

# TRIBUNE

27TH YEAR OF PUBLICATION



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# TRIBUNE

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World Affairs  
Founded in 1954  
Every Saturday

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## LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

WITH THIS ISSUE "TRIBUNE" COMPLETES another volume, this time twenty six. The volume number, so far as *Tribune* is concerned does not denote its age although it is not far out. *Tribune* has been in publication since May 1954 and began the twenty-eighth year of publication in May this year. Our volume numbers however have lagged behind because the series were haphazardly changed once or twice when *Tribune* changed from magazine to newspaper size and then back again to the magazine format. At one stage we ran a volume up to sixty numbers instead of the usual fifty two. Moreover, every year we have skipped a number during the (April) New Year holidays and again during the X'mas season. ON THE COVER this week we have a picture to mark the end of the twentysixth volume and to herald the twentyseventh. We have been in continuous publication since we started in May 1954 except for two short periods, *first* in the Emergency Rule during the communal disturbances in mid -1958 and *second* in the heavy pre-censorship of the Insurgency in 1971. *Tribune* has lived through many other Emergencies with rigorous censorship, sometimes of a limited nature. From July 1977 we have had a freer hand to say what we wanted. This was only circumscribed for three short periods with limited and selective censorship imposed due to communal disturbances. *Tribune* does not know what the future has in store but it is difficult to forget that the most difficult period since Independence for independent periodical journalism was during the period of the SLFP-LSSP-CP coalition between 1970 and 1975. Even after the SLFP break with the LSSP in 1975 it was no better. It was one thing to acquire the Lake House group and hand it over to a Gang of Four to indulge in a kind of journalism that has now fallen into disfavour even in the homeland of Mao, but it was a totally unwarranted act of repression to shut down the entire Independent Newspapers (Gunasena's) group because the publications refused to kowtow to the whims and fancies of the misguided concepts of infantile leftism and feudal walauiism. *Tribune* lived through this period with a sword of Damocles hanging over its head with frequent threats to its existence and obstructions of many kinds. The machinery of state was used ( in many visible and invisible ways) to apply the screw to ensure conformism -- in the early days to something called "progressivism" and in the later days to "felixinism." Circumlocutory dissertations and the language of parables had often to be used to convey to our readers what we wanted to say. But more than anything else, if one, especially those who believed in socialism, did not pay homage to Mao and the Cultural Revolution, one was a renegade, a traitor and an enemy of progress. As *Tribune* looks back over 28 years, we have much to reminisce about. But this is not the time or place to indulge in such fanciful and nostalgic thoughts. To come back to the present. with this issue we also enter the period of the first ever Presidential election. At the time of writing, the final list of Presidential aspirants is not known. But some of the issues that will figure largely in the elections stand out very clearly. As we mentioned in this column last week, the marketing of agricultural produce and the granting of agricultural credit will figure largely in rural areas. The high prices of vegetables, fish, meat, eggs and other essential foodstuffs will also be a major talking point in town and country. The unconscionably high cost of electricity for domestic consumers has been highlighted by R. Kahawita in our issues of September 4 and 11 and he has made some concrete suggestions in regard to a fair and just domestic tariff which the Government will do well to adopt. According to Kahawita, the new tariff rates had been suggested by an international finance agency and that it had been adopted blindly by the C.E.B. The international agency is not concerned about the fate that will overtake a Government at the hands of voters, but Mr. Kahawita is.

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## On the Eve

Colombo, September 13: The decision of the Elections Commissioner to recognise the Sirima Group as the legitimate SLFP came as a surprise to nearly everybody. A columnist in the *Sunday Times* (12/9/82) aptly summed up the position: "In the afternoon of Thursday 9th December the Commissioner of Elections, Mr. Chandrananda Silva, settled a long-standing dispute in the Sri Lanka Freedom Party which originated on 2nd August 1981 with the Nittambuwa meeting. As a result of that meeting the Sri Lanka Freedom Party split into two one faction being led by Mrs. Sirima Bandaranaike and the other by Mr. Maithripala Senanayake. For over 13 months the two factions kept up a bitter feud which was highlighted in the newspapers and even ended up with litigation. But now by one stroke of his pen and with a decision that cannot be contested in any Court of law, the Elections Commissioner has taken the view that for purposes of Election Law, the recognized Sri Lanka Freedom Party is that which is led by Mrs. Bandaranaike. And in keeping with that decision he has awarded the "Hand" symbol to her. What is also important to note is that unlike the decision of a Court of Law which is always supported by a written judgement for that decision, the decision of the Elections Commissioner Mr. Chandrananda Silva, need not be supported by any reasons verbally or written. However, it is common knowledge that the Elections Commissioner had held an inquiry and interviewed representatives from both the rival and feuding factions of the SLFP before he finally decided. It is also relevant to note that although Parliament was sitting on Thursday 9th September till about 8 p.m. the news of the Elections Commissioner's decision had not reached Parliament and the Prime Minister was still on his feet when he was informed of the decision. Although the decision had not been conveyed to the national Press, it appears that the Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation's 6 p.m. news bulletin made reference to this important decision of the Elections Commissioner. Now that the Elections Commissioner has decided to recognize the SLFP (S) and toward it the 'Hand' symbol no one should question or doubt this decision. The fact that a Select Committee of Parliament chaired by Trade and Shipping Minister, Mr. Lalith Athulathmudali, had decided otherwise, and had held in favour of the Maithripala Group will not in any way effect the Election Commissioner's final decision."

Arjuna in the *Sunday Island* (12/9/82) in his column *Island Politics* said: "The decision by the Commissioner of Elections to recognize the SLFP led by Mrs. Sirima Bandaranaike was a closely guarded secret. In fact, the first time people knew about it was when

it was announced on the 6 p.m. news bulletin on Thursday night. The Ministers and MPs were in Parliament and heard of it much later." *Migara* in the *Weekend* column (12/9/82) *Men and Matters* was even more explicit: "The new Elections Commissioner surprised all and sundry with his last minute decision to recognize Mrs. Bandaranaike's wing of the Sri Lanka Freedom Party. Politicians and Lawyers from both government and opposition ranks were taken by complete surprise for by then, almost everyone had come to expect and accept the reality of the former deputy of Mrs. Bandaranaike, Maithripala Senanayake's SLFP getting recognition. Even Mrs. Bandaranaike had been advised by some of her own lawyers on an alternative course of action when they failed to get recognition, and not so much if they did not get it. After all in December last year, the Defence Ministry inquired into rival claims by the two SLFP factions and handed over the party headquarters down T. B. Jayah Mawatha, Colombo 10 to the SLFP (M). Then from February a Parliamentary Select Committee inquired into the expulsion of four MPs of the SLFP. In its report, they found that a meeting of the Central Committee of the SLFP presided over by Maithripala Senanayake was justified "without a doubt". The first obvious hint from the Elections Commissioner was when earlier this week the Department informed Sumathipala Jayawardena of the SLFP (M) that he had ceased to hold that position in the Colombo Municipal Council. This was done after the Court of Appeal had asked the Commissioner to hold an inquiry after SLFP(S) Secretary, Ratnasiri Wickremnayake filed an application in Court after sacking Sumathipala Jayawardena from the SLFP and therefore the CMC."

**There is no doubt that everybody was taken by surprise by this decision of the Elections Commissioner. The decision to recognise the Colvin section of the LSSP as against the Anil Moonesinghe breakaway pro-SLFP(S) faction as the legitimate LSSP caused no surprise.**

The Elections' Commissioner's decision to "recognize" the SLFP(S) was hailed as *A Triumph For Democracy* on the front page of the *Sunday Times* (12/9/82). It said *inter alia* that "it was unanimously acclaimed by the public and spokesmen of all political parties including the UNP. The triumph of democracy was the consensus among a representative cross-section by this correspondent. Dr. W. Dahanayake MP for Galle said, 'This decision should warm the hearts of democrats all over the world. Although it was a momentous decision, the UNP Government permitted the Elections Commissioner complete freedom to make his independent decision. President Jayawardena's dedication to justice and fairplay has been amply borne out.' The whispering campaign carried out by certain elements that the Maithripala group would be favoured

has been completely shattered. We UNPers now go into the campaign with muscle by virtue of an unadulterated democratic decision.' Mr. Jack Kotalawala a leading SLFPer said, 'The SLFP reacted very warmly to the Commissioner's decision. We hail it as a fair and independent judgement and hope that the Government will continue to be fair during the elections.' Other party spokesmen echoed the same sentiment. A TULFer said, 'Almost everyone felt that the Hand symbol and recognition would be given to the Maithri group. This decision has taken every party by surprise and it redounds to the credit of the Government that the decision has been a free and unfettered on.'

*Migara* in his lengthy discourse about the impact of this decision stated: "With just five days left for nominations day, the Presidential Election fever has risen to new heights. It was of all persons the Elections Commissioner who really generated voter interest by dropping a bombshell by his decision to recognize the Sri Lanka Freedom Party, unofficially led by Prime Minister Mrs. Sirimavo Bandaranaike. By this he unwittingly shut the Maithripala SLFP (M) group into the wilderness. At least one thing was achieved by this exercise. It was the re-establishment of the credibility of the Elections Commissioner at least where the opposition ranks were concerned. The Government's image of being democratic also rose even if the decision was an independent one of the Commissioner. No longer need the SLFP have unnecessary nightmares and sleepless nights on this issue...." Columnist *An Observer In the Times* took the opportunity to preach a homily on the subject: "Mr. Chandrananda Silva's decision clearly proves the independence of the Elections Commissioner in the political and administrative set up of Sri Lanka. Similar to the Elections Commissioner are other officers like the Auditor-General and the newly appointed Ombudsman. They have to exercise their functions impartially and maintain an integrity and independence similar to that of the Judiciary. While Mrs. Sirima Bandaranaike should be jubilant and happy about this decision of the Elections Commissioner, it is also a tribute to the fairness and the respect for justice and impartiality that is characteristic of President J. R. Jayewardene. This independent decision speaks well for the image of the government and the President. It confirms that our Elections will remain 'fair and free' as in the past. Some months ago Mrs. Bandaranaike was going round the country stating that she doubted whether there will be a fair and free election in Sri Lanka. She and her SLFP(S) also stated in public that pressure was being brought to bear on the Elections Commissioner. It is now evident that this was sheer nonsense and no such pressure was brought to bear on the Elections Department. The fact that the Government Parliamentary Group, the Prime Minister and the President were not even aware of Mr. Chandrananda Silva's decision in recognising the SLFP(S) is ample proof of the absence of any pressure being exerted on him. It is Mrs. Bandaranaike's govern-

ment on the other hand that did interfere even with the independence of the judiciary. People will recall how a former Secretary of Justice of the Bandaranaike Government attempted to defy and annoy the then Chief Justice and how the Chief Justice was compelled to put him in his place and cut him down to size. People will also recall with what respect certain judicial appointments made by the SLFP Government were held. A well-known practice those days at school-boy cricket matches was to shout the name of a judge who had been appointed by the Sirima Government whenever the spectators or the crowd felt that the Umpire had given a wrong decision. The Judge's name was made synonymous with a 'partial' decision. That was the general feeling that the public had about the independence of certain high officials during the Sirima Bandaranaike regime. It is not so now."

The Elections Commissioner's decision brought catalytic changes within the different factions of the SLFP. *Migara* highlighted the reactions within the SLFP(M): "At the meeting of their Central Committee at which Mrs. Maithripala Senanayake was also present, at least two persons, one a former Minister and another a present MP had suggested that the SLFP (M) initiate talks with President Jayewardene and join the government. However others felt that they had been let down and should rejoin the SLFP under Mrs. Bandaranaike. They also felt that it was best done sooner than later. Obviously the Maithripala Senanayake group felt utterly let down. A feeling of being kicked by the horse they looked after crept into a group which would have gone into the political wilderness for good had they not turned somersault and decided either to join the government or to reunite with a party they treated virtually as the political bastards of the SLFP. Maithripala Senanayake who once haughtily said that his was the official SLFP and he would consider an application from the Sirima Wing to join his party was not humbled to say that he would be supporting the candidate whose SLFP is led by Mrs. Bandaranaike. Maithripala Senanayake was hoping for the best, but expecting the worst. While he confidently put posters on streets walls with his photograph and the hand symbol in the background, he had also informally expressed a desire to meet Mrs. Bandaranaike privately. No sooner the Election Commissioner's decision was made public through an announcement only passed to the State Radio, the Central Committee of the SLFP (M) decided to support the official SLFP candidate and that same night (Thursday) a jubilant Mrs. Bandaranaike told the Press that she was prepared to take back SLFP (M) members upon their application."

**The SLFP (M) thus died a natural death. It is obvious that there cannot be a SLFP without at Bandaranaike.**

The *Sunday Times* columnist had this to say about SLFP (M) "The Elections Commissioner's decision has

also resulted in Maithripala Senanayake announcing that he will not stand as a Presidential candidate and that he and his group will now support any candidate that is put forward by the SLFP under the 'Hand' symbol. He also wants to hand back the Party headquarters. This decision speaks well for Maithripala Senanayake and shows his sincerity and consistency in the cause he fought for against family bandysm in the SLFP since the Nittambuwa meeting on August 2, 1981." But *Arjuna* of the *Sunday Island* was sharp and acidic about what he had to say about the SLFP (M) which faction was not a hot favourite of his paper: "By 7 p.m. the Maithri Group were at Mr. Senanayake's home at Jawatte Road. They were there to celebrate Ranji Senanayake's birthday, but it turned out to be quite different. The one most upset was Ranji who kept shouting 'Why?', 'Why?'. After she quietened down, a discussion took place on the repercussions of the decision. By 10 p.m. a statement was ready for the Press. This stated that the Central Committee had decided to support the SLFP official candidate and that Maithri will withdraw from the Presidential Stakes. The Statement was careful not to mention Hector Kobbekaduwa's name, as Mrs. Bandaranaike had not officially given her blessings to Hector. The SLFP (M) were anxious not to be caught on the wrong foot. Although some thought that the SLFP (M) had advance knowledge of the Commissioner's decision, the Central Committee meeting was a coincidence. Meanwhile, Mrs. Bandaranaike and others were celebrating at Rosmead Place. When asked whether she will accept Maithri and his group into the SLFP, she said, "Thang badagaagena ei" ( they will come crawling). The decision whethet to take them back will have to be decided upon by the Party. *Arjuna* could not resist the temptation to have a parting shot at the dead SLFP(M). "It had been obvious for some time that the Maithri Group in spite of the braggadocio of some of its heavy weights such as Messrs R.P. Wijesiri and P.G.B. Kalugalle, was a negligible factor in politics. Its meetings were drawing poor crowds and with the exception of the LSSP which seemed to be having some romantic affiliation to it, the Maithri group was treated as a junior partner of the UNP by the other left groups. But now, the Maithri group's decision to step down in favour of the official SLFP candidate will give new heart to a left still desperately searching for a strategy to defeat the incumbent President."

