

TRIBUNE

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TRIBUNE

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CONTENTS

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR	1
— <i>Presidential Stakes</i>	
EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK	2
— <i>Credibility Gap</i>	
SHERLOCK HOLMES	3
— <i>Libyan, Coconuts</i>	
FILM FOCUS	4
— <i>Crisis</i>	
FOR THE RECORD	5
— <i>1972 Constitution</i>	
SRI LANKA CHRONICLE	9
— <i>August 15 - 21</i>	
WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF	11
— <i>August 15 - 21</i>	
FOREIGN SCENE	11
— <i>USIS: Beirut Seige; Bezhnev-Jaruzelski; Israel: Sharon: Haig</i>	
AGRICULTURAL DIGEST	16
— <i>Rice, Marketing; Turmeric: Pesticides :</i>	
DEVELOPMENT FORUM	20
— <i>Mahaweli: Electricity; Hotel Corp.</i>	
SPORTSCOPE	23
— <i>Spotlight, Chronicle, Asian Games</i>	
CONFIDENTIALLY	28
— <i>Phoney Phones</i>	

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

THE PICTURE ON THE COVER is only symbolic. It is true that great efforts are being made by Minister Festus Perera and his Secretary Anura Weeraratne to increase fish production. But there is still a great shortage of fish and prices are abnormally high compared to average earnings. We have, however, chosen this picture not to discourse on the inadequacies of fish production but for another reason. The UNP, the SLFP, the TULF and all other political parties (LSSP, CPSL, MEP, CPC, JVP, NSSP, RMP, etc. etc.) are now busy casting their nets to see how many votes each of them can get in the forthcoming presidential and thereafter the parliamentary elections. The Supreme Court has now cleared the Third Amendment and it will be on the Statute Book by the first week of September. Presidential elections are now expected in mid-October. The incumbent president J. R. Jayewardene will be the UNP nominee and the Opposition appear to find it difficult to find a "common candidate" for the presidential stakes. The UNP needs 51% of the votes cast for victory. There are eight million voters on the lists and at least six million are expected to vote. And there may be many strange results as a result of the system of preference votes. If the Opposition parties are unable to find a common candidate the absentions may be high. All these who are traditionally anti-UNP and those disillusioned with the policies, programmes and performance of the UNP may keep away from voting. The disarray and unity in the Opposition is growing more acute day by day. Even if a common candidate is found (many expect it to be Dr. Colvin R. de Silva) the abstention rate may be high. The SLFP (S) regarded as the strongest group among the Opposition parties—a claim challenged by the SLFP (M)—is confronted with many difficulties in the quest for a candidate of its own. The SLFP (S) is overburdened with internal problems. *First*, the SLFP (S) is unable to agree on a presidential nominee from its own ranks: is it to be Hector Kobbekaduwa T. B. Illangaratne or Anura Bandaranaike? *Second*, if it is not recognized as a political party "within the meaning of the Election law," its bargaining power vis-a-vis other parties will be restricted. *Third*, owing to the predictions and prejudices of Mrs. Sirimavo Bandaranaike in regard to other parties and personalities, the SLFP (S) has limited flexible manoeuvrability in negotiating with other parties. *Finally* it has no programme, concrete or comprehensive enough, to attract other parties. The SLFP (S) has only the twin slogans of (a) the restoration of Mrs. Bandaranaike's civic rights and (b) the return to the 1972 Constitution. The SLFP (S) has also hinted that if and when it comes to power private bus owners will be permitted to continue (a large number of SLFP mudalalis have done well as private carriers), but has emphasised that subsidies for essential food items would be restored. But SLFP insiders think that to avoid the problem of choosing a nominee the SLFP (S) may back LSSP's Dr. Colvin R. de Silva as the common candidate. The SLFP (M), on the other hand, has insisted that a common programme was a condition precedent for any agreement on a common opposition presidential candidate. But it has so far not put forward a programme. The CPSL has a shadow common programme and a strategy to back a common candidate, but it is not able to make any concrete headway in implementing its proposals. The LSSP has a nominee in the prestigious Dr. Colvin R. de Silva, but by itself the party cannot go very far. The CPSL and NSSP are ready to back the LSSP nominee, but the JVP is bitterly opposed to him and Rohana Wijeweera has announced his candidature. The DWC (Political Wing) has decided to support SLFP (S) if there is no common candidate. The CWC (Political Wing) has reiterated that it is for the UNP. The TULF has so far said it will not put forward a candidate. The Eelamites want the elections boycotted. A few bombs at booths may disrupt voting in Jaffna. Mr. Kumar Ponnambalam wants to run for President on the ACTC ticket if there is no TULF candidate. Such are the perspectives on the eve of the first presidential elections in Sri Lanka.

Credibility Gap

Colombo, August 30:

The Third Amendment enabling the President to call for an election once four years of his six-year term is over is now part of the Constitution. This was adopted by Parliament on August 26 by a two-thirds majority. The next morning it received the Speaker's assent. In terms of this law, President Jayewardene issued a Proclamation on August 27 that he proposed to "appeal to the people for a mandate to hold office for a further term". The proclamation enables the Commissioner of Elections to gazette nomination day. This cannot be less than sixteen days and not more than one month from Proclamation day. The Commissioner is required to fix polling day not less than one month and not more than two months from nomination day. Political sources expect that the government's desire for an early election, within the time frame prescribed by laws is likely to mean that nomination day will be in mid-September, possibly September 14 or 17 and election day a month from then. Middle October is very likely to be when the people will vote at their first presidential election.

In the meantime, the UNP party headquarters has issued a summary of a speech made by President J. R. Jayewardene at a UNP seminar on Sunday, August 22, 1982. This statement can be regarded as one of the first propaganda barrages fired by the UNP for the forthcoming presidential elections: "The 1978 Constitution introduced the new system of proportional voting which will enable the Party that gets the maximum number of votes also to have the maximum number of seats in Parliament. Prior to this from 1947 onwards it was not possible for a Party which received the maximum number of votes at an election to obtain a proportionate number of seats in Parliament. Therefore, the coming election will show results entirely different to those of the previous elections. From 1956 onwards at every election the Party in power faced an inevitable defeat. This resulted in destabilising the economic foundation of the country. Because of this it has not been possible for governments owing to instability to perform development work. The new Constitution has given stability to a Government in various ways including the new general election system. The proportional representation system of election is one of these changes. Under this system any Party will secure seats in the legislature according to the votes cast for it. Until now it was not so. If we take the voting pattern of 1947 when the UNP first contested an election, the UNP polled 751,432 votes, the LSSP was the second party which polled 204,020 votes. The

UNP having secured the largest number of votes had 42 members of Parliament and formed the Government.

"In 1952 again the United National Party polled the largest number of votes and formed the Government. It was so in 1956, though in 1956 the UNP was reduced to 8 seats and polled more votes than any other single Party. As the combined Opposition total votes were more than the UNP and thus they formed a combined government as M.E.P. This did not last long. To make it clear let us look at the results between 1960 and 1977 the votes cast particularly for the UNP and the SLFP:

Election year	Party	No. of Votes	No. of Seats in Parliament
1977	U.N.P.	3,179,221	140
1977	S.L.F.P.	1,855,331	8
1977	T.U.L.F.	421,488	18
1970	U.N.P.	1,892,525	17
	S.L.F.P.	1,839,979	91
1965	U.N.P.	1,590,929	66
1965	S.L.F.P.	1,221,437	41
1960 July	U.N.P.	1,144,166	30
1960 July	S.L.F.P.	1,022,171	75
1960 March	U.N.P.	909,043	50
1960 March	S.L.F.P.	647,175	46

"You will notice one important feature of these results. The UNP was the party that secured the largest number of votes in every election as a single Party. If the proportional system of votes existed from 1960 or earlier, it is clear that the UNP would have received more seats in Parliament than the SLFP at every election. Under such circumstances there would have been a continuous UNP Government from 1960 onwards. That would have enabled the nation to achieve rapid development and reach high international economic standards. "Under the new proportional voting system there is a difference in the electoral method. Sri Lanka is demarcated into 24 districts. In a way this could be interpreted as having 24 parliamentary electorates for the whole country. This will make it very difficult for several groups to organise into a United Front with the opportunistic and narrow aim of getting the maximum number of seats in an election. From 1956 to 1959, 1965 to 1970, 1970 to 1977 the country was ruled by United Front Coalition Governments and the results were occasions not beneficial to the nation. The above facts will prove that the worst handicap for the country's economic development has been removed by the proportional voting system. The previous election results will show that the coming election will also return the present government and achieve stability for a reasonable period in future."

The Opposition is yet to find a "common candidate." At the time of writing, five parties had indicated that they would field nominees to fight the elections- (1) SLFP (S); (11) SLFP (M); (111) LSSP; (1v) JVP and (v) ACTC.

The big problem for the ruling (UNP) party is to establish its credibility. It is a fact that the prestige of all leading political parties has been declining year by year. Young people seem less interested than ever in playing an active part in politics. Local government, especially after the introduction of the DDCs, alone retains some attraction. The obvious explanation is that the changes can still be made or prevented at the local level. It may therefore attract talent and commitment. But elsewhere? There seems to be a kind of consensus among the 18-25 year old voters that established parties were incapable of solving the problems faced. It would be foolish to dismiss these trends in thinking as nonsense, as some politicians do. This is only to delude oneself. There is no doubt that the established parties enjoy less confidence than they used to do. Loss of competence is the main reason. Competence means both ability and responsibility. It can be forfeited for external reasons, such as when responsibility is transferred elsewhere, or for internal reasons, such as when the quality of office-holders declines.

One major reason for the declining credibility is lack of contact between the MP and his constituents. Many parliamentarians now seem to think it more important to cultivate close ties with Ministry (to get things done) than have close liaison with the voters. Everyone assiduously makes contacts with the people who "count" and tells people back home how important it is to have the right contacts. Most politicians behave as though everything was under control and that problems were slowly but surely being solved, and also that there would be no possible cause for complaint if only they were allowed to remain in control. "It is most unusual for a politician not to flex his muscles and to frankly admit that he does not know enough about a subject to venture an opinion. Showing off seems to be the rule. It is a ritual, and, like all rituals, has its origins. Voters evidently expect their MP to take a stand to be virtually omniscient. They entrust to him their worries, their aggression, the protection of their interests, their hopes. Sociologists and politicians feel that one way to reduce the credibility gap is to draw the people, the voter, into the business of government and decision-making. There seem to be widespread consensus that if the parties were to call on the public to take a more level-headed look at problems and show preparedness to make material sacrifices, if that is the right term, greater rapport and understanding would be established and the credibility gap would be reduced. Parliamentarians have grown accustomed to being too undemanding of their voters who are now giving them what

they deserve for trying to fob them off with feeble arguments. If only the parties were to make greater demands on their clientele, people would then have more confidence that their elected representatives were capable by and large of coping intellectually and financially with the problems faced."

These thoughts are really applicable to parliamentarians but in large measure an Executive President has to sink or swim with his Ministers and MPs. How the President and the UNP will tackle this problem of credibility in their current election propaganda is yet to be seen. On the success or failure this campaign, the UNP's future lies.

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SHERLOCK HOLMES

Answers Readers Questions-

●Libyan ●Coconuts ●Toddy ●Free Milk

1. What has the Sri Lankan-Libyan Joint Stock Company Achieved? Why has it become the Centre of Gossip In Commercial Circles?

This company was inaugurated with much fan-fare. There are no published reports of what has been concretely achieved by the company so far. Questions have been asked whether accounts of this company with 51% public funds have come under public audit. The company has become the talk of the town because it is said that a leading personality has resigned from the Board with a scathing letter of resignation. This project had come to life with bugles and trumpets and much praise has been showered on it from time to time in the official media especially in the SLBC. But such sunshine reports have little impact on the public. But the story about the resignation of the Director (who is regarded as an asset to any organisation) has resulted in much talk in political and commercial circles. According to bazaar reports, his letter had referred to inefficiency and mismanagement, and also to the fact that the operation under the project had began to meander from the original plans. In this connection, many other questions have also arisen. Has the top echelons of Exports Promotion declined to fill the vacancy created by the resignation? Has a top ministry official who wished to resign not been able to do so? Have the credit facilities provided by the present company been withdrawn? Everything does not seem to be well with this joining Sri-Lanka-Libya venture.

2. Is it possible, as has been suggested, that with modern electronic computer systems to project the monetary advantages of the coconut producer today compared with the same individual in 1987?

This can be done. We have the costs of production of coconut for a 50 acre block and perhaps the Coconut Ministry and ADA have corresponding figures for 20 acre blocks, 5 acre and 2 acre holdings. But what are the prospects in the future for overseas and local markets? The questions that is being asked is what we are doing to promote increased export sales (apart from numerous trips/excuses for officials etc.) The marketing of coconut products, like the marketing of all other produce seems to be as much a game of blind man's buff Computer or no computer, everybody seems to be in the dark about the future prospects of the coconut industry.

3. With reference to the picture of a toddy tapper TRIBUNE used on its cover recently, is there any statement or report of the GNP benefits from toddy and spirits from coconut? I am mainly concerned with the traditional tapping areas in the Southern Coast which caters primarily for this product and I want to know how much land in the Southern Province has been replanted in the last decade? Is the slaughter tapping going on apace and how soon will this decimate the industry? Is all this not due to a lack of foreign and planning?

We have no information on this subject. Published reports and statistics do not seem to be available. Can any reader help to answer these questions?

4. Have you heard of a milk (powder) scandal in the tea country?

Yes. There is talk of what many call a scandal. It is not about milk (liquid) but dried milk powder which importers have brought into the country in vast quantities. There are allegations about stocks that disappear—stocks of milk powder given for distribution (under cover of aid to prevent malnutrition but really to get consumers to get used to particular brands.) Many questions have arisen as to how much powder given for distribution and how much of it was distributed to the children they were intended for and how much disappeared into dark and secret channels. The four million dollar question is "Who are the recipients of the benefits of this milk distribution aid programme?" This is a question that is not likely to be answered although many many people seem to be in the know.

