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# TRIBUNE

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## LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

ON THE COVER we have a picture of what is undoubtedly one of Sri Lanka's most picturesque waterfalls, Diyaluma near Koslanda. We have used this picture as an excuse to preach a homily on tourism and certain pitfalls that must be avoided if Sri Lanka is not to become a sex and sin country. *Tribune* has welcomed tourism as a foreign exchange earner. Tourism is already the fourth biggest foreign exchange earner but it is not clear what the invisible outflow really is. The economics of tourism is a matter which we will examine in due course. In this note we are on a different dimension, a somewhat moral plane, and we cannot do better than cite extracts from an article that appeared in the *Development Forum* published by the United Nations University and the Division of Economic and Social Information / DPI entitled *Watchdog for Third World Tourism*. This is what it says: "The world's largest leisure industry has got its first full time church watchdog in the Third World. The Ecumenical Coalition on Third World Tourism has opened an office in Bangkok, Thailand, to set up an information and resource network, which will monitor, publicize and try to reverse the present damaging effects of tourism on the Third World. It will also promote alternative forms of tourism, more sensitive to the needs of host nations. The Coalition, which received a grant from Christian Aid this month, is the result of a Christian Conference of Asia International Workshop on tourism held in Manila, Philippines in 1980, where churches expressed increasing alarm at tourism's influence on cultural, economic and ecological life. Christian Aid has made a grant of £ 11,765 to the Coalition's Bangkok Office, headed by the Rev. Peter Holden, formerly of the South Australian Council of Churches. Working through local groups, the Coalition aims at minimizing the negative and maximizing the positive effects of tourism, including the educational value. Earlier this year, the British media revealed how very young girls, recruited from poor families in northern Thailand, were being put to work in Bangkok's sex palaces to serve an expanding sex tourism industry. In an attempt to escape abject rural poverty, 300,000 women in Bangkok alone have some sort of sex-related employment. The educational minority are continually being poached by tourism from lower-paid government service jobs. Andrew Hurchinson, who works with Christian Aid's Education Department, says: 'English-speaking waiters in the hotels and go-go dancers often receive expensive education and some would have become health workers, forestry officers, teachers and administrators in their home villages until the prospect of dancing for dollars became too much.' *Resources too are switched to tourism from development schemes and from trusted but less profitable industries. The danger lies in a country becoming over-dependent on tourism.* If the host nation's image suffers for political or other reasons, there is often little other industry to fall back on when the tourists do not appear. For example, the October issues of *Africa Business* claims that the Seychelles expected to suffer £ 4.67 million deficit from lost tourist revenue after 'Mad Mike' Hoare's failed coup attempt in November 1981. Christian Aid shares the Coalition's concern that years of painstaking effort in the development of local communities are being wasted and that a major campaign is needed to educate government and the travel industry before the damage becomes irreparable." This note has many lessons for Sri Lanka. Time alone will show whether the massive investment that has been poured into Tourism will in the end be for the good of the country. Or would the country have benefited more if part of the investment had been diverted into agriculture and farming which have been chronically starved of the necessary investment for capital development and working capital ?

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## Why Not Domestic Tourism ?

With the deadline for tax benefits for the hotel and tourist industries ending on March 31, there was a virtual stampede for new companies to get moving before that date. The newspapers were overburdened with full page advertisements inviting members of the public to buy shares in the new companies. Rupa-vahini viewers were sick with commercials about new luxury hotels sprouting like mushrooms in a rainy month. Except for a few which were for humble three-star accommodation, all the rest were for super-duper luxury five-star hotels. All this is well and good. There are bold prophecies that luxury hotel tourism is on the up and up. Nobody seems to be paying much attention to revealing statistics about the hotel industry. The most disturbing news is that whilst more high-class hotels were being built, the occupancy rate has been steadily dropping. In 1982 it was well under 50%. And what is important is that the occupancy rate has fallen whilst the number of tourist arrivals had steadily increased. The question has already been raised as to whether our hotels had not outpriced themselves and forced many tourists to seek cheaper accommodation outside the high-priced orthodox luxury hotels.

