclaimed at any time. **TURKEY:** Armenian guerillas killed three police men and an American woman.

**UNITED KINGDOM:** Mr. Neville Sandalson, a prominent Jewish Member of Parliament criticised the Israeli Premier Begin for his attacks on Western Beirut and said that he had led "his people into a morass of worldwide odium and ignominy". A report

of the Minortiy Rights Group exposed Britain's folly of spending millions to safeguard Falklands whereas it has secretly ejected nearly 1,800 people from Diego Garcia to serve the interests of US military needs. Major Elliot of the International Institute of Strategic Studies said that Israel has failed to achieve her ambition of wiping out PLO resistance. A sympathy strike in support of health workers by Electricians compelled Fleet Street newspapers to shut down their publications on Wednesday. **WEST GERMANY:** In order to boost co-operation with the poorest community of nations Germany will send out a team of 75 German volunteers. They will train people in the developing and least developed countries on craft trades, health services and rural development. **AUSTRIA:** a UN-sponsored Conference on The Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space is being held now in Vienna. The third world countries have appealed to member states to refrain from activities which would lead to arms races in the outerspace.

#### AFRICA

**LIBYA:** The OAU meeting ended in a fiasco as some members of the organisation failed to turn up. There was a split over the admission of the Polisario guerillas into the Unity. Besides countries like Morocco also do not favour Col. Gadaffi hosting the Conference. **SOUTH AFRICA:** In retaliation for a shooting down a South African helicopter, South African forces pushed into southern Angola and killed nearly 113 SWAPO guerillas. Mr. Fourie, the chief negotiator on Namibian independence denied all reports that Pretoria and SWAPO were about to sign a ceasefire agreement.

#### AMERICA

**CUBA:** The Cuban President had called for the Conference of Non-aligned Ministers to consider a new venue for its September summit. **ARGENTINA:** British warships in the 180 mile zone around Falklands had been intercepting Argentinian fishing boats and were either ordered or escorted out of the area. A high level Soviet official team visited Argentina. Argentina was keen to have the Falklands issue taken up at the forthcoming UN sessions. **MEXICO:** UNESCO sponsored International Cultural Conference called for the return of the works of art illicitly obtained by other countries. It also called for the presentation of respective cultural identities, espicially that of Bantu, Palestinian and Namibian. **UNITED STATES:** Mr. Thomas Foley, a US Congressman warned that the US pipeline sanction would be a foreign policy disaster to US. Israel apologised to the US and said that its forces would not harass US helicopters helping Philip Habib men in Lebanon. The US Senate passeg

a resolution authorising the use of US troops to prevent any Cuban aggression. The US would grant an amnesty for illegal immigrants who had lived in the US for more than five years. **UNITED NATIONS:** The UN Security Council adopted a Soviet-sponsored resolution calling Israel to lift all military blockades to allow UN ceasefire observers to move in and end all military actions in Lebanon.

## THE FOREIGN SCENE

CHINA

### Before The Party Congress

By Kunhanandan Nair

This article was written before the Reagan Administration had agreed on August 16 to restrict arms sales to Taiwan and to drop the two-China policy. Reagan has thus climbed down and proclaimed a one-China policy stance conceding that it was China's prerogative to resolve its problem with Taiwan as an "internal matter." And as a quid pro quo China has agreed that limited arms could be supplied to Taiwan for sometime longer.

RIISING OUT OF A SERIES OF FAILURES, IDEOLOGICAL CONVULSIONS and inner-party struggles are shaking China on the eve of the 12th Congress of the Communist Party (CPC), opening on September 1 in Beijing. Ten years since the Shanghai Communique of President Nixon and Premier Chou En-lai (February, 1972), there has been a period of "opening up" China to the West. Its disastrous consequences are now being realised at least in the Chinese media. A study of the Beijing press in the past one year will show that the Chinese are increasingly worried over the harmful effects of the open door policy of the past years. They relate the havoc played by the influx of American "tourists" and "modernisation" with Western aid. The contact with the West has "let in" bourgeois ideas that are corrupting the Chinese people." admitted one Chinese diplomat, who was only reflecting the warning given by the official Beijing weekly Digest, a sister publication of the People's Daily, the Party and State organ. A "Digest" article last June admitted that "the influence of a decadent capitalist ideology on certain people, the ideological poisoning it causes and the

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pollution it produces in the social mood are now much greater and most serious than in any previous period." The article says there were ideological attempts to "blur the distinction between Capitalism and Marxism," but blamed it on "external reactionary forces" and Western ploys like academic and scientific exchanges and foreign radio broadcasts. The fact that all these are bitter fruits of the opening up of Chinese society, after closing it to fraternal Socialist States, was, however, not admitted by the media. Observers say there won't be any self-criticism at the 12th Congress over these ideological questions.

SINCE ESTABLISHING DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS with Washington, large number of Chinese students without proper ideological grounding were sent to the US and other Western countries for technical and "modern" education. They included children of high-ranking Communist leaders for example, the son of party Deputy Chairman Deng Xiaoping was studying at the University of Rochester. **It is now said, most of the young people returned "brain-washed" with capitalist ideology, and some did not come back at all. The defection of China's premier women tennis player 19-year-old Hu Na, during the international tournament in California, and ready US asylum for her, insulted and angered Beijing.** In April last, the Government barred children of high level Government and party officials from going abroad for studies. The Ideological Department of the Central Committee of the CPC has to set up a new "reorientation course" for two months for students returning from the West to cure the effects of capitalist brain-washing. Exposure of Chinese society to Western culture and economy. It is also the main reason for rampant corruption in the party and State machinery. The official campaign is now based on the chauvinist theory that "corruption is not basically Chinese and would not exist but for foreign influence." The recently dismissed Deputy Minister for Chemical Industries, a senior Communist, Jang Yibang, was charged with making lavish trips to the Western, capitals, accepting bribes, obtaining Belgian and Japanese visas through his business links in Hong Kong without the knowledge of the Government, and incurring colossal losses by selling large consignments of petrochemicals to enable his Hong Kong business friend to pocket a 400,000-dollar profit. During the ten years of the Shanghai Communique, China issued thousands of visas to Americans and Western journalists, research workers, technical advisers, teachers and the like. Many of them were agents of the CIA and other secret intelligence-gathering agencies. **Now, the Chinese Army paper Liberation Army Daily, warns that enemy spies are disguising themselves as legal visitors, and that secrets are being sold by the Chinese who are eager to get foreign goods like tape-recorders, transistors and watches.**

SINO-US RELATIONS have now reached the lowest watermark since the Shanghai Communique. An

article in Beijing's People's Daily, accused the United States of "continued interference in Chinese affairs," and revived the verbal threat of downgrading relations if US arms sales to Taiwan were not stopped. The official statement is noteworthy: "The US reluctance to discard its policy of intervention in China's internal affairs has exposed Sino-US relations to the danger of retrogression, and will give rise to serious consequences. **It is now charged by a section in the party, that the liberalisation that followed the modernisation drive in agriculture in widening the gap between the rich and the poor in the countryside undercutting Socialist principles. Discontent is spreading in the villages. There is criticism that Deng's reforms are helping capitalism to thrive.** Deng's plans to abolish Mao's system of rural communes have been fiercely opposed by the "ideologically orthodox and the old guard" who attack the reforms as "rightist" "bourgeois" and "anti-Socialist," while Deng's propagandists have denounced them as "enemies of modernisation." So far, Deng, was able to disband only about 100 rural communes out of the 52,000 formed by Mao throughout China.

Pre-Congress discussions have also noted failures in modernisation of industry. China has no adequate infrastructure to support the vast investment for giant projects with Western credit and technicians. Shanghai harbour was choked with imported machinery which could not be moved. Deng had to cancel an order to Japan to build an ultramodern steel plant. There are no indications however, that Deng Xiaoping, who is still the policy-maker, has changed his ideas of forging a China-US-Japan, NATO axis against the Soviet Union. Last week, China withdrew its invitation to Japanese Education Minister Heiji Ogawa to visit Beijing in September, on a serious row over revision of Japanese textbooks to play down its occupation of China. Stepping up its attack on Japan for rewriting history, the Beijing press published many photographs showing execution of Chinese civilians by the Japanese Army in 1937. It revived memories of the past, like the "rape of Nanking," in which more than 200,000 Chinese were massacred by Jap soldiers. Now it is uncertain if the September visit by Japanese Premier Zenko Suzuki to mark the 10th anniversary of the Sino-Japanese diplomatic relations will take place at all in this atmosphere of revived national outrage against Japanese militarism. Recent trends in Chinese criticism of the US and Japan are on specific issues of conflict, and do not represent an ideological shift. Chinese and US instructors continue to work together to bolster the counter-revolutionaries in Afghanistan; Beijing, with the US still is the backbone and underwriter of the Pol Pot gangsters of Kampuchea; hostility to Vietnam is continuing, and the present Beijing leaders are unwilling to sign agreement with the Soviet Union.