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FILM FOCUS

Crisis

It was only a few years ago that Sinhala films were overtaking milestones in quality, with the future looking so full of promise. Quite suddenly these dreams have vanished and the industry is in the doldrums. Many exhibitors say that a new Sinhalese release has become a millstone around their necks especially to tide over one

week's hold over limit. They cannot be blamed for there has been a sharp drop in patronage and the overheads are running high. Many local film makers too are quitting for other pastures like Television films and tourism. TV too is being blamed for this sudden slump, and cinemas run empty when weekly schedules are on the TV even if the film televised has seen better years. And all this when imported are on a roaring run, at most circuits even as stop-gaps between releases. If one were to analyse this crisis logically, TV is only being made a scapegoat for a drop in quality films. While most countries have left behind the black and white genre of films, the local queues are full of them, and the strain has been heavy on Producers. This column feels that the TV challenge, if at all, could only be met by colour films and contemporary themes. To date, all colour films have paid off at the box office. The scenic splendour of Sri Lanka has been a contributory factor. This column too has often referred to the prohibitive cost of getting films colour processed abroad due to a lack of facilities here. The NFC's General Manager has however indicated that by December, the Dalugama laboratoy will be sufficiently well equipped to meet local requirements. The canard that Exhibitors were prejudiced against local films was nailed to the counter recently at a press conference by a Ceylon Theatres Ltd. spokesman that such films will receive their maximum screening hours, if only they improved qualitatively. There is yet another private exhibitor who makes no secret of the fact that his takings in *Ganga Addara*, an award winner, has yet to be surpassed by English or Tamil films.

THE LAST FLIGHT OF NOAH'S ARK (English) : This is yet another Walt Disney contribution. Two animated cartoons "Donald's Crime" (with Donald Duck) and "Alpine Climbers" (with Mickey Mouse) precede this film as appetisers. In typical Disney style, the story rolls out with a pilot (Elliott Gould), on the run from a couple of bookmakers whom he has welched, to crash into a farm where a few children from an orphanage were dong up a decrepit B29 plane, with the blessings of an attractive missionary (Genevieve Bujold), to fly a few animals to a mission in the South Pacific region. Dugan with his flight certificate comes in handy for the tricky take off, to escape from his debtors. With the missionary by his side, turning prayerfully the pages of the Bible and a couple of lats minute child-stowaways (Ricky Schraeder of "The Champ" fame and Tammy Lauren), the B29 splutters along on failing engines to be thrown off course over the Pacific with the fuel almost gone. It belly lands on a tropical island held heroically by two Japanese soldiers, whom the World War 11 has left behind by three decades. The belated peace parleys lead to all hands to the wreck of the B29, which is turned in to a boat by the engineering skill of the now friendly Japs. At sea again, with a crew of six and the small herd of animals, the patchwork ship sailed on the placid waters of the Pacific to provide an amusing and unusual sight for the kids in the audience, Maurice Jarre who

composed musical film scores for "Lawrence Arabia" and "Dr. Zhivago" does it again brilliantly, in this film too.

THE BLACK WINDMILL (English) : An Universal release which veers suddenly from an opening mood of fun and frolic by a couple of schoolboys towards a brutal kidnapping, with an espionage charged setting as its bedrock, is the core of this nail biting, tension packed story. It stars that fine actor Michael Caine who is always a joy to watch and hear, as a British Agent, on the trail of gun runners, to also rescue his kidnapped son, soothe the shattered nerves of his wife, and bust open a sinister syndicate.

EAGLES WING (English) : A refreshing Western with a difference, in panavision and brilliant photography, that should have received better patronage. This story harks back to that distant period in America, and centers around a confrontation between a crafty Red Indian chief and a persistent White rider to possess a wild stallion. It was an absorbing and kaleidoscopic treat for the patient picturegoer, while Greek stalks Greek, with pretty dames by the wayside, not worthy of a dime.

EYE WITNESS (English) : This 20th Century Fox Production took on very much more than what it could show for effective audience interest. There were dozes of the Viet Nam Spectre and Zicism that haunts Americans and hitched on to this medley is the story of a Janitor who witnesses a crime and becomes the hunted. The film introduces William Hurt as the Janitor, and being hailed as a sensational find of the eighties, to watch out, Christopher Plummer makes a classy villain in an out of charter role. All in all, the film is akin to a Curate's Egg -- good in parts only)

James N. Benedict

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FOR THE RECORD

CRM on the 1972 Constitution

Old Readers will recall that *Tribune* had contemporaneously criticised the 1972 Constitutions on many grounds. The CRM at that time, if memory serves us right, had not said anything. If they did we would know about it. It is a happy augury that the CRM has now chosen to offer some long overdue comments on the 1972 Constitution. Among many others, *Tribune* had made two "predictions" about the 1972 Constitution which may be worth recalling. First, we had said that the 1972 Constitution will compel a demand for a separate Tamil State. Within 2 years of the promulgation of the 1972 Constitution, the Tamil United Front

(TUF) became the Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF) and adopted the Eelam resolution. The second "prediction" was that the 1972 Constitution would not last a 1000 days. Though Hitler had decreed that his Nazi State should last a 1000 years it lasted less than a dozen years. In the case of the Sirimavo-Colvin Constitution, the SLFP-LSSP partnership broke up within a 1000 days and the Constitution lasted another 700 days. Do the Opposition parties seriously think that they can mobilise public support for a dead duck slogan like "back to the 1972 Constitution?" The CRM statement which we publish makes interesting reading.

—Ed.

THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT is dismayed at the call for some Opposition circles for a return to the 1972 Constitution, and for a fresh election to be held under the law which prevailed in 1977. CRM has been and remains critical of many aspects of the 1978 Constitution now in force. Its criticisms have been published. There is no doubt, however that the 1978 Constitution represents a distinct advance on the 1972 Constitution in many aspects relating to human rights. CRM feels impelled not only to point this out to Opposition parties which are now in the process of formulating their policies, but also to alert the general public to the dangers of unthinkingly advocating a return to 1972. This statement is not a comprehensive comparison of the two Constitutions. Nor does CRM at this point make any comment on the Executive Presidential form of government and the possible difficulties that could arise in the future. CRM for the moment merely highlights certain matters affecting fundamental rights and the democratic process regarding which we are certainly better off today than we were in 1972.

The Electoral system : The former simple majority ("first past the post") system resulted in 1977 in the UNP which polled 51% of the votes gaining over 4/5ths of the seats in the legislature. Nobody can claim that this situation is satisfactory. The proportional representation system introduced by the 1978 Constitution makes such disproportionate results impossible. Of course, there are many unsatisfactory features in the particular system of proportional representation chosen by the framers of the 1978 Constitution, but that is another matter. The 12% cutoff point, the bonus seats, the "party list" system which does not provide for the voter to express preferences for particular candidates within the list, the fact that the vote is not transferable, are all serious deficiencies. These defects notwithstanding, the present system will undoubtedly produce a parliament which will better reflect political popularity of the various parties among the voters. It is thus undeniably more democratic.

TRIBUNE, SEPTEMBER 4, 1982

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Minorities and citizenship : The 1978 Constitution is an advance on the 1972 Constitution in that it recognizes Tamil as one of our national languages. It also, unlike the 1972 Constitution, extends for a period of ten years, the protection of nearly all fundamental rights to non-citizens who are permanently and legally resident in Sri Lanka. In practice this means the stateless persons of Indian origin, mainly plantation workers, a group oppressed and discriminated against by successive governments since Independence.

Fundamental rights : Fundamental rights are much more comprehensively set out in the present Constitution than in the 1972 version. To give just one example, Article 11 prohibits torture or other cruel inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment. This very basic fundamental right was unaccountably just not there in the 1972 Constitution. True, there are defects, such as the perpetuation of existing laws even if they are in contravention of fundamental rights, but this was so in the 1972 Constitution as well. The 1972 Constitution, further more, made all fundamental rights subject on a host of grounds to such wide restrictions that almost any curtailment could come under the "escape clauses" so provided. The 1978 Constitution's fundamental rights are not subject to such uniform restrictions, and the grounds on which particular rights can be restricted have been stated more precisely, and more narrowly, than before.

Enforceability of fundamental rights : The 1972 Constitution did not permit one to challenge a law after it was passed by the legislature on the ground that it contravenes fundamental rights. Such a challenge could only be at the Bill stage. The Present Constitution perpetuates this highly unsatisfactory feature, thus making the "securing" of fundamental rights under both Constitutions something of a farce. However, the 1978 Constitution is an improvement in two respects. *Firstly*, it abolished the Constitutional Court, about the functioning of which the less said the better, and instead vests jurisdiction to examine the Constitutionality of Bills in the Supreme Court. This has proved very much more satisfactory. *Secondly*, it provides an important innovation, namely a special judicial procedure before the Supreme Court where a person's fundamental right is infringed by executive or administrative action. There are many defects in this remedy, most notably the extremely short time limit of one month within which the petition to the Supreme Court must be filed. Nonetheless the very existence of the special provision is an advance on the 1972 Constitution. The remedy has resulted in relief in concrete instances, notably the University Admissions case, though very many other applications, especially those alleging torture, have failed. The remedy needs to be improved and strengthened, not jettisoned.

Better securing of certain rights : The 1972 Constitution provided that any amendment, even if it contravened a fundamental right, could be passed by a two thirds majority notwithstanding such contravention. The present Constitution, on the other hand, has provided that certain matters are so basic and important that they can be changed only by a two thirds majority PLUS a referendum. This is an important safeguard of the rights of the people. The undemocratic Kalawana Bill, for instance, on which CRM petitioned the Supreme Court, was held by the Court to affect the franchise rights of the people and therefore require a referendum. Although the Government proceeded to pass the Bill by a two thirds majority, it was then abandoned and the referendum was not proceeded with. Therefore it never became law. If the 1972 Constitution had been in force, however, the Bill would have taken effect on being passed by a two thirds majority, and the rights of the people would have been irretrievably lost.

Independence of the judiciary : It is regrettable that the promulgation of the 1978 Constitution was accompanied by an astounding interference with the independence of the judiciary. All judges of the superior court, by virtue of Article 163 of the Constitution, automatically went out of office. Some were reappointed, others were not, and some new appointments were made. Security of tenure, which is the cornerstone of the independence of the judiciary was thus violated. This bad start apart, which can never be justified, the 1978 Constitution does provide safeguards for the independence of the Judiciary which were absent in the 1972 Constitution. Under the 1978 Constitution judges of the superior courts can only be removed by the President on the ground of *proved misconduct or incapacity*, after an address of Parliament supported by a majority including those not present. The Speaker may not entertain such a resolution unless it is signed by not less than one third of the members setting out full particulars of the alleged misconduct or incapacity. Parliament must investigate the allegations and hear the judge in his defence. This is a distinct improvement on the 1972 Constitution which simply provided that such judges could be removed by the President on an address by the National State Assembly. The provisions regarding the appointment, transfer, removal and disciplinary control of judges of other courts is also more satisfactory under the 1978 Constitution. Under the 1972 Constitution, District Judges and Magistrates were appointed by the Cabinet, and appeals against their transfers were heard and decided by an active politician—the Minister of Justice. The 1978 Constitution restores the concept of an independent Judicial Services Commission entrusted with the appointment, removal, transfer and disciplinary control of judicial officers.

TENDER NOTICES

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

Tenders for construction of Post and Telecommunications Stores Building in Kandy will be received by the Chairman, Tender Board, Ministry of Local Govt., Housing and Contractors, Colombo 1, up to 10.00 A.M. on Wednesday 22.09.1982.

02. Tender Forms could be obtained from District Engineer, Kandy South before 4.15 P.M. on 17. 09. 82 by registered contractors or "Trial Letter" holders of Department for Rs. 2.5 Million 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. Maheswaran.
for Director of Buildings.

DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,
P.O. BOX 504,
COLOMBO 1.
30. 08. 1982.

TRIBUNE, SEPTEMBER 4, 1982

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

Tenders for Completion of Balance Work on Building at Baseline Road comprising, Shops and Flats, Maligawatte Development Scheme will be received by the Chairman, Tender Board, Department of Buildings, Colombo 1, up to 10.00 A. M. on Wednesday 22.09.1982.

02. Tender Forms could be obtained From Chief Construction Engineer, Colombo North, Model Farm Road, Colombo 08 before 4.15 P.M. on 17. 09. 1982 by registered contractors or "Trial Letter" holders of Department for Rs. 600,000/- 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 Maheswaran.
for Director of Buildings.

DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,
P.O. BOX 504,
COLOMBO 1.
30. 08. 1982.

TENDER NOTICE

MINISTRY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, HOUSING AND CONSTRUCTION BUILDINGS DEPARTMENT

Govt.



Notice

THE LAND ACQUISITION ACT ORDER UNDER SECTION 39A(1)

Tenders will be accepted by the Chairman, Tender Board, Superintending Engineer's Office, Buildings Department, Ratnapura for the following works,

1. Balance work in stage I of Post Office and P. M.'s Quarters Galigamuwa.
2. Balance work in stage II of Post Office and P. M.'s Quarters, Galigamuwa.
2. Contractors registered with Buildings Department for amounts not less than Rs. 300,000/- or possessing trial letter could tender after paying a tender deposit of Rs. 250/- at the Buildings Department Head Office or at any Kachcheri outside Colombo.
3. Tender documents will be issued by the District Engineer Buildings Department. Kegalle till 4.15 p.m. on 08th September 82.
4. Non refundable late fee of Rs. 10/- per day or part thereof will be charged for tender documents collected after the above date.
5. Tender will close at 10.00 a.m. on 15th September 82.

S. R. Kanaganayagam
Superintending Engineer,
Superintending Engineer's Office,
Department of Building,
Ratnapura.

By virtue of the powers vested in me by subsection (1) of section 39 A (Inserted by Act No. 8 of 1979) of the Land Acquisition Act (Chapter 460), I, Lionel Gamini Dissanayake, Minister of Lands and Land Development, do by this order divest with effect from 24th March, 1980, the Land specified in the schedule hereto, which has vested absolutely in the State by Order made under section 38 of the aforesaid Act and published in Gazette No. 249 of 21-01-1977 the possession of which has been taken for or on behalf of the State under paragraph (a) of section 40 of that Act.

Gamini Dissanayake

My No: 03/J/74L 262 (VE)
G. A. 's No: 9/2/2 (2)/16
Colombo, 23rd March 1979.

SCHEDULE (1)

Portion of Land, A. 15 R.O.P 38 in extent called Kebillewela Dowawatta alias Pauchawatte depicted in advance tracing No: B 74/430 prepared by the Surveyor General situated in Pallwewla village in Kumarapattiya Gramasevaka Division of Asst, Government Agent's Division Uva Paranagama. Badulla District and bounded as follows.