In this connection, an interview published in the *Ceylon Daily Mirror* on January 29, 1983 gives room for thought. In this interesting piece Saliya Goonewardene had interviewed Peter Prufert, the Course Director from the International Institute of Journalism in Berlin who had come to Sri Lanka to conduct a workshop on journalism. Prufert had pointed out that the country faced numerous dangers if tourism was not controlled effectively. "Mr. Prufert who has travelled extensively in Africa and Asia, made his observations after seeing the number of new hotels that are coming up in Sri Lanka. 'What kind of tourists are you going to cater for?' he asked. 'If Colombo is being developed as a business centre the luxury hotels will suit them—as the business traveller is on an expense account. But if Sri Lanka is planning on mass tourism what has happened to Kenya and Bali will happen here—with high prices, utter disregard for the country's culture and traditions and prostitution going side by side with tourists expansion'.

"Mr. Prufert, a German, believes the hotels that are being built on a grand scale will not suit the ordinary tourists in any case. 'Not all Europeans who come here are big shots' he said. 'What the average tourists need is only a comfortable place to stay because they can just afford a package tour. They are not

interested in the frills'. When asked about prices Mr. Prufert said: 'Even luxury hotels in Berlin, are cheaper than the so-called luxury hotels here. And almost every hotel in Europe has breakfast included in the price. I was amazed that for the prices we pay at the leading hotels (over 80 US dollars per night) we don't even have a TV set in the room. The cheapest hotels in the United States at 10 US dollars per night provide this facility. And in addition to charge Rs. 15/- for drinking water is an absolute rip-off.

"The tourists will prefer small, comfortable, places rather than big hotels, he emphasised. And this is what should be provided. Is the country really going to benefit from these big hotels? 'What will, happen once again is that locals will have to pay tourist rates and is this fair?' he asked. 'Its nice to have big hotels but how much of the profits will really remain in the country? And what about maintenance? From where is the money coming for that?...' Sri Lanka must be well aware of what lies ahead of mass tourism. The majority come to Sri Lanka for the sun and sand. They are not intelligent enough to realise that their behaviour differs from the people in this country and that their behaviour will have an adverse effect on the people. They bathe in the nude, go scantily clad to churches and temples and show utter disregard for religion'.

"The hardworking Sri Lankan people see them always lazing around and imagine they are stinking rich. Little children who swarm around tourists begin by merely talking to them. When a sympathetic tourist hands out a ten-rupee note the tourists hardly realises that he or she is launching a child on a begging career. What has begun harmlessly becomes a big business with the children roaming the beaches and collecting about 30 to 40 rupees a day. How long and how hard have their parents got to work to earn this', he asked. 'These children never learn what work is. And an entire generation is brought up as beggars. This is disastrous for any country', he said. 'The revolting behaviour of tourists in temples evoke anger among the old people in Sri Lanka—and justly so. And the young try to imitate this disregard for religion. I am not a religious type. But the most dangerous thing is to rob people of their religious belief. Human beings have a deep rooted feeling to believe in some thing. If you take this away from them you'll need the services of psychiatrists here like in the West. These are the dangers of mass tourism", he warned.

"Mr. Prufert who was last in Sri Lanka in 1976 says that the country has changed dramatically for the better in a matter of a few years. 'I had high expectations when I came to Sri Lanka last', he said. 'But I was disappointed. I felt India was doing much more and working much harder to solve problems.

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But the changes have been pronounced. The people are more optimistic, enterprising and active than before and the country is looking cleaner and more prosperous' he observed. 'Sri Lanka unlike Malaysia hasn't destroyed the character of the country with development. You haven't pulled down everything in sight for skyscrapers. This is marvellous because it's a crime to destroy the atmosphere as has been done in Kuala Lumpur', he said. 'The first impression of any tourist is important. And the first impression here in Sri Lanka is the friendliness of the people. It's unbelievable. People in developing countries are generally hospitable and friendly but no country I have been to can still match Sri Lanka' he concluded. . "

Mr. Prufert talked a good deal of sense; and the matters on which we disagree with him are few. He talked about the perspective of foreign tourists and the way Sri Lanka should cater to them. Whilst we agree that due attention should be paid to foreign tourists, *Tribune* deplores the step-motherly treatment being meted to domestic tourists. All hotels for foreign tourists are outside the means of Sri Lankans except a handful mainly those who have expense accounts for entertainment. The best rest-houses—once the havens of upper class domestic tourists—have increased their charges to foreign tourist levels and thus placed them beyond the pale of even the richer class of Sri Lankans. One or two rest-houses for middle class Sri Lankans have been built in places of religious pilgrimage like Kataragama and Anuradhapura but these are only token sops to domestic tourism.