**Whatever said and done, the SLFP (M) adherents are extremely bitter. They had fondly believed that their faction would be recognised as the legitimate SLFP. In their disappointment that stemmed from the Elections Commissioner's decision, they have on the "rebound" turned against the UNP to jump into Mrs. B's bandwagon. There are elements in the SLFP(M) who will turn to the UNP rather than SLFP (S).**

All Sunday paper columnists after discussing the Elections Commissioner's decision, devoted space to

examine how the majority group in the SLFP (S) Politbureau outmanoeuvred Mrs. Bandaranaike, Anura and their supporters to stage a *fait accompli* to make Hector Kobbekaduwa the official nominee of the SLFP (S) -- now the SLFP. Through a series of pre-emptive strikes, Kobbekaduwa has become the symbol of the anti Anura trend in the SLFP. There are suggestions that attempts may be made to substitute Anura as the SLFP nominee at the ALL Island Working Committee meeting now scheduled for September 16 but according to reliable sources, this is not likely to succeed.

At the time of writing, the chances of a Common Opposition Candidate seems remote. Dr. Colvin R. de Silva has not given way to Hector Kobbekaduwa. There is pressure being brought on Dr. Colvin R. de Silva to withdraw in favour of the SLFP(S), but reports indicate that the veteran LSSP leader feels that it ce Hector K who should do the withdrawing. In the absence of a Common Candidate, Vasudeva Nanayakkara y. the NSSP has announced his decision to enter the fray. There are whispers that the JVP's Rohana Wijeweese may have second thoughts about contesting because of the uncertainties of getting the minimum vote of one eighth to save the deposit, but there has been announcement either way.

By the time this issue of *Tribune* is out on the 18th the nominations drama would be over. But the pre-nomination and pre-election drama has begun to gather momentum. Whilst some of the Opposition Parties are still doing whatever they can to establish anti-UNP unity, the government and the UNP are busy announcing benefits to end some long-standing grievances. Pensioners have been given a bonanza. The price of rice is being pushed down by the release of buffer stocks. Sugar price has come down by 50 cents a kilo. New pay scales for judges have been announced. The Police have been given better salaries and fringe benefits. The prospect of citizenship for the stateless has been raised. The nine-month old Paranthen Chemicals strike has been settled on terms acceptable to the trade union. The fishing community has been given extra special inducements for greater production. This is not a complete list of government decision.

**The question, however, is whether such inducements together with the other benefits the government has bestowed on various sections of the population in the last five year can override the burdens of very high prices ordinary people have to pay for food and other essentials —and also whether people will want to go back to the way of life under the SLFP between 1970-1977. This government, all admit, has been able to do a great deal, but was not able to contain inflation and high prices. Can the SLFP or the LSSP or the JVP bring down the prices and still continue the work of development that is obviously underway and maintain**

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**employment at the present level? Will the right to find employment abroad be restricted or stopped? These are some of the issues foremost in voters' minds.**



FILM FOCUS

## Television

Viewing Television has become the major pastime of many Sri Lankans. Those in this category must spare a thought for Vladimir Zvorykin, who having fathered this most modern media passed away recently at the age of 93. He was a Russian who became an American citizen, and the two major powers have to share the credit for the distinguished biography of this great TV technologist, who invented the first camera tubes—the iconoscope and the kinescope, which were the fundamental bases for all the advances in TV today. Well with that tribute to a great scientist, let us view academically a poser, set by India's Prem Kishore who states—and with which this column agrees—“Does TV invite snobbery, bitterness and restrict work and friendship patterns? Does it cater to an intelligent viewer? Has it brought about social change? Critics have been pummelling TV personal and haranguing them over the years, discussing TV as a costly irrelevance—a gilded toy, an idiot box, these being the less derogatory terms. And all the while TV is slowly percolating from the “elite” to the middle income groups, who opt for a TV set, even before buying a refrigerator, or making a down payment for a conveyance. Families rush through housework and dinners, re-arrange the furniture to accommodate the TV set and settle back to watch its screen. The race is still on to see if you can hoist your antenna, before your neighbour does.” This then very aptly is the TV scene in our country too today, and as the flow of rivers cannot be turned back, we must perforce begin to live with it within reasonable limits.

**TIME AFTER TIME** (English): A Warner Brothers Production which has not been sufficiently advertised. I was taken a back by its excellence. Much credit is due to Director Nicholas Payer for the creation, which in spite of its spoofy origins, transported picture-goers into the higher realms of credibility, while it lasted. It is 1983 and Jack the Ripper is at his favourite chilling pastime—stalking ladies of twilight to display his surgical prowess with compulsive killings. The Police close in on him at the residence of his friend—the famous H. G. Wells who is “trumpeting” his latest invention to his many friends, a vehicle that transcends time, either to or for at the press of a button. Jack on the run makes a surrepti-

tious getaway, undetected on this “Time Machine” and the chagrined H. G. gets on his trial—the common destination being San Francisco and the period 1979. With the narrowing of the time factor, the hunter and the hunted are momentarily at sea in their new periodic environments; and are in doubt by what they see on TV, whether they have moved forward or backwards in the march of civilisation. The chase is resumed thereafter, a common clue to the killer's whereabouts, being “linked” at a foreign exchange currency counter, which is “managed” by a pretty lass, with a heart for “old times”. The infuriated “Ripper” gets to his pastime again, his prize target now being the attractive cashier. As H. G. Wells closes in on him, I will leave you to take on the excellent fare from here. There were shades of Walt Disney in the whole creation, but more with an adult flavour. The ingenious sequences were well knit from the bizarre to the hilarious with a tongue in the cheek precision of make belief. Malcolm McDowell as H. G., David Warner as the Ripper and Mary Steinburgen as the dreamy cashier, bridged time with a rare brilliance, to magnify the potential of unrealsm by the cine media. The film signs off with the quotation “Every age is the same, it is only love that bridges time”.

**PALAIYANA CHOLAI** (Tamil): A slow take off, but a winner in the last couple of reels is just about what sums us this New Wave film, in the hands of amateur director Robert Rajasegaram, who makes maximum use of the latest talents of the promising starlet to the Tamil screen, Subashini, A natural actress, using her facial assets for capital histrionics, without “oomph” to go with it, she certainly should go far. In a land with a reputation for Eve-Teasers, five youngsters who congregate at street corners for their harmless antics, and race to the nearest parapet walls when their legs ache, prove collectively that they are the exceptions when a pretty dame passes by. And what's more, their noble instincts take over when they discover that the “girl” in question is breathing on borrowed time with cancer. The story turns so sentimental that a river of male tears are shed, and sacrifices made to sustain a flickering life, resignedly accepted to its facts. It is a down to earth film.

**CLASSICS**: A tailor made Western in extremely fine colour film “Shane” with the cold heroism of Alan Ladd as its hero, and Mark Twains' autobiographical and anecdotal story of the brief and glorious age of steamboats and their pilots “Life on the Missisipi” were the rich film fare at the American Centre—

James N. Benedict.



## ●Telephones ●Rural Credit

**Question :** *How long do you think the "TRIBUNE" telephone will work without going dead again? Has the Editor considered the possibility that he and the "TRIBUNE" are being punished by some frenchy stooges in Telecommunications for criticising the French digital system and exposing the activities of the French connection?*

**Answer :** This is a question that has been actively discussed in the Tribune office. This possibility (of Tribune being taught a lesson) was put to a high official in the Telecommunications Department and it was vigorously denied. "Such a thing will never be done," he said. "We did not know your phone was so badly affected. . . . we will keep your line under observation to see that nothing goes wrong again. . . ." That assurance was given on Wednesday September 8. The phone has behaved itself since, then. To recall the immediate past, the Tribune telephone had worked only for 3½ days in the 31 days of August (it will be interesting to see what the computerised bill for the month will be). We had not kept a tally of the days it did not work in May, June and July. The phone became alive on September 1 and worked until September. It went dead on September 5, 6 and part of 7. Then another miracle took place and the phone started to function from around 3 p.m. on the 7th. We received assurances from high officialdom that the phone will behave itself hereafter the next morning. Tribune now lives in hope that the phone will continue to function. We also hope that all other subscribers too will get the benefit of the new miracle.

**Questions :** *Have there been any developments in India regarding the agreement signed with the French CIT Alcatel Company for 10 B digital system?*

**Answer :** The only known development is that Minister C. M. Stephen who signed the agreement and who had defended the agreement with great gusto has been moved out of the Communications Ministry to some other Ministry in the recent Cabinet re-shuffle. In the meantime news is to hand that Italian technology for a new phone model has been accepted by the Indian Government. A report from New Delhi dated September 6 read: "The Public Investment Board (PIB) of the Union Government has approved the choice of the technology offered by Face Standard of Italy (a subsidiary of the International Telephones and Telegraphs of US) for the manufacture of a new model telephone by the Indian Telephone Industries Ltd. The project estimated to cost Rs. 15 crores will be

located partly at Gonda, Uttar Pradesh, where a new factory will be set up for the manufacture of five lakh telephone instruments a year, while the existing ITI factory at Naini (near Allahabad) will take up the production of another five lakh instruments. The Gonda factory will be expanded later to produce one million telephones." What the French company has offered may be something totally different from what India is getting from the Italians. And India is large enough to have more than one technology or system for its communications. In Sri Lanka we do not manufacture, we only buy equipment. We are probably too small to start plants to manufacture equipment. But this is no reason why we should be saddled with a system that works badly.

**Question :** *What do you make of Mr. Ronniet de Mel's statement in Anuradhapura on or about August 18 when he is reported to have said that if "42 banks can't compete with one, we might as well jump into the Nuwara Wewa."?*

**Answer :** This statement was made by the Finance Minister in the course of a speech when the State Bank of India opened a branch in Anuradhapura. Below is an extract from the speech as reported in the press: "Some people expressed fears that local banks would not be able to compete with the State Bank of India with 6,000 branches all over the world. We have 42 branches of our banks in this district and these 42 would have to compete with one in Anuradhapura. If we cannot, we might as well go jump in the Nuwarawewa and drown, said Mr. Ronnie de Mel, Minister of Finance and Planning, at the opening of a branch of the State Bank of India in Anuradhapura. Mr. de Mel said that the religious, cultural and trade ties between Sri Lanka and India were about 2,500 years old. The State Bank of India would not only give its expertise to the local banks but also help the small agriculturist and industrialist with its experience particularly gained in the remoter rural areas of India." Those who have good reasons to condemn what it called neo-colonialist infiltration even from India, will realise that there is much to be said from a practical and pragmatic angle to allow a little competition in the banking field. After decades of near monopolistic operations our State Banks are the very antithesis of what commercial or Agricultural banks should be. The less said about them the better. Their performance in the field of agricultural credit is a dismal story of missed opportunities, bureaucratic red tape and a total disregard for the farmer. In other countries, in rural areas bank officials go to the farmer, find out his needs, grants loans and credit in the way most useful to him and also help him to sell the produce and thereafter recover what is due to the bank. But not so in Sri Lanka. The farmer has to go to the Bank wasting many mandays of labour to get a *yes* or *no* for a loan. By the time he gets it, if at all, the planting season will be over and he



will spend the money to buy a bicycle or a radio he has seen in the shops when he came to town to see bank officials. Thereafter, he becomes a defaulter and in the fullness of time the Government has to write off the debt.

The State Bank of India has a proud record of work helping the small industrialist and the farmer. Sri Lanka's banks only help the big tycoons with political pull or punch. The State Bank of India is perhaps the biggest in India. It employs 170,000 persons. It is well known that the State Bank of India has had the unique experience in the financing of agriculture, small scale industries and small business in India. It is India's biggest bank serving the smallest man. Agriculture has suffered in our peasant areas and in the dry zone because our State-owned banks here refused to approach agricultural credit in the way it should have been done. Our bank officials are inhibited by the bureaucratic rules of import-export commercial banking. If a poll is taken among farmers who had done business or had tried to do business with our state banks, they would want all our bank officials to be compulsorily drowned in the Nuwara wewa or some other wewa. This country needs a new breed of bankers such as the State Bank of India has spawned in the vast sub-continent across Palk straits.



BOOK REVIEW

## 'A Must' on Current Affairs

**THE INDUSTRIALISED NATIONS OF THE WEST AND THE THIRD WORLD** By S. P. Amarasingam—Rs. 50/- —A Tribune Publication.

Neo-colonialism is a popular word now-a-days. It is used by historians, economists, politicians of every party and journalists of the popular press. If you wish to get a glimpse of its true meaning you should read Mr. Amarasingam's new book. We find here the presentation of the tragic economic scene of our times by perhaps the most senior media man of our times who has for half a century watched the local and international politico-economic scene from day to day. A generation born after the second World War finds it difficult to see the "before" and the "after". Mr. Amarasingam's book helps them round the bends and shows how the new Brahminism of high finance, high technology, and international monopoly capitalism keeps the greater part of humanity in line to serve the consumerism of about fifteen percent of the human species. In our day, living on *Spaceship Earth*, the computerised exploitation of cheap raw materials and cheap labour of the so-called "Third World" backed by covert military power is

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drawing to a point which hurts and frustrates both those that give and those that receive. A New International Economic Order is no longer an ideal: it is a necessity if the world in its present shape is to see the year 2,000.

The Third World does not see any humour in the situation, notwithstanding Dr. Milton Friedman and the IMF. The game of structuring spaceship earth into a dependent (and please don't say "inter-dependent") press-button capitalism to serve a tiny fragment of the species will not hold much longer even though political power flows from the barrel of a gun. It will not hold despite the feverish attempts (overt and covert) by various forces to destabilise politically and militarily the third world countries of Asia (including Sri Lanka), Africa and Latin America. The most powerful countries today are ending up by throwing their best resources to super technology in armaments and allowing a technological drag in their industrial complexes, a situation which will lead to a stagnant economy together with a superb and over-bearing military complex geared to a war that cannot be fought. But, some families and some politicians all over the world are rapidly making money over this process. And what of the Third World? At least we have the luxury of a hope to survive the holocaust! Much is said now-a-days, notwithstanding the club of Rome, of the Atom Bomb, the Population Bomb, the frantic scramble to control world's scarce resources and cheap labour. But the species can't go wrong. Two billion people of the Third World are not going to lie down and die quietly to make the system in its present form continue for long. Things fall apart: the centre doesn't hold. The Emperor has no clothes -- and all can see it!