—Blitz

MAURITIUS

## And Diego Garcia

By Joseph Lelyveld.

*Port Louis, Mauritius:* As far as the Defence Department in Washington is concerned, the costly military staging area it has built in the Indian Ocean on the tiny Island of Diego Garcia is held under an ironclad lease that will not expire until 2025. As far as the new leftist government that was swept to power in Mauritius in the June 12 election is concerned, Diego Garcia ought to be recognized as Mauritian territory. The new Foreign Minister Jean-Claude de l'Estrac, said as the landslide results poured in that Mauritius would soon seek to open talks on the subject. It is possible that United States will beg off on the ground that it is only the tenant and cannot speak for the landlord. The landlord is Britain, which once administered Mauritius and Diego Garcia, about 1,200 miles away in the Chagos archipelago, as if there were parts of a single territory. Diego Garcia, which is only 11 square miles even with its runways for B-52 bombers extended over the water, was the archipelago's main populated island in the colonial period, when its economy was apparently limited to a single coconut plantation. **The labourers have served to keep the question of Diego Garcia alive on Mauritius. Nearly all of them moved to Mauritius between the time the coconut plantatoin failed and the first construction crews arrived to pave the island for the US Air Force.**

KNOWN AS *Les Ilois*, the Islanders in the Creole dialect that is the closest thing to a common language in this polyglot nation, they have been in Mauritius for a decade, living in overcrowded shanties of corrugated iron near the harbour where they compete for part-time employment. On an island where joblessness is so prevalent that there is even a union of unemployed college graduates, few of the *Ilois* have managed to secure a steady income. Their only real economic asset is their refugee status. British diplomats make the point that none of the inhabitants of Diego Garcia was forcibly relocated to Mauritius to make way for the base and that the failure of the coconut plantation was the main cause of expatriation. *Ilois* say that is not the whole story. Louis Onazime 56, said he managed to eke out a living in fishing and coconuts for six years after the plantation failed. He moved to Mauritius in 1972 after the British stopped bringing in food and medical supplies by ship. In what might be construed as tacit acknowledgement that they had something to do with the plight of the *Ilois* after all, the British have

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sought three times to arrange a "full and final" financial settlement. Two years ago, in an attempt to soothe Mauritian sensitivities, Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher made a vague commitment in the House of Commons that the Chagos archipelago would be handed over to Mauritius when there was no longer a threat to peace -- meaning it seemed, in the next century after the US lease ran out. But the question of the *Ilois* was never quite closed.

THE FIRST "FINAL" SETTLEMENT was in 1972 when the British government turned over to Mauritius about \$ 1.5 million for the welfare of 420 families -- about 1,600 people -- who were known to have remained on Diego Garcia after the plantation closed. Six years later, after Mauritian political groups started campaigning on behalf of the *Ilois*, it was discovered that the government has sat on the funds and the refugees had received nothing. It was also discovered that the number of those proclaiming themselves *Ilois* had more than doubled, to 942 families. Soon after the first funds were distributed the British found it advisable to offer a second settlement of more than \$ 3 million. Last year they raised the offer again. They proposed a \$ 7.25 million trust fund for the *Ilois* as long as the Mauritian government contributed \$ 2.8 million worth of land for settling the families. No one, least of all Britain, has advanced the argument made on behalf of the Falkland Islanders that the *Ilois*, who now number 4,000 have a right to remain under British rule if that is their wish. Agreement on the new offer was worked out in negotiations in London with representatives of the former government of Sri Seewoosagur Ramgoolam of the dominant party in the new Cabinet, the Mauritian Militant Movement and of the *Ilois* themselves. **Paul Berenger, who is considered the driving force in the winning party, said on the eve of the election that the movement would pass the necessary legislation for the agreement as one of its first acts in power -- as long as it was understood that Mauritius was not relinquishing its call to Diego Garcia.** The movement which says it is closely linked to the French Socialist Party, promised in its election campaign to keep the United States and the Soviet Union at arm's length. It vowed to stop letting superpowers use the harbour for warships. At the moment, the one tangible connection between Diego Garcia and Mauritius is the biweekly flight of a US C-141 carrying some of the 330 Mauritian labourers employed at the base under contracts signed by the former government. The new government has pleaded to end the flights as well as the contracts when they expire in March. —J.H.T.

BREZHNEV

## Meets Husak

*Prague:* The USSR and Czechoslovakia do not intend to shun mutually useful economic relations with capitalist states. Yet neither can they fail to draw conclusions from activities of US imperialist circles who are resorting to a sanction and boycott policy. Under such conditions, the USSR and Czechoslovakia consider it of paramount importance to develop further economic relations within the socialist community. In this regard, much importance is being given to the forthcoming summit on economic problems. This was stressed at a meeting in the Crimea by Leonid Brezhnev and Gustav Husak who exchanged opinions on current foreign policy questions. But leaders felt that the USA did not respond to the bold initiative of the USSR which committed itself not to use nuclear weapons first. At the talks on disarmament, the USA and its NATO allies are taking a onesided, absolutely unrealistic stand, trying to weaken the Warsaw Treaty countries and change in their favour the existing approximate balance of military forces. Leonid Brezhnev and Gustav Husak also noted that the more complicated international conditions are, the more symbolic and meaningful the significance of the Helsinki Final Act becomes. It was signed at summit level by leaders of 33 European countries, the USA and Canada. The successful completion of the Madrid meeting, above all, hopefully, a decision to convene a conference on confidence building measures, security, and disarmament in Europe, could become a befitting confirmation of the Helsinki spirit.

*The USSR and CSSR most resolutely condemned Israel's criminal aggression against sovereign Lebanon and the Palestinian people, just as Washington's open complicity with Tel Aviv.* There are no, nor can there be any, Middle East settlement along the road of Israel's annexation of Arab territories and a genocidal war against the Palestinian people, along the road of separate deals and trickery. It was declared at the meeting that the Earth must be peaceful; such are the vital interests of all nations. And it is the immediate duty of responsible political leaders to stop the dangerous aggravation of international tensions, to turn internal developments back to detente, and to fortify confidence between countries with different social systems.

—CETEKA

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## Brezhnev - Honecker

*Berlin, August 12:* Leonid Brezhnev met the GDR leader Erich Honecker yesterday. They first discussed questions of bilateral importance regarding increased cooperation between the two countries. Economic cooperation between the two countries, it was reiterated, had continued to develop and great progress had been achieved in such fields as microelectronics, robot construction and chemistry. Both countries along with other interested socialist states were formulating plans to develop science and technology and to introduce modern techniques in industrial and agricultural production. *Both leaders stressed that the international situation had continued to deteriorate to an alarming extent.* The US administration had announced a "crusade" against the socialist camp. This included ideological subversion psychological warfare trade sanctions and a further acceleration of the arms race, a violation of contractual relations and rejection of a constructive dialogue. Relying on their strength, the US leaders seemed intent to dominate the international scene and to dictate in an arbitrary manner to other countries and peoples. It was not surprising that the aggressive and warlike policies of the US government had caused increasing concern among responsible political circles in the world, even in the USA itself. The development of the international situation in many respects depends on the relations between the European countries belonging to different social systems. Europe had become the cradle of detente and even now it can give new, strong and lasting impulses to this process. The two sides held that the FRG could play a clearer role in solving the problems of European security, its neighbourly relations with the socialist countries are being seriously threatened by the plans to station hundreds of more American missiles on West German soil. The Soviet Union has made repeated efforts to initiate negotiations with the US on the limitation of nuclear armaments in Europe and strategic armament as a whole. The Soviet proposals at these negotiations opened up a real opportunity to considerably reduce armaments. The Soviet Union reaffirmed its readiness to free Europe from all types of nuclear weapons, that means achieving a real zero option. The GDR fully supported the constructive approach of the Soviet Union to the questions of disarmament. *The USSR and the GDR expressed their solidarity with the Arab people of Palestinian, with Syria, with Lebanon, with all victims of the Israeli aggression.* They

emphatically condemned the bloody crimes of Israel which enjoyed Washington's direct support and approval. The aggressor must be called to order and forced to implement the UN Security Council resolutions. Both countries pointed out that the foreign policy of the People's Republic of China was regrettably still directed against the common interests of the socialist community. From the Chinese side there were still no signs of an interest in a normalisation of the relations with the socialist countries. The Soviet Union and the GDR drew the same conclusions from this. Yet, if China renounced its present policies it could create the pre-requisites for an effective participation of the People's Republic of China in the struggle against war for the consolidation of world peace, and they would be in line with the vital interests of the Chinese people itself. The meeting between Leonid Brezhnev and Erich Honecker took place in a fraternal atmosphere and was marked by identity of views on all issues under discussion—ADN.