There is a great deal to be said for domestic tourism. If well developed, it is one way of siphoning excess money either into government funds or into consumerism that will check and curb inflationary trends.

*Tribune* proposes to devote time space and thought to the question of domestic tourism at rates the ordinary people of this country can afford.

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DELHI SUMMIT—2

## Singapore And Kampuchea

By S. P. Amarasingam

Singapore made Kampuchea the main bone of contention at the senior officials meeting which began on March 1. Official level meetings are closed sessions. Singapore, after press briefings in the Media Centre, announced that it had agreed to debate the issue to a finish at the open plenary sessions of the Foreign Ministers and thereafter not to take it to the Summit whatever the decision. Singapore, no doubt, wanted the maximum publicity and this was possible only at the Foreign Ministers' level.

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Singapore began the attack stating that there never was a consensus about a vacant seat for Kampuchea at the Havana Summit in 1979. At the Managua session of the Nonaligned Bureau in January this year, Singapore and Malaysia had openly questioned the legality and actuality of the Havana consensus on Kampuchea. At that meeting it had transpired that the US State Department had provided them with guidelines (a document which later was circulated in the meeting as it could not be kept secret). It was also alleged that all the amendments which Singapore had moved at Managua followed the US guidelines.

At Managua, there were sharp counterattacks against Singapore and it was pointed out that Singapore, while it now sought to denounce Vietnam for allegedly occupying Kampuchea, had kept quiet when the USA attacked Vietnam. Singapore was reminded that during the time Vietnam had suffered under US attacks it had enjoyed the benefits of dollar earnings from US marines frolicking there and US fleet making use of rest and recreation "facilities" the island had offered. It was also recalled that at Havana, Singapore had not challenged the consensus decision on Kampuchea and that it was not done even at the New Delhi Foreign Ministers' meeting in February 1981 by Singapore or anyone else. Obviously, the challenge to the Havana consensus to keep the Kampuchean seat vacant was an after-thought.

At New Delhi this time, India, in its intervention in the debate at the Foreign Ministers' level, put the matter in the clearest perspective. It said, "It should be recalled that it was the advent of the People's Republic of Kampuchea that had halted and reversed the calamitous course set for the people of Kampuchea by the Pol Pot regime which perpetrated such barbaric atrocities on millions of innocent Kampuchians. We believe that the government of Kampuchea deserves the support and encouragement of the movement of nonaligned countries in its continuing struggle to remove the vestiges of the Pol Pot regime and to build a new future for its people. Our recognition of the People's Republic is a manifestation of our desire to contribute our mite to the laudable efforts being made by that government to be self-reliant and to safeguard the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Kampuchea. We are convinced that the strengthening of the People's Republic and the enhancements of its international prestige will enable it to ward off external interference and intervention and to play its legitimate role in the region, in our movement and in the world at large. Besides, this is the only government in position within the territory of Kampuchea and the writ of this government alone runs in that territory." India went on to add that "we advocate that Kampuchea should be represented in the movement by the People's Republic", but "we have not in any way sought to impose our national position.

other members of the movement" and "scrupulously avoided doing or saying anything which might give rise to such an impression."

But what did Singapore do?

Its Foreign Ministry circulated a highly derogatory and slanderous pamphlet not only in selected NAM capitals earlier but also at the meeting — denouncing both India and Cuba apart from Vietnam. The pamphlet said: "The moral universality espoused by India in the cold war has given way to more pragmatic calculation of national interests . . . . Can India be non-partisan in regard to the issues of aggression, foreign occupation, intervention and colonial domination perpetrated against non-aligned members? The trade-off between diplomatic expediency and principle will tax India's ingenuity and qualities of leadership. After the 7th Summit, members of the Movement cannot but judge whether, on the key issues facing the movement, the New Delhi summit has merely blessed the self-degradation at Havana or rescued from the brothel area into which it had wandered." It asserted "In New Delhi, we can either begin the upward ascent or remain in the swamp into which we have been led." The booklet was circulated selectively among countries Singapore thought was friendly to it.