It is not practical to set out the many issues presented by Mr. Amarasingam in his book. One may not agree with all he says. But read it and respond and just not exclaim "Is that really so?" Sadly, it is really so. That is why the book has been written for a readership wider than that of Sri Lanka. In a shrinking world all alive today (yes, you and I) are involved in the issues set out. And we have "our man abroad" Dr. Gamani Corea, trying to do something about it. As he himself says the problem concerns all of us -- and our survival to the year 2000 and beyond. Mr. Amarasingam probes the nature of economic independence and the process of exploitation underlying certain major international economic relations. What is the meaning of a growing foreign debt? What are the implications of an "export-oriented development" in a process of continuously declining terms of trade? Who are the faceless men behind transnational corporations which among themselves account for a rising share of total international trade? And what are intra-firm international transfer-prices for commodities and services in a computerised analysis of profit margins and tax avoidance? What is the significance of a rising foreign public debt and a continually depreciating currency? We ask today what has happened

to Mexico with its foreign debt of 80 billion dollars? And, what is in store for Poland, Brazil, Argentina and Venezuela? Sri Lanka's net foreign debt has risen from Rs.4,968 million in 1976 to Rs.29,172 million by the end of 1981. In 1981 the island's Gross Domestic Product rose by 5.8% but the Gross National Product rose only by 4.2% because of the outflow abroad of net factor income of Rs. 438 million—a payment of interest and dividends abroad.

*Mr. Amarasingam's book brings alive these problems of our times. It is a "must" in the reading list on current affairs.*

**G. I. O. M. Kurukulasuriya**

Govt.



Notice

**The Land Acquisition Act (Chapter 460) As Amended by the Land Acquisition (Amendment) Act No. 28 of 1964**

**NOTICE UNDER SECTION 7**

*Reference No. 3/62/641  
03J.79 E.796*

It is intended to acquire the Land/Lands described in the Schedule below. For further particulars please see the Gazette Extraordinary of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka No. 209/4 of 07.09.1982

**SCHEDULE**

- Name of Village etc* : Nikawewa village in Nikawagampaha Korale, Polpitiyagama D.R.O's Division, Kurunegala District.
- Name of Land* : Wankone watta, alias Bogahamula watta, Pahala Ela watta, Wewagawa watta
- Plan and Lot Nos.* : 540, 541, 542 and 543 in Supplement No. 2 in F.V.P. 2996.

The Kachcheri,  
Kurunegala,  
1st September 1982.

**A. George**  
District Land Officer  
Kurunegala, District.

POEM

**THE MYTH OF THE RULING RACE**

When Kipling was a stripling  
In the days of Gunga Din,  
He praised the British jingoes and  
Their destiny to win.

He wrote of wars and triumphs of  
That proud Imperial race,  
Of their victories and valour  
And the odds they had to face.

He wrote of martial races bold  
Of muskets and of men,  
Of viceroys and elephants,  
Of God of hosts—Amen.

Of battle-fields and barrack-rooms,  
Of British beer and ale,  
Of cannon-ball and carnage great  
Which leave us cold and pale.

He sang of Simla summer scenes  
And of the tropic heat,  
"Of East is East and West is West  
And never twain shall meet".

He sang of Windsor's widow with  
Her far-flung battle-line,  
Manned by her poor heroic sons  
Who sacrifice and pine.

With the dawn of Independence  
The British sun has set,  
And with Indian stars in firmament  
The East and West have met.

Now natives rule their motherland  
And Britain waives the rules,  
While jingoes and such white sahibs  
Are now their willing tools.

Having lost the brightest jewel  
In the mighty British Crown,  
The myth of white supremacy  
Has dawned on Mr. Brown.

**Mervyn Casie Chetty**

**August 29 - Sept. 4****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; *IDPR*—Information Dept. Press Release

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 29:** The United National Party Executive Committee unanimously picked President J. R. Jayewardene as the party's nominee for the forthcoming Presidential elections yesterday. Four resident Engineering students of the Peradeniya University have been suspended for ragging. The railway will start from 1st September an inter-city express train service between Colombo Fort and Kandy; it will stop at Peradeniya junction only; the train will leave Colombo Fort at 7 a.m. and arrive in Kandy at 9.30 a.m. on the return journey it will leave Kandy at 3 p.m. and arrive in Colombo Fort at 5.30 p.m.—*SO*. At the request of Prof. B. L. Panditharatne Vice Chancellor and Dr. F. Kemasiri, Director of Student Welfare, University of Peradeniya, senior dons of the various faculties are assisting the Directors of Student Welfare and the security officers in clamping down on ragging within the halls of residence. An organisation in Borella with principals in Denmark is purchasing 14-day-old babies to service the baby export market. Airlanka's new Tristar L 1011-500 jetliner will fly into the Colombo Airport, Katunayake at 8.45 this morning marking yet another milestone in the country's aviation history—*ST*. President J. R. Jayewardene, yesterday expressed confidence that he would win the Presidential election comfortably. Rampant drug abuse has emerged as a major health hazard in Sri Lanka as the country becomes firmly entrenched as a dumping ground for sub-standard drugs and those classified internationally so highly injurious to health. Several Members of Parliament have appealed to President J. R. Jayewardene to reconsider the decision to retrench staff of Corporations that were said to be non-viable. The manpower crisis faced by the Police may compel the Defence Ministry to deploy the armed services in areas considered vulnerable on the date of the election—*WK*. The Minister of State Mr. Anandatissa de Alwis has complained to President J. R. Jayewardene that the

running of the Katunayake Airport restaurant, which was earlier under the Ceylon Hotels Corporation has now been handed over to a bathroom maintenance contractor of the airport. The Elections Commissioner Mr. Chandananda de Silva is likely to announce the date of the nomination as well as the date of the Presidential election tomorrow by a gazette notification. The General Council of the Tamil United Liberation Front which met at Trincomalee yesterday resolved that the TULF should meet on September 15 to decide upon its course of action regarding the Presidential election. Security forces have launched an intensive search for eight people in connection with terrorist activities in the North—*IS*.

**MONDAY, AUGUST 30:** Prime Minister R. Premadasa said on Saturday that opposition parties were seeking to bring back the 1972 Constitution in order to suppress the freedoms of the people. "The forthcoming presidential election will give you an opportunity of deciding between going back to that pre-1977 period or preserving your sovereignty under the present Constitution," he said. The TULF General Council meeting at Trincomalee on Saturday has decided that they will not run at the presidential election; no decision however, was taken on whether the party should boycott the election or which candidate they should support. All Government Agents were directed to ensure a strict check in the issue of public licenses for firearms and explosives at Saturday's GAs conference. Sri Lanka is now almost self-sufficient in textiles with the local industry producing 170 million metres a year, against an estimated consumption of 180 million metres—*CDN*. President Jayewardene told a mammoth rally at Raddoluwa yesterday that he was proud of the development schemes completed and which are on the verge of completion, within the last five years. Three foreigners and a Sri Lankan were taken into custody by the Wellampitiya Police for possessing heroin worth Rs. 12 lakhs. Will Mr. Maithripala Senanayake, leader of the Sri Lanka Freedom Party (Maithri) Group and the Party's acknowledged candidate for the forthcoming Presidential polls, be away from Sri Lanka during nomination day and the vital day of the elections; this is the talking point in political circles as it is now confirmed that the SLFP(M) leader would be in Rome and the Bahamas during this period—*CDM*. The emergency declared last month following the incidents in the Galle town, has been allowed to lapse, President Jayewardene announced yesterday. The press censorship which was clamped down along with the state of emergency was also lifted yesterday. The dates for nominations and the Presidential elections will be announced today by Elections Commissioner Chandrananda de Silva. Ayurveda drug manufacturers will be required to obtain permits to collect their quota of medicinal herbs, the Ministry of Indigenous Medicine has decided—*SU*. Reports from Nuwara Eliya where several SLFP (S) stal-

warts have gathered for the past few days indicate that Mr. Anura Bandaranaike is likely to be the party nominee for the forthcoming elections. The Employees Trust Fund is now studying the possibility of investing its funds in foreign companies operating in Sri Lanka—*IS*. A group of Sri Lankans returning from war torn Lebanon were able to identify 21 of the many prisoners in Israel "Prisoners-of-war" camps as Sri Lankans—*CO*. Mr. A. Y. S. Gnanam the Chairman of St. Anthony's Consolidated Ltd., announced that a cement manufacturing factory will be set up at Trincomalee at a cost of Rs. 30 million—*VK*.

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 31:** Nominations for Sri Lanka's first presidential election will be received at the Colombo Town Hall on September 17, President Jayewardene's 76th birthday: the poll will be on October 20, a government spokesman announced yesterday.—*CDN*. A young Dutch woman arrested at Karachi Airport on Sunday evening with nearly a kilogram of heroin is being interrogated for her possible international connections, anti-drug authorities said today—*SU*. The Central Committee of the SLFP(S) failed to arrive at a decision to pick the party candidate for the Presidential election even after four-hour deliberations at Rosmead place yesterday. 200 casual employees of the Government-owned Business Undertaking of British Ceylon Corporation were discontinued while 400 permanent employees of the company were suspended for a period of five days following a five-hour strike—*IS*. It was officially announced yesterday by the Elections Commissioner Mr. R. K. Chandrananda de Silva that the first ever presidential election in Sri Lanka will be held on October 20—*VK*. Votes in the forthcoming Presidential election will be counted at the respective Kachcheris and not at election centres as earlier; this arrangement has been made purely for security reasons—*DP*.

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1:** The lowering of fixed deposit interest rates by the commercial banks, now fighting to overcome the problem of the high cost of funds, has resulted in a substantial volume of these deposits being transferred to the National Savings Bank which is maintaining its old interest rates—*CDN*. Compensation payable for the compulsory acquisition of land in the area of authority of the Greater Colombo Economic Commission will be on the same basis as under the Land Acquisition Act, namely the market value—*CDM*. A hexangular contest at the forthcoming Presidential elections became imminent yesterday with moves by opposition political parties to field a common candidate ending up in failure. Police yesterday sought the permission of the Speaker to question a politician who allegedly raped a girl after bringing her to Colombo on the pretext of giving her a job—*SU*. The Court of Appeal yesterday quashed the conviction by the Hatton Magistrate of Mr. M. H. K. Jegathsena, former

Chairman, Janatha Estates Development Board No. 1 and Director of Central JEDB and five others in the case in which they were charged with being members of an unlawful assembly and insulting Mrs. Sirima Bandaranaike at Upper Glencairn bungalow, Dickoya on May 13, 1979—*IS*. The Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation and Rupavahini will provide the opportunity for Presidential election candidates to go before the people to explain their policies; 45 minutes will be allocated to each candidate which would be used on one occasion or 15-minute talks on three days—*CO*.

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 2:** President Jayewardene will begin his election campaign on Saturday, September 4 at Anuradhapura. Cabinet has approved the acceptance of a credit of approximately Rs. 303 million from France to finance the first stage of the Nilwala Ganga flood protection program on a recommendation by Mr. Ronnie de Mel, Minister of Finance and Planning; the total cost of this project is estimated at Rs. 703 million. Several Deputy Directors in the Health Ministry yesterday refused to pay parking fees to traffic wardens in front of the Ministry office. The Ceylon Shipping Corporation's first fully cellular ship to ply the Colombo Japan route arrived in Port on Tuesday and was formally taken over yesterday when Shipping Minister Lalith Athulathmudali hoisted the National flag aboard at 12 noon—*CDN*. Two Jaffna youths allegedly involved in guerilla operations in the North-Eastern Indian State of Assam are reported to have been shot dead by Indian forces. The work on the Randenigala reservoir, the last of the major reservoirs on the Mahaweli Ganga cascade, will commence early next month according to Mahaweli Ministry sources—*IS*. President J. R. Jayewardene has called for an immediate clean up of Airlanka's air cargo terminal—the result of *Sun's* exposure on the chaotic state of affairs there—*SU*. President J. R. Jayewardene yesterday directed all Ministers and Government MPs to bear their own costs when setting about for their election campaigns—*CDM*.

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 3:** The GCE A level physics papers 1 and 2 will be repeated countrywide on October 9, the Examinations Department announced yesterday. Mr. Chandrananda de Silva, Commissioner of Elections has appointed returning officers to each of the 22 electoral districts—*CDN*. Motor vehicle owners will be liable to pay 30 percent surcharge for late payment of licence fee due on all motor vehicles after 12 months of the closing date specified by the Minister of Transport. Complaints have been received by the Labour Ministry that employers do not give the benefits of the Employees Provident Fund and the Trust Fund to temporary employees—*CDM*. Twelve tearful Sri Lankans showed unrestrained joy last evening at the Katunayake Airport safe in the

knowledge that they were home where they belonged. Voters in all electoral districts except four will have increased representation in parliament that will be elected in the forthcoming parliamentary general election; under the PR system there will be 196 seats distributed among 22 electoral districts instead of 168 seats among 24 districts as at present. All Ceylon Tamil Congress leader Kumar Ponnambalam will be the first Presidential candidate to deposit his cash security for the elections—*SU*. If the SLFP (S) is not recognized as the lawful SLFP by the Commissioner of Elections its candidate is expected to contest at the Presidential elections as an Independent using an independent symbol. Pressure is mounting within the TULF's radical group to declare a "positive boycott" of the forthcoming Presidential elections—*S*. The forthcoming Presidential election will cost the State Rs. 55 million—*CO*. Out of the 139 policemen transferred from the South to Jaffna 45 have refused to go on transfer to this area; they did not arrive in Jaffna upto yesterday—*VK*. Malpractices have been going on at the Paddy Marketing Board; a fraud of Rs. 42 lakhs has been detected the Government Accounts Division—*ATH*.

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 4:** The possibility of making the new Reclamation Road shopping complex now nearing completion, a dutyfree centre devoted largely to tailoring is now under active governmental consideration, authoritative governmental sources said yesterday. Government authorities are worried about the indiscriminate use of containers of dangerous chemicals and other poisons for various purposes including packing food and drink—*CDN*. The Government has directed the Minister of Finance and Planning Mr. Ronnie de Mel to examine the imposition of a bank levy tax on all Commercial Banks in place of the Business Turn over tax—*CDM*. All government schools and a few private run will face an unscheduled five-day closure from October 18 to 21 on account of the Presidential elections. President J. R. Jayewardene is to tell all Government MPs to strictly adhere to polls laws during the ongoing polls campaign—*SU*. While Deputy Leader of the SLFP(S) Mr. T. B. Illangaratne was quoted in the *Dinakara* yesterday announcing that Mr. Hector Kobbekaduwa was the official Presidential candidate of the SLFP(S), Mrs. Sirima Bandaranaike told a public meeting held at Bulathsinhala last night she is the Presidential candidate *IS*. The Education Department has postponed the interview to be held for three days from today to recruit 402 estete school teachers, indefinitely—*VK*. The Sri Lanka Air Force and the Indian Sea Coast Guard have decided to introduce a new method to look after the affairs of fishermen who go to sea and get stranded—*DV*.