A POSITIVE TURN IN

## USSR-EGYPT TIES

*Moscow:* The assassination of Egyptian President Anwar Sadat last year and the return of Soviet technicians to Egypt marked the beginning of improved Soviet-Egyptian relations. Egypt's direct condemnation of the Israeli invasion of Lebanon was applauded by Moscow, which sees the current President of Egypt Mr. Hosni Mubarak, as taking a position almost diametrically opposed to that of late Mr. Sadat. But judging from their responses, the Soviet authorities perceive Mr. Mubarak as aiming to bring Egypt back into the Arab camp while maintaining its "link" position between the Arab world and the United States. A terse note of condolence on Sadat's death and a "cordial" welcome to Mr. Mubarak sent by Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev marked the beginning of the new turn in Soviet-Egyptian relations. *Pravda* said in February that the Egyptian people wanted "the socio-economic and political changes made by Mr. Mubarak to continue. The Soviet press highlighted the new government's contacts with the Egyptian opposition, the dropping of charges against those accused of "conspiring for the Soviet Union" and "noted" the end to Sadat's support for foreign investment in the country. By then Mr. Mubarak was speaking of the "inevitable" return of the Soviet diplomatic staff, although he had signed their expulsion order as Sadat's Vice-President. He also announced Egypt's willingness for

the Soviet technicians to return. *But the new Egyptian President drew a political line on the renewed ties. The Soviet Union "at this point has nothing to contribute to a peaceful solution to the West Asia conflict", he had said. The reply Moscow gave was that Cairo's foreign and domestic policies "have not undergone substantial changes, because the legacy of Sadat has not ended".* But the Kremlin seemed to realise that President Mubarak's chief goal was to ensure that nothing got in the way of Israel's return of the Sinai peninsula according to the Camp David agreement, even as he hoped to move back into the Arab camp. On the other hand, Cairo sought to increase its role in the Non-aligned movement, but its close relationship to Washington was an obstacle, so it found closer relations with Moscow convenient as a balance.—IPS.

## TRIBUNE

### Agricultural Digest

WORLD BANK SAYS

## Agriculture is Key to Growth

*Washington, August 15:* The vast majority of developing countries that have achieved rapid growth in agricultural development have also experienced fast overall economic growth. Conversely, where progress in agriculture has been slow, so too has development in general. This is among the principal findings of the World Bank's "World Development Report, 1982," to be made public August 16. The evidence is now overwhelming that countries neglect agriculture at their peril -- indeed, that a rapidly developing agriculture is a necessary condition for economywide structural transformation and industrialisation, Bank officials told reporters in an overview of the report. The 1982 Report -- the fifth in a series -- draws in extensive operational experience over the past 30 years to document the Bank's claimed linkage between agricultural growth and economic development. For example, the report shows, in 17 of 23 developing nations that experienced agricultural growth in excess of three percent a year during the 1970s, Gross Domestic Product (GDP) grew at an average rate of more than five percent a year. Over this same period, eleven of 17 countries with agricultural growth of one percent or less a year failed to achieve three percent GDP growth. There have been

cases where fast GDP growth was accompanied by sluggish agricultural performance, Bank officials concede. But these exceptions were primarily in oil or mineral-based economies -- such as Algeria, Ecuador, Morocco and Nigeria. Primarily because of technological innovations, agricultural production over the past three decades has increased at twice the rate of earlier periods, the Report points out. For all its achievements, however, the so-called "Green Revolution" has failed to reach many parts of the world. And although agricultural output in the developing countries as a group grew as just under three percent a year in the 1960s and 1970s, it barely kept ahead of population growth. *Farm production per capita rose at only 0.4 percent a year over the two decades, the Report shows. But the average conceals sharp differences among major regions of the developing world, among individual countries within each region and among areas within each country. Growth in output per capita in the 1960s and 1970s ranged from 1.4 percent a year in Southeast Asia to 0.6 percent year in Latin America and to little or nothing in the low-income countries. In South Asia -- with unprecedented advances in plant breeding, fertiliser use and investments in irrigation -- agricultural production just about kept pace with population growth. By contrast, output per capita in Africa grew at 0.2 percent a year in the 1960s but actually declined by 1.4 percent a year in the 1970s. Given proper incentives and the means to take advantage of them, the Report says, farmers in developing countries will invest in agriculture and expand output to meet the needs of rising populations.*

THERE ARE SEVERAL THINGS that farmers cannot do on their own, the Reports adds, and that therefore require public action: (a) Research and technology need to be developed further and adapted to local conditions that vary from country to country. Particular efforts in this respect are needed to boost productivity in humid and arid conditions, such as those in sub-Saharan Africa; (b) simply-conceived rural development projects need to be designed that effectively involve local farmers in their planning and execution; (c) strong rural institutions, particularly Land Reform that assures security of tenure, are needed to promote agricultural growth; (d) major investment in irrigation, transportation and marketing networks are needed. The World Bank report cautions against the use of subsidies to promote agricultural growth. "New practices that offer high economic returns are rapidly adopted by farmers, even without subsidies," it notes. "And once instituted, subsidies are politically difficult to lower or remove." All too frequently the report concludes, it is government macroeconomic policies, rather than those that apply narrowly to agriculture, that give rise to inadequate incentives. "A common failing is overvalued exchange rates, which reduce the prices that farmers receive for exported crops and, at the same time, make it cheaper to import agricultural products," Bank officials explain. "The exchange rates thus exert per-

vative downward pressure on the prices received by farmers. Bringing exchange rates into line with actual conditions in markets is critical for appropriate agricultural pricing."

THE REPORT IS CRITICAL of agricultural protectionism in the industrial countries. "By insulating domestic producers and consumers from external market realities," it says, governments are placing the burden of balancing global supply and demand on a relatively small part of the market. Since it is disproportionately the developing countries who participate in the open world market, they have to bear the bulk of this burden. Removing such distortions would increase incentives to farmers in developing nations and stimulate more rapid overall economic growth, because so many developing countries still rely on agricultural exports, the Report maintains. While many poor countries have proclaimed agriculture and rural development to be the cornerstone of national development plans, Bank officials point out, most developing nations have allocated only about five to ten percent of their government budgets to agriculture in recent years. To help remedy that situation, concessional aid from industrial nation donors has more than doubled in real terms, reaching about 10,000 million dollars in 1980. Most of these funds have gone to low-income countries, where there has been little foreign private investment or lending for agricultural development in recent years—U S / S

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## MARKETING

# Agricultural Produce

Last week we published an extract from a memorandum on "Marketing of Agricultural Produce" circulated by Mr. R. D. Banks of Forbes & Walker Limited in July 1970. This week we publish a further extract and the concluding part will appear next week. The real roadblock in the way of a quantum jump in agricultural production is marketing and a way must be found in terms of the concrete situation in Sri Lanka to overcome this—Ed.

PROFESSOR J. W. PURSEGLOVE in his book "TROPICAL CROPS" DICOTYLEDONS "(1) and (2) describes in some detail well over 100 species of tree or plant which have been growing in tropical climates under varying conditions. Every one of the crops mentioned is of some use to man, some more than others, and all but a few are bought and sold for some purpose or another everywhere in the world.

The variety of crops suitable for planting in this country is enormous, as are the uses for which they can be grown. They cover a vast spectrum of the needs of man which enable him to live, the raw materials by which to clothe himself, his medicines, the ingredients for essential household preparations such as soaps, food for himself and his livestock, and even luxuries or comforts such as beverages, including tea. They provide lubricants for delicate industrial machinery, colour dyes for paints and clothing, oils for cooking, pulp for paper, delicate perfumes and insecticides. Some require processing, to bring them to the point where they can be used; others can be used as they are grown, or stored to provide the reserves for hard times. In addition to the crops discussed in these volumes, there are other plants such as those that provide flowers for decorative purposes, grasses which provide essential oils for perfumes and soaps, "weeds" which yield poisons, narcotics and useful drugs. For all there is a price provided they are delivered in a usable form.