North by :- Lots Nos. 26, 196 and 193 in FVP 442
East by :- Lots Nos. 146, 145 and 141 in FVP 442
South by :- Lots Nos. 141 and 140 in FVP 442
West by:- remaining portion of Lots nos. 110, and 106 in FVP 442.

SCHEDULE (2)

Lots Nos. 253 and 254 in Supplement No. 2 of Final Village Plan 442 (Extent about A. 08 R. O. P. 00)

TRIBUNE, SEPTEMBER 4, 1982

August 15 - 21

**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; *IRD*—Information Dept. Press Release

SUNDAY, AUGUST 15: For the first time in the history of national elections, voters will be able to specify their preference of candidates at the forthcoming Presidential Election if there were to be three or more candidates contesting. Seven men, including five Sri Lanka Ports Authority employees, have been arrested in connection with the theft of fishing nets valued at Rs. 140,000 from the Pettah Warehouse in the Harbour. Peradeniya University will admit the largest number of new students this year; a total of 1,420 new students including 90 medical will be entering this university when the new academic year begins in October—*SO*. Counterfeit 100 rupee notes are in circulation once again. The Parliamentary General Election will take place soon after the Presidential Elections, according to well informed Government sources; the Presidential election will be held in early October; thereafter President Jayawardene if re-elected, will dissolve Parliament early and hold a general Election, these sources said—*WK*. Hijacker Sepala Ekanayake is to be brought before a 3-judge Bench Trial-at-Bar shortly, and the Thai Government is to be refunded the ransom money of 300,000 US dollars. Government is to take disciplinary action against DIG Tyrell Goonetilleke for misconduct while in London this year; Mr. Goonetilleke was charged in a London Court for shop-lifting on March 30 and fined 50 Pounds Sterling as prosecution costs; his subsequent appeal to a higher court failed. The TULF called upon the government to repeal the Prevention of Terrorism Act and to declare null and void all action taken under the provisions of that Act so far—*IS*.

MONDAY, AUGUST 16: The Export Council of Ministers headed by President J.R. Jayawardene decided in principle last week to remove the Business Turnover Tax on exports; this means the current BTT levy on gems and jewellery exports ceases with the implementation of the 1983 budget. The Register of Patents and Trade Marks has granted a patent for a rubber granulation process to Mr. M. Nadarajah lecturer in rubber technology at the Katubedda campus and Mr. Ulrich

Hoffmann of Weber and Schaer, a West German company—*CDN*. The private sector has now inherited the monopoly of the country's sugar market. The Attorney General will file indictment in absentia against Dr. K.K.G.L. Wijetilleke, former Managing Director of the Ceylon Petroleum Corporation for allegedly cheating in a sum of Rs.1500 million. A state of normalcy has returned to the City of Galle following an outbreak of violence in the area some weeks ago—*SU*. A Sri Lanka Freedom Party special meeting held at Panadura Town Hall on Saturday ended abruptly when two factions created an uproar over the enrolment of former Panadura MP Dr. Neville Fernando to the Moderawila Branch of the SLEP without the approval of the Panadura Electorate SLFP Central Committee—*CO*. Sri Lankans proceeding to India have been prohibited from taking to India goods imported by Sri Lanka from foreign countries with the effect from today, Monday *DP*. The Government has decided not to charge any fee for government vehicles that will be used for election work—*DV*.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 17: President J.R. Jayawardene yesterday discussed details of the crime picture country wide with senior defence ministry and police officials and stressed the need for concerted action to bring hardcore criminals to book. As many as 30,000 motor vehicles drive out of Colombo on any working day, a recent survey conducted by the Department of Motor Traffic has revealed—*CDN*. The President was entitled to call for an election after 4 years in office to see whether the policies followed by him and his government were accepted; it was left to the people then either to endorse or reject his policies; the more elections the greater opportunities for the people to exercise their franchise; this was stated by Mr. Siva Pasupathy, Attorney General continuing his submissions in support of the Third Amendment to the Constitution yesterday in the Supreme Court. The Government will not import potatoes, Trade and Shipping Minister Lalith Athulathmudali said refuting rumours that there were moves to being down stocks from Hungary—*CDM*. World Bank President A.W. Clausen has paid tribute to Sri Lanka as a dramatic example of adjustment to external shocks and of the elusiveness of success in the face of continued deterioration of the international environment. UNCTAD's Secretary General Dr. Gamani Corea yesterday said he hoped government would see the forthcoming United Nations Conference on Trade and Development as an opportunity for constructive action that would set in motion a recovery of the world economy—*SU*. Three posters offering rewards to those who supply information leading to the arrest of eleven suspects wanted in connection with terrorist offences have been pasted in the North—*IS*. A Sri Lanka Arts Council is to be set up soon in Britain. Its aims will be to publish in English a library of ancient and modern Sri Lankan classics written in all three languages, said Thurairajah Thambimuttu, Editor, Poetry London, yesterday—*CO*.

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 18: The country's only Eye Hospital, was running desperately short of suture material up to yesterday; although surgeons working, there had been able to maintain their operating lists running up to about 200 cases a week: new patients seeking admission were told about the problem and advised that their admissions may have to be delayed. The Ministry of Private Omnibus Transport expects a fleet growth of 1000 new private buses and coaches following the new tax incentives announced by government, Mr. Victor Rupasinghe, Secretary to the Ministry said yesterday—*CDN*. President J. R. Jayewardene has put into operation the Referendum Act No.7 of 1981 with effect from August 10 by an extraordinary gazette notification issued last night—*CDM*. A tea promotion campaign which the government suspects is a guise to raise funds for a separatist movement in Sri Lanka has now spread from Australia to New Zealand; using erroneous data, a radical group has been responsible for a media war, which several members of the trade feared may tarnish Sri Lanka's image—*SU*. Sri Lanka is the 21st poorest country in the world according to the statistics in the World Development Report 1982 of the World Bank. Food and Agricultural Organisation in Rome has agreed to provide assistance to improve and develop fruit cultivation in Sri Lanka. FAO will also assist the Agriculture Department to introduce breeds of various fruit plants suitable for our climate and help the research workers and agricultural scientists to use improved technology; FAO had already granted three quarter of a million US dollars for the fruit Agronomy Project—*IS*. A further 5,600 houses in the rent category below Rs.25/- are to be handed over to occupants shortly—*VK*. On the 20th of next month (September) a total of 2,296 teacher appointments will be made; interviews will be held on the 6th of next month—*DP*. The Government has proposed to have a minibudget in January 1983 and by this budget the people will have much benefit it is said—*DV*. The Minister of Lands and Land Development Mr. Gamini Dissanayake said that by next March the Maduru Oya water project will be able to supply water—*DV*

THURSDAY, AUGUST 19: The continuing production losses suffered by Sri Lanka's vital tea industry during the first half of the year has been reversed in July with a small production gain recorded, the trade in Colombo said yesterday. All banks in the country have been notified by the CID about the mysterious disappearance and the probable circulation of over Rs. 140,000 worth of forged dollars and dirhams in the country—*CDN*. The Customs yesterday revised the import duties on a select category of articles, mainly to protect the local industry and to encourage employment opportunities in the assembly of such goods in the country—*CDM*. The first museum of indigenous medicine is to be set up at Nawinna shortly. Government will sell lands now vested in the Land Reform Commission to raise funds to pay compensation to former owners; yesterday, the

Minister of Agricultural Development and Research Gamini Jayasuriya, was empowered to go ahead with this task—*SU*. The Chief Parliamentary Opposition party, the TULF is likely to oppose the UNP at the forthcoming Presidential elections. Flat dwellers will very soon own the flats they live in; the Cabinet of Ministers accepted a draft presented by Prime Minister Mr. R. Premadasa as Minister of Housing and Construction which seeks to amend the Apartment Ownership Law of 1973—*IS*. The government has informed the TULF that the powers given to the Executive Committees of the District Development Councils will be notified in the government gazette shortly—*DP*. Yesterday the President said that every student should learn English to get a high standard—*DIV*. The Government has decided to take an account of all those who are unemployed and give them employment; the Department of Census and Statistics will look into this matter. The Government has proposed to sell all land that it under the Land Reform Commission to the public to raise funds to pay compensation to owners—*DV*.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 20: The JVP leader, Mr. Rohana Wijeweera announced at a meeting at Nildandahinna that he would definitely be running at the forthcoming Presidential election—*CDN*. A special sitting of Parliament will be held on Thursday August 26 to debate the Third Amendment to the Constitution which will enable President J.R. Jayewardene to call for an early Presidential poll possibly in October this year. The third regional Passport Office will be opened in Jaffna on September 15; Regional Passport Offices were opened at the beginning of this year in Galle and in Kandy last month—*CDM*. Government MPs were yesterday advised to reside in their electorates and organize the voters for an early election! President J.R. Jayewardene who spoke to them at the Government Parliamentary Group meeting told them it was his firm belief that elections should be held early. A committee will shortly formulate a new land settlement policy for estate workers—*SU*. Finance Minister Ronnie de Mel told a seminar yesterday that Middle East returnees buying items from duty-free shops with their hard-earned money were doing an act of madness; he stressed the importance of encouraging Sri Lankans who had returned from overseas employment to get into business and lamented that many who had returned wasted their money to buy electronic and electrical gadgets at the duty-free complex. Another massive development project costing Rs.1,130 million will take off from the launching paid when President J.R. Jayewardene ceremonially inaugurates the Nilwala Ganga scheme tomorrow at Akuressa—*IS*. The Central Bank will soon create a secondary market for government bonds in addition to the existing system of issuing treasury bills; this will activate the purchase of government securities; it will also mobilise the highrate of liquidity that has accumulated in commercial banks, according to Government of the Central Bank Dr. Warnana Rasaputram—*CO*.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 21 : An armed gang in Jaffna yesterday attempted to disrupt the GCE A level examination now going on in over a thousand examination centres countrywide; police said the 3-member gang brandishing a sterling sub-machine gun and two revolvers burst into a school in Jaffna which was one of the examination centres, ripped open a suitcase and took away about 20 copies of the physics paper which was to begin later in the morning. A Bill to enable the smooth functioning of development councils, pradeshaya and gramodaya mandalayas was gazetted last night on the directions of Prime Minister R. Premadasa—*CDN*. The government will adjust its liberalised trade policies to ensure local producers are given a fairer chance in a competitive economy, Trade and Shipping Minister Lalith Athulathmudali announced, yesterday. The draft recommendation for the return of cultural properties to the countries of origin forwarded by Sri Lanka at the recently concluded UNESCO World Conference on Cultural Policies at Mexico has been accepted in amended form—*SU*. The virtual disappearance of 35,816 pounds of tea despatched from a plantation to the head office of the State Plantations Corporation has been pointed out by the Auditor-General in the Corporation's Annual Report and Accounts for 1980 presented to Parliament this week. The British High Commission in Sri Lanka is making moves to have Manik Sandrasagara who jumped 20,000 pounds sterling bail in London, extradited to Britain to answer charges—*IS*. The United Estate Labour Union has asked the Government to look into the need teachers in Estate schools; more than 2,000 teachers are wanted in these schools—*ATH*.

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WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

August 15-21

ASIA

INDIA : The Opposition parties in moving a No Confidence Motion charged that the Government no longer represented the people but the capitalists. The motion was defeated. The strike of the Bombay policemen demanding higher pay, allowance and promotions took a violent turn and the army was brought in. Martial Law was declared in certain areas as the opposition parties organised sympathetic strikes. A Sikh who attempted to hijack an Indian Airlines Boeing 737 was shot dead in Amritsar by the Indian Commando Unit. **THAILAND** : According to the "Bangkok Post" Thailand will export 48,000 tons of rice to Vietnam within the next two weeks. **PAKISTAN** : In an interview with the Bengali Daily President Zia indicated that military rule had come to stay in Pakistan and he has no immediate plans to relinquish power to politicians. **LEBANON** : French, Italian and US troops will oversee the evacuation of PLO guerillas with the assistance of Lebanese troops. **CHINA** : Peking Radio accused Vietnam of

selling opium along the border to Chinese to poison them. China will resume its membership in the ILO after a lapse of 34 years.

EUROPE

WEST GERMANY : Nearly 80 drugs containing a chemical known as pyrazolone were banned by the Federal Health authorities. These drugs used for pain killing and fever were said to cause blood disorders. **POLAND** : The leaders of the Solidarity Union which had gone underground had appealed to its rank and file to celebrate the second anniversary with leaflet campaign and demonstrations against the Martial Law. **SOVIET UNION** : Polish leader Jaruzelski paid a visit to the Soviet Union to meet President Leonid Brezhnev. The Soviet Union sent another woman Svetlana Savitskya into space along with two other male crew. **IRELAND** : Ireland's Attorney General Patrick Connolly resigned from his post as a murder suspect; a friend of his was arrested at his residence.

AFRICA

EGYPT : Foreign Minister Ghali said that Egypt has decided to freeze negotiations with Israel until Israel troops have been withdrawn from Lebanon. Egypt welcomed India's readiness to host the next summit and said that the Ministerial conference should be held in Baghdad to offer it a satisfaction for the great efforts it had taken to host the summit. **SEYCHELLES** : Rebel troops captured Radio Seychelles and demanded the dismissal of the defence staff. Government troops have crushed the mutiny and have retaken the key positions in Victoria including the radio station. **MAURITIUS** : Premier Jaugnau said that his country would stop selling vegetables and fruits to US workers in Diego Garcia as a matter of principle.

AMERICA

UNITED STATES : The US has devised a master plan to win a nuclear war against the Soviet Union. US and China appear to have reached an agreement on the sale of sophisticated arms to Taiwan. The US has agreed not to increase the present quota of quantity or quality of arms export to Taiwan. The US also hoped that China will strive for a peaceful union with Taiwan.

THE FOREIGN SCENE

USICA

Once Again USIS

Washington, August 25 : The United States Information Agency (USIA), known from 1978 to 1982 as the U.S. International Communication Agency (USICA)

has been officially renamed USIA by Act of Congress. The name-change legislation, which was signed by the President August 24, is part of the Agency's fiscal year 1982/1983 Authorization Bill. As was the case from the time of the Agency's founding in 1953, USIA will again be called the United States Information Service (USIS) abroad. The US Information Agency is an independent organization within the executive branch responsible for the US Government's overseas information and cultural programs, including the Voice of America and the Fulbright Scholarship Program. The Agency, which has 202 posts in 124 countries, also produces a wide range of media products, administers a number of exchanges, mounts exhibitions and administers a worldwide system of American Libraries and cultural centers. USIA became USICA in April 1978, when the Information and Broadcasting functions of USIA were merged with the Educational and Cultural Bureau of the Department of State. The new name was never popular, however, either with the Agency's employees or with its clientele abroad. Agency officials believe that reverting to the name which the agency bore for 25 years will enhance its prestige abroad, and recurring confusion, and make its audiences more aware of its purpose, which is to create a better understanding of the United States and its policies.—USIS.