I was able to get a copy on the first day, the original English version as well as the French translation. This booklet entitled HAVANA TO NEW DELHI - WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE—CHOICES BEFORE NONALIGNED MOVEMENT was published by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Singapore. I cannot think of any other Foreign Ministry that would have lent its name to such a publication. India as the host country opted to keep silent and did not want to reply to such vulgar abuse. But Cuba, which was made the villain of the piece did not keep quiet. It issued a short but dignified rejoinder meeting every single charge pointing out that Singapore was only sounding "the late broadcast of the Voice of America with a Chinese accent." Cuba stressed that Singapore wanted to reverse the course of the NAM and wanted the NACs to become what Singapore has become — a state created by US based transnationals. Cuba charged that on no important issue of the NAM had Singapore anything to say. Cuba pointed out: "The movement of the nonaligned countries is neither in a swamp nor in a brothel area as the chancery of Singapore affirms. There is no reason why it should seek to apply to others Singapore's political environment which is self-degraded, sunk in the swamp of imperialism and prostituted in the brothel of transnationals."

Singapore and its ASEAN partners stretched the debate on Kampuchea for two whole days at the Foreign Ministers' plenary. But this lengthening only established the weakness of the Singapore case. Compared to Havana, its tally of supporters had

fallen drastically. In Havana, Singapore had been able to mobilise about 35 to 39 countries to back it on the Kampuchean issue. In New Delhi the number was a little more than half that and most of them were half-hearted or lukewarm in their support willing to accept the vacant seat formula if that was "the general wish." This is significant. But what was even more significant was that at the 37th Session of the UN General Assembly last year, there were 99 votes in favour of continuing the seating of coalition government of Democratic Kampuchea (CGDK) at the UN. Among them as many as 51 were nonaligned countries. But at New Delhi the tally of supporters for Democratic Kampuchea had dwindled to 25 who wanted the Kampuchea seat in the NAM to be given to Sihanouk but many of them for the sake of unity were willing to accept the vacant seat formula. Five others said they recognized the Sihanouk government but wanted the seat to remain vacant ( this included Sri Lanka and Yugoslavia).

On the other hand, as many as 31 members ( of the total 61 who spoke at the Ministerial meeting) were opposed to the seating of the Sihanouk coalition. Of them 24 wanted the People's Democratic Kampuchea of Heng Samrin (PDK) to be seated at the Summit representing the people of Kampuchea but did not mind the seat to be vacant. Seven others were not so categoric but stressed that the Heng Samrin government was doing a good job in removing the horrors and the destruction perpetrated by the Pol Pot regime. These seven felt that the situation was such that the Kampuchean seat should be left vacant. Thus, there were as many as 36 who favoured keeping the seat vacant; 25 wanted the seat to go to the Sihanouk-Pol Pot group and 24 to the Heng Samrin regime. The Havana formula thus stood undisturbed.

It should also be noted that 36 members ( of the then existing 97, the number increased to 101 when new members were added to the Summit) did not want to participate in the debate although Singapore did everything it could to persuade or pressurise them to speak in favour of Sihanouk. Obviously, they did not want the NAM summit to be bogged down in the discussion of such a diversionary non-issue. The consensus at New Delhi — and this was borne out by the informal consultations India carried out with the members in its capacity as chairman ( at that time of the foreign ministers' meeting ) — was in favour of keeping the seat vacant, that's not for seating either the CGDK or PDK. It is interesting in this context to note the names of those who spoke on this subject. *First*, the 25 who wanted the CGDK ( or Prince Sihanouk) to be seated: Singapore, Bangladesh, Malaysia, Pakistan, DPR Korea (Sihanouk is staying in Pyongyang just now), Indonesia, Upper Volta, Oman, Kuwait, Senegal, Sudan, Comoros, Zaire, Somalia, Ecuador, Niger, Togo, Swaziland, Morocco, Bahrain, Mauritania, Saudi Arabia, Nepal, Liberia and Jamaica.