**II. The Form :** Agricultural products are marketed in four forms (a) Dried products; (g) Processed products; (c) Fresh Products and (d) Preserved Products. (a) *Dried Products*: Apart from certain agricultural products which are consumed by man in this fresh state such as fruits, vegetables and some of those which are processed for perfume and oils, practically all cultivated crops are dried before they can be marketed, either by natural or artificial means. Drying removes unwanted moisture, which causes chemical bacteriological and fungus damage to (and even destruction of) the product, inhibits good storage and prevents the goods from reaching the consumer in a form or quality which he can use. Dried products, are easier to handle, pack, store and transport; for the most part they occupy less space and are lighter in weight than if they were allowed to retain the water that is part of their original content. Because of these factors, drying a crop after it has been harvested simplifies marketing and reduces the cost and the task of getting the product to the consumer in an acceptable form. (b) *Processed Products*: Most agricultural crops have to be processed beyond their fresh state of simple drying so that they can be used for the purpose of which they are cultivated. For example wheat into flour, oil seeds for the oil they yield, fibers into yarn and so on. Thus, between the cultivator and the ultimate consumer a secondary industry often exists, and one that is essential to the producer for the successful marketing of his crops. Other crops can only be processed at site since crops with a bulky natural state/low property yield ratio and those which must be processed fresh from the field so as to obtain the maximum benefit from their cultivation, would be wholly uneconomic if dealt with in any other way. These include some of the essential oils, like those of Lemon, Citronella,

Patchouli and Citrus. They also include those that are grown for their juices like Passion Fruit, Citrus, Pineapples and Tomatoes. (c) *Fresh products*: A great variety of Agricultural Products must be marketed in the state in which they are harvested for consumption by man or animal. The marketing of fresh products is a specialised field and requires a highly efficient transport and sales system so that these products can reach the consumer before they deteriorate through natural decomposition processes. Refrigeration has gone a long way towards overcoming the problems in the marketing of fresh products, but refrigeration is a costly operation although it assists in providing the consumer with the article in an acceptable form and reduces the wastage which otherwise often makes the cultivation of fresh grown products an uneconomic proposition. (d) *Preserved Products*: The difficulties inherent in the marketing and storage of fresh agricultural produce, have led to various techniques designed to preserve various types of fruit and vegetables in a form which as near the "fresh" state as is possible. As a result we have, jams, tinned foods and hydrated vegetables or fruit. From the foregoing, it is clear that whilst agricultural products are required in many different forms, and for a wide variety of purposes, the form in which they are presented to the consumer is all important to the success of their cultivation—equally so is the Price at which they are made available.

**III. The Price** : Agricultural produce is either grown, or it is not. Likewise it is either wanted or it is not. To some this may sound a remarkable way of opening my comments on price, the third basic element to the marketing of Agricultural produce, but the price of all commodities depends almost solely on supply and demand, in conditions where free trade exists. A surplus in stock forces the producer to sell what he has grown at any price or dig it back into the ground, but on the other hand short supplies force the consumer to pay through the nose to keep his own production line growing. Low prices for one crop force producers to look to other crops where prices seem more attractive, but in changing from one crop to the other, they may be unwittingly creating a shortage in the product they have discarded, and a surplus in the one they have just put down. Fortunately not everyone can change easily from one crop to the other, but were it possible to do the produce markets of the world would be very much more erratic than they are. Price is all important to both the cultivator and the user of his product. The consumer will only pay what he can afford to pay, otherwise he will start to look for alternatives, and likewise the producer will only grow a crop which gives him a return for his labour.

*To be concluded...*

## PHEROMONES

# To Control Paddy Pest

By Mangal Sain, and Dr. M. B. Kalode, AICRP  
Hyderabad

PHEROMONES are a class of message delivering chemicals (Semi-chemicals) produced by insects and other animals. They form the basis of chemical communications among insects and serve a variety of purposes. Of the several types of pheromones, sex pheromones are the most important ones which are synthesized in specialized glands and released into the air by one of the two sexes to attract the opposite sex. Studies carried out during the sixties and seventies had brought out the chemical structure of a large number of pheromones and their synthesis is now feasible. Synthetic pheromones are available for more than 100 insects of agricultural importance. Besides the synthetic pheromones several analogues called para-pheromones are also available which are much more powerful than the natural pheromones. Also are known anti-pheromones which counter the natural pheromones to nullify their action. **The use of pheromones in insect control features several advantages over other methods.** Pheromones are species specific and they do not cause any harm to other organisms. There are no chances of residual toxicity or environmental pollution involved. It is reported to be economical since mass production of pheromones is being done at competitive prices. Pheromones can also be used in Association with other methods of control involving biological and chemical and cultural methods since these are highly compatible with them. In view of increasing cost of chemical control, development of insecticidal resistance encountering problems of pest resurgence and secondary pest outbreaks and development of biotypes capable of overcoming varietal resistance, increasing attention is being paid towards the use of pheromones for the control of insect pests in rice. *The existence of pheromones communication is reported in the case of stem borers, leaf folders, climbing cutworms, case worms and gall midges. While synthetic pheromones are available only for striped stem cutworms, case worms and gall midges. While synthetic pheromones are available only for striped stem borer, Chilo suppressalis and cutworm Mythimna separata studies are being made to isolate and synthesize pheromones of yellow stem borer, Scirpophage incertulas and leaf folder Champalocrocis medinalis.*

AT THE INTERNATIONAL RICE RESEARCH INSTITUTE, Philippines, pest monitoring using Pheromones traps are being done for striped stem borer and leaf folder. The pheromones mimicing compounds are being tested for possible mating

disruption effects. In China, virgin females of rice gall midge are being used to monitor the population for use in integrated pest management. However, in India, no major attempt is made to use pheromones in the control of rice pests. Experiments were conducted at the All India Coordinated Rice Improvement Project Hyderabad, to test the feasibility of using pheromone for gall midge control. Standard delta sticky traps and unmated females gave very encouraging results. Only traps containing such females were found to attract large numbers of males that were trapped into the glue. In traps baited with two virgin females on an average of 24 males were caught per night while six females had the maximum catch of 125 males. However, males did not attract females into the trap. Other trap designs viz., water pan type and funnel trap were not very effective. *The height at which the traps have to be set in the field for catching the males is a very important consideration. It was observed that it would be ideal to set the traps at 60cm above the ground level or at the level of crop canopy since it resulted in an average catch of 113 males per night, whereas traps set at 120cm above the ground level could catch only one male and those cm height could not catch any gall midge male.* These preliminary findings indicate that pheromones of gall midges can be used advantageously for monitoring their population. Till the synthetic pheromones are made available, virgin females from laboratory reared culture or from field collected samples could be used for this purpose. Because under field conditions, the females outnumber the males in case of gallmidges, trapping of a large number of males should effectively check the population build up. The mass trapping method of the males in gallmidges appears to be a feasible approach in devising integrated pest management system for this pest.—Yojane.

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GREAT POTENTIAL

## Snail Farming

**Snails, the slow-moving Mollusc, dubbed as the foe of the gardener in the tropics have been a widely accepted table delicacy in some countries. These soft-meated animals are served as a luxury food in high-class restaurants as also consumed as cheap food by poorest rural folks in parts of West Africa, Andes and Europe.** Though mostly a localised trade, consumed around their place of occurrence, snails have also reached international markets both as live snail and as prepared edible product. Snails are good proteinaceous food, with high moisture content. The protein content is about 13%, ash content

about 2% and fat accounts for about 1%. Its energy value is about 80 calories/g of flesh. *During recent years there has been considerable interest in the possibilities of farming snails, especially in Italy and France, according to an article in "Span" an international agricultural journal sponsored by the Royal Dutch Shell Group of Companies, England.* The recent surge of interest is attributed to the declining supply and like in price of snails collected from the wild, changes in agriculture and social conditions and also to the demands of the transformation industry, which finds the erratic supply of wild snails unsatisfactory.

WHILE SNAIL FARMING has not yet spread to other parts of the world, the studies carried out on *Achatina achatina* in Ghana suggest that this species could be farmed says the article. There are two important types of snail farming—the part life cycle farming and complete life cycle farming in the first category, the snails are gathered from the wild and held in paddocks to improve in quality or value. In the latter type, they are bred on the farm itself. Also some time in the past snails were obtained as a by-product of some kind of arable farming. Active snails of the species, *Helix pomatia* and *Helix aspersa* are reared in paddocks as partial cultures in Italy, until they are fattened. Part life cycle farming is however restricted by the local nature of the demand and the relative difficulty of farming the species concerned, but the prices received are very worthwhile, it is pointed out. In the by-product snail production, which is almost extinct now, extremely stony lands were ploughed and planted with cereals. Abundant broadleaved weeds that smothered the cereal crop provided rich food for the snails and the well ploughed land provided plenty of crevices for the local species. *Helix aspersa* to pass their winter.