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ENDING

The Beirut Seige

An agreement to end the crisis in West Beirut was reached August 20 and a statement of the United States' participation in that agreement was made by President Reagan.

Washington, August 24. The seige of Beirut is being lifted as the result of a plan worked out by President Reagan's special envoy, Philip Habib, in what Reagan calls "arduous circumstances." That's an understatement for the long hours, the shuttling capitals, the patient talks and the direct and indirect contacts among the warring parties conducted by Habib and Lebanese President Sarkis and his colleagues. Now as Reagan notes, the emphasis must be on meticulous adherence to the ceasefire. A breach in the peace by any of the parties would imperil Beirut once again, opening the way for more bloodshed and violence. It would endanger the agreed plan for the evacuation of the PLO. The US, French and Italian forces, which are coming in to aid in that evacuation, are there to play a limited noncombatant role. Their mission is to assist the Lebanese armed forces in insuring the PLO's departure under safe and orderly conditions. The Americans presence will be limited to 30 days, and again, its aim is to help the Lebanese government to restore its sovereignty throughout the Beirut area.

The evacuation plan, important though it is, is only the beginning of a chain of events needed to end the conflict in Lebanon. The new plan can bring peace to West Beirut but what is also needed is peace and security for the rest of the country. That means urgent international action to restore Lebanon's full sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity. And essential to that end is the rapid withdrawal of all foreign forces, including those of Israel and Syria. Obviously, this in turn will require more negotiations among the governments concerned. Equally essential is the security of Northern Israel. Both President Reagan and US Secretary of State George Shultz see the Beirut settlement as an opportunity, not just the settlement of an immediate crisis. They want to move quickly in the context of the Camp David agreements toward a resolution of the Palestinian issue. Secretary Shultz says the crisis has inspired some hard thinking in Washington about that problem. It has also demonstrated the fundamental US commitment to peaceful solutions, as well as the ability of the United States to be a constructive force in the region. Peace is, in Shultz's phrase, the shining goal and now, when the guns have been stilled, is a good time to work toward that goal.—USIS

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BREZHNEV

Meets Jaruzelski

Moscow, August 17: Leonid Brezhnev and Wojciech Jaruzelski met in the Crimea on August 16. The Polish leader had drawn attention to the fact that positive changes that had gradually taken place in his country as a result of emergency measures and the current political and economic activity. At the same time the difficulties that stemmed from the political and economic crisis still made themselves felt. But Poland was slowly overcoming the existing difficulties through regularised work. But the process of the country's emergence from the crisis was being held back by the existence of a counter-revolutionary underground whose activities were inspired and supported from the outside, from the United States in the first place. Both leaders were satisfied that Soviet Polish ties in all principal spheres of activity had been further strengthened. The expansion of Poland's economic cooperation with the USSR and other socialist countries helped to normalize the Polish economy, and create the foundations for further development.

Poland, Jaruzelski had pointed out, would not allow itself to be deceived by the insinuations being fabricated by the enemies of Poland, about the USSR's so-called interference in the internal affairs of the Polish People's Republic. "Soviet interference" meant a steady supply of raw and other materials and components, credits and orders, which keep busy a considerable part of Polish production capacities. Jaruzelski expressed deep gratitude to the Soviet Union for its great and valuable assistance to the Polish people. Brezhnev

TRIBUNE, SEPTEMBER 4, 1982

had stated that the Soviet Union will continue to give whatever assistance it can to the Polish People's Republic for the solution of the economic problems confronting it. On the international situation, both leaders resolutely condemned the actions of the USA and of a number of other NATO countries for putting pressure on sovereign states through economic sanctions. They stated that financial and other sanctions only boomeranged against the interests of the countries resorting to such unjustified methods in international affairs. The Soviet Union and the Polish People's Republic continued to follow policies to strengthen European and International security, the scaling down of the arms race, the reducing of the threat of military and political crises and of a new world war. They expressed concern about the serious conflicts in many regions of the world, and specifically, the invasion of Lebanon by Israel. It was not only Israel but the United States also, they said, which was responsible for the tragedy of the Palestinians and Lebanon. The Soviet Union and Poland, they emphasised, would continue their assistance to the Palestine Liberation Organisation, Syria, Lebanon and the legitimate rights of the Arab peoples.

APN.

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ISRAEL

And US. Arms Manufacturers

By Dan Morgan.

Washington: The Israeli government will spend \$5.5 billion this year on its military forces. One out of every three dollars will come from the US Treasury. Before the invasion of Lebanon, there were 567 Israeli combat planes -- 457 of them US aircraft bought with American grants and loans. Another 80 Israeli-assembled Kfir aircraft use a General Electric engine. Israel buys \$500 million in parts annually from 15,000 US companies. These statistics show Israel as a major weapons client of the United States, a relationship receiving attention as a result of allegations that US supplied weaponry was used against Palestinian civilians in Lebanon possibly in violation of sales agreements. This in turn raises the question of whether the vast US aid program to Israel has given the United States influence over its Middle East client, or whether it is the other way around. "It isn't that we have no control over Israel" a former Pentagon official said last week. "It's that we have chosen not to exercise that control." Officials admit privately that US unwillingness to clamp down on Israel is traceable to politics, strategy and a web of interlocking industrial, economic and military interests. Israel's budget of \$ 20 billion is equal to the nation's gross national product. That is only possible because of

TRIBUNE, SEPTEMBER 4, 1982

US aid, which includes \$785 million in economic assistance in addition to \$ 1.8 billion in military grants and loans. If the US assistance were to be divided equally among the four million Israelis, each would get about \$600 a year. With the exception of some French aircraft and British tanks, almost all of the equipment used by the Israeli armed forces has been obtained under the US Government's foreign military sales program, from which Israel has received \$ 15 billion of the \$ 28 billion distributed worldwide since 1951.

Israel is one of only five countries that have been permitted to spend US money in countries other than the United States. Israel and Egypt are the only two countries allowed to order US equipment through the military aid program before Congress has authorized money. The US government also gives Israel unusual privileges, ranging from the right to bid for US defense contracts to the right to own the most modern US weapons and military electronics. Tediran, a US Israeli company based in Israel, recently beat out a Dallas company, E. Systems for a \$ 40 million contract to supply sophisticated radio equipment for the US Army's tanks and other vehicles. Pfatt and Whitney is helping Israel develop an engine for an advanced supersonic fighter aircraft, the Levi, to be ready in this decade. Except for the delay announced by the White House on Monday in a shipment of cluster bombs while the legitimacy of their use by Israeli forces in Lebanon is reviewed, Pentagon and Israeli officials reported no interruption in the flow of US spare parts. "We are conducting business as usual following national policy," said a Pentagon official. A formal US letter offering to provide Israel with an additional 11 F-15 fighter bombers is being processed routinely, he said. A total of \$ 1.5 billion in planes, self-propelled howitzers and armoured personnel carriers is still in the pipeline. Intimate cooperation between the armed forces and arms industries of the two countries makes the prospect of US retaliation against Israel extremely unpopular with powerful elements in the US military and the US weapons industry. The Pentagon receives detailed information from Israel on the performance of US weapons, some of which the United States has never used in combat. US sources said last week that the Hawkeye E-2C electronic reconnaissance plane, obtained by Israel from the US Navy, received a combat test pinpointing distant aircraft targets in Syria in the early stages of the fighting in Lebanon. Israel's raid on Iraq's nuclear reactor last year employed F-15s and F-16s in military strikes for the first time. When Israel was offered the F-15 in the late 1970s fuel tanks fitted to the outside of the aircraft to increase the range by more than 550 miles had not been developed. The US Air Force did not have funds to pay for the research and development. The solution was for Israel to pay McDonnell Douglas to develop the fuel tanks using US military aid funds. Israel subsequently produced the fuel tanks, and the US Air Force has now ordered the tanks for its own and Saudi Arabia's F-15s

—EIR.

13

LEBANON

The Sharon Plan

by Robert Dreyfuss

New York, July 27: In the eyes of Israeli Defence Minister Ariel Sharon, the invasion of Lebanon which began June 6 is intended to accomplish far more than to drive the Palestine Liberation Organisation out of Lebanon. Sharon's bid for a prolonged Israeli occupation of Lebanon is calculated to reshape Lebanese politics, and above all to install Lebanon's most powerful feudal warlord, 34-year-old Bashir Gemayel, as President. Sharon and Gemayel are known to have met secretly months before Israel's invasion to plan how to dismember Lebanon's central government into tribal cantons over which Gemayel would hold sway. The last obstacle would be removed to making Lebanon into a lawless state in which Sharon's mafia associates inside and outside of Israel and Gemayel would divide up the revenue from the illegal drug and contrabands smuggled throughout Lebanon and control the highly lucrative banking system of Lebanon. Since 1978, when Israel made its first invasion of southern Lebanon and installed its mercenary Falangist Col. Saad Haddad, opium and hashish cultivation in the southern Lebanon no-man's-land has flourished. Similarly, in the Syrian-occupied Bekaa Valley, record crops of opium and hashish are found, along with new heroin refineries. According to an Israeli source, Sharon has also cultivated close ties with the Syrian and Khomeini-linked Shiite Muslims of southern Lebanon. The Shiites are a conduit for heroin, hashish and opium export from Pakistan and Iran, as well as Syrian-controlled drugs from the Bekaa. Through Sharon, Israel is said to have taken a large cut of the handsome profits from drug exports: the unspoken financial benefit for Israel's occupation of Lebanon. So close are Sharon's relations with elements of Lebanon's Shiites that he has worked out a scheme to make them the overlords of a southern Lebanese canton whose capital would be the port city of Tyre.

Sharon is not acting out of mere greed, but in association with a powerful mafia of Israelis associated with mobster Meyer Lansky and US-based Meshulam Riklis, the chief of the Rapid-American in port-export empire. It is this mafia and its assets within Israeli intelligence who have drawn up elaborate schemes to make the Lebanese Swiss style banking system an adjunct of Israel, in order to facilitate the massive dirty-money transactions associated with the multi-billion-dollar smuggling business in Lebanon. Since Israel's invasion of south Lebanon, the two major parts south of Beirut, Sidon and Tyre, have been taken over by Israel, leaving only the so-called free port of Jounieh, north of Beirut, functioning. Jounieh is controlled by the Falange. According to a very

influential Lebanese political leader, since the 1976 civil war the Gemayel clan has consolidated unprecedented control in Lebanon over hot-money transactions and the illegal drug and contraband flow through Jounieh. The Gemayel controlled Falangists are reported to charge a tithe for all exports from Jounieh. Moreover, they now control the casinos, once government owned, which are a fulcrum of loan-sharking and other forms of organised crime. Last year, during investigations conducted by the Italian government on the connection between illegal drug and gun trafficking and Italian terrorism, Lebanon was named as the prime transshipment and production site. In fact, both Lebanon and Syria are transshipment points for a massive increase in drug exports from the so-called Golden Crescent - Pakistan, Iran, and Afghanistan. US drug experts estimate that up to 70 percent of all heroin imports to the US now either originate in the Golden Crescent or are shipped through it. One key point for such shipments is the Persian Gulf emirate of Dubai. In recent months the ancient gold-smuggling center in Dubai, which dried up after the Iranian revolution, has suddenly come back to life. *Far East Economic Review* reported April 16 that the gold bullion stamped "Almighty God" is used to facilitate the purchase of raw opium from Pakistan. The revival of the Dubai gold market coincided with a warning in Iran-Dubai and Iran-Pakistan economic relations earlier this year, about the same time that Saad Haddad made his first offer to aid Iran in its war with Iraq.—*EIR*.

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EXTRACTS

Israel Starts Digging In

By last week there was plenty of evidence that Israel plans to dig in and play the referee. Across Lebanon, Israeli bulldozers widened roads for military traffic, while in the south soldiers completed work on two new training camps. Israeli television promised to boost its transmission power so that troops across the border can watch shows from the home. And Menachem Begin's government announced plans to spend a billion dollars to provide winter gear for its soldiers. Begin seemed poised for an all out effort to reshape Lebanon's political and economic destiny. His official line was that Israeli troops will not go home until all other foreign forces have left. That could set the stage for a whole new shooting war with Syria. As if to emphasize the point Israeli troops moved inland north of Beirut last week and in the southern fringes of the Bekaa Valley, they already faced Syrian troops only 20 miles from Damascus. Farther South, an army of Israeli entrepreneurs worked with astonishing swiftness to establish lucrative new markets for their goods. The prime minister apparently hopes to offset the costs of war with some of the spoils of peace. But if the Israeli occupation in Lebanon grows too costly in terms of money, manpower and casualties,

TRIBUNE, SEPTEMBER 4, 1982

the strategy could produce a dangerous political backlash for Begin. Already the opposition Labour party is opposing delay in the pullout. "We are not the policemen of the Middle East," said Labour leader Shimon Peres in New York last week. "That would be a departure from our ethical code"....

Even if the Israelis want to leave, Lebanon's feuding warlords may trap them in a quagmire. Israel's two chief allies in Lebanon—Bashir Gemayel's Christian Phalange in the North and Central region and Maj. Saad Haddad's Christian militia in the South—are increasingly at odds. Gemayel had been Jerusalem's choice to lead the country after the PLO expulsion. But emboldened by Israel's support, he seems more interested in settling old scores with the Muslim majority and its Druse sect than with real reconciliation. "Instead of turning over peace keeping functions to the Christian militia, the Israelis are finding them—"Instead of turning over peace keeping functions to the Christian militia, the Israelis are finding themselves caught between the Christians and the Muslims," said one U.S. diplomat... "They have to tell Gemayel's people it's not nice to burn people with cigarettes." Shiite Muslims, who make up more than 80 percent of Southern Lebanon's population, are particularly fearful of a Christian resurgence. Shiite leaders, who have their own armed group—Amal—last week bluntly warned the Israelis that they were ready to resist aggressive moves north by Haddad. One of the most pressing problems is what to do with a whole new generation of Palestinian refugees driven from their homes and camps in Lebanon. Tens of thousands of them are now roaming Southern Lebanon. Sleeping wherever they can find shelter. Israel has banned their return to the bombed camps, which are now surrounded, in some cases, by Israelis, Phalangists and Haddad's militia. With winter coming, Israel is working to provide some sort of temporary housing for the refugees....