## THE FOREIGN SCENE

VOA EDITORIAL

### Middle East Peace Initiatives

*Washington, September 7:* President Reagan sees the questions of territory and security as inextricably intertwined in finding a solution for the historic Arab-Israel conflict. This link is clearly stated in UN Security Council Resolution 242. The resolution calls for two things *one*, the withdrawal of Israeli armed forces from territories occupied in the 1967 war; and *two*, recognition of the right of every state in the area to live in peace within secure and recognized boundaries. These principles are incorporated in the 1978 Camp David agreements. The latest US proposals fit neatly within the Camp David Framework. They call for a freeze on Jewish settlements on the West Bank and Gaza Strip, settlements which are seen as an obstacle to further progress under the Camp David process. The US opposes the Israeli annexation of West Bank and Gaza, as well as establishment of an independent Palestinian State there. Instead, there should be, as the best chance for peace, self-government by the Palestinians in association with Jordan. The Camp David Agreements, it should be remembered, call for arrangements for the West Bank and Gaza Strip designed to give their inhabitants full autonomy for five years. During this time there are to be negotiations on the final status of the territories and talks in a peace treaty between Israel and Jordan.

In the past three years, there has been some progress but no agreement on autonomy for West Bank and Gaza inhabitants; Jordan, although invited, has not participated in the post-Camp David talks; and a costly conflict has been fought in Lebanon. Now, the recent events in Lebanon provide a unique opportunity for dealing with the legitimate aspirations of the Palestinian people and for moving toward a final peace. That is clearly one of the reasons for the timing of the new US proposals. It should be emphasized, however, that these proposals do not in any way dilute the US commitment to the security of Israel. That commitment is, in President Reagan's word, ironclad. Instead the proposals are designed to increase Israel's security by moving toward a lasting peace -- the state of affairs where everyone's security is protected. The proposals themselves represent very serious, well-deliberated US positions designed for months and even years ahead.

The US view is that, regardless of initial reactions, the proposals are worthy of further study and as the basis for discussion by all parties, such discussions can lead the kind of peace sorely lacking in the Middle East for more than three decades -- there is too much at stake for a stalemate -- *USIS*.

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UNITED STATES  
ARMED ISRAEL

## To Liquidate PLO

*New York, Aug. 30:* A staggering arms supply by the United States to Israel in the first quarter of this year only confirms the US complicity in the Israeli invasion of Lebanon, according to a report quoting *Philadelphia Inquirer*. Several months before the start of the Israeli invasion the Pentagon sharply increased supplies to Tel Aviv of offensive types of weapons. According to classified figures of the US Defence Department, which were quoted by the newspaper *Philadelphia Inquirer*, in the first quarter of this year, the US arms supplies to Israel were worth a total of 217.695 thousand dollars. This is almost ten times as much as in the first quarter of 1980 or 40 percent up on the figures of the same period last year, the newspaper said. Among the weapons supplied were ten F15 fighter aircraft, 19 self-propelled 155cm Howitzers, 14 mobile tank repair shops and ammunition worth more than six million dollars. In May, just before the start of the aggression, the Israeli army received 25 M-60 tanks and in June another 15 such tanks were shipped to Israel to make good the losses suffered in fighting against the Lebanese and Palestinians. Among the delivered armaments were 10 F15 fighter planes, 19 self propelled 155 mm Howitzers and six odd million dollars worth of shells, bombs and small arms and ammunition. In May, immediately before the start of the aggression, the Israel army received 25 M60 tanks. Another 15 such tanks were shipped to Israel in June to make up for the losses sustained in fighting against the Lebanese and Palestinian fighters. — *IPS*

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ANATOMY OF A  
SEPARATIST MOVEMENT

## KHALISTAN

By Thierry Lalevee and Uma Zykyvsky

*New York* IN SEPTEMBER 1981, A SMALL BAND OF TERRORISTS hijacked an Indian Airlines aircraft from India to Pakistan, making international headlines as representatives of the obscure "Khalistan" separatist movement. Although no one in India knew much about this group, the Khalistanis, as they call themselves, had taken care to inform the *New York Times* of their goals a few weeks prior to the hijacking. The *Times* reported that the group demanded Indian recognition of the "nationhood" of the Sikh community and acceptance

of their plan to carve a new Khalistani nation out of a big part of north India. There are approximately 16 million Indian Sikhs, a separate religious community which comprises about 2 to 3 percent of the nation's population. The Sikhs share many customs and beliefs with Hinduism and have never expressed a desire to separate from the country. Nevertheless, the Khalistanis, a fundamentalist extreme sect within Sikhism, told the *New York Times* that they will use terrorism, sabotage and communal rioting to force India to surrender to their demands for a "Sikh homeland." In April this year, the National Council for Khalistan and the Dal Khalsa party, both groupings of Khalistani separatists, systematically provoked Hindu-Sikh riots in the holy city of Amritsar. The riots were triggered with an old British colonial trick; the Khalistanis placed severed cow heads in Hindu temples where the cow is considered a sacred animal. The Indian government reacted swiftly, banning the Khalistanis and clearly expressing what everyone in India thought and saw: First, the Khalistanis have no support for their movement, even in the areas they claim for a homeland; and second, by choosing Pakistani dictator Gen. Ziaul Haq as a "friend" and sparking conflict between Hindus and Sikhs -- two communities that have coexisted peacefully for a long time -- the Khalistan movement was doing a third party's dirty work.

THERE ARE THREE LEVELS to any investigation of the Khalistan movement: who is behind it? Why? And how is it organized so effectively that even with virtually no base in India, it is still operating internationally? *Indian government investigations have located the primary bases of operations for the Khalistanis in London, the United States, and Canada. In these three places, the group's main activities are concentrated on pulling in overseas Indians to fund the homeland scheme. As was the case with Muslim fundamentalist operations, it is known that funds and material from Great Britain and North America, including guns, are entering India through Sikh religious channels and being hoarded in temples which are off-limits to the police.* By February of this year, no doubts remained for the Indian government that Washington and London were giving shelter to the Khalistan movement. After the Indian government revoked the passport of the movement's London-based leader-in-exile, **Jagjit Singh Chauhan**, on the grounds that the Khalistan movement was secessionist and terrorist, the Washington-based Heritage Foundation, working through the office of US Senator Jesse Helms and US Undersecretary of State for Security Affairs James Buckley, allowed Chauhan to enter the US anyway and continue organizing for the movement. During this and other visits, Chauhan was wined and dined around Washington. He reported himself to this news service that a special cell has been set up at Georgetown University's Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) to sell the idea of a separate Khalistan to US policymakers. It is Chauhan's plan "to organize the movement like the Zionist lobby in the United States. We have them as our model."

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The Khalistan movement and Chauhan are but players in the latest stage of an operation, worked out by the British Foreign Office as early as the first decade of the century, to balkanize India using tensions between India and Pakistan as a trigger. The plot is known to insiders as the **COUPLAND PLAN**, which was drawn up in 1942 by a special emissary of the Crown to India, Sir Reginald Coupland. The idea then and the scheme now are basically the same: to break India up into pieces and ensure that the Indian subcontinent, encompassing what is now India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh never becomes a force for peace and development in Asia. Quite the contrary. South Asia's role as a pawn in Anglo-American strategy is merely to weaken the Soviet Union. To understand the ideological underpinnings of the Khalistan movement, one has to examine the *Coupland Plan*. The historic British view of India, which has unfortunately been adopted by the United States, lock, stock and barrel is that separatist movements under various guises will dismember the Indian subcontinent. The first such shock was delivered in 1947 with the partition that created India and Pakistan. Now the view is that periodic minipartitions, with the Indo-Pakistan conflict as a trigger will finish off the job. British intelligence estimates that by 1984, six or seven pieces of India and Pakistan will come into being, with absolutely no prospects for development. Coupland wrote in his 1942 report: "India is a geographic unit; it is not divided by such physical barriers as separate nations in Europe. Its unification under British rule has not only made all Indians feel themselves Indians; it has saved India from the fate which political and economic nationalism brought on Europe." This 'fate' was the successful industrialization of France, Italy, and Germany, which kept Britain off the continent. Instead, India remained the looting ground for the British oligarchy and became "the jewel of the Empire" precisely because it was converted into a Malthusian "hell-hole." Coupland developed his point further: "The Partition threatens to throw India back to the condition it was in after the break up of the Moghul Empire, to make another Balkans. This would negate the development of democracy in India. Partition would also prevent a free India from taking its due place in the world as a great Asiatic power; for it would probably mean disruption into several states ranking from Egypt to Siam. The British government cannot impose, but it could, at need, propose a settlement. **The drawbacks to Partition are the converse of the case of Union and apply to all Indians, not to Muslims only. It would rob India of the supreme, the one unquestioned boon which British rule has given her. It would convert the whole subcontinent into a complex of rival quasi-national sovereignties, walled off from one another, by political and economic frontiers. India in fact would be balkanized and instead of being a peace**

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**-ful and stable element in the new international structure, it might well become like the Balkans in the past, a breeding ground for world war."**

AS THINGS STAND TODAY, the top three Coupland plan "case studies" have been implemented. First was the bisection of the eastern state of Bengal between India and Pakistan in 1947 and subsequently between India and the new nation of Bangladesh in 1971. Each time Bengal has been cut up, it has been at the cost of millions of lives. Second is the case of the northeastern state of Assam, which for the last three years has been in turmoil, held hostage by a "sons of the soil" movement with separatist overtones. Finally, the latest and possibly most explosive made-in-London scheme to come alive is the Khalistan movement in the northwest state of Punjab, India's bountiful agricultural state. When Khalistani leader-in-exile, Jagjit Singh Chauhan, admitted to this news service that the Coupland plan was "good" and reflected the aims of his movement, he gave away his role in the bigger plot. *Coupland's primary analysis* was that India was a "communal" nation divided on Hindu-Muslim-Sikh lines. He visited the Punjab shortly after the 1940 Lahore conference that called for a separate Muslim state (what became Pakistan) and indicated that the Sikhs would fight "tooth and nail" against the creation of a Muslim nation that divided what this community considered its homeland. This bloodbath occurred as per prediction in 1947, and the seeds of revenge have been kept alive in the Sikh communities living in London and Africa ever since. *Coupland's second manipulation tactic* was pitting the notion of a strong federal system against state demands. He pushed for greater local control charging that in post-Independence India, "the crux of the constitutional problem is not in the provinces but at the center . . . . whether India remains united or partitioned," and recommended as much decentralization as possible and a constitution similar to that of Switzerland. Today's Khalistanis echo Coupland's calls for decentralization, but the Indian government has held firm on implementing a republican constitution which determines the allocation of resources from the center for the good of the entire nation.

**The Khalistan movement was created first in London and subsequently spread in the United States and Canada. In 1966, the then finance minister of the state of Punjab, the little known Dr. Jagjit Singh Chauhan suddenly resigned from office and moved to London. Chauhan told his close lieutenants that he would create the Khalistan movement, and it must be done in Britain first.** The target was the wealthy Sikh entrepreneurial community in the Commonwealth. Little is known of his activities in the first years except that in 1971, Chauhan was active in Anglo-American contingency plans for redividing the subcontinent as a result of the India-Pakistan war. (This war was provoked

by Henry Kissinger's backing for a Pakistani military dictatorship that was set on committing genocide against its own people in East Pakistan. India intervened in support of the Bangladesh liberation movement after close to 5 million refugees flooded into India's eastern states seeking refuge from the carnage. At that time, Kissinger vowed that India would be bled to death by the refugees and the crisis in the Bay of Bengal become a flashpoint for superpower crisis. Anglo-American geopolitical strategists sent the Seventh Fleet into the area to back up the Pakistani genocide campaign).

At that time, Chauhan took out a half-page advertisement in the *New York Times* calling for the creation of Khalistan. To this day, Chauhan traces his relationship to that period of chaos, indicating that Henry Kissinger promised financial support to his movement and to establishment of Khalistan Airlines, which is now situated in the same building as the Pakistan International Airlines. The next phase of the operation was launched in 1977, when Mrs. Gandhi's government was ousted and an unstable coalition named the Janata Party took office in India. This coincided with the coup d'etat by General Ziaul Haq in Pakistan and the Kissinger ordered hanging of the legitimate Prime Minister, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto. This period of instability on the subcontinent was used to send Sikhs from Britain and the USA into the Punjab to set up terrorist and sabotage capabilities run out of the temples which are off limits to police.

In the United States, the prominent Sikh, Ganga Singh Dhillon launched a propaganda drive for US Congressional support of the movement. Dhillon is married to the daughter of a wealthy East Africa-based millionaire of Indian origin. Dhillon is of particular importance in Khalistan activities because he is the contact man with Pakistani Gen. Ziaul Haq whom he refers to as "my brother." During the last two years Dhillon has met with Zia several times, seeking the Pakistani dictator's permission for the Khalistanis to set up bases along border areas with India.— *E I R*  
27/7/82

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BANGLADESH

## U.S. Drug Firms Pressurise State Dept.

By **R. Chakrapani**

*Washington, August 20:* Intervening at the request of several multinational drug manufacturing companies the US administration has asked the Bangladesh Government to "reconsider" its recent action banning a number of drugs on the ground that they are ineffective, dangerous and too costly. The propriety of the administration's action has been questioned by some of the unofficial consumer groups. In June, the Bangladesh military government issued an order prohibiting the

future sale of more than 1,700 items of drugs. It also banned outright 237 items considered "dangerous" to public health by it. The multinationals manufacturing some of these drugs were *Pfizer, Merck, Searle, Squibb* and *Upjohn*. Some of the items banned by Bangladesh it is stated are not permitted in the United States while a large number of others are not regarded therapeutically recognized as useful either by the US Food and Drug Administration or its counterpart in Britain. A spokesman of the US State Department admitted that the Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association, representing the drug industry requested the Department to intervene in the action taken by the Bangladesh Government and request it to reconsider it. "The State Department has a statutory responsibility for assisting American interests abroad," he said. "In this particular case, the US Government is also concerned that these regulations may inhibit future foreign investment in Bangladesh."