*Tens of kilos of snails used to be got from the cereal stubbles and they were stored in saw dust until required for eating. Complete life cycle farming is a new development, where the snails can be expected to multiply at a fairly impressive rate and to reach marketable size in about two years. The snails are provided with suitable food and shelter plants in the farm area and conducive soil and moisture levels are maintained for higher outputs. They are also well protected against natural pests and predators. As yet there are very few full time farmers taking up the complete cycle snail farming, but there are several thousand part-timers in Italy, France and some in other countries, mention the article—Hindu.*

**There is no reason why snail farming cannot be made a lucrative industry in Sri Lanka especially for export. Our snails, like our prawns, must be as good as any in the world—Ed.**

## From Tamarind Leaves

REGIONAL Research Laboratory, Jorhat, has demonstrated successfully the process for production of tartaric acid from tamarind leaves to M/s. Karnataka State Forest Industries Limited, Bangalore at the Central Food Technological Research Institute, Mysore. Tamarind leaves contain 4 to 10 per cent of tartaric acid depending on location of tamarind plantation and the quality of the leaves. The tartaric acid has wide application in pharmaceutical and food industries. At present the entire demand of our country of over 500 tonnes per annum is being imported. The conventional process for its manufacture is as a by-product from wine industry. But, in our country very little wines are produced, therefore it is not possible to exploit this source. However, an alternate source for the production of tartaric acid is tamarind leaves. The process know-how package has been transferred to the Bangalore-based company. Karnataka State Forest Industries Corporation Limited has already initiated the procurement of the site of the proposed factory at Gottipura. In the first phase, the factory will produce 100 tonnes of tartaric acid per annum. It is expected that the factory will go into full stream within the first quarter of 1981.—*Yojana*.

U.S.A.

## Dairy Exports

The value of U.S. dairy product exports rose by almost 150 percent in 1981, reaching a record \$ 253 million, according to the U. S. Department of Agriculture. The major exports: nonfat dry (powdered) milk, butter, fresh milk and cream, and evaporated milk. Mexico, Poland, Egypt, Somalia and Upper Volta were the major recipients of nonfat dry milk. Large quantities of butter were shipped to New Zealand (100,000 metric tons) and Poland (30,000 metric tons.) The majority of the milk and cream exports went to Mexico and the Bahamas. As in previous years, nonfat dry milk exports continued to be the largest category, both in value and quantity. *USICA*.

SATELLITES

## Can Help Agriculture

Remote sensing data collected by communications satellites could greatly help in the development of agriculture in the developing countries. This opinion was expressed by State Secretary Hans-Hilger Haunschild, head of the delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany, to the second United Nations Con-

ference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, now being held in Vienna. Mr. Haunschild told the conference that the German Aerospace Research Establishment had already established a centre for collecting, processing and evaluating remote sensing data. High priority would be given there to co-operation with developing countries to help them cope with their problems. To serve this goal, the Federal Republic plans to arrange, jointly with the Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO), a seminar for remote sensing experts in 1983. State Secretary Haunschild added that the Federal Republic was convinced that communications satellites would assume a key role in the development of reliable and communication networks, not only for densely populated, developed countries but also for the development of large, sparsely-populated states with predominantly agricultural regions—*FRG Bulletin, Colombo*.

## TRIBUNE DEVELOPMENT FORUM

SPC AND JEDB  
BANK LOANS

## The Way Out

We publish below a note prepared by a group of finance and management experts on how the huge bank overdrafts that saddle the two nationalised plantation organisations—the State Plantations Corporation (SPC) and the Janatha Estate Development Board (JEDB)—can be dealt with. Last week we published an article that set out the extent of this commitment and some reasons why they had arisen. The article indicates a way in which the problem can be resolved—*ED*.

CONVERSION OF THE BANK OVERDRAFTS INTO LONG TERM LOANS: The bank overdrafts (hard core borrowings) of the SPC and JEDB in the Bank of Ceylon now aggregate to Rs. 680 million (SPC, Rs. 300 million and JEDB, Rs. 380 million). It is recommended that this be converted into a long term loan repayable in fixed monthly instalments spread over a period of ten (10) years. As regards interest, it is suggested that the same rate of interest

as is applicable to the agricultural sector viz., 13% p.a. be levied on this loan to the plantation sector. This reduction in the interest rate will not create any inflationary situation in the country nor will it seriously affect the profitability of the Bank of Ceylon.

**SHORT TERM BORROWINGS:** After converting the present overdrafts into long-term soft loans, it is necessary to provide facilities to the SPC and JEDB to obtain short term borrowings. Both Institutions are operating in a field with wide fluctuations in their production cycle. These cycles vary from season to season with fluctuations in the crop which needs short term borrowings for the financing of the working capital. It is estimated that an aggregate limit of Rs.250 billion is required by the two Corporations as short term facilities to meet the seasonal fluctuations in working capital. It is suggested that these short term Bank borrowings carry the same rate of interest (viz., 13.5%) as levied on other agricultural sectors such as paddy, coconut etc. Unlike at present, these short term borrowings should be tied up to definite repayment terms.

**ADVANCE ON SUBSIDIES FOR DEVELOPMENT:** At present the Tea Board grants subsidies for development programmes such as factory development, replanting, infilling, crop diversification etc. These subsidies are paid after the work has been completed. It is suggested that an advance against the subsidies be given half yearly to the Corporations on the basis of their approved programme of work and within the budgetary provisions of the Tea Board. These advances would be set off against the subsidy claims. No new advances should be given until the settlement of the earlier advances. The two Corporations should be required to fund these advances separately and utilise them exclusively for the purpose for which they are given and not divert it for any other purpose.

**ELECTRICITY TARIFF:** At present the electricity tariff for the two plantation Corporations are based on the industrial tariff rate. As tea is an agricultural crop and a lower tariff operates for the agricultural sector, it is suggested that the tariff applicable to the agricultural sector be extended to cover the tea industry as well.

**GRANTS FOR DEVELOPMENT:** In areas which are not covered by the projects financed by Foreign Agencies, the subsidies paid for the development are inadequate to meet the full cost of development. In such situations, it is suggested that the Government provides the differences between the actual cost and the subsidy received. This would be voted as an annual grant by the Treasury.

**INTERVENTION AT THE AUCTIONS:** Prices at the Colombo Auctions are subject to violent fluctuations.

When a major buyer like Iraq is active in the auctions, the prices move up, when such a big buyer does not operate, the prices tumble. In such situations, it takes time for the market to adjust itself to the international price levels. It is therefore suggested that some Government agency (e.g., Consolexpo or Colombo Commercial Co. (Teas) Ltd., intervene and purchase teas for trading purposes whenever the prices at the auctions tend to be unduly depressed in relation to international price levels. Any loss incurred by the two Institutions (Consolexpo and CCC) as a result of this intervention should be borne by the Treasury. Any profits from such operations should likewise accrue to the Treasury. The Tea Board could administer this Market Intervention Scheme in consultation with the two Government Trading Agencies and Treasury.

**TEA PRICES AT REMUNERATIVE LEVELS:** Sri Lanka can do very little to improve the international price of tea which depends largely on global supply and demand. However, two factors could be adjusted to increase the producer price viz., (1) Exchange Rate and (2) Export Duty. An adjustment of exchange rates will have repercussions on other sectors of the economy. The reduction of Export Duty will have budgetary implications to the Treasury. Of these two alternatives, it would appear that the more feasible solution is an adjustment of duty. It is therefore suggested that in order to make the two Corporations viable, an appropriate reduction of duty or a rebate of the duty should be granted to create a favorable producer margin.

**COST CONTROL:** All the steps suggested above to increase the liquidity and profitability of the two Corporations will be nullified if effective cost control is not exercised by the two Institutions. It is therefore imperative that the two Corporations must enforce financial discipline and not allow the costs to swallow up the margins. Among the measures suggested for cost control are: (a) Exercise strict budgetary controls and stringent economy; (b) Elimination of surplus staff by retrenchment. This should apply to all grades wherever there is a surplus. Most of the surplus staff are in unproductive grades such as Watchers. The Carders of Watchers on estates should be examined and brought back to the level that existed prior to nationalisation; (c) Any further recruitment of check roll labour should have the prior approval of the Regional Board and such recruitment should be reported monthly to the Central Board; (d) implementation of an Incentive Scheme to increase the productivity. This should apply to all categories of employees from the

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Superintendent to the Labourers; (e) Daily records should be maintained of the movements of all vehicles on the estates. The records must be examined monthly by the internal auditors; (f) Strict control of purchases by estates to prevent stock build up on estates. A levy of interest on the excess stocks carried on estates should be imposed to discourage the Superintendents from carrying excess stocks. This interest levy should be set off against the incentive payable to the Superintendents (g) Effective internal checks and control should be adopted to prevent thefts of teas from factories.