The price tag on the war will keep rising if Israel tries to solve Lebanon's problems. So far, it has cost, by unofficial estimates, up to \$ 2.5 billion. But the Israelis have found a few quick ways to offset the costs of providing emergency care and helping to rebuild battered cities such as Sidon and Tyre. They plan to hawk ammunition and arms seized from the PLO and Syria and sim to establish profitable commercial links with southern Lebanon. In a rather ironic example, Travenol, an Israeli medical supply firm, has launched a booming business with Lebanese clinics overburdened with casualties from Israel's assaults. And El AL airline has already set up a "cash only" office in Sidon. "We are not trying to force somebody to buy Israeli products just because we are here", said Maj. Amos Mar-Haim, the Israeli Army's economic 'Czar' for Southern Lebanon. But given the disruption in Beirut and elsewhere, there were few alternatives. How long Israel maintains

a large troop presence throughout Lebanon remains to be seen. In Jerusalem there is now some cautious talk about a deal with Damascus to divide Lebanon into three de facto zones of influence: Israel's in the South, the Phalangist's in the north and center and Syria's in the Bekaa Valley. That would hardly suit Lebanon's Muslim majority but one way or another, Begin will face unprecedented pressure from Washington to do some thing. "Once the Bairut crisis is over, the most pressing problem in the Middle East will not be the Palestinians or the West Bank. it will be Lebanon," said one U.S. Diplomat. "So long as the Israeli Army is occupying an Arab country or dictating its policies, there isn't much chance of getting the other Arabs to the bargaining table (with Israel) to talk about autonomy" or anything else."—*Newsweek*, August 23, 1982.

WITHOUT COMMENT

Alexander Haig

The news that Alexander Haig was receiving \$ 20,000 plus expenses for addressing the American Bar Association convention in San Francisco last week sparked considerable speculation. Did the big bucks mean that the former secretary of state was going to tell all about his June 30 resignation? Would he describe his foreign policy rift with President Reagan in terms that don't get uttered for a mere 5 or 10 grand? Haig was less than a half hour into his speech—a sketchy survey of the world's trouble spots—when he unveiled the big surprise for the capacity crowd of 3,600: he finished talking. He had never even mentioned the European gas pipeline controversy that figured in his departure, and his only fresh material consisted of some self deprecating jokes. "Just weeks ago I was fourth in line for the presidency," he noted. "Now I can't get precedence in the supermarket line." Still, his speaker's fee will buy a lot of groceries.—*Newsweek*, August 23, 1982.

REAGAN

Cleared Israeli Invasion

New York, August 15: Former US Secretary of State Alexander Haig had got President Ronald Reagan's assent to a proposal for the Israeli army to enter Lebanon in order to liquidate the PLO according to *Business Week* magazine. In its latest issue, the magazine says that prior to General Haig's resignation, President Reagan had given his consent to the Beirut operation in response to the plea that the West Asia situation would appear in quite a different light without the PLO's military and political influence. It was calculated that without the PLO in the picture the camp David process would go much easier, *Business Week*, said—*Tanyug*.

TRIBUNE

Agricultural Digest

MARKETING

Agricultural Produce

This is the concluding part of a report drawn up by R. D. Banks of Forbes & Walker in July 1970. The first part appeared last week. Unless the marketing of Agricultural produce gets off the ground farming in the Mahaweli and elsewhere will continue to be subsistence.

UNFORTUNATELY, between the ultimate consumer and the cultivator there are a host of processors, dealers and yes brokers—who each in their way assist with the marketing of the product, and who must make profits to live. These people are responsible for syphoning off a substantial percentage of the "Price" before the residue reaches the producer. Marketing costs also include freight and picking charges, export duties and so on, but ultimately there should be sufficient left for the producer to enable him to live from what he has grown. If there isn't, he doesn't grow it; the consumer doesn't get it—and so we are back to the beginning. I do not wish to go in to any detail over the mechanics of Marketing Agricultural produce. Suffice to say however, that the experience we already have of marketing Tea, Rubber, Coconuts, Pepper, Cloves, Cocoa, Cardamoms etc., is sufficient to cope with any new products which might be grown under the Diversification Programme. Similar problems arise in the marketing of every commodity and we are sufficiently versatile in this country to cope with any new ones that arise, particularly where "dried" and "processed" produce are concerned. **However, we are not yet equipped or experienced enough to handle "fresh" products on any scale, nor are Canneries or processing and packing facilities of a size that can cope with a significant increase in the production and sale of fresh fruits, vegetables and flowers. If therefore your feel that your need to diversify is so pressing that you must proceed with a programme which takes you out of the traditional products into something new, having satisfied yourself that the ecology of the crop is suitable for the land which you work and that planting material can be obtained, it is essential that you also find out whether the product you will produce (a) has a market, (b) can be produced or processed in the form that makes it marketable, and (c) that you can**

produce it at a cost which enables you to show a profit when marketed at a price the consumer can afford to pay.

TOO MANY PEOPLE have already failed in ventures that were in fact doomed from the outset; reasons for these disasters were varied but, they were more often due to problems with their marketing, rather than their inability to grow and harvest their crops. Some people failed to realise that the "form" in which the crop was prepared for sale was quite unsuitable for marketing, others failed to foresee transport difficulties, others underestimated their production costs and costs of marketing, and a very large number could not find a market for their crop simply for the reason that they did not know how to go about finding a buyer. The growing and marketing of Agricultural Produce has to be planned, like any other venture. For instance there is no point in growing fruit in large quantities hoping to find a buyer after several tons have been picked, for by the time you have hawked your wares from Cannery to Cannery, market to market, and have been lucky enough to sell only a small proportion of your load, the greater part of your investment is rotting and is only fit for destruction. It would be better to enter into a forward contract with either a Cannery or a Dealer who will undertake to buy your whole crop, even though you might have to accept a lower rate per lb. than you *might* have obtained for the small proportion that you *might* sell after harvesting. All fruits and many other crops, are seasonal, and the height of the season is the period when prices are lowest, and even the most delectable of fruit is difficult to sell when there is a glut.

FINALLY, I feel bound to say a word or two about middlemen, such as dealers and brokers, the so-called parasites of almost every trade. No one need use either, if they feel disinclined to do so, and if they can find their own markets for the produce they harvest. However, middlemen perform a very important function in the marketing of produce, everywhere in the world today, and have done so for centuries. Not every producer is big enough, or has the time, to concern himself with every aspect of his business, least of all the marketing, and the detailed study of the day to day changes in demand and supply which are so important to the ultimate success of growing anything. Middlemen make it their business to keep you in touch with trends and to see that you have the back-ground information essential to your operation. There is however a significant distinction between a *dealer* and a *broker*. The former lives on what he can make out of the difference between what he can pay you, and what he can sell at and, therefore it is in his interests to ensure a personal profit on the deal. The broker however undertakes to sell you your produce on your behalf to the best bidder, and

TRIBUNE, SEPTEMBER 4, 1982

at his own expense and initiative will provide all the information you require regarding the product you are marketing. For these services to you he charges a nominal *commission* on the sale price of the product, but relieves you of the problem of finding and bargaining with buyers with the most money to spend. You are free to make your choice as to how you do your marketing, but whatever you do, look thoroughly into every aspect of this vital facet before you commit yourself to planting new crops, dairying or attempting anything where your own lack of knowledge or expertise can cost a great deal of money.

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RICE CULTIVATION -4.

Constraints Future Plans

RICE-BASED CROPPING SYSTEMS IN THE MINOR IRRIGATION SCHEMES (1976-1981)
(2) Reporter: Derrick Schockman. Published by Deputy Director of Agriculture (Research) No. 1, Sarasavi Mawatha, Peradeniya. May 1982.

The following constraints have been observed to limit the application of the Walagambahuwa technology: 1. Timely Tillage, 2. Weed control, 3. Timely supply of Inputs and 4. Differential Hydrology.

Timely Tillage: There are reservations about advancing the time of tillage to begin with the onset of the rains, as this would involve dry tillage which is extremely difficult unless it is done by tractor. The soaing cost of tractor tillage is a serious limiting factor to this operation. it will be interesting to learn how many of the settlements complying with the new cropping systems program actually advanced time of tillage and sowing in accordance with the Walagambahuwa recommendation. Alternative means of tillage with hand or animal drawn implements have to await the first rains since the ground is otherwise too hard to till after the very long drought experienced from June-September. A concerted attempt at timely cultivation often conflicts with shortages of draft power and labour, particularly labour which is diverted to the "chenas" (forest highland holdings) and other avenues of employment. Good market prices for "chena" crops (e.g., maize and chilli), taken together with varied form of other employment of a wage-earning character have induced some farmers to give a lower priority value to rice production. This trend has been accentuated by the fact that there is a high fragmentation in the ownership of ricelands in the minor irrigated schemes. The number of water users has multiplied within the same extent of paddy: making It more difficult to operate an efficient water management schedule.

TRIBUNE' SEPTEMBER 4, 1982

Weed Control: There is also the nagging weed problem. Unless farmers are able to prepare their fields well in time when the relative weed land is low, crop growth is seriously affected. The new improved cultivars which have an upright habit and slow initial growth phase are particularly affected. The lack of "tolerant" cultivars and suitable implements to combat weeds, in the face of the high cost of chemical herbicides and the precision required to apply them without phytotoxic effects, is another limiting factor to the acceptance of the new technology.

Timely Supply of Inputs: It is important to realise that the farming community in minor irrigation schemes (in contrast to the major irrigation schemes) has emerged from the centuries-old hydraulic social system; and that their values, norms and disciplines associated with the utilisation of water have become an integral part of community life--a close knit relationship which had complete command over the control of water and the other inputs, such as labour, seed paddy implements, draft animals etc. necessary for simultaneous land preparation, in order to exercise the greatest economy in the use of water within a limited period of time. In the process of the modernisation and expansion of rice production traditional inputs have been gradually replaced by a range of modern inputs, such as mechanical power for tilling the soil and improved cultivars which require chemical fertilizers and pesticides. Farming communities are therefore now almost completely dependent on external sources for these inputs--the supply of which very often fails to synchronize with timely cultivation. Consequently the period of land preparation has to be extended to suit the degree of access farmers have to these modern technological inputs.

Differential Hydrology: Although Walagambahuwa has been successful in taking two rice crops a year, this has not been matched by the majority of settlements adopting the same technology in the Anuradhapura and Kurunegala Districts. This could be due to the differential hydrology of the reservcir. As stated earlier Walagambahuwa is fortunate in that it has a relatively large catchment in relation to the command area it has lo setxe. This may not be the case with all other small rservoirs. The run-off can vary widely accordingly it the different characteristics of each catchment.

WHILE EVERY ENDEAVOUR will be made to extend the area under the new cropping systems technology in the Anuradhapura and Kurunegala Districts, research will have to be intensified to find ways and means of overcoming the limitations stated in the previous section, namely; timely tillage, weed control, timely supply of inputs and inadequate hydrological data. So long as tractors were able to reduce the period of land preparation and contributed to a saving in water they were useful. But in the present context of a dearth of

17

tractors for agricultural purposes and escalating costs, the reverse effect is taking place in that the land preparation period has to be adjusted to the availability of tractors. The promotion of animal ploughing is the real answer to this problem. But this requires suitable implements which would enable the farmers to prepare their fields when the soils are hard, and difficult to work. In the alternative they have to sow the with first rains and run the risk of encountering very heavy competition from weeds. Although effective weedicides are available, their high cost and precision of application discourage farmers from using them.

THE EVOLUTION OF A SHORT-AGED HIGH YIELDING CULTIVAR with a wider tillering angle and early seedling vigour would also be helpful as a means of controlling weed growth. The presently cultivated popular 62-355 has these attributes, but its medium production potential and very high susceptibility to the "blast" disease and lodging seriously detract from these advantages. The Farm Mechanisation Research Centre at the Regional Research Station, in Maha Illuppallama has developed several prototype implements for animal-drawn tillage which are under test at the moment. Research Officers at the same station are also experiencing with no-till methods of cultivation and a wide range of chemical herbicides. Rice breeders have also developed several improved short-aged varieties which are now being tested against the standard 62-355. These experiments will be intensified. Meanwhile there is the problem of improving the present variegated bureaucratic system of input supplies which acts as a bottleneck to timely cultivation. A holistic approach would be preferable whereby elected members of the farming community are legally permitted to share the decision-making and organisation of such supplies. How best this can be arranged without upsetting the checks and balances required by the state has yet to be decided. Last but not least, is the urgent need for the evaluation of different reservoir resources at a certain probability of rainfall. Since the runoff fluctuates very widely from season to season, several years data would be required to arrive at reliable runoff coefficients. Hydrological studies are now being conducted, and will be continued by the Land and Water Use Division of the Department of Agriculture to provide such information.

AN EQUATION for water resources has been developed (Somasiri) to include all the relevant hydrological components. A mathematical relationship has also been derived to estimate daily changes in reservoir storage. How these can be used to suit different cropping systems under different systems of water management will be investigated in the years ahead. Meanwhile, tighter monitoring program will have to be effected to study the impact of the on going croppings systems program. It is hoped that the envisaged survey to be conducted

by economists of the International Rice Research Institute and the Department of Agriculture will provide the basis for such a monitoring service and if necessary a reassessment of the whole croppings systems program.

To be concluded



CONTROLLING

Turmeric Diseases

TURMERIC, a promising crop of commercial significance, is extensively grown in South India, whenever water is available in plenty. In the recent years, it has been observed that farmers are losing a substantial portion of turmeric yields due to certain diseases inflicting the crop. Creating an awareness about the devastating diseases and suggesting effective means to control them, would prove highly beneficial to the turmeric farmers in avoiding the loss. Among the important diseases that cause extensive damage to turmeric are *anthracnose*, *leaf spot*, and *rhizome and root rot*. ANTHRACNOSE caused by a fungus, *Colletotrichum Capsici*, is a much dreaded infectious and in some places it has destroyed almost half of the cropped areas. Anthracnose hit leaves develop elliptic or oblong spots of varying sizes on the upper surface and sometimes two or more of them coalesce to form large irregular patches. In the case of severe infections, the leaves dry up and affected fields present a parched look. Rhizomes also get damaged and show blackening of scales. Usually the pathogenic fungus persists in the affected rhizomes and other plant debris left behind in the fields, and it also spreads through air in the form of spores. To keep this disease at bay, scientists at Kumaraperumal Farm Science Centre of TNAU at Trichy, recommend three rounds of foliar spraying with *Dithane M 45* (1400 gm. in 500 liters of water per hectare) from first month onwards at fortnightly intervals. Alternatively, *Benlate* or *Bavistin* (500 gm in 500 liters of water per hectare) or *Bordeaux* mixture 3-3-50 can be sprayed to prevent the incidence of disease. By manipulating the planting time also the disease can be avoided. Particularly, crop planted before May June is less affected by the fungus.