The State Department's intervention has been contested among others by the Public Citizen Health Research Group in a memorandum to the Secretary of State, Mr. George Shultz. The letter called the Department's action as "unconscionable" and said, "Perhaps you are unaware that many of the US based multinational drug companies are toasting on innocent people in the developing countries drugs which our own medical authorities consider worthless and unnecessary." The group is based at Washington, and it expressed its "dismay" that the State Department had allowed to be used by the multinationals in their bid "to promote and protect their exploitation of the impoverished citizens of under developed countries." Eight multinational drug concerns operating in Bangladesh obtain a revenue of \$ 100 millions annually in the aggregate. The total sales of drugs by multinationals in developing countries amount to \$ 30 billions annually. The concerns functioning in Bangladesh fear that the Dacca regime's action might be followed by other developing countries causing extensive financial damage to them. One of the drugs banned by the Dacca Government is said to contain clioquinol which is regarded as injurious to the nervous systems.—*Hindu*

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TARAPUR

## India May Go It Alone

*New Delhi:* India has veered round to the position that it would terminate the 1963 Indo-US agreement on supply of nuclear fuel for Tarapur and run the Tarapur atomic power plant with indigenously developed mixed oxide (MOX) fuel if the French and the US insist on New Delhi's acceptance of additional conditions not envisaged in the 1963 agreement. Informed sources indicate that the Tarapur plant can be run by the mixed oxide fuel for five years by which time they are confident of getting the much-wanted fuel from an "alter-

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nate" source and availing spares for the plant from another source the latter on the basis of purely commercial transaction. These sources are certain that under no condition would India accept the "pursuit and perpetuity" clauses as contained in French draft that was delivered to the Government by the French envoy in New Delhi a few days ago. This stand of India was made it abundantly clear to the US Charge d'Affaires in the Capital by Foreign Secretary M. Rasputra on receipt of the French draft.

According to these sources, India is on a strong, wicket to reject the French draft on two counts. *First* because it strikes at the root of the informal agreement reached between the US, France and India on the eve of Mrs. Gandhi's visit to the US by which the three countries would enter into a trilateral arrangement for supply of French (and not US) fuel (low enriched uranium) to India under the same provisions as those in the 1963 agreement. *Secondly*, because it is quite different from what Foreign Minister Claude Cheyssen had told External Affairs Minister P.V.Narasimha Rao and had stated in public during his recent visit to India. France he had declared, would not insist on any additional safeguards other than those of the IAEA "applicable elsewhere." The French draft is seen by the sources as a direct move by the London nuclear suppliers' club (of which France is a member) to force India to accepting its conditions, mainly with regard to the "pursuit and perpetuity" clauses. At the same time, the US hand is quite evident behind the move. The sources also feel that behind the French suggestion that a new agreement with the IAEA should be concluded by India on the safeguards for the fuel supplied there is a strong US pressure on the IAEA to impose additional safeguards on India. The excellent state of relations between India and France on account of Mrs. Gandhi's close understanding with President Mitterand gives rise to the hope that these matters, notwithstanding their complexity, could eventually be sorted out. But the hopes are dimmed by the powerful US role intended to compel India to accept additional conditions. In this setting prospects of abrogation of the 1963 agreement and running Tarapur with indigenous MOX fuel have brightened the sources note.—*Patriot*

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THE FIGHT AGAINST

## The Neutron Bomb

*Berlin*: Over one year ago it was officially announced that the United States was starting the production of Neutron warheads. It was on 6th August 1981, the day when mankind paid homage to the victims of the US nuclear bomb exploded over Hiroshima that President Reagan gave light to go ahead with the production of ar novel type of nuclear weapon which is admittedly

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designed to destroy human life. The nuclear neutron weapon kills "only" human beings, whilst buildings, equipment and industrial plants remain nearly undamaged. It poses a particular cruel threat to unprotected civil populations. Disregarding the worldwide protests movement against Washington's decision, the US administration has not abandoned the production of this horrible weapon, on the contrary, a few weeks ago it ordered the output of neutron artillery shells to be increased by some 1000 units, which will double the production figure. There are press reports that the United States also succeeded in producing neutron nuclear artillery ammunition for 155-mm guns which broadens the scope for the use of the nuclear neutron weapon. According to US military plans those warheads can be transported from the USA to Europe at the shortest notice, American Lance missiles and 155-mm howitzers which can take neutron charges have already been deployed in western European territory.

In view of these facts, the recurring argument that the neutron weapons were to be stockpiled in the United States and that it was therefore an internal US affair is apparently hypocritical. The neutron weapon just like the new US nuclear medium-range missiles to be deployed in Western Europe, constitutes a deadly danger to the European peoples, because it plays an important role in the Pentagon's plans for the implementation of the doctrine of limited nuclear war. The fate those plans hold in store for Europe is the same as that suffered by Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The aggravation of the international situation, the imperialist policy of arms build up and blackmail lend particular weight to the demand for an immediate prohibition of the nuclear neutron weapon, paralled to the prohibition of all other nuclear weapons. Together with the USSR and the other fraternal socialist countries the GDR has always consistently worked for a ban of that disastrous weapon.—*Panorama*.

## TRIBUNE

### Agricultural Digest

FROM THE F.A.O.

## Seed Scandal

By Annelies Allain

*In former times every farmer produced his own seeds. Every region had its favourite breeds and the wild ancestors of our food and economic plants still grew in their original homelands. The growing industrial—*

sation of agriculture has transformed the scene and has increasingly alarmed those watchdogs of big business, the non-governmental organisations seeing yet another planetary resource squandered before the unseeing eyes of governments and agribusiness. The NGOs have been instrumental in pushing the world's international organisations to sound alarm to guard and propagate our genetic heritage. Annelies Allain of the International Organisation of Consumers Unions (IOCU) reports here on a debate on the question of genetic resources of plants held during the Food and Agriculture Organisation's (FAO) 21st Conference.

-Ed

"The genetic resources of plants and animals constitute a common heritage and deserve to be conserved and utilized in a co-operative manner", said Prime Minister Indira Gandhi of India in her opening address to FAO's 21st Conference which took place in Rome last November. Much more was to be said about this common heritage as the days went by. In fact a initially rather unnoticed draft resolution by Mexico became the object of heated argument in an otherwise uneventful conference. This lively debate around the question of genetic resources was unexpected and required lengthy negotiations before a consensus could be reached.

**Why should such an obvious matter as the conservation and exchange of plant genetic resources (seeds) warrant such lengthy discussions and reveal such strongly held positions? It would seem only natural that FAO should be asked to function as ultimate custodian of the world's germplasm, a very basic and indispensable resources for world food security.** The use of new high-yielding varieties of major food crops has in some cases helped to increase agricultural output, but it has also had a less noticed affect, namely speeding up the erosion of the genetic wealth which is the basis of all our food. As farmers substitute crops by high-yielding varieties, the seeds of these traditional varieties disappear little by little with their invaluable store of genetic characteristics. Not so long ago, hundreds of different food crops were grown throughout the world. *Now 95 percent of human nutrition comes from only 30 major food crops. Three crops alone — wheat, rice and maize — account for over 75 percent of humankind's cereal consumption.* This trend has been helped not only by the Green Revolution but also particularly by the globalisation of the seed industry. Seeds used to be produced by a multitude of small breeders, as well as by farmers themselves who would keep a part of their harvest for the next season's planting. Now, big business, mainly large chemical and oil multinationals, have moved into this sector, buying up hundreds of small firms and establishing de facto monopolistic conditions. Is the aim of these companies world food security? The number of varieties marketed is decreasing while there is a commercial push for some -- not necessarily those that have the highest nutritive value or the best qualities, but those with the highest profit margin, and those that can be

marketed together with the company's own pesticides and fertilizers.

ALL COUNTRIES need regular infusions of germplasm for their agricultural breeding programmes. Germplasm is the genetically potent part of a seed, necessary to renew resistance to evermutating pests and diseases as well as develop new varieties. But the countries of the North are notably gene-poor, however grain-rich they may be at this point in history. They depend on collections of germplasm from the rich pools of varieties which are practically all located in developing countries. It is this wealth that Indira Gandhi called a common heritage which must be preserved and be freely available to all for the benefit of humankind. *Over 70 percent of all genetic material stored is in the industrialized countries. Many nations have sent germplasm to gene banks in the North on the assumption that it would be adequately preserved and always freely available. Yet reports now say that a third or more of the material stored may be diseased or dead. Moreover, at least one country, the United States, considers all germplasm it receives for safe keeping as federal property.* It used to be the general practice for breeders and agricultural research stations to exchange freely germplasm on request, subject only to quarantine regulations. Now about 12 countries have adopted plant patent laws and there is a tendency to limit germplasm exchange to other countries with similar legislation. Furthermore, there is the temptation to refuse germplasm to certain countries for commercial or political reasons. **Indeed several delegates at FAO's 21st Conference referred to the likelihood that seeds like food, may some day become a weapon. What used to be within reach at little or no cost to any farmer is today becoming a profitable commodity.** By supplying germplasm of unique varieties to public and private gene centres, developing countries are providing the raw material for commercial seed companies free of charge. These companies then breed the selections they choose, shelving or discarding some of the material and market the seed that will bring them the best returns. In countries which have adopted plant patent legislation such companies may supply for a patent and thus prevent others from breeding and using the same variety. These so-called Plant Breeders Right (PBR) allow the beneficiary to charge royalties and sales and licences for 15 years or even longer. With today's global market, this results in a return on investment that is far in excess of the research costs involved in developing the variety, all the more so since a patented variety could actually be merely a "discovery".

THE MEXICAN DRAFT RESOLUTION, supported by all developing nations, in a way posed a threat to the continuation of the present system. It was not surprising, therefore that several Western nations arduously opposed the creation of an International

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Germplasm Bank under FAP control and insisted that the Conference decide only on the need for further studies rather than plan draft conventions. Some referred to costly duplication of efforts and considered the present system adequate. In a statement supporting sweeping US amendments to the draft resolution, Japan specifically referred to the need to delete a paragraph that mentioned "political and economic pressure" and "restrictive practices". Many delegations were surprised and increasingly suspicious about the US insistence that no reference be made to any kind of pressure. After several different drafts, a final contact group (with a participation of FAO's Director-General Edouard Saouma) agreed to drop the controversial paragraph on "pressure" to introduce the word "study" and a few other legal subtleties and yet to maintain the two basic ideas of the draft resolution: the need for a convention on the free availability and exchange of germplasm and the desirability to establish an international germplasm bank system under FAO auspices. If only for its own food security, the North would do well to heed Brazil's final call to implement the studies without delay. The Third World may soon decide that their patience has lasted long enough and just as the rich countries consider their soils and the crops they grow as their own property. Poor developing nations may one day decide that their wealth in germplasm is a natural resource which should no longer be simply given away.

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KOHOMBA

## For Safe Insecticides

FOR CENTURIES before commercial insecticide were available, farmers on the Indian sub-continent protected crops with a natural repellent found in the fruit and leaves of the neem tree *Azadirachta indica*. Since 1978, the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) entomologists have tested Neem (Sinh Kohomba; Tam, Vembu) as a source of an inexpensive, "natural" insecticide that causes no environmental damage. "When I was a boy, my mother packed dried neem leaves between layers of woollens for protection against clothes moths," says Dr. Ramesh C. Saxena, IRRI associate entomologist. Today Saxena and colleagues in Germany, India and the USA are investigating the insect-repellent qualities of neem oil, extracted from the tree's fruit and of neem cake, made from the residue. *Azadirachtin*, a steroid-like active ingredient of neem, repels insects but is nontoxic to animals. Neem oil is used to make soap and detergents, and neem derivatives are used in toothpaste in India. Neem cake has been used as cattle feed in times of drought or famine. *Insects feed far less, grow poorly, and lay significantly fewer eggs on susceptible rice plants sprayed with neem oil or that have absorbed azadirachtin systematically from neem cake applied to the rice paddy. Effects*

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*are similar for sucking insects such as the brown plant hopper and for chewing insects such as the rice leaf folder and the ear-cutting caterpillar. Ingestion of neem oil or contact with a neem-oil spray disrupts insect growth. Some insects even become "larvae-pupal monstrosities."*

NEEM CAKE MIXED WITH UREA has significantly increased yields of the insect-susceptible line IR 1917-3-17 in both wet and dry seasons at the IRRI farm by reducing the incidence of ragged stunt, grassy stunt, and tungro virus diseases. The reduction was probably due to the antifeedant effect on hoppers, the main virus vectors. Neem cake applied to experimental rice fields has reduced nitrogen losses in experiments in India and at IRRI apparently by inhibiting the nitrifying bacteria that form nitrate from ammonia. Nitrate is easily lost into the atmosphere. Neem cake has reduced the populations of ostracods—crustaceans that feed actively on nitrogen-fixing blue-green algae—thus encouraging algal growth and subsequent nitrogen fixation. *A neem tree becomes fully productive in about 10 years. One tree produce 30 - 50 kgs. seeds/year. Thirty kilograms of seeds yield 2 kgs. of neem oil and 24 kgs. neem cake. The market price for neem oil in India is about US 1/kg. that for neem cake is less than \$ 0.50/kg.*

In tests at IRRI, 5 applications of a 25% neem oil emulsion sprayed with an ultralow volume applicator at 4 liters/ha gave adequate insect protection to a rice crop. The cost of the neem oils about \$ 5/ha. But several problems must be solved before a neem insecticide can be produced commercially. Sunlight degrades neem oil sprayed on plants within a week. The systemic effect of azadirachtin incorporated into the soil, however, lasts for more than a month. The synthesis of azadirachtin is prohibitively costly and requires a high level of technology. Thus, azadirachtin must be extracted from neem seeds. The surplus of labour in some countries where neem is common, however, could make that a positive attribute. The many ecotypes of neem have different concentrations of active ingredients. Standardisation is essential to mass production. The first step toward commercial production is to break neem derivatives down into extracts and fractions, then to evaluate them. IRRI has signed a memorandum of understanding for cooperative research on such neem derivatives with the Justus Liebig University at Giessen and the Max Planck Institute, Federal Republic of Germany. These institutions supply IRRI with extracts and chemically separated fractions of neem seeds for evaluation against rice insects and diseases. Some new fractions analysed through this program have controlled insects as well as azadirachtin. IRRI scientists participated in the first International Conference on National Pesticides from the Neem Tree, held in 1980 in Germany and sponsored by the German Agency for Technical Corporation (GTZ).—*The IRRI Report, 2/82.*

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## Bamboo Water Pipes

PROVIDING safe drinking water to the rural population is a top priority in most of the Third World developing nations, which are striving to achieve the goals of the International Drinking Water and Sanitation Decade ending 1990. Lack of financial resources to meet the high costs of installation of plant and machinery and their maintenance hinders the use of sophisticated technologies. Bamboo pipe is a technology considered as an alternative to metal and plastic pipe. *Though bamboo pipe is not necessarily as cheap as plastic pipe it is technically a simple method and can be built, installed and maintained locally, with less capital investment and technical expertise.* During World War II in Japan, bamboo pipelines were used to supply water to the cities when the country faced serious raw material shortages. Villages in hilly areas in the Philippines and Indonesia for many years have been getting their water supplies through bamboo pipelines. Recently, a 90 kilometre long bamboo pipeline was built collectively by 24 Indonesian villages on the Merapi volcano slopes in Java to provide water to a population of 60,000. In Tanzania the Government is helping three villages to construct bamboo pipe projects. A 1.5 inch bamboo pipe can provide sufficient water for about 500 people in rural areas. Most bamboo species cannot withstand high water pressure. But it has been found in Tanzania and Honduras that there are certain species that are strong enough to withstand greater pressure. **If not treated with preservatives bamboo is easily attacked by insects and when exposed to sun cracks quickly. This reduces the life span of a bamboo pipe to less than three years on an average. But treatment with preservatives has enabled some bamboo pipes in some countries to be in operation for well over 15 years, with continuous water supply.** A recent World Health Organisation team from the University of Massachusetts, has found it possible to build pressurized bamboo water systems instead of those working on gravity feed. This system, for a village of 200 inhabitants, would cost approximately \$ 1 per head. To ensure a constant supply of water this system requires regular replacement of broken or unserviceable bamboo pipes. This can be guaranteed if replanting is in a planned manner.