If the above recommendations, including the cost control measures are implemented, it would enable the two Corporations to earn profits. It is suggested that the entirety of the profits generated by the two Corporations should be syphoned off to the Consolidated Fund of the Treasury as the operating surplus results directly finances provided by the Treasury and Other Government Agencies. It is further suggested that in order to maintain an effective control over costs, a Committee should be set-up consisting of representatives from the Treasury, Presidential Secretariat, Tea Board and the two Organisations to monitor the operating costs on a continuing basis.

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AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

## Chairman Ranjan Wijeyaratne's Review for 1981

In 1981 the Authority extended its activities to a further 33 electorates. The total number of electorates co-ordinated by the Authority at the end of 1981 was 85, which covers 17,184 square miles equivalent to 10,997,920 acres, with a population of 7,036,779 comprising 1,125,518 farm families. The task of setting up the organisation to undertake co-ordination of activities in the agricultural sector with Government Departments, Corporations, State Banks and Ministries, has been both gigantic and onerous. I am happy to state that initial problems were overcome due to the sagacity and discreetness on the part of the persons chosen for this co-ordination effort, to work with a degree of understanding with the several agencies in the Sector. In the Agricultural Sector, through the various arms of extension, inputs, credit, irrigation, price support schemes, marketing etc., it has been possible to create a sound infrastructure to motivate farmers to increase production and consequently their earnings and quality of life. As stated in my Review for

1980, the Authority continued to activate farmers, as well as officials connected with the development of agriculture. A degree of discipline as well as motivation among farmers and officials has been achieved and. I am now satisfied that farmers as well as officials are showing an awareness of the need to be more disciplined and to cultivate crops on scientific lines to achieve better results. **I am glad to report that the ADA as a co-ordinating organisation, is becoming progressively acceptable to the other Public Sector Departments and Organisations. This has, to a large extent, contributed to what has been achieved.**

IRRIGATION, which forms a vital part of agriculture, has been subjected to neglect in the past. Such neglect is apparent even in the manner irrigation as well as the Engineers are now making a determined effort to repair and reconstruct the damage caused to irrigation facilities over the past two to three decades. *I am glad to state that we have been assured of their fullest co-operation in dealing with problems relating to irrigation. Once storage and management of water is organised, the country could look forward to more plentiful food supplies.* Once again I am compelled to hark back to the problems of **marketing agricultural produce.** Reference my remarks in the previous review, the progress made in the marketing sphere has not kept pace with agricultural production, resulting in severe losses to farmers. As an example, I wish to quote an instance where, in Matale, in the course of my visit in August 1981, the tomato growers pleaded with me assist them in disposing of their crop, as private traders were offering rock bottom prices, exploiting the glut conditions that prevailed. In that instance, I was able to arrange with the Commissioner of Marketing to purchase the surplus tomatoes for processing, paying a reasonable price to the farmers. Several instances of this nature arise frequently and it is particularly so when seasonal crops come to be marketed. *Arrangements should be made to store or preserve such produce, for disposal during lean periods. Food processing is about the weakest arm in the agricultural sector. This aspect should receive immediate attention.* There is already a Floor Price Scheme for 12 varieties of produce, which insures the farmer against a breakdown in pricing. The Price Support Scheme has encouraged the farmer a great deal and the production of Subsidiary Food Crops has increased meaningfully.

**COMPLETE RELIANCE ON PADDY** could put the nation in jeopardy. Paddy growing requires large quantities of water and in the event of seasonal rains falling, the consequences may prove disastrous. Furthermore

it is now becoming apparent that there is a change in the dietary habits of Sri Lankans as other varieties of grain, tuber and root crops progressively enter the diet charts of the people. Sri Lanka has been a heavy consumer of wheat flour and with world prices for this commodity continuing to increase, consumers are looking to alternative commodities. Locally grown grains and pulses are nutritious and should be well within the purse of the average consumer. *The large scale cultivation of soya, gingelly, groundnuts, other cereals and pulses, whilst supplementing the diet of the nation, will also contribute to providing animal feed which would help develop animal husbandry on a more intensive scale. Having met such local requirements, any excess could be disposed of in world markets, as there is a ready demand for these commodities.*

GOVERNMENT has as one of its major goals, the weaning away of the country from food imports. Towards the achievement of this objective, policies have been adusted to avoid dumping of imported food which, it is now appreciated, has been the bane of the Sri Lankan farmer since the nation achieved independence. The immediate target has been to intensify production in the area already under cultivation. The main commodities benefiting from this approach are, paddy and subsidiary Food Crops. Rice being the staple diet of the people, is of prime importance. Some 30 of the cultivated land area is in paddy and a fillip to this crop will have a tremendous impact on al large sector of the population on whcn income, welfare and quality of life are dependent.

THE AUTHORITY has in it's areas of operation with the co-operation of other Government Departments and Organisations, contributed substantially towards the goal of self sufficiency in rice. There has been a progressive improvement in production since 1976, despite unfavourable weather conditions experienced. Rice production figures are as follows :

	Total Crop Million Bushels	Yield per Acre Bushels
1976	60,034	44.9
1977	80,387	48.8
1978	90,665	56.8
1979	91,886	53.3
1980	102,237	56.3
1981	106,845	58.1

These figures not only indicate an increase in total annual production, but also show an increase in yield of 13.2 bushels per care between 1976 and 1981. The other main thrust on the food front has been to

encourage and increase the producti n of Subsidiary Food Crops such as coarse grains, millets, root crops and legumes. Here again production figures have registered substantial increases.

## WIND POWER

### For Railway

Tokyo : As part of an energy saving drive, Japanese Railways has built a windpower station to generate electricity for lighting, heating and cooking at its watch-house at Shimizu Pass. The power station comprises a 10-metre iron pole with a three-blade propeller and a power generator with an output of three Kw per hour. The watch-house, situated 460 metres above sea level, formerly depended on desel engine generation using oil supplied by helicopters—IPS.

## WITHOUT COMMENT

### Birth Control Canadrd

TRADE AND SHIPPING MINISTER LALITH ATHULATHMUDALI yesterday nailed the canad that family planning activities in the country was gradually leading to the majority Sinhala population a minority. He pointed out that in 1946 the Sinhalese constituted 64.9 percent of the population. In 1981 they were 74 percent. The minister was speaking a a meeting of the parliamentary group on population at the deputy representative of UNFPA was also present. He said that at a seminar organised by the Plan Implementation Ministry in 1980 leaders of all political parties represented in parliament had pledged their support for the national family planning effort regardless of political ideology. He stressed that in Sri Lanka family planning was voluntary. There was no compulsion whatever. The government was committed to provide family planning information, educate the people on the implications of population growth on their living conditions and provide the necessary clinical and contraceptive services. It is up to the people to decide whether they wish to accept those facilities, the Minister said.

HEALTH MINISTER RANJITH ATAPATTU said that the primary objective of the family planning program was to improve the health of the mother and child and thereby improve the living conditions of the people regardless of their ethnic and religious composition. The family planning Programme was being conducted with the support of many agencies and organisations. The message had already reached all corners of the country. The program would in no way alter the ethnic balance of the country.

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## TRIBUNE SPORTSCOPE

### SPOTLIGHT

## • Premadasa • Rugger • Cricket • Athletics

PRIME MINISTER RANASINGHE PREMADASA has not only the knack for getting things done but is also at hand to help a worthy cause. And he has done it again. This time the lucky beneficiary is the Kandy Municipal Council. The KMC will receive Rs. 1 million from the Urban Development Authority to develop the Bogambara Stadium. It was only recently that the good Prime Minister realising the chaos and disintegration of the Sugathadasa Stadium, launched a fund to raise finance for repairing and modernising it. He received handsomely from several organisations, firms and individuals. Indications are that the Sugathadasa Stadium will soon be as good as any stadium in any part of the world. Mr. Shelton Ranaraja, Deputy Minister of Justice, and himself a sportsman of no mean repute, informed the Kandy Municipal Council of this generous gesture of the Prime Minister at meeting of the Council recently. **The Bogambara Stadium which was primarily built for the venue of competitive sports has been allowed to go into rack and ruin by being leased out to various organisations for carnivals and other events that had nothing to do with sports. The Prime Minister who is a man of deeds and not of words will certainly earn the goodwill of all sportsmen, women and sports enthusiasts not only in and around Kandy, but by everyone throughout the length and breadth of the country. The Prime Minister has piloted all projects under his care with great dispatch and efficiency and the Bogambara Stadium will also be a lasting edifice to his hard work and efficiency.**

THE RUGGER SCENE THIS YEAR has been chockful of incidents and controversies. First, it was the assulting of referees and touch-judges followed by the unprecedented move by the Referees' Society to boycott matches. Now another controversy has sprung up that of the Ceylon Rugby and Football Club (CR & FC) objecting to play

their first round knockout rugger match against Kandy up at Kandy. "ALLROUNDER" understands a request was initially made by the Secretary of the Kandy Sports Club, Sarath Soysa, that Kandy's first round game whoever their opponents are, be played in Kandy. The General Body of the Sri Lanka Rugby Football Union, studying the pros and cons of the request voted their approval. The decision to play the game in Kandy was taken with the representatives of the CR & FC also being present. *So why is the CR & FC now objecting to playing this game in Kandy?* Eight teams participated in the "A" Division Clifford Cup Rugby Tourney which was concluded recently and while the CH & FC emerged champions, the CR & FC were placed as runners up. This meant that the CR & FC had to play the first round of the knockout tourney against Kandy who were one but the last. The CR & FC must realise that it is not the done thing to agree and then back out later. They have the tradition of playing the game for the game's sake and not grumbling and growling when victory eluded them. The CR & FC must live up to that tradition and play the game. The CR & FC, I am sure, are aware of the adage that it is not the winning or losing that matters but how one played the game.