THE LEAF SPOT infection is due to the fungus, *Taphrina Maculans*, and the disease, though not a major one in Tamil Nadu, is widely prevalent in Gujarat, Bihar, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh. Numerous reddish-brown spots of 1 to 2 mm diameter appear on affected leaves turning them pale and in advanced stages the spots get fused to form big blotches. Deprived of the green photosyn-

TRIBUNE, SEPTEMBER 4, 1982

TRIBUNE DEVELOPMENT FORUM

DOMESTIC USERS'

Electricity Bills

By R. Kahawita.

FROM 1st OF JUNE 1982, A NEW TARIFF OF CHARGES for electricity consumers became effective. The new scale of charges covers all consumers i.e., industrial, domestic, commercial, street lighting, illuminations, agriculture etc., where power is taken from the public supply lines. The new tariff introduces an escalating scale of charges, not according to the user-purpose but according to the quantum used per month. Where the consumption exceeds 150 units per month there is a surcharge of 185 per cent increase. This surcharge is to cover the cost of fuel to supplement Hydro-power by Thermal energy of Kelanitissa Power House (old), and the new battery of Gas turbines, recently put into commission at the same site. Increased demand for power during the last five years are due to many reasons, mainly to catch up with the demand for industrial development, hotel complexes, housing communities, new commercial buildings, illuminated advertising, all of which are heavy consumers of power compared to the pre-1977 consumer demand. The new type of consumer and the demand were not visualized in the pre-1977 forecast of power growth. In such a complex of consumer uses of power one would have expected a categorized scheme of charges instead of putting all the consumers into one common pail and charging them all one rate. *The domestic consumer of power has a limited use; lighting, cooking, and ventilation. This is the standard even though cooking may be exceptional. If his consumption exceeds 150 units, for every above 150 units the consumer has to pay 2.85 times the rate, that is to say, if the rate per unit is fifty five cents she has to pay Rs. 1.57 per unit with the surcharge. This is what it means to the housewife if she has to use electricity to light her house. This is very hard on the average consumer.*

Our information is that this surcharge has been imposed on the consumer indiscriminately at the behest of an international Financing Agency which has a very effective say in our economic life. This may be due to our extravagant borrowing and spending. So, like a penitent offender, the Ceylon Electricity Board has taken the "pill" without going into the details as to whether we could stomach it or not, why and the where-fores, or how it would affect the average domestic user of electricity, who is already bearing a crushing load due to the high cost of food etc.

The surcharge on electricity as accepted by the government will bring the consumer to his knees. And may be to our knees too!

ON THE RECOMMENDATION of the CEB the Government has accepted the proposals and the President has agreed to pass-over the surcharge to the consumer as presented to him by the CEB. The Electricity Board too now comes under this Portfolio. Why a straightforward subject like generation of power and its distribution should be taken over by him, when he has some 92 members of Parliament at Ministerial level has become a political conundrum of those who do not understand the intriguing facets of our political life. *If His Excellency takes a closer look at the totality of power consumed throughout the country he would realize that the power consumed for domestic purposes is a vulgar fraction of that total and the rate of demand has been almost static compared to other uses, during the last five years. In that situation can we increase the charge to the domestic consumer? We tried to get the correct quantum of power consumed by the domestic users from the CEB. But they do not seem to have analyzed the users in such a fashion. For them a consumer is a consumer, as we said earlier they fall into the same pail. In a recent meeting of the Chairmen of Urban District Councils, one chairman pointed out that the domestic consumers of electricity did not add up to 30% of the total quantity of power consumed and it was grossly unjust to impose a surcharge on them. The CEB did not contest this figure nor are we in a position to vouch for it. However we know it is not much and also we know that only in Colombo that there are multiple uses of domestic electricity. In other areas it is just lighting.*

If we take an overall view of electrification, including the drive for rural electrification, the cost has become beyond the means of a rural consumer. They cannot afford the initial cost of getting a connection from the Board's supply line. We know of a recent case where the supply connection cost the consumer Rs.65,000/- for a distance 25 meters from the Public Service line to the consumer meter. We mention this purely to illustrate how expensive electrification has become to a consumer today, and when the cost per lighting point is also added very few could afford electrification. But it is an absolute necessity, like water supply today.

IF WE LOOK AT THE SPECTRUM OF DOMESTIC ELECTRICITY USERS in this country, we have at one end the top level luxury living user with air-conditioners, refrigerators, deep-freezers, electric cookers etc., and at the other end the user with couple of electric lighting points. In between we have the "average user" with a couple of fans may be a refrigerator, and electric kettle or an immersion heater, a radio and some lighting points. This is the elite of our power consuming society. In many a case, use of electricity has been imposed on them by our plans and programmes to change their

life styles. Many of them wish to live without electricity if they were to live in the village or semi urban areas where they could do without these "luxuries." *"They could do with open hearth cooking and a bottle lamp for lighting. We have changed all this in our eagerness to improve their quality of life without their economic condition or creating opportunities to gain it. If we had reversed the process — better economic progress first and a change in life styles thereafter when the hardships to the domestic consumer would not be so severe. But the government is attempting to change everything overnight, our traditions, our culture, our institutions, even our community life.* In a programme for "houses for the masses" several housing projects are under way, just pocket editions of western countries, where the planners, had their experiences of living. With the limitations placed on housing under "the law on ceiling on housing" imposed on the people under the previous Government, which the present government is frightened to change, have taken over the planning and building of houses both in the rural and urban areas. In the city, due to high cost of building construction today, and land values, one room-two room living quarters; a replication of "bed-setters" in the West is the vogue. Where horizontal development is not possible due to shortage of buildable land and congestion condominiums are being developed, without any consideration to the practicability of living in such buildings for our people. **Wherever these buildings are located, they have one common factor compactness.** Whether in the city, urban or rural, the "house plan" takes the same order - - - living, sleeping, eating and cooking, a way of living copied from the West. There is nothing wrong with this pattern of living if the people can afford and if the people have emerged from their traditional cocoons to adopt a new way of life. They have not. We cannot develop a hybrid society overnight. It may be possible in the city but we should not impose it on our ruralia. Such living is alien to our traditional social and cultural life.

To Be Concluded

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FOR RUHUNA

Nilwala Project

RESTORATION AND COMMISSIONING more than 3,000 Village tanks and constructing Gin Ganga, Lunugamvehara, Muthukandiya, Ingitimitiya, Mahadivulwewa and the entirety of Mahaweli will all add upto the totality of National development. *The Nilwala Project*, is an important venture, undertaken by the Ministry of Lands, and Land Development to convert a disaster into a blessing. Just like the Gin Ganga the Nilwala too posed a major threat to cultivation in the Ruhuna area for a long period

TRIBUNE, SEPTEMBER 4, 1982

of time, because of its annual floods. If we allow a bounteous gift of nature to turn into a confirmed disaster, isn't it a reflection of our own failing? The primary purpose of Project Nilwala is to bring about a fresh greening in Ruhuna and make it a sumptuous granary of Sri Lanka as in ancient times by preventing floods and enabling unhindered cultivation during both seasons. The Nilwala project, represents yet another facet, in the comprehensive plan initiated by the Ministry of Lands and Land Development to promote the progress of the National economy, through self-sufficiency and raising of the income level of the farmer, *Such projects as Gin Ganga, Lunugam Vehera, Ingitimitiya Muthukandiya and Mahadivulwewa and the repairing of more than 3000 village tanks, all add up to the totality of this development scheme. Of these the four projects Gin Ganga, Lunugam Vehara, Mutukan — diya and Nilwala are all located in the ancient Ruhunu region.*

THE NILWALA REGION, about 1000 square Kilometres in extent is the largest of these four projects. The whole area comes within Matara District. About 70 percent of this land mass is devoted to the cultivation of paddy, tea, coconut and rubber. The paddy area alone spreads over 40,000 acres. These statistics unambiguously show how significant the Nilwala catchment area is for the development of Ruhuna. Yet is in this context that the disaster wrought by Nilwala begins to tell. It is on paddy lands, that the annual floods wreck their direct damage. About 22,500 acres of paddy land, in the lower basin of Nilwala are rendered unproductive by floods. Besides, the destruction of property and distress to the people during flood time, form a major loss. There is yet another disaster that parallels the flood damage. A considerable extent of land adjacent to the estuary region, uncultivable due to sea water finding its way upriver. The Nilwala project that was launched recently is a scheme intended to solve all these problems simultaneously.

MATARA DISTRICT is one of the most populated areas of the country. According to 1978 figures the total population of the district is 560,000. The extent of cultivatable land is extremely limited. The cultivated land area is nearing the optimum possible. Under these circumstances, the only method of increasing yield out of the land that is already under cultivation. It is with aim of solving this problem, that the Nilwala project has brought into concentrated focus, all such schemes as the prevention of floods, reclamation of swampy land and areas subject to the seepage of sea water and especially the providing of irrigation facilities to the eastern sector of the district, experiencing water shortage.

In the groundwork that is being laid by the Ministry of Lands and Land Development to make Rununa a major granary of Sri Lanka once more, the Nilwala project occupies a unique position.

Hotels Corporation

While our investigators are looking into different aspects of the many operations of Ceylon Hotels Corporation, especially to find out why the dividend fell from 21.5% in 1980 to 6.5% in 1981, it would be useful to set out some of the basic data available in the Annual Reports of the Corporation for 1980 and 1981. This week we have collected the extracts from the Report of two years 1980 and 1981 on (a) Tourist Arrivals and Earnings (b) Operating Results (c) Taxation (d) Dividend (e) Permanent Reserve.

1980

Tourist arrivals and earnings The officially recorded statistics given by the Planning and Research Division of the Ceylon Tourist Board indicates an increase of 28.6% in 1980, to total of 321,780 from the 250,164 arrivals recorded in the previous year. It is significant to note that from its small beginnings in 1966, the tourist industry of Sri Lanka has become the 4th highest foreign exchange earner for the country. **Operating results** The commercial operations of the Corporation during the year under review recorded a net profit of Rs. 5,723,737/- before taxation, which was an improvement of Rs. 785,680/- over the previous year's performance. This represents an increase of approximately 16% over the previous year. **Taxation** : It is increasingly important for Shareholders to note that the Corporation contributes to the National Revenue annually by way of a variety of taxes. Taxes which are becoming increasingly heavy and which are taking away from our ability to show a better net profit picture. B.T.T. which was enhanced from 10% to 15% in November 1979, had its impact on our operations and turnover in the year 1980. We made a total payment of Rs. 3,679,580/- which represents 132% increase over the previous year. We paid a total of Rs. 681,750/- by way of Income Tax, which represents an increase of 32% over the previous year. In addition to this, it might be mentioned that the Corporation pays collective taxes in respect of its Hotels, Restaurants, Resthouses, Catering Operations, Tourist Shops etc., over and above the direct taxation by the Central Government. By this we mean, the dues that are paid annually by way of Local Government rates, Water taxes, Tourist Board licensing fees, excise fees and more recently the Fuel adjustment charges of the Ceylon Electricity Board. **Dividend** : For the first time in the history of the Corporation the Board of Directors declared a dividend of 10% last year. We are happy to announce, that the Board of Directors have pleasure in recommending the payment of first and final payment of dividend of 21% on Ordinary shares on the Ordinary issued Share Capital of the Corporation. **Permanent Reserve** : In terms of Section 32 (1) of the Ceylon Hotels Corporation Act No.14 of 1966 a

22

sum of Rs.704,748/- has been credited to the Permanent Reserve Fund which represents 20% of profits available for payment of Dividends.

1981

Tourist Arrivals : Whilst the number of tourist arrivals to Sri Lanka did not witness any decrease in the year under review, yet there is no doubt that the rate of growth has already slowed down. The growth which had been 16% to 24% per year for the past 8 years dropped to nearly 10% during the first 10 months of the year under review. It has picked up again by the first quarter of 1982. But it will not be a very heavy tourist season, even though it is better than most other neighbouring countries. With a view to halting any adverse trends caused by the pinch of the world wide recession and perhaps also a rapidly developing market for our neighbouring Maldivian Islands, the Ceylon Tourist Board is looking towards new marketing centres to promote tourism to the Island. New emphasis is being given officially for special interest segments, incentive travel segments, and convention traffic. With the national carrier Air Lanka flying to countries such as Singapore, Thailand, Hongkong and the Middle East, the Ceylon Tourist Board has now launched a systematic promotional campaign in these countries with a view to attracting visitors from them. Ceylon Hotels Corporation is also beginning to turn to the Thai and Australian Markets gradually. Regarding the Maldives as a possible rival destination, we could say that, that group of islands will be a competitor only for beach-based holiday makers. The loss will be confined in the main to beach resort holiday makers and the sun-worshippers. Yet in the fields of culture, history, archaeology, flora and fauna, exotic mountain scenery and a genuinely hospitable people, we do not think that the Maldives can ever surpass Sri Lanka, as a destination. **Dividend** : The Board of Directors recommend the payment of a first and final dividend of 6½% of ordinary shares of the ordinary Issued Share capital of the Corporation. This year's dividend is less than the high dividend we declared in the 2 previous years, inevitably as we have invested capital from our own resources in a development programme of our Resthouses which will be a potential asset for the future. The accounting systems have also been properly worked out to include the sum total of past liabilities without passing them on. It has to be recognized that the net profitability has reduced in comparison to the previous year due to the increase of taxes, wages and overheads. Shareholders are bound to reap the benefits of the current investments beginning next financial year. Steps are taken to redeem the old debts incurred in the 1971-1975 period with the General Treasury and the Ceylon Tourist Board, amounting to approximately Rs. 4.5 million. **Permanent Reserve** : In terms of Section 32 (1) of the Ceylon Hotels Corporation Act No. 14 of 1966 a sum of Rs. 246,279/- has been credited to the Permanent Reserve

TRIBUNE, SEPTEMBER 4, 1982

funds which represents 20% of profits for the payment of dividends. **Taxation** : It is of paramount importance to Shareholders to know the contribution made to the Government by way of Taxes, BTT payment for the year 1981 which amounts to Rs.4,242,561/-. We have paid income tax for the year 1981 amounting to Rs. 1,650,000/-. Thus the total payment by way of taxes is Rs.5,892,561/-. The budget proposal of 1981 had increased the BTT on Resthouses from 15% to 20% which will have even further adverse effect on the profitability in the current year, as we have assured the Ceylon Tourist Board that we will not pass the increase on to the consumer, as it would have adverse long term effects on Sri Lanka as a visitor destination. In addition to this, the Corporation pays collective taxes in respect of all its outlets by way of Local Government rates, Water Tax, Fuel adjustment charges, Ceylon Tourist Board licencing fees, Excuse fees, Urban Development Authority levies.