EFFECT OF GRASS ON

## Fruit Trees - 2

By A. Howard. C.I.E., M.A.

THIS VARIES with the species and with the period of life of the trees when grass was planted. Young

trees are more adversely affected than fully developed individuals. Deciduous species suffer more than evergreens. (1) **The Effect of Grass on Young Trees** The **custard apple** is the most sensitive of the young trees studied. The trees were killed within two years after the grass was planted. Next in order of susceptibility were the **loquat, plum** and the **lime**, all of which were killed by grass. The peach, litchi, mango and guava are the most resistant. In addition to restricting the amount of growth, grass affects the leaves, branches, old wood and fruit as well as the root system. The foliage produced under grass appear smaller, yellower and full prematurely. The trees under grass flower late and sparingly. The fruit is small, tough, very highly coloured and ripens earlier than usual. The effect of grass, except in the guava on the superficial system is to restrict greatly the total amount of root development, to force the roots downwards below the grass, and to reduce the amount of active rootlets during the monsoon. The grass has no appreciable effect on (either) the development or the activity of the deep roots.

Grass not only effects the roots underneath, but also the development of those of the neighbouring trees under cultivation. Such roots either turn away from the grass or else turn sharply downwards before they reach it. Two conclusions can be drawn from study of the root system—(1) Trees under grass are able to form the deep root-system and to make use of the moisture and minerals in the lower soil layers as in case of trees under clean cultivation. (2) In the second place, trees under grass (except in the case of the guava) form a very weak superficial system and produce but few active rootlets in the surface soil. The contrast between the trees under cultivation in this respect is very striking and significant.

**The Effect of Grass on Established Trees**—The damage is less than in the case of young trees but the order of susceptibility is very much the same. At first the grass grew poorly, but with the rains a carpet was formed, and the effect became more marked. Similar effects were observed as in the case of young trees under grass, viz., a greatly restricted development of absorbing roots in the surface system compared with the controls. There were no differences in the dormancy or activity of the deep root-system.

**The effect of Aeration Trenches on Young Trees under Grass**—There was no effect on the custard apple or lime, both of which died. The aeration trenches markedly increased growth in the litchi and the mango. The root-system showed superficial roots much larger and better developed than those under grass, except in the guava where no difference in size could be detected. The roots were attracted towards the trenches. The trenches develop the deep root system, as is to be expected. Even the temporary removal of the grass leads to a profound effect, viz.,

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an immediate increase in growth accompanied by the formation of larger and darker coloured leaves.

The experiments showed—(1) The extremely deleterious effect of grass on young trees, (2) The less harmful effect of the same treatment on mature trees, (3) The partial recovery which resulted from the aeration trenches particularly in the case of loquat, mango and litchi, (4) The failure of the aeration trenches to save plums, limes and custard apples, (5) The exceptional nature of the results with the guava, where the trees were able to grow under grass, but with reduced vigour and where the aeration trenches had little or no effect.

To be concluded . . .



PLANTS

## Safety Margin

PLANTS possess a high safety factor. Soviet scientists at the Institute of Genetics and Cytology of the Byelorussian Academy of Sciences have established that plants possess a high safety margin factor which depends on the quantity of ferments, ensuring the adaptability of plants to unfavourable environments. This discovery offers broad opportunities for assessing the degree of plant adaptability already at the experimental stage with the help of conventional biochemicals. It is now possible to choose the strongest plants of the initial stages and to discard the weakest. The accuracy of this method had been confirmed by experiments with 300 varieties of wheat, barley and maize—APN.



### TRIBUNE Spotlight on Matters Agitating Voters

PENSIONER

## Presumed Dead

I, N. S. L. FERNANDO, aged 71 years of No. 28, 2nd lane Ratmalana, retired from the Ceylon Government Railway in 1981 and my Pension No. is PN(L) 479378/P. At the time of retirement I had opted to have my pension remitted to my current account at the Bank of Ceylon, Bristol Street, Colombo. I used to receive the Pension Voucher every month regularly by about the 10th of each month and I was expected to perfect and return the same to the Chief Accountant, Railway before

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the 20th of the same month. On compliance, my pension was remitted to my account by the Railway by about the end of each month. This was going on satisfactorily up to about middle of 1981. About the middle of the year 1981, the pensioners were informed by the Chief Accountant about a change of procedure: The pensioner was expected to perfect the voucher and send it to the Bank by the 10th of each month. If not, the pension would not be credited to the account and there would be a delay in the payment. In formulating this change of policy, the Chief Accountant did not perhaps anticipate the pensioner to be sick, hospitalized or incapable of perfecting this voucher at the correct time.

I received the vouchers for October, November and December 1981, and after perfection I sent them by post to the Chief Accountant in about January 1982. However, the amounts were not credited to my account in the Bank. Since then, I have not received the pension vouchers for perfection. As I was aware that something had gone wrong, I called at the Railway Office at Maradana to enquire why my pension was not being paid. After being driven from pillar to post, I arrived at Room 79 of the Chief Accountant's office C.G.R.I explained to the Officer in charge of the room why I had called over. I was informed by him that as I had not collected my pension on the appointed dates, I was being treated as a dead pensioner and connected papers filed off. I told him that he could see that I am not a dead person and requested him to take necessary action to pay my pension. He rudely told me that no such action would be taken and that my pension would not be paid. When I asked him whether he had the authority to stop payment of pensions to Railway pensioners, he said that I may report him to anybody I like. You can now see for yourself from the above facts, how arrogant some of the petty officees of the Government could be and how they can bring the Government into disrepute. Anyway, as my sole purpose was to get my pension, I wrote a letter addressed personally to Mr. Perera, the Chief Accountant explaining the situation. To my disappointment, I did not receive an acknowledgement nor a reply.

N. S. L. Fernando

28, 2nd Lane,  
Ratmalana,  
4.9.82.



WHY

## People Grumble ?

There is discontent among ratepayers of the developing towns of our country. The reasons are to be found on visiting a town and by a question and answer

method. If you ask the boutique-keeper why he is unable to give a better service to the people who patronise his shop or hotel, he comes out with the answer—which is the same in any town. "How can we improve this place when the owner wants a high rent and the local authority is concerned only with collecting the various taxes without providing the amenities and facilities for which we pay these taxes" Owner-shop keepers and the hoteliers tell the same story with a slight variation. "When we want to improve our own building, the cost of material and labour being high, the authorities only increase the rent and other bills, without improving the water supply, drainage and disposal of garbage and refuse that gets collected in our premises."

So, the public who patronise these places, while travelling, have to accept insanitary services and consume unhealthy food and drink. In many of these towns the disposal of waste is done irregularly and haphazardly. Animals like cattle, goats, dogs and cats roam the bus-stands and market places and are even found in the gardens of hospitals, post offices and police stations ! There have been instances, in these towns, when rabid rats and jackals have bitten people. Snakes, vipers and similar poisonous reptiles have been found inside houses and even offices ! While roads are getting damaged daily, patch-work type of repairs only add insult to injury. While buses and trains do not run to schedule, road blocks here and there in the outstation towns create accidents in an alarming and unexpected manner. While un-serviceable vehicles ruin the roads, an innocent elderly person or school child gets run over due to no fault of the pedestrian. Utter disregard both by officials and workers who are indifferent to their jobs, chiefly the maintenance of roads, bridges and places where public gather daily while on their travels is the order. It is the "once-in-a-while" visit of a VIP or a politico that temporarily improves the conditions, only to go back to the rut and rot witnessed earlier.

In such towns there develops the underworld of pimps and prostitutes, pick-pockets and playing-card jugglers, snatch-thieves and smugglers of various merchandise including pot-attack and other devilish brews consumed by the poorer class as they find the Bar and the bottle from the liquor shop is not within their means. These smugglers set in motion a vicious chain of crime, operating from clandestine hide-outs in the vicinity of forests and dilapidated and abandoned buildings found around these developing towns. The innocent-looking vegetable vendor at the end of the bazaar may be the local agent of a ganja-kassipu-call-girl racket. The innocent victims may be the local youths after the late cinema shows or returning from a late night shift of work. A lonely tourist arriving late and searching for a resting place is accosted by one of the underworld tribe and is fleeced of his money and materials. This, in a nutshell, is the pattern of life in the outstation towns. The police

would soon find themselves outnumbered in anti-crimenwork if these conditions are allowed to gather momentum, especially among the colonists who arrive from far-away places to settle down in new areas that are being opened up in the Mahaweli Zone.

Sharmadana campaigns alone will not solve this problem. The authorities in these developing towns should be more responsible in improving conditions, especially as tourists and other visitors are bound to carry unhealthy impressions about our living standards, once they leave our shores. The higher officials should set the example to the rest of their sub-ordinates, since they should realize that they are not being paid by the politicians or the government but by the public from money collected in various ways as taxes. The people are justified in asking for a reasonable return in services from officials and public servants, especially in the developing outstation towns.

**Dr. G. T. Herath**

Anuradhapura

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WANTED

## Fair And Just Elections

The Prime Minister addressing the G.A.s has mentioned "affection" as a dimension that could really make a difference in the public service. Love and affection, unfortunately, are very badly underdeveloped and missing at too many levels, social, political and religious too. The so-called "red-tape" officialdom and non-interest so often make the "service of the people" inefficient and corrupt. "Serve the people affectionately" suggested the Prime Minister. One must be grateful to him and hope that his paternal advice would be implemented at all government offices from the G. A. to the Grama Sevaka. I travelled the other day more than 100 miles to help an Italian couple who had come from Italy for an adoption case. The Birth Certificate of the child was urgently needed. At the Kachcheri, I explained and pleaded. But I was told: "Please apply in the due form and we will send you the certificate in TWO WEEKS' time. The Italian couple had the paid ticket back to Italy just in two week's time. Hence the urgency to have the birth certificate immediately. I experienced the lack of "affection" and the cold enslaving attitude of "red-tape" and indifference. A greater dose of "affection" could also help in ensuring "fair and just election". One should learn how to accept "affectionately" the other person's choice and vote, and remain affectionately friendly, notwithstanding differences of political colours. At a Balangoda political meeting, the other day, to the political colours of the party which was having the meeting, misguided persons added the colours of the opposite political party. That

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was surely a typical case of "lack of affection", which caused tension and compelled the authorities to bring in the army. The army presence would not have been necessary if there had been a transfusion of affection in the mutual relationship of mature political persons. Surely after 34 years of democratic independence, Sri Lankans everywhere, especially now on the eve of the elections, are called to show to the world a lesson of democracy with "fair and just elections" without any violence and with an ever-greater dose of "affection."

Pio Champa, S.J.

Balangoda.

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TASTE OF PARADISE

## Why Violence ?

VIOLENCE has become almost a cult of its own. And we aren't saying this about Chicago in the nineteen thirties—but about Sri Lanka in the nineteen eighties. The events that took place in the Jaffna peninsula in the first week of July are a sad testimony to runaway violence. Your magazine and your correspondent have said this before, and we say it again—we take a firm stand, this side of sanity, in defence of man and in opposition to violence. It is unfortunate that we have to keep repeating this in a country where it is claimed that the four major religions of the world are alive and well. We would like to think that we have not been slow to speak up in defence of the rights of the Tamil-speaking people in this country. We would also hope that the same degree of promptness and concern is afforded by us to all linguistic, racial, religious and social groups. We haven't become popular as a result—but then popularity has not been our pre-occupation. Rather, we make our claims and take our stands on the rights and dignity of men and women—all men and women. We believe in the sanctity of men and women because they are the creator's supreme accomplishment. And the creator is no respecter of persons. His ear is attuned to all tongues, just as He is blind to all colours.

ALL LIFE therefore is precious—if not sacred. It is impossible to lay claim to further human rights by denying or violating the rights of others. Those who practice violence in the North in defence of the rights of the people of the North are a contradiction of their own making. They can never hope to be taken seriously by those who value human life and dignity. No doubt successive government have alienated the people of the North. No doubt that they have become victims of police and military brutality. No doubt they need to be emancipated from oppressive situations. Not however at the expense of others—not even at the expense of turncoat politicians and sadistic police-

men. It is incumbent on all of us to expose an opportunistic politician and to condemn a perverted policeman. But it is not our task to visit violence on them it is not our task to murder them. To do is to play God. More, it is to expose our own contempt for life. And we cannot be selective or partial in our commitment to human rights. To do so would be to degenerate to to the level of our oppressors, to become imitators of them. Ends have never justified means. When people begin to play God, when they want to decide who is fit to live and who it fit to die, then they become enmeshed in a spiral of violence that finally consumes them. Those who are serious about human rights—be they the rights of Tamils or any other group, must in their quest to protect rights take a clear stand against violating the rights of others, no matter what their past history may be. You can't afford to be neutral either. Mahathma Gandhi who travelled the road to political freedom with the people of India said: "If India takes up the doctrine of the sword she may gain momentary victory, but then India will cease to be the pride of my heart."