*The SLRFU which took a decision on this matter must not allow itself to be jolted by pressure groups. A decision was taken and they should stand by it. To bow to pressure will be to bring discredit and disrepute on the Union, the game and all that it stands for. Kandy's was a just request. Almost every week the Kandy pack has to travel to Colombo to honour their engagements against clubs in Colombo. They do so without murmur. Expenses are terrific. But they do not grumble because for them the game's the thing. The SLRFU must stand by its decision and see that this game is played in Kandy. It must not be forgotten that it is only Kandy that is keeping the game of rugby alive in the outstations. Dimbulla and Dickoya are not in the hurly-burly of "A" Division rugby anymore. In addition Kandy has to make do with whatever talent is available because promising ruggerites from the district prefer to join the elite clubs in Colombo. So Kandy's request to play this knockout round game in Kandy must be granted by the SLRFU.*

SRI LANKA'S CRICKET which has never had it so good, that with a tour itinerary drawn up for almost the next decade, recently had C. T. A. Schaffter and Anura Polonowita appointed as Manager and Assistant respectively for the two-week tour of India beginning September 12. Schaffter, a former Sri Lanka pace bowler fully deserves this honour. He is Sri Lanka's representative for furthering of cricket between Sri Lanka, India and Pakistan and this appointment will stand him and the country in good stead. But an interesting question is—*Why*

*an assistant manager for this short tour where funnily enough only one Test match will be played. Would not the Cricket Board have done better if an extra player rather than an extra official was picked? The Board will do well to think it over.*

"ALLROUNDER" is also wondering as to why only one Test match is being played. Certainly we are now full fledged members of the International Cricket Conference and we should have asked and insisted for at least a Three-Test series. Anyway it is no point talking it over now that arrangements have been finalised. But let the Cricket Board in the future always remember that we are now a Test playing nation and any decision taken should be in spirit. The Board, has up to the time of writing, conducted a couple of trials. Indications are that these trials did not serve the purpose it was meant for owing to fickle weather conditions. Trials do not always help to make a correct assessment of form potential of a cricket staking claims for Test cricket.

Some cricketers make use of these trials to make cheap runs. Runs must be made against good opposition and international at that. To have to score cheap runs in a trial should not make one an automatic choice for the Sri Lanka team. Several of our batsmen who had made tons of runs in domestic cricket and trails had made hardly any worthwhile contribution against international opposition. So the selectors when they pick the team to tour India must not base their selections solely on form shown at home. The first trial went to prove and underline the folly of not giving Bernard Perera a game on Sri Lanka's tour of Pakistan early this year. He showed the complete cricketer in him by notching up a hundred in the first innings and then blasting a seventy odd in the second innings. The country was made in the temperament of a Test match and when the occasion demanded, he slammed a quick seventy odd much in keeping with the demands of limited-over cricket. Those who kept him out of the game in Pakistan must certainly be hiding their faces in shame.

IN ATHLETICS it was all the sweat and toil but to no avail. This somewhat sums up the failure of the Amateur Athletic Association' to find funds to send four athletes and one official for the Second South Korean Junior Open Athletic Meet that was held in Seoul on August 14 and 15. The four athletes picked were Simonne Van Heer of Holy Family Convent, Bambalapitiya (100 and 200 metres), Deepika Rodrigo of Anuradhapura MMV (Putt Shot Discuss throw), S. A. D. Ariyasinghe of Bomeriya MV (5,000 metres) and Kapila Wijegunewardene, (S. Thomas' Mount Lavinia (Hurdles and Triple Jump). Surprisingly the official to accompany the squad

had not been named. The sad irony of it all was that trials were held and all athlete sweated it out in an effort to catch the eye of the selectors. But all their efforts were in vain because of the inability of the governing body to find the funds necessary to send the team to Seoul. So where is the incentive for sportsmen and women to take to the game and bring honour and glory to self and country?

"ALLROUNDER:

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## SNIPPETS

## World Soccer

FIFA President Joao Havelange said that the World Cup held in Spain had faced serious ticket sales problems. He told a Madrid press conference that on balance the championship had been a success, but that FIFA will make sure that in the future no private agency handles ticket sales. Havelange further said that in September FIFA would send a commission to Colombia to study the preparations there for the next world championship.

According to foreign news agencies, the FIFA executive committee recently met in session to deplore the conduct of the West German and Austrian teams in their drawn game. In a statement issued by the committee, the behaviour of both teams which damaged the authority of the 1982 world championship, was deplored and the adoption of preventive measures to avoid similar incidents in 1986 was urged.

According to foreign news agencies, Franz Backenbauer has said that he has turned down an offer to go to South Africa. He was reported by AP as saying that he will stay away from a tour of this country due to be undertaken by football celebrities since South Africa had been banished from FIFA.

Robert Robson has taken over from Ronald Greenwood as the English line up coach. Greenwood retired directly after England was knocked out of the 1982 World Cup. The chairman of the English Football Association told pressmen that Robson had been given a five-year contract. Robson who recently turned 49, has managed top division Ipswich Town for the past 13 years, during which time the team only once dropped below sixth place in the national championships and captured the 1981 UEFA cup. Robson has played for England on 20 occasions and took part in the 1958 world championship in Sweden.

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## SPORTS CHRONICLE

**August 8 - 12**

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 8:** Walkers Tours emerged champions in the annual Travel Trade *Seven-a-Side Rugby Tournament* when they beat Holiday Inn in the final by 20 points (2 goals and 2 tries) to nil at Longden Place yesterday. Kelani Valley won the *M. H. Jagathsena Challenge Trophy* for the third successive year, when they beat Dickoya by 16 points (a good a try and 2 penalties) to nil in the second leg match played yesterday at Darrawella. Dimbulla beat Kurunagala Rugby Football Club by 22 points (3 goals, 1 try) to 6 (a goal) in their *Up-country League Rugby* football tournament match played yesterday at Radella. Police beat last year's champions Shamrocks by 64 points to 56 in the *Exter Shield men's A Division basketball* final played last night at the Depot Police Courts.

**MONDAY, AUGUST 9:** The weather kept in all five *Honda Trophy Inter-Club Under 25 Limited* over matches played yesterday. Defending champs SSC, Bloomfield, NCC, Tamil Union and Air Force were the clubs to record victories. NCC beat Sebastianites. NCC 83 in 29.5 overs, Sebastianites 60 in 26.1 overs. Bloomfield beat Nomads: Nomads 76 in 26 overs and Bloomfield 78 for 5 in 26.1 overs. Tamil Union beat Saracens. Tamil Union 149 for 9 in 31 overs and Saracens 83 in 30.2 overs. Air Force beat Panaudra. Air Force 123 in 44.2 overs and Panadura SC 104 in 42.1 overs. SSC beat Police. 81 in 33.5 overs and SSC 82 for 4 in 25.2 overs. Under the new Bonus Points System introduced by the *Sri Lanka Schools Cricket Association*, Isipatana MV edged out Zahira by 185 points in an Under 17 Division II quarter final cricket match at Campbell Place, even without topping the opponents total and qualified to meet Royal B in a Semi-final.