SPOTLIGHT

- **Sugathadasa Stadium**
- **Cricket • Motor Sports**
- **Football**

THANKS TO THE ENERGY AND DRIVE OF THE PRIME MINISTER, MR. RANASINGHE PREMADASA, the Sugathadasa Stadium that was a pathetic sight will present a new look. The sports loving people of Sri Lanka will soon be proud to have a stadium measuring up to international standards. The Prime Minister hosted to tea those entrepreneurs and businessmen who have already contributed to the Stadium's re-development and discussed plans to raise further funds to finance the project. At Temple Trees among the distinguished gathering of businessmen and sports benefactors was Mrs. V.A.Sugathadasa, wife of the late Mr.Sugathadasa, Sri Lanka's first Minister of Sports who initiated the construction of the Stadium and in whose memory the stadium has been so named. Mrs. Sugathadasa joined the contributors in perpetuating the memory of her late husband by making a donation of Rs. One million towards the fund. In making this announcement, the Prime Minister also revealed to those present the

TRIBUNE, SEPTEMBER 4, 1982

obstacles and hurdles that the late Mr. Sugathadasa had to surmount to make his dream a reality. Incidentally, the late Mr. Sugathadasa was a sportsman of repute and dedicated his life for the encouragement of sports in Sri Lanka. Mr. Premadasa also revealed that he had discussions with Dr. Warnasena Rasaputram, Governor, Central Bank, in an endeavour to get the banks to make some contributions to this fund. The Fund now stands at nearly 12 million rupees. The estimated cost is Rs. 20 million. Judging by the enthusiasm among sports benefactors there is no doubt that the required money can be collected to complete this gigantic task. So far million rupee donations have come from Maharaja Investments Ltd., Prima Ceylon Ltd., Mrs. V. A. Sugathadasa, Mr. M. W. J. Mudalige, Mr. Dawate Hadiya of the Anjuman E. Saifi (Sri Lanka) Trust and Dr. Sheikh Shams Abdeen Al-Fassi of Saudi Arabia. ALL-ROUNDER understands that many more millionaires are waiting to make their contributions to this fund which will be exempt from income tax.

CRICKET: SRI LANKA/INDIA: Vinodhan John, the well-built former Peterite and Bloomfield speed merchant is the only new cap in the Sri Lanka team that has been chosen to tour India for a Test match and three One-day Internationals beginning in the second week of September. Bandula Warnapura has once again been entrusted with the burden of leading Sri Lanka. It is not going to be an easy task for him as India at home have always been a difficult proposition to overcome. Keith Fletcher's Englishmen who toured India early this year will vouch for my statement. "I am extremely happy over my selection. I really tried hard for a place and it is a just reward for my efforts," were what John said when it was known that he is in the Sri Lanka squad. Tall and ideally built to be a paceman, John should be a fine supporting bowler to Asantha de Mel and Ravi Ratnayake. John's only weakness is that he tends to stop at the wicket before delivery. This is probably due to being flat footed in his run up to the wicket. If John could correct this shortcoming he should be able to extract much more pace. John's inclusion is the only change from the team that toured Pakistan in March this year and lost the Test series 2-nil and the one-day Internationals by 2 games to one.

This Test match against India is going to prove of vital importance to Sri Lanka cricket. The Selectors have put the players through their paces by way of trials and picked the best available team. Sri Lanka goes on this tour without an off spinner. ALLROUNDER would have liked to see Rochana Jayawardena fill this berth. He had two good trials and being the only one of his kind and looking very promising, he should have been given a place on this tour. Anyway this setback should not dishearten the youngster. On the contrary it should spur him on as success

is bound to come his way before long. This tour will also be of tremendous importance to the captain Bandula Warnapura and his deputy Duleep Mendis. Warnapura must count himself lucky to be in this squad. It was his century in the First Trial that secured for him a place in the team as captain. Warnapura and Mendis must make it a point of scoring runs against the Indians if Sri Lanka is to meet with success against the Indians. Sri Lanka will have to attack with their pacemen. The Indians are having quite a quiverful of spinners who are quite at home. It would be difficult to contend with them. Willis and Botham in the recently concluded series proved that the Indians are more vulnerable to pace in losing the series 1—nil

The Indians too, are not taking this short tour lightly although it is only One Test match and three One-day Internationals. The importance they attach to this tour can be gauged by the fact that they have asked the mercurial Kapil Dev to cut short his engagements with Northamptonshire in the English Country cricket scene and fly home to be in readiness to meet the Sri Lankan challenge. Sunil Gavaskar the Indian captain is still not match fit after having sustained a nasty injury to his ankle from a full blooded drive by Ian Botham when fielding close to the wicket in England in the Final Test. But information is that he will be fit and is keenly looking forward to the clashes with Sri Lanka in an endeavour to enhance his record-breaking scores. The Sri Lanka team selected to make the tour are: Bandula Warnapura (Captain), Duleep Mendis (Vice captain), Sidath Wettimuny, Ranjan Madugalle, Roy Dias, Somachandra de Silva, Anura Ranasinghe, Arjuna Ranatunga, Asantha de Mel, Ajit de Silva, Vinodhan John, Ravi Ratnayake, Bernard Perera and Mahes Goonetilleke. Stand-byes: Rochana Jayawardena, Guy de Alwis, and Kumesh Ratnayake. ALLROUNDER joins *Tribune* in wishing Warnapura and the Sri Lankans the best. They certainly need to give a very good account of themselves.

CRICKET—ENGLAND-PAKISTAN: In an article written in these columns a few weeks ago, I urged the Pakistanis to forget about the alleged bad umpiring and not make it an excuse for their resounding defeat at the hands of the Englishmen in the First Cricket Test. The Pakistanis seem to have done just that and concentrating on the game, they gave the Englishmen a hiding, winning the Second Test by 10 wickets at Lord's. This is a victory against England in England after 28 years. It was really a fantastic showing by the Pakistanis. Led admirably by one of the most feared fast bowlers Imran Khan, the Pakistanis simply ran rings round the Englishmen and made them bite the dust. Two performances stand out in the Pakistan victory. That of opening batsman Mohsin Khan, cousin of the captain and Majid

Khan and the performance of Mudassar Nasar, Mohsin in scoring a grand double hundred joined a very rare band of cricketers who have scored double hundreds at Lord's. Other cricketers to score double tons at Lord's are Jack Hobbs, Sir Donald Bradman, Wa'ly Hammond, Bill Brown, Joe Hardstaff, Dennis Compton and Martin Donnelly. Then when the Englishmen followed on it was medium pacer Mudassar Nasar who slashed through the English batting to put them on course for this unique victory. He is not a frontline bowler, but has time and again chipped in with a vital wicket whenever the ball has been handed over to him. Incidentally, Mudassar is the son of the great Nasar Mohammed who was the first to score a hundred for Pakistan in Tests. The Pakistanis have shown their true capabilities and it is every cricket fan's hope that they will be able to gain their first series victory against England in England.

MOTOR SPORTS: Names that are etched in the memory of motor racing fans were once again in the news. They were Bri Ponnambalam and Leslie N. de Silva. Ponnambalam was his usual confident self behind the wheel of a Renault Gordini and flashed through to register the fastest timing and first place in the Motor Cars up to 20 and 25 BHP at the meet conducted at Katukurunda. Leslie N. de Silva is also quite a veteran in the driving game and steering his modified Mini very cleverly won the two events he participated in and also returned the fastest timing in these two events. Others to impress were Upali Dassanayake on Honda Golden Wing Racer and Millinda Halckone on his Suzuki 750. ALL-ROUNDER understands that the arrangements for the meet was one of the best seen for a long time. Our congratulations to Shelton Perera, Secretary, Sri Lanka Motor Sports Club and his able hand of helpers and office bearers for conducting this meet without a hitch.

FOOTBALL: The Sri Lanka Football Board President's XI silenced all their critics and detractors with a splendid performance against the Hong Kong Rangers whom they did well to defeat by two goals to one at the Army Football Ground recently. The detractors of the Board of Control for Football in Sri Lanka were always criticising the Controlling Body. The refrain has been that the standard of the game had dropped since they took over and that a team should not be sent to the Asian Games in New Delhi. But with this victory, the Board XI has silenced all its critics who were seen leaving the ground at the end of the game hiding their faces and dodging past the officials of the Board of Control for Football in Sri Lanka who were all sporting big smiles on their faces. The local team's victory is all the more creditable when one considers the fact

that they were up against some of the hardened soccer professionals. The visitors were full of praise for the standard of the game here. With more training under the guidance of the West German coach Burkhard Pape football will be on the ascendant. The Hong Kong Rangers registered their best win of the tour when they trounced Renown Sports Club by nine goals to nil.

ALLROUNDER

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INDIAN SPORT

Log Cabin To White House

By P. V. R. Menon

New Delhi: Two Log cabin-to-White House transmutations have been masterminded by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi—Giani Zail Singh and the Ninth Asian Games. The sports infrastructure of India was in a mudhouse stage till recently. Soon it will have a resplendent aura befitting the majesty and grandeur of Rashtrapati Bhawan. Such is the rags-to-riches phenomenon achieved on the sports front in typical better-late-than-never manner, India now has the wherewithal to stage any international event, whatever may be its magnitude and dimension. Thanks to Mrs. Gandhi's pragmatism and foresight, India will soon be bracketed with the "Big League" of world sport facilitieswise, if not on the performance prowess and talentwise. Since the attainment of independence, Indian sport had a lone father protector in Jawaharlal Nehru. Besides guiding the destiny of the inaugural Asian Games held in Delhi in 1951, Nehru, who had a passionate love for sports and games encouraged sportsmen with paternal care... Another leader, endowed with the same concern and affection for sportsmen is Mrs. Gandhi. Her liberal sanction of funds, men and material for Asiad 82, despite the daunting reality that here was a calculated risk considering the constraints of time, is a glowing testimony to Mrs. Gandhi's committed involvement in the furtherance of sports and the welfare of the sporting youth of the country.

As for our sports administrators, they have the dubious distinction of being a crowd of sycophants which mills around the ruling elite—a crowd which only demands and covets, rather than contributes. All said and done, sportsmen and sportswomen of India have always looked upon Mrs. Gandhi as a mother protector and she responded to their aspirations by providing a rich bonanza christened Asiad 82. Unfortunately in India, as in politics, we have the ironic processing of perennial power-holders, power-seekers and power-brokers. So much so, very few sports officials are loved and lionised by sportsmen. On the

TRIBUNE, SEPTEMBER 4, 1982

other hands, there are many who are decried, detested and dreaded. It is nigh to impossibility to weed out these ageing sports officials, many of them nothing but fossils. It is, however, good for Mrs. Gandhi and the really sports minded and sports loving youth power of the country (no gimmicks please, like the Youth Congress-I-organized Sanjay Gandhi Memorial rural sports festival held in Dehli recently) to know that the imperative need of the country is some action-oriented, professionally competent people, not the ap-constrings of political leaders, "contractors" and "Commission agents" trading on sports and sportsmen... Otherwise, how, at a stage when the entire nation should fully be geared up to the organisation of the Games, out of the about 300 members of the AGSOC, about two-thirds are mere dead wood? Also, when the men in charge of the construction and the personnel dealing with the technical aspects of the Games are doing a splendid job, why the publicity of this dream event is in a nightmarish state? Considering the fact that the AGSOC has in its ranks old (un) faithfuls associated with Olympic sport since the forties, is it not a deliberate attempt to denigrate Mrs. Gandhi and the country by keeping the Asiad publicity at a sickening low key? On the other hand, with the timely employment of a semblance of imagination, the country could have achieved the dual purpose of spreading the gospel of Asiad and make a few quic bucks by commercialisation of APPU and launching of Asiad programmes through artists cine actors, sportsmen, cranivals, fairs, raffles, lotteries, competitions and what not. It has been a criminal Rip Van Winkle act on the part of the AGSOC, ... *Patriot.*

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IN SPORT

Drug Abuse

America's warrior heroes, the handsomely paid athletes of big league sports, had better clean up their act. Again, this time after a grim account of drug abuse by defensive lineman Don Reese in *Sports Illustrated* there is widespread concern about the influence of drugs and those who push them in the locker rooms of the pros. Even leaving aside the obviously strong feelings of Mr. Reese about the subject, and about the National Football League, every major sports league has been embarrassed by addict athletes. The extent of drug abuse in the pros is not clear, but the impact on professional sports is: It is threatening whatever credibility they still enjoy. Even assuming that drugs are no more prevalent among athletes than in any other occupational group, every story of a fallen idol is damaging to the young who look to these players as role models. Were it not for this influence of sports on youth -- which like it or not, is here to stay-- there

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might be little reason to care what these grown men do to themselves. If they can't perform, that's tough; it is a private industry. And the presumed majority of today's professional athletes who do not use drugs can choose simply to ignore the habits of their addicted or dealing tentatives. But they do so at their peril, not only because this ignores the damage done to the reputation of the pros, but also because it encourages a criminal element to influence personal performances and team results. There is an effective method of dealing with major league drug abuse; urinalysis. But no, say most of the players and their unions., this would be an assumption of guilt, an invasion of privacy and a change in working conditions not included in union contracts. Some constructive steps have been taken by the leagues, team owners and players to treat drug addition as a health problem and to emphasize help rather than punishment. And ultimately the decision to use drugs or quit rests with each player. But if drug abuse is to be addressed as a genuine health problem, all players should accept independent, confidential testing as normal procedure.