—Jyantha Somasundaram

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ON THE EVE OF ELECTIONS

## Paranthan Strike Settled

**MEMORANDUM OF SETTLEMENT UNDER SECTION 12 (1) OF THE INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES ACT.** In the matter of an Industrial Dispute between the Management of Paranthan Chemicals Corporation and the following unions, viz., The Ceylon Mercantile Union, The United Corporations and Mercantile Union and the Ceylon State Corporations Employees Union, the parties arrive at the following settlement in regard to the matters in dispute: (1) The workers will be handed back their respective Union offices by the Management, on resumption of work; (2) In regard to the dispute relating to the "Casual" employees, the Management and the Ceylon Mercantile Union (who represent all these workers) state their respective positions: (a) The Management states that the "casual" employees have vacated their employment and therefore are not entitled to resume work with the permanent workers once the strike is called off; (b) The Ceylon Mercantile Union states that the "casual" employees are on strike and therefore on resumption of work, once the strike is called off, they too are entitled to resume work along with the permanent workers and will report for work accordingly. Notwithstanding the respective positions taken up by the two parties, the Management and the Ceylon Mercantile Union agree that the question of employment to these "casual" will be discussed between the Management and the branch Unions of the Ceylon Mercantile Union at the Paranthan

factory with a view to resolving that dispute before the 30th of September 1982. If the matter is not fully settled between the parties, at these discussions, and the Union requests that any residual matter relating to the employment of any of these workers be referred to arbitration, both parties agree to such reference. The matter that would be referred to arbitration in such an event would be, "Whether the workers mentioned in the annexed schedule were on strike or deemed to have been on strike. If not, are these workers deemed to have vacated employment". If the Arbitrator holds that these workers were on strike the Management will offer them work on the same terms and conditions as applied to them. (3) All 15 interdicted workers will be allowed to resume work once the strike is called off and will be paid their full wages for the period of their respective interdictions. (4) The Internal Audit Assistant will resume work at the factory and work there for one week. Thereafter, he will assume work in Colombo temporarily on work that the Management will allocate. He will be paid full subsistence for one month and thereafter be paid an allowance of Rs. 100 per month until his assignment in Colombo is completed. On completion of his assignment in Colombo, he will resume work at the factory. (5) The Unions state that neither they nor their members were in any way responsible for any breach of the peace in the past and assure the Management that they would continue to maintain peace in the future. (e) The Management guarantees that there would be no victimisation in respect of any worker

for his having participated in the strike. (7) The strike will be called off with effect from 10th September 1982, and the workers will report for work on that date. Dated at Colombo this 6th day of September 1982.

**POLITICAL PARTIES RECOGNIZED FOR 1977  
GENERAL ELECTION AND SYMBOLS  
ALLOTTED TO THEM**

- |   |            |
|---|------------|
| 1. All-Ceylon Tamil Congress                  | Bicycle    |
| 2. Ceylon Worker's Congress (Political Wing)* | Cockerel   |
| 3. Communist Party of Sri Lanka               | Star       |
| 4. Illankai Tamil Arasu Kadchi                | House      |
| 5. Lanka Sama Samaja Party                    | Key        |
| 6. Mahajana Eksath Peramuna                   | Cart Wheel |
| 7. Sri Lanka Freedom Party                    | Hand       |
| 8. Tamil United Liberation Front*             | Sun        |
| 9. United National Party                      | Elephant   |

\*New parties recognised for the National State Assembly (Parliament) General Election 1977.

**RESULTS**

**GENERAL ELECTION, JULY 21, 1977**

| Party                               | Candidates nominated | Candidates returned | Candidates defeated | Forfeited deposits | Total polled voters | Percentage polled |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| United National Party               | 154                  | 140                 | 14                  | 5                  | 3,179,221           | 50.9              |
| Tamil United Liberation Front       | 23                   | 18                  | 5                   | 1                  | 421,488             | 6.4               |
| Sri Lanka Freedom Party             | 147                  | 8                   | 139                 | 15                 | 1,855,331           | 29.7              |
| Ceylon Worker's Congress            | 2                    | 1                   | 1                   | 0                  | 62,707              | 1.0               |
| Lanka Sama Samaja Party             | 82                   | 0                   | 82                  | 69                 | 225,317             | 3.6               |
| Mahajana Eksath Peremuna            | 27                   | 0                   | 27                  | 26                 | 22,639              | .4                |
| Communist Party                     | 25                   | 0                   | 25                  | 19                 | 123,856             | 2.0               |
| Independents (non-party candidates) | 295                  | 1                   | 294                 | 270                | 353,014             | 5.6               |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                        | <b>756</b>           | <b>168</b>          | <b>588</b>          | <b>405</b>         | <b>6,243,573</b>    | <b>86.7</b>       |

Total number of voters 6,667,589.



## TRIBUNE SPORTSCOPE

SPOTLIGHT

### \* Cricket \* Rugger

CRICKET continues to dominate and hug newspaper headlines in Sri Lanka and abroad. In the international scene, while England won the Test series against Pakistan by two matches to one, it was Sri Lankan born **Gehan Mendis** who struck a rich vein with the bat and had all Sri Lankan sportsmen talking about his feats. No doubt one of the best opening batsmen in the English Country cricket scene at the moment, Mendis slammed a grand 100 to help his country Sussex to defeat Middlesex and propel them to Sunday League Cricket champions. In the next game which was also against Middlesex, Mendis waltzed his way to a neat 66 and in the process was involved in a record-breaking 168-run stand for the first wicket for his side with fellow opener Alan Green. Mendis slotted 66. Mendis, who earlier represented the Maharaja Organisation in the Mercantile "A" Division cricket tourey, also toured India with the Organisation to play in the Moin-ud-dowlah tourney. Illness kept him away from the game for a major part of that tour. Mendis who has been living up to the promise he showed as a youngster for Sussex under the then captaincy of former South African and England captain and allrounder Tony Greig, has done enough and more over the years to warrant his place in the England squad. But surprisingly, the England selectors who refuse to recognize his talent and the big scores he has been making time and again have overlooked his claim for selection to the England team. It must be recalled that in a game between his county Sussex and Warwickshire for which county the present England captain Bob Willis plays, he tore apart the Warwickshire attack spearheaded by Willis and carved out a neat 100. This game was watched by the Chairman of the England Board of Selectors, Alex Bedser. The England Selectors have given South Africans like Tony Gerig and Alan Lamb and West Indian Roland Butcher the chance to play for England. Earlier Indians too, had the honour of sporting the England cap. Sri Lankans would be glad to see Gehan Mendis sporting the England cap. Mostly because he deserves this honour. We hope when the England selectors sit to pick the tour team to Australia this winter, they will consider Mendis' performances with the bat. Mendis has done enough and more to claim the notice of the England Selectors and we wish his dream will come true.

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The Nondescripts Cricket Club led officially by Ranjan Madugalle secured the *Honda Trophy* for the first time defeating a strong Bloomfield side led by Susantha Karunaratne by five wickets. The Bloomfielders when they made 200 for 7 wickets in 45 overs seemed set to take the "Honda". But lapses in concentration at vital stages of the game prevented them from snatching an exciting victory. The Peterite duo of Rohan Buultjens and Rumesh Ratnayake hit off the runs when NCC were in a difficult situation and won their side a victory that was well deserved. NCC scored 203 for 5 off 40 overs. The *Sri Lanka Team to India* played a limited-over game and the two youngsters who gave Sri Lanka their first win over Australia last year put on a similar display to bring victory to Mendis XI over Warnapura's XI by 40 runs at the Saravanamuttu Stadium. The game played according to the Indian tour rules saw Mendis' XI rattle up 194 for 8 declared in the allotted 40 overs. They then restricted Waranapura's XI to 154 for 4 in the same number of overs. Madugalle and Ranasinghe hit up a partnership of 123 runs for the fifth wicket in only 20 overs after they had lost 4 wickets for 28. Madugalle who ultimately hammered a hundred was particularly severe on Sidat Wettimuny hitting him for 25 runs in one over. From Sri Lanka's point of view the form of Duleep Mendis with the bat is causing concern. But Mendis has the ability to do well on big occasions. There is no doubt he will be one of the outstanding successes of the Indian tour.

PAKISTAN led by the mercurial Imran Khan after their resounding victory in the Second Test against England at the Headquarters of cricket—Lord's—were tipped to win the final Test and thus secure their first series victory against England in England. But this was not to be. It was a ding-dong battle which was dominated by the uncertainties of the game. England proving the better side in the end triumphed to take the match and the series by two matches to one and this deprive the Pakistanis the elusive series victory over England in England which they have been trying to achieve since they arrived on the Test cricket scene. Even in defeat the Pakistanis were certainly not disgraced. They lost the Final Test by three wickets but won the admiration of the Englishmen for their plucky efforts with both bat and ball. Towering over everyone else in the two teams was that dynamic and debonair cricketer Imran Khan. With the ability to propel the red cherry at over 90 miles per hour for long periods, he admirably led the Pakistanis, considering the fact that he was doing so for the first time. With sterling efforts with both bat and ball Imran was very rightly adjudged the "Man-of-the-Match" and "Man-of-the-Series". To quote Imran after Pakistan's defeat in the final Test: "I hate making excuses if you lose and I don't want to give bad umpiring as the reason for losing the series. But I was disappointed with David Constant in this match. I don't believe that

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umpires cheat anywhere in the world, but it just so happened that umpire David Constan's decisions were too costly for us. It is almost impossible to understand that an umpire of his quality could make the mistakes he did." Imran, the first man to lead Pakistan to a Test win over England since 1954 in England advocated the introduction of an international panel of umpires to reduce the scope for complaint.

**RUGGER :** The local sports scene was marked with the Sri Lanka Rugby Football Union's Knockout Tourney, the conducting of the semi-finals and finals of the Honda Trophy under 25 cricket tourney and the limited-over practice game between Duleep Mendis' XI and Warnapura's XI. *Kandy Sports Club* who are tough as nails on their home ground, burst the CR & FC rugby bubble at Nittawela by knocking them out of the tourney with a pleasing 13 points to 3 win before a well-behaved and appreciative Kandy crowd. Trinity College captain Byron Fernando was the toast of the Kandy victory. He was like the will-o-the-wisp. He was here, there and everywhere and played like a veteran and the experienced CF & FC players had no counter to his innovative play. For a schoolboy he showed more than ordinary promise and if further coached on correct lines, should serve Sri Lanka for a long time to come. The *Clifford Cup Champions*, the *CH & FC* who are making a strong bid for the knockout title, too showed that they have it in them to make this trophy their's too. In their first quarter-final against the Navy they ran rings round their opponents to trounce them by 41 points to 6. This victory should give them the necessary inspiration to face the Havelocks with confidence in the semi-final. The *CH & FC* are in peak condition at the moment and if they continue in the same form they should drink deep from this trophy too. Havelocks who did not have much of a successful season in the Clifford Cup did well to overcome a stiff challenge from the Ari Force and bring the Airmen down to earth by 8 points to 3. With the Havelocks anything is possible. One thing is certain, they will not bow out of this tourney without putting up a good fight. The Policemen who brought in ace place kicker Charles Wijewardene for their confrontation against the Army, had the misfortune to be flung out of the tourney on a technical blunder committed by skipper Judy Preena. The Police were leading by 13 points to 9 with just about two minutes to full time when Preena blundered. The Army were quick to take advantage of this lapse and scored a goal to obtain six points which put them in the lead. They meet Kandy in the semi-finals scheduled for September 10 and 11 and this match should provide interesting rugby all the way.

#### ALL ROUNDER



#### SPORTS CHRONICLE

## Aug 29 - Sept 4

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 29:** Kelani Valley beat Uva by 64 points (8 goals, three tries) to nil in an *Up Country League Rugby* match played at Talduwa yesterday. Pathmasiri Perera of the Steel Corporation won the Mr. Sri Lanka title and the *Observer Trophy* after a lapse of two years at the Mr. Sri Lanka Body Building Championships conducted by the Sri Lanka Physical Culture Federation on Friday at the New Kathiresan Hall. He last won the Trophy in 1979. The CR & FC versus Kandy SC match in the *SLRFU President Knock Out Tournament* will be played at Nittawela on September 4.

**MONDAY, AUGUST 30:** Yesterday at the Sara Stadium, the third and final day of the drawn *Practice Match* between Bandula Warnapura's XI and Mahes Goonetilleke's XI, Amersinghe hit a superb century in four hours. Bandula Warnapura's XI st Innings 408 and Mahes Goonetilleke's XI 1st Innings 171 for 2 continued. Tamara Padmini the 22-year-old A level student from Alawwa Central School became Sri Lanka's first woman to break the *Five Minute Barrier* in the 1500 meters in Sri Lanka at the CT AND FC Championships at St. Peters grounds yesterday. Tamara clocked 4 minutes 59.0 seconds 02.9 seconds faster than the Sri Lanka record of 5 minutes 01.9 seconds set by Sri Lak's Indrani Amerasekera at the recent 2nd Asian Games Trials. Zahira Central College, Puttalam, defeated Puttalam MPCU team by two goals to one in the *inaugural soccer match* in the tournament sponsored by the Puttalam MPCU Union and conducted by the Puttalam District Football League. Dial Tex led by J. M. Somans entered the semi-final of the *GCEC Football Tournament* when they easily defeated Glove View Rubber Industries by 3 goals to nil in their quarterfinal match played at Negombo Esplanade recently.

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 31:** A chanceless 102 in 205 minutes with 14 fours by skipper Senaka Dissanayake put Dharmaraja in a commanding position—300 all out—against Isipatana in the *Under 17 Division II Junior Cricket Final* at Havelock Park yesterday. Janatha Estate Development Board No. 11's over 40 cricket XI did well to defeat wheat under 40 cricket XI by 25 runs in a *limited over cricket* match played at High Forest grounds Kandapola. JEDB under 40 XI 224 for 6 and JEDB over 40 Cricket XI 249 for 9 wickets, Peliyagoda Kumudu Sports Club beat Kelaniya Gurukula Vidyalaya in the *women's inter-club volleyball tournament* final match played at Kelaniya on Thursday. *Asian Games* prospect S.M. de Silva of Kandy YMCA, once again displayed excellent form when he established a new Sri Lanka record by making a snatch of 170 3/4 lbs. in the 52 kg. category at the Second Asian Games *Weight Lifting*

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trials held at the YMCA gymnasium, Lakeside, Kandy on Saturday.