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 10:** A hurricane 135 not out with two sides and 23 fours by Senaka Dissanayake and Asela Siriwardena 7 for 41 helped Dharmaraja beat Jaffna Central College by 9 wickets in their *Under 17 quarter final Division II* match played at Lake View grounds recently. Jaffna Central 180 all out and Dharmaraja 187 for 1. Ananda College under 15 teams entered the semi-finals of the *Junior Schools Cricket Tournament* conducted by the SLSCA. Kalutara Physical Culture Circle SC beat Kalutara Town Club by eight wickets in their *Sir Cyril de Zoysa Challenge Trophy* tournament cricket match played at the Kalutara esplanade last Saturday. Kalutara SC 52 and PKCCSC 54 for 2 dec. Maliyadeva beat Matara Rahula College by 24 runs in an *Under 15 Cricket Tournament* match played at Public grounds Kurunegala recently. Maliyadeva 99 and Rahula 75. Visiting *Lincolnshire County Sports Federation Under 16* cricke-

ters registered the first win of their tour of Sri Lanka when they beat St. Thomas College, Gurutalawa by 133 runs at Gurutalawa. Lincolnshire 235 for 1 and St. Thomas College 102 all out. Kelaniya Sri Dharmaloka MMV emerged champions at the annual track and field meet of the Gampaha Schools held at Gampaha UC grounds.

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 11:** Dharmaraja beat the *Touring Lincolnshire Schools XI* by 32 runs in an under 16 limited over cricket match played at Lake View yesterday. In reply to the Rajans 228 for 5 scored in 55 overs, the tourists were bowled out for 196 in 52 overs. Dharmaraja 228 for 5 in 55 overs and Lincolnshire Schools 196 in 52 overs. Sarath Perera of the State Trading (General) Corporation won the Triple Crown at the 4th *National Services Novices Badminton Championships* conducted by the National Services Badminton Association at the Indoor Stadium, Maitland Place. Ava Maria Convent, Negombo undisputed Girl's Schools' athletic champions, won the *Under 17 Netball and Volleyball Titles* at the Minuwangoda Educational District Championships held recently.

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 12:** Janata Estates Development Board Staff Recreation Sports Club, Dickoya, trounced Hatton National Bank Sports Club Hatton by an innings and 27 runs in a low scoring *Cricket Match* played at Darrawella. Hatton National Bank SC 34 all out and JEDB SC 92 all out. For the 15th successive year, Medicoes beat their traditional rivals Lawyers on the first innings on their *annual Cricket match* played at the Badulla Stadium recently. Lawyers 31 and Medicoes, 101. *Trinity College, Kandy*, enjoyed a highly successful season under the captaincy of *hockey* lion Roshan Rajadurai this year. Of the 8 matches played they won. 7. NCC won the Veterans (Div. II) Title at the *All-Island Inter Club Tennis Championship* and with it the *G. J. Gunawardene Challenge Shield*. Lake House Elle team defeated Punsanda Elle Team, Enderamulla in an exhibition match played at St. Anthony's grounds. Wattala, recently, Hentley's ended as runner up to Liptons in Group 2 of the *Mercantile E Division Cricket tournament*. They won two and lost one match.

**TRIBUNE - DELAYED**

Owing to an unforeseen breakdown in the printing and the delays in getting spares and effecting repairs, this issue of Tribune has been unduly delayed. The next issue too may be late, but we hope to catch up our schedules thereafter.

We regret the inconvenience caused.

TRIBUNE  
43, Dawson Street,  
Colombo 2

## Pension or Mirage?

IS IT NOT A FACT that this column referred on June 26, 1982 (Vol. 26, No. 40) to the case of one of our contributors, John B. Kumarakulasinghe (JBK) who has been fighting an uphill battle for his pension for over three years? That this is what we had said: "ISN'T IT A NEWSPAPER'S PRIVILEGE to jump from the sublime to the mundane? That below we publish a note dated June 10 from a well-known free lance journalist John B. Kumarakulasinghe? That this letter speaks for itself? That this is how the letter reads: 'Sir, I retired as a teacher from a school in Batticaloa on 1st September 1979. That is a long time ago. I wrote to His Excellency the President about my pension and his Secretariat informed me that action is being taken. Still, I am being paid a measly provisional pension. When would I get my full pension and commuted pension? Who can answer this? Can't the "TRIBUNE" help?' That there is nothing *Tribune* can do except to hope that some over worked bureaucrat in the Pensions Branch will see this note and dig a three-year-old file from some pigeon hole and do what should have been done a long time ago? That even (hard-hearted) pachyderms (bureaucrats) will be moved to tears when they examine the plight of one kept on a "measly provisional pension" for a period of three years (so far)? That the Government should do something about this, if not on humanitarian grounds, at least because the general elections are round the corner?"

THAT SHORTLY after this was published JBK wrote to us: "Sir, regarding your reference to my pension, in the *Tribune* (26 June 1982), the Director of Pensions informs me (6.7.82) that the DE/ER has not sent my Pension application. The DE/ER, did send the application to the Pensions Checking Unit, Ministry of Education on 24.8.81 (about 350 days ago) under Registered Post No. 2014 and had me informed that the pps are with the Director of Pensions. I regret the error in my letter, the *Tribune* quoted, and add that somebody in the Pensions Checking Unit, at the Ministry of Education, has only to Ring up the DE/TC and ask for (1) to confirm my 10 years' (automatic) Service Scale from 15.6.72 viz., after 19 years' service; (2) to ask the DE/ Training Colleges, for my 1962/78 Palay Addalachenai Teachers' Final Exam Results; (3) to command my pension to be based on the 10 years automatic service scale and on its 6th incremental LAST salary -- hypothetically; and (4) to ask the DE/ED to release all my commuted pension and arrears of pension. **Won't these -- my dues, come before I die?** That JBK also informed *Tribune* that he has sent 4 enclosures in one Registered cover No. 5516 on 6.7.82 to the Secretary, Ministry of Education, setting

down his grievances, and asking for ANY pension immediately and that he had also addressed another Registered letter, last month to the Deputy Director of pension -- on the relevant issues, and asking him to pay ANY Pension. ANY Pension means the legitimate at the time of retirement -- because the DE Training Colleges has *STILL NOT* sent the Results sheets of my pass to the DE/ER. I have also addressed a Registered Letter No. 5487 of 21.6.82 to the Deputy Director General of Education, asking him, to get his officers to act fast, and convey my quantum of pensions as at 1977-1979, (with retrospective countage of years) but with 1961/62 batch code. The Minister, Dr. Nissanka Wijeyeratne, agreed, I thought to help me, at least with the Real Pension, as of one with 18 years service -- but without claim on backwages. On this, or on anything relevant to this, the quantum must be fixed by the Secretary, because the DE/ER and the Director General of Education or his Deputy haven't the fiscal powers to do that. Who will now take over, Mr. Editor?"

THAT AFTER THAT JBK has now sent us a copy of a letter from the Director of Pensions dated July 28, addressed to the Secretary, Ministry of Education (with copy to JBK) on the subject *Pension of Mr. John B. Kumarakulasinghe*. The letter reads "I forward herewith a letter dated 27.7.82 from Mr. Kumarakulasinghe in regard to his pension. As he has retired with effect from 1.9.79 and it is nearly 3 years since his retirement, please take necessary steps to forward the application without any further delay"? After writing to the Director of Pensions and the Director of Education, JBK sent us the copy of the letter he had received from the Director of Pensions with this note: "Sir, you have a right to a copy of this letter, as I am convinced that it was the *Tribune* lament about my pension, that may have induced the Director of Pensions to write his letter, a few day later viz., 6.7.82". *That the case of JBK, we understand, is not a solitary instance or a unique occurrence? That it is well known that hundreds or even thousands of those who have retired have not got their pensions after years of waiting? That we have spotlighted the case of JBK only because he was in a position to inundate us with copies of his correspondence with different government departments in his quest for his pension? That from time to time sunshiny stories appear in the press that the Pensions Branch had been streamlined and that pensions were now settled over the counter without delay? That, nevertheless, to many in Sri Lanka the pension is still a mirage in this lush and green country?*

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TRIBUNE, AUGUST 28, 1982

**JUST OUT**

# **THE INDUSTRIALISED NATIONS OF THE WEST AND THE THIRD WORLD**

By

**S. P. Amarasingam**

In this study, we have set ourselves the task of examining this new methodology and strategy of the continued exploitation of the developing world. We will scrutinize the mechanics, the techniques and arithmetic of how the western governments and monopolies still virtually plunder developing countries in the same way the old colonialists had done. The new sophistication is to have a larger local elite to share some of the booty and collect the crumbs. But this does not change the exploitation of the majority of the people and the natural resources of the countries concerned.

The real question is to find out the true nature of the economic relations between the developed and underdeveloped groups of countries in the present world market economy. An effort will be made to unravel the intricacies that stem from this question. To understand the problem more clearly we will look at developments in Sri Lanka as well as some other Third World countries. But an overview of the major developing countries involved in the market economy of the world dominated by the industrial nations of the West will reveal the true character of the present confrontation between Rich and Poor countries or what is euphemistically called the North-South crisis.

**Price:** In Sri Lanka - Rs. 50 a copy plus postage Rs. 2/50.  
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