Washington Post, 12.7.82



SPORTS CHRONICLE

August 13 - 21

FRIDAY, AUGUST 13: Kandy Combined Schools scored a thrilling 5-run victory over victory over the visiting *Lincolnshire Junior Under 16 Cricket team* in a 45 over match at Lake View here yesterday. Kandy Combined Schools 176 for 8 in 45 overs and Lincolnshire Juniors 174 for 9 in 45 overs. Seven teams qualified for the Quarter final round in the *All-Island Inter-Club Softball Cricket Tournament*, for the Janatha Trophy. An *Exhibition Soccer* match between Trinco Youth SC and Colombo's Sunny Mount SC ended in a three-all draw at the McHeyzer Stadium after Trinco Youth had led 2—1 at Lemons.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 14: St. Peter's A need another 79 runs with eight wickets in hand, to beat Ananda A and stake their chances in this year's *Under 15 Division 1 Cricket Final* in the All-Island Cricket Tournament. The last pair O. Hamidon and D. Dharmasekera saw Reigning Champions Ananda A into another Under 17 Division I Cricket Final with a thrilling seven runs win over D. S. Senanayake MV in their Semi-Final at Ananda Mawatha yesterday. D. S. Senanayake A 144 and Ananda A 151. Stuarts Group beat Associated Management Services by 7 wickets in their *Mercantile F Division Cricket* tournament match played at BRC Grounds. Associated Management Services 57 all out in 24 overs and Stuarts Group SC 58 for 3 in 21 overs. Sri Lanka's cricketers due to tour Zimbabwe may play in Zambia too if a proposal by the *Zambia Cricket Union* (their *Cricket Board*) is accepted by our Board of Control

for Cricket. Zambia wants a three-day unofficial Test and two or three one-day (60 overs) matches with us. All expenses will be met by Zambia.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 15: Medium-pacer Ranesh Peiris bowled S. Thomas to a strong position taking 3 wickets for no runs and had D. S. Senanayake reeling at that score at close of play in the Schools Cricket Association *Under 15 Division 1* semi-final which began yesterday on the Health Department Grounds at Castle Street. S. Thomas 120 and D. S. Senanayake 3 for nil. Effective bowling by S. Kapukotuwa (6 for 39) helped S. Thomas A to dismiss Nalanda A for 161 in the Schools Crickets Association *Under 17 Division 1 semi-final* which started yesterday at Campbell Place. The visiting *Hong Kong Rangers Football Club* opened their one month tour of Sri Lanka with a 5—nil win over Sri Lanka Army in a soccer match played at the Army Grounds, Galle Face yesterday.

MONDAY, AUGUST 16: The S. Thomas Mount Lavinia—D. S. Senanayake *Under 15 (Division 1) Cricket* semi final ended on a controversial note on the health SC grounds at Castle Street yesterday. Both teams had their stipulated batting time of 5 hours each with the Thomians totalling 120 and D. S. Senanayake 109 for 8 at close. On an uninterrupted day's play in the *Trials for the matran truf*, the Sunday crowd at the NCC grounds were treated to a majestic innings of 77 from Roy Dias superb spin bowling by Oshadee Veerasinghe and Gamini Perera and hostile fast bowling, by Vinodhan John' Bandula Warnapura's XI were 80 for 2 wickets in 110 minutes batting replying to Roy Dias XI total of 243 made in 425 minutes. M.C. Sheik secured a double at the *Eastern Province Tennis Ranking Tournament* held at the Public Service Club courts recently. Shiek took the open singles title when he beat A.L. Navaratnarajah 6 - 3, 6 - 2 and later partnered Navaratnarajah to beat Dr. K. Rajasingham and A.N. Johnpillai 6 - 4, 6 - 3 in the open doubles event.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 17: A fine innings of 76 runs by S.K. Pallewela helped Royal B to be in a strong position in their *Schools Cricket Association Under 16 Division 11 semi final* against Isipatana A on the Colts grounds yesterday. Royal B made 140 and Isipatana A were 34 for 3 wickets. Nugegoda Catholic Youth Fellowship Sports Culb entered the Semi final of the *Sri Lanka Soft Ball Cricket Association Tournament* for the Janatha Cup. They beat Piliyandala Greenland SC by 27 runs in the quarter final of the tournament. Nugegoda CYF 55 and Greenland SC 49. Ananda B seem assured of entering yet another *Junior Cricket Final* today. Yesterday pacemen Vasantha Attanayake and Minidu Cumaranatunga sent Sri Jayawardena-pura MV Kotte reeling to 22 for 4 in their Under 15 Division 11 Semi final at Ananda Mawatha after

TRIBUNE, SEPTEMBER 4 1982

Ananda B had put up a formidable 261. Roy Dias XI ended the third day of the *Second Five-Day Trial* 146 runs ahead of Bandula Warnapura's XI with 9 second innings wicket intact at the NCC grounds yesterday. V.J.Saman with a 79 won the *Arpico Under 15 Golf-Championship* — six strokes ahead of Romesh Abhayaratne (85) and Rienzie Perera (88) at the Ridgeway's yesterday. The tie-breaker came into play in the opening matches of the *State Services Hockey Tournament* sponsored by D.A.Abeyasinghe and Co., at Police Park yesterday. The match between Police B and Prisons A ended in a goalless draw and the "Tie breaker" gave Police victory by 4 goal to 3.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18: Two of Sri Lanka's stars Roy Dias and Ranjan Madugalle gave "young hopefuls" a lesson in batting on the fourth day of the *Five-Day Cricket Trial* between Dias' XI and Bandula Warnapura's XI at the NCC grounds yesterday. Dias played another elegant innings of 89 and Madugalla stroke-filled 105; together they put on 111 runs for the 3rd wicket in 118 minutes which enabled Dias XI end the day in a strong position at 327 for 6 — an overall lead of 417 runs. Ananda entered another *Junior Cricket Final* when their Under 15 B team trounced Sri Jayawardenepura MV Kotte by 150 runs in a Division 11 Semi Final at Ananda Mawatha yesterday. In reply to Ananda's formidable total of 261, Sri Jayawardenepura 28 for 4 overnight, held out for 130 minutes -- before being all out for 111. A defiant half century with 6 four by H.Hapuarachchi saw Wesley rally from a shocking start — 4 wickets for 4 runs -- to 198 all out at the close on the opening day of their *Under 17 Division 11 Cricket Semi-final* against Dharmaraja at Lake View yesterday. A defiant unbeaten 103 with only 2 fours by Dihan Peiris and fine spin bowling by Anura Abeywickrema, helped Isipatana A beat Royal B by 6 wickets in their *Under 17 Division 11 Semi Final Cricket* match on the Colts grounds yesterday. Royal B 140 and Isipatana A 165. Rusi Captain returned the best score of 75 in the second round of the *Sri Lanka Junior Open Golf Championships*, sponsored by Richard Peiris & Co. Ltd. at the RCGC course yesterday.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 19: Spinners Ajith de Silva and Rochana Jayawardene captured eight wickets in 52.5 overs in the *Five Day Test Trial* between them to rout Warnapura XI for 206 and bring Dias XI victory by a thumping 211 runs. A sparkling century by skipper Senaka Dissanayake his third in the Tournament, put Dharmaraja in the *Under 17 Division 11 Cricket Final* In the first ever *Exhibition Soccer* match played at Polgahawela to raise funds for the Police Cadet Corps of the MMV, the Kegalle Youths scored a runaway win over Negombo Rovers by 7 goals to 3. Police A gave a repeat performance beating their B team once again by 1 goal to nil to retain the *State Services Knock out Hockey* Title at Police Park yesterday after a scoreless

TRIBUNE SEPTEMBER 4, 1982

first half. Lake House SC edged out Ceylon Tobacco by 8 matches to 6 in a table tennis contest played at the Lake House Recreation room yesterday.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 20: It took Trinity B just 3 hours and 35 minutes to rout Ananda by 7 wickets in the Replay of the *Under 15 Division 11 Quarter Final Cricket* match at Ananda Mawatha yesterday. After dismissing the Anandians for a paltry 92, Trinity Got 95 for 3 at 1.50 p.m. Saunders Sports Club avenged last year's defeat when they beat the reigning champions Balck Square Sports Club by 1 goal to nil in a pre-Quarter-Final of the *FA Cup Tournament* at the Army Grounds, Galle Face yesterday. Catholic Youth Front Dalugama, Kelaniya trounced Youth Soccer team, Sinharamulla by 5 goals to 1 in an *inter-club tournament* match played at Dingiwatte playgrounds, Wewalduwu Kelaniya last Sunday. All seeded players went into the second round winning their 1st round matches easily at the *Open YMCA Badminton Championships* yesterday at the Central YMCA Indoor Stadium.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 21: The Lake House Sports Club *Table Tennis* team stuck another feather in their cap when they beat the Old Royalists by 6 games to 3 in a match played on the Lake House tables recently. Four walk-overs in the *Women's Singles Open YMCA Badminton Championships* at the Central YMCA Indoor Stadium saw this event reach the Quarter final stage yesterday. Samantha Hettiaratchi a National Pool player, got two Walk overs and reached the Quarter finals where she will meet Imali Fernando, another pool player. The *Sri Lanka cricketers* will be paid guarantee money of nearly Rs. 3½ lakhs on their short tour of India next month. Sri Lanka will also play an additional One-day International in Delhi on September 15.

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Phony 'Phones

IS IT NOT TRUE that as the French telephone digital system is being extended, the troubles of the existing subscribers are increasing? That in the month of August the *Tribune* telephone has so far worked only for 3 1/2 days— 11th (half day), 12th, 13th, and 14th? That this 3 1/2 day miracle had happened on ministerial intervention? That whilst being thankful for small mercies, it is not good enough for a newspaper? That even when the telephone works, there are noises, cross-connections and other disturbances? That very often when one dials a number (which one is certain has not been changed) a "taped voice" cuts with the chorus "the number you dialled has been changed. . . ."? That one has to ignore these directives from the Exchange and persist in dialling until you get the number you want? That one can recount a whole series of other tricks our digitalised system performs? That instead of doing something to correct the French digital system, the government seems determined to inflict more of the French telephone fiasco on this country? That readers will recall that the *Sun* spotlighted a case of an alleged (attempted) bribery of one of its reporters by a Sri Lankan contact man reportedly of the French telephone multinational? That among other things, the reporter had been asked to highlight an agreement that the Indian government had signed with the same French company CIT Alcatel? That one of the virtues claimed by the French for the agreement was that reciprocity. . . "The co-operation would be two-way. . . ."? That the Sri Lanka -French telecommunication agreement does not pretend to have "reciprocity"? **That is all one way in favour of the French with the Sri Lankan subscribers being the victims of a terribly bad digital system?**

THAT IN THIS CONNECTION readers in Sri Lanka are entitled to know that in India the agreement with the French CIT Alcatel has raised a storm of criticism particularly in responsible political and commercial circles? That even the staid and conservatively over-cautious paper *Hindu* recently had a centre page feature entitled FRENCH OFFER ON ELECTRONIC EXCHANGES: THE NAGGING QUESTIONS by one of its star correspondents on economic affairs C.V. Gopalakrishnan? That the article opened: "As if stung by criticism that it had thrown a hush-hush over matters relating to its decision to accept the offer the nationalised French Company, CIT-Alcatel, to build a factory for producing annually five lakhs lines of electronic exchange equipment, the Government of India came out with a long press release on August 2 on the agreements it had signed with France during the visit of Mr. Louis Mexandeau, French Minister for Postal Services and Telecommunications. The press release is seemingly exhaus-

tive but it does not answer a number of questions which will still be asked. It should not be difficult for the Government to answer these questions since it has been stated that it was decided to accept the French offer in the larger national interests. In spite of this, the Government appears to be suffering from a lack of confidence about its ability to defend its decision and for this reason has ensured that the senior officers keep their lips sealed. The Communications Ministry does not seem to realise that its distrust of the press is not going to help anyone, least of all, itself. *Looking back upon what has happened in the last few months, the Government's lack of confidence about being able to defend its decision to accept the French offer is due presumably, among other reasons to its having ignored all the offers received from international companies before the deadline of the global tender expired on March 31, 1982. The floating of global tenders does not chain a sovereign government to making a choice from the offers received. It has the right to ignore the offers and accept a bid from any party if this decision is prompted by its larger national interests.* It is known that the Governments of India and France are keen to forge closer links, both political and economic with each other and it is perfectly legitimate for India to accept an offer from France in the field of telecommunications even if from the technical and other points of view the offer may not match those from the other parties."

THAT AFTER THIS PRELIMINARY CANTER, Gopalakrishnan went on to examine geo-political considerations in the awarding of such tenders? "The importance of geo-political considerations in international relations would seem to be self-evident and if, as it appears these considerations have influenced the acceptance of the CIT-Alcatel offer, there is no reason why it should have made the Communications Ministry develop a complex. An indication that the acceptance of the French offer has served India's national interests at least in one respect can be had from the official press release. The French Government has agreed to provide under a financial protocol signed in Paris in May last a total credit of 1080 million francs (approximately about Rs.150 crores) which is much higher than the foreign exchange cost of the project mentioned at Rs.74.22 crores in the official press release. It is not, however, quite certain whether this by itself would fully take care of India's requirements for building an efficient electronic telecommunications network." **That thereafter he goes on to examine the misgivings the Indian public and press have about the whole deal?**

To Be Concluded

MAHAWELI DEVELOPMENT BOARD

APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION AS CONTRACTORS FOR CIVIL WORKS IN THE MAHAWELI ACCELERATED PROGRAMME

Applications are hereby invited from those desirous to be registered as civil engineering contractors to undertake contracts costing Rs. 300,000 to Rs. 10 Million.

They will be required to show documentary proof of their financial worth, details of past experience in similar construction works including the value of such work done, technical staff and list of machinery and equipment available for the particular type of works for which registration is sought.

Applicants may seek registration in any one or more of the following categories of works.

- (a) Jungle clearing & earth work (with machinery)
- (b) Concrete structures
- (c) Buildings
- (d) Roads

Application Forms may be obtained from the Additional General Manager (Construction) Mahaweli Development Board, No. 11, Jawatta Road, Colombo 5, by forwarding a 9" x 4" self-addressed stamped envelope.

Contractors who are already registered with the Mahaweli Development Board (in the Head Office, Colombo) need not apply.

Applications close on 29th September, 1982.

**Chairman,
MAHAWELI DEVELOPMENT BOARD.**

21st August 1982.

24836



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