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1:** Dharmapala's spin twins Ravindra Wimalasiri (right arm off spin) and Rohan Bandara (left arm leg spin) put them in the Box Seat in their *under 15 Division 2 Cricket Final* against Ananda C at Campbell Place yesterday. Ananda 1st Innings 116 and Dharmapala 1st innings 135. Commercial Bank B got off to a flying start in the *Mercantile G Division cricket tournament* by defeating Bank of America and Jinasena & Co., on successive days last weekend. Bank of America 124 in 30 overs and Commercial Bank 127 in 26.3 overs. Commercial Bank 136 in 25.5 overs and Jinasena & Co., 54 all out in 24 overs. Sri Lanka Central Transport Board beat last year's *B Division Champions* Peopel's Bank 20 - 15, after leading 10 - 7 at half time in the *A Division of the National Services league Netball tournament* which began on Monday at Vihara Maha Devi Park.

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2:** A bright 60 with a six and 5 fours by Skipper Shanta Rangaswamy was the highlight of the touring *Indian Women's Club* team's easy 86 run win over the Colts CC Women's XI in a 35 over cricket match at Havelock Park yesterday. In reply to the tourists' 166 for 7 the Colts scored 80 for 7. Dharmapala Maha Vidyalaya, Pannipitiya scrambled home with the *Under 15 Division II Junior Cricket Title* at Campbell Place yesterday. Sitting pretty with 149 for 5 overnight in reply to Ananda's B's total of 116, Dharmapala were all out for 164 runs 20 minutes before lunch.

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 3:** Bloomfield allrounder Oshadee Weerasinghe (30 off 33 balls and 4 wickets for 28 in 7 overs) won the "*Man of the Match*" award in his club's 61 run victory at Red Avenue. Bloomfield 180 for 8 in 34 overs and Tamil Union 119 in 31.4 overs. NCC coasted home to an easy nine wickets win with as many as 12.4 overs to spare over Colts at Maitland Place. Colts 112 in 38.2 overs and NCC 113 for 1 in 27.2 overs. The *Nationalised Services Badminton Association President's team* beat the Bombay Gymkhana team 5 - 4 at the Indoor Stadium, Maitland Place on Saturday. A sparking unbeaten 109 with 11 fours and 8 sixes by opening batsman Ravi Canagasabey highlighted Colts Taverners (over 45) victory against the visiting *Indian Women's Club* in a 40-overs crickets match at Colts grounds yestrday. Colts Taverners total of 186 for 9 wickets and the Indian Women's Club get 156 for 7. Dhiren Nirmalingam creted the first major upset on the opening day of the *National Tennis Championships* which commenced yesterday at the Sri Lanka Tennis Association Courts at Greenpath.

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 4:** The State General Trading Corporation beat Consolexpo Corporation 76  
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runs in the *Nationalised Services D Division knock out cricket* match played at the Colts grounds yesterday: State General Trading 232 for 5 in 40 overs and Consolexpo 54 all out in 32 overs. Two eight-year-old records were broken at the *Athletic meet* of the CTB Sports Festival at the Shalika Park, Narahenpita yesterday. Leslie Siriwardena (CSRTB) broke the record in the Men's Novices 800 meters with a timing of 2. 0.7 seconds and Vasa Mahaduruge (SLCTB) broke the Javelin Record for Women with a throw of 70 ft. 2 ins. *Clifford Cup* Champions CH & FC swept into the Semi finals of the SLRFU President's Trophy with a 41 points (5 goals, 2 tries, 1 penalty) to 6 (2 penalties) victory over Navy at Havelock Park yesterday after leading 13 - 3 at lemons. BRC performed the double when they won both the Andriesz Shield and Pioneer Shield league tournaments conducted by the *Colombo Hockey Association*. The sponsors of the *Inter-Bank Basketball tournament*, Hatton National Bank, beat Central Bank of Ceylon by 99 to 70 and emerged champions in the final match played at the Police Depot Courts on Wednesday. It was the champion again—despite a nasty fall—at Kegalle, Boniface Perera, the 1980 and 1981 winner, who won the *Colombo Ambalantota First Stage on Thursday*, finished the 134-mile Ambalantota-Kegalle Second Stage of the Tour de Lanka yesterday in 7 hours and 20 minutes—almost 200 years clear of his nearest rival.



#### WEST GERMAN AID FOR SPORT

## In Third World Countries

Following the conviction that sports have educational and social effects on the inner social structures of developing countries, the Federal Republic of Germany last year provided over Rs. 100 million in sports aid to Third World countries. This aid takes the form of both men and material, the placement of coaches over fairly long periods of time, short-term advisors in preparation for international competitions and team exchanges. Two examples of such projects in Sri Lanka are the efforts of Burkhard Pape, the West German soccer coach, to improve Sri Lankan football and the atheletic training given by coach Mike Weissenborn to the Sri Lanka team to the Asian Games.

Bonn's Parliamentary State Sec. etary in the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation, Alwin Brueck, has emphasised that the Federal Republic of Germany provides more assistance in this sector than any other country in the world. Mr. Brueck adds that West

German funding of sports in the developing countries has increased six-fold in the past ten years. Further assistance to sports programmes in such countries is provided by the individual states in the Federal Republic and the major German sports associations. Mr. Brueck states that just as important as the social effects of sports are their cultural repercussions. German sports projects in the developing countries therefore attach particular importance to maintaining and, where necessary, reviving traditional sports and games.

—FRG Bulletin.  
Colombo

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## ROWING

### Inter-monsoon Regatta

*Colombo Rowing Club's Inter-Monsoon Regatta*, the finals of which will be on Saturday, 25th September, will have four trophy races, an open senior fours' race, and a ladies' pairs. The senior trophy, the *V. A. Julius Pairs*, has had four crews training regularly on the water, among them the fast-moving Srimal Wickremasinghe supported by Havelock's win-forward Yuhan Thurainayagam, who ought to be strongly challenged by the stern pair of the last Royal-Thomian Boat Race winners, Kavan Ratnayake and Suren de Silva. Three other entries are E. C. Handy and Romesh Wijenathan, Charitha Athukorale and Patrick Daniel, and Nalin Cooke and P. Ragavan.

The *Colombo Yacht Club Trophy* for junior pairs has five entries, all from the schools, three St. Thomas two Royal. The entries for the most junior of the, sculling trophies, the *Gordon Armstrong*, reads like a roll-call of our proven young oarsmen Suren de Silva, Ranil Gunasekera, Ajith Fernando, Jerome Amarasinghe, Niloo Phillips, Asela Gunawardena, from Royal College, Randev Jayasuriya, Charitha Athukorale from St. Thomas and Hussain Anverally from St. Thomas' Preparatory the last who is to be seen training on the water most regularly. There has probably never before been so many entries for this race.

In contrast, the novice pairs' *van Langenberg Trophy* has not since its inception attracted such a small entry, three. Presented it was a few years ago by a member of the club in memory of his uncles, Jum, who was a sportsman, Henry who could talk about, Cyril whose widow gave him the Seirlom, and Arthur who was probably the best proven of the four. The ladies' pair race will have Miss D. de Silva and Miss S. de Silva rowing in one boat and Miss R.

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Dias Abeyasinghe and Miss M. Ismail in the other. The crews of the pairs' race will be known later.

OUR ROWING CORRESPONDENT

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IN THE U.S.S.R.

### Olympic Committee Meeting

*Moscow, August 19:* Topical problems of the international sports movement, questions of the preparations for the 1984 games, prospects of widening cooperation between the national Olympic committees of the USSR and the Federal Republic of Germany (FRG) were discussed during the talks of the delegation of the National Olympic Committee of the FRG, headed by the President of the National Olympic Committee of the FRG, member of the International Olympic Committee Willi Daume and the leadership of the National Olympic Committee of the USSR headed by its chairman Sergei Pavlov. The delegation of the National Olympic Committee of the FRG included also Thomas Bach, the champion of the 1976 Olympics in fencing member of the commission of sportsmen of the IOC Michel Berkerait, world champion in yachting, member of the National Olympic Committee of the FRG. The sides pointed to certain positive changes in the contemporary Olympic Movement, connected with the results of the 22nd Moscow Olympics and the Eleventh Olympic Congress in Baden-Baden and expressed the conviction that the Olympic movement is an important means of consolidating peace and mutual understanding among peoples.

**It was pointed out that the preparation for the 23rd Olympics in Los Angeles causes concern of national Olympic committees since there are so far no clear guarantees that the security of the participants in the games will be ensured, the questions of entry and accreditation of Olympians and tourists are unclear, there is no programme of the games for individual events and the number of participants and reserve sportsmen in every competition and the norms qualifying sportsmen for the Olympics are not known.** All this complicates the planning and preparation of Olympic delegations for the Los Angeles Games. The sides expressed the hope that the International Olympic Committee and the 1984 Summer Olympics Organizing Committee will do everything to ensure that the 23rd Olympics are held in the conditions of unswerving observance of the Olympic Charter. During the visit the delegation of the FRG National Olympic Committee visited Moscow and Irkutsk—TASS.

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TRIBUNE, SEPTEMBER 18, 1982

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## **TENDER NOTICE**

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

Tenders for Completion of Balance Work - Lecture Hall and 3 Storeyed Laboratory Building for the Divisional Hygiene at No. 97, Jawatte Road Colombo 5 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 South, Ratmalana before 4.15 P. M. on 17. 09. 1982 by registered contractors or 'Trial Letter' holders of Department for Rs. 500000/- 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.  
07. 09. 1982.

## Futures Trading, Or.....?

IS IT NOT TRUE that towards the end of July there were headlines about a company, in which a few Hongkong Chinese were involved, that was suspected of fraudulent transactions? That a report in *The Island* of July 22, read: "A surety guarantee Mrs. M. Cindy de Silva's, secretary of Lanka Coribal Ceylon Ltd., which was managed by a suspect in a fraud case said to be a Chinese national surrendered to Court yesterday. A warrant on her was issued on Tuesday after it was revealed that the Chinese national had left the country. The Colombo Fraud Bureau informed the Magistrate Mr. Sarath Gunatilleke that she happened to be present in Court in connection with another fraud case connected with the same suspect filed by the CID. The Magistrate ordered that her passport be surrendered to Court after prosecuting officer Sergeant K. K. G. Wimalasiri of the Colombo Fraud Bureau informed Court that there was reasonable evidence that this lady might leave the country. In this case, the lady had stood surety in the sum of Rs. 75,000 for a Chinese national Tang Chai Tag, against whom charges had been instituted by the Fraud Bureau for swindling persons to the tune of over Rs. 1 lakh in the capacity as proprietor of Lanka Coribal Ceylon Ltd. Chang Tai Tag had been released on cash bail of Rs. 30,000 and surety bail of Rs. 15,000 when the case was taken up earlier. The Fraud Bureau had charged him for duping persons to invest in his business concern. Chang Tai Chag had also been charged by the CID for duping persons to the tune of over Rs. 1.2 lakhs. He had been produced in Court along with three other Chinese who as propaganda representatives had induced people to invest in the said company managed by them. In this case Mrs. Cindy de Silva had stood surety for each of the suspects in the sum of Rs. 200,000 each. The Magistrate was informed that two of the suspects together with Chang Tai Chag had left the country. The Magistrate allowed an application by Defence Counsel for the lady Mr. A. C. de Zoysa who submitted that she may be given time with regard to the surety she had stood till August 8." **That if there was follow up to this case, it was not given any prominence in the newspapers? That it may be possible that we may have missed reports of subsequent court proceedings that may have appeared? That there is a general impression that everything has now been "squared" or settled?"**

IS IT NOT A FACT that commerical circles in Colombo are buzzing with stories about this Coribal (Ceylon) Ltd., and one or two other "foreign" investment companies that have sprung up in this country? That in the open economy structure of the Island--without proper laws or a Securities Commission to cover

investment companies that dabble in stocks and shares or foreign exchange—smart operators can make millions overnight especially with black market funds in the hands of gem smugglers or narcotic trade tycoons? That our interest having been aroused in this matter we tried to find out the exact business activities of Coribal (Ceylon) Ltd.? That an investigator was able to get a lavishly printed brochure of Coribal (Ceylon) Ltd.? That it would seem that its one and only business was "commodity future"? That the address of this company was at 279-281, Union Place, Colombo 2? That a few lakhs had been spent in "doing up" the offices into a superduper deluxe outfit? That the Introduction in the brochure revealed that its business was "future trading"? That in high falutin idiom, the Introduction set out: "In the last 20 years industry and commerce in the world has grown at a compounding rate that has exceeded anything in history before. Growing population and affluence—even in developing countries has meant a constantly expanding demand for basic commodities which are used in manufacturing processes and eventual consumption. The total monetary volume involved in the supply and demand for basic commodities is so great that ordinary trading procedures are impractical. Old fashioned barter systems cannot cope. Instead, the world has created a special system with which to facilitate the buying and selling of raw materials. It is called "futures trading". Futures trading began in Europe in the 16th century, and spread to Japan a century later. Futures trading means an act of trade in which the price and quantity of a commodity are agreed upon between the concerned parties before a contract is signed, whilst delivery of goods and payment are done at a later time agreed upon by the parties. Such a system serves the world well. The manufacturer for example knows in advance what he will pay for his raw materials and can plan his production accordingly. The supplier of commodities knows in advance what quantity is likely to be wanted and can plan his production accordingly. Of course there are likely to be variations in supply and price in the intervening period and it is here that the commodities futures investor finds a profitable challenge to his judgement. There are some investors who, because they do not understand the principles of futures trading, view it as means of speculation and gambling. *Futures trading is quite the opposite.* In actual fact, to study the balance of supply and demand, the cost and price, production forecasts of commodities like cereals, textiles, sugar and rubber, required profound and specialised knowledge. ...." That next week we will cite more extracts from the brochure? That in spite of what the brochure says, trading in futures is nothing but a kind of sophisticated gambling?

*To be continued . . . . .*

# TENDER NOTICE

## MINISTRY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, HOUSING AND CONSTRUCTION DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS

Tenders for construction of Assembly Hall, Science Block, Principal's quarters, 4 Classrooms, 4 Teachers' Annexes etc. at Nalanda Vidyalaya at China Bay, Trincomalee will be received by the Chairman, Tender Board, Department of Buildings, Colombo 1, up to 10.00 A.M. on Wednesday 06.10.1982.

02. Tender Forms could be obtained from District Engineer / Trincomalee before 4.15 P.M. on 01. 10. 82 by registered contractors or "Trial Letter" holders of Department for Rs. 1500000/- 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.  
07.09.1982.

## MINISTRY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, HOUSING AND CONSTRUCTION DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS

Tenders for Construction of Balance work, District Switching Centre, Kalmunai will be received by the Chairman, Tender Board, Department of Buildings, Colombo 1, up to 10.00 A. M. on Wednesday 06.10.1982.

02. Tender Forms could be obtained from District Engineer / Kalmunai before 4. 15 P.M. on 01. 10. 82 by registered contractors or "Trial Letter" holders of Department for Rs. 1500000/- 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,  
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