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The *second* lot of five who recognized CGDK but opted for a vacant seat: Yugoslavia, Sri Lanka, Egypt, Peru and Bhutan. The *third* lot of 24 who wanted Heng Samrin to be seated: India, Vietnam, Cuba, Laos, Grenada, Mozambique, Madagascar, Afghanistan, Libya, DPR Yemen, Algeria, Ethiopia, Angola, Seychelles, Nicaragua, Cape Verde, Surinam, Iraq, Mauritius, Nigeria, Guyana, Congo, SWAPO and Sao Tome and Principe. The *fourth* lot of seven who were for Heng Samrin but wanted the seat to remain vacant: Maldives, Uganda, Syria, Benin, Zimbabwe, Zambia, and Guinea-Bissau. Even on a head count Singapore had lost.

India in a truly statesmanlike manner conducted the series of intense consultations and brought about what can be called "a compromise". The terms of the compromise were: no consensus on the seating of either party: the Coordinating Bureau of the NAM acting as Ad Hoc Committee (as it did following the Havana Summit) be charged to examine the question further, taking into account all suggestions made during the debate and to make a recommendation thereon to the meeting of the foreign ministers to be held in 1985; and no further consideration be given to the question at the Seventh Summit.

On the Kampuchean debate, India displayed strength, tact, dexterity and skilful conference management strategy. India refused to submit to Singapore-ASEAN pressure lobbying (including stentorian demands and even veiled threats) to invite Sihanouk. Every argument Singapore had put forward was answered. Singapore was told that the Havana vacant seat formula could not be challenged at the Officials' or Foreign Ministers' meetings. Sri Lanka too had made it clear that while it recognized the Democratic Kampuchea coalition at the UN, for the NAM she accepted the Havana vacant seat formula. Sri Lanka and a majority of countries supported India that no invitation should be sent to Sihanouk. On his arrival in Delhi, whilst the Foreign Ministers' Conference was still in progress, Sri Lanka's President, J. R. Jayewardene had told pressmen that it was necessary to concentrate on the larger issues than get bogged down on such negative matters as the question of the representation of Kampuchea.

There is no doubt that this was the prevailing mood among the overwhelming majority of the member-countries of the NAM, if not the entirety — except perhaps only Singapore. Even its ASEAN allies, Malaysia and Indonesia, were not willing to go the whole hog with Singapore, especially when Singapore wanted to break its earlier undertaking and take the matter to the Summit. Singapore at this stage had found itself alone and its Foreign Minister Thanabalan left suddenly. A day later Deputy Prime Minister Rajaratnam also returned to Singapore without waiting to address the Summit plenary. He had circulated his speech — as nasty a piece of work as the Foreign Ministry pamphlet. He had called a press conference before this depart-

ture but this was very poorly attended even by pressmen from the West.

*To be continued...*



NONALIGNMENT

## And Indian Ocean - 2

By **Devendra Kaushik**

*Associate Professor, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.*

THE INITIATIVE for ensuring peace and security in the Indian Ocean, more or less in line with the basic Nonaligned approach was taken by Mrs. Bandaranaike, the then Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, at the Singapore Conference of the Commonwealth Prime Ministers in January 1971. As stated in the Ceylonese memorandum presented to the Singapore Conference by Mrs. Bandaranaike the idea behind the Indian Ocean peace zone proposal was to terminate the "trend towards militarization of the Indian Ocean" and convert the "negative concept of a power vacuum . . . . . to a positive idea of a peace zone. . . ." The Ceylonese memorandum described the Indian Ocean as a region "of low solidarity" on community of interests in spite of its being a geographical and historical entity and noted the absence of strong "cooperative links between countries in the region." A Peace Zone, it stressed, would provide the countries in the region "time to develop trends towards integration and cooperation so that in course of time the Indian Ocean region could move from an area of low solidarity to an area of high solidarity." It was envisaged that a Peace Zone would provide the "transitional minimum conditions" for the development of an "Indian Ocean community" with provision to deal with problems of security by "institutional means." The aim of the peace zone concept was not to equate the Super Powers but to eliminate the "blurring of distinctions between colonial and 'cold war' issues." It wanted to avoid a situation in which the "freedom movements of African peoples will be regarded as subversive" and "the apartheid in South Africa will tend to look more benign, seen from the view point of an anti-communist approach." The idea of a Peace Zone as proposed by Sri Lanka included a nuclear free Zone. It was made clear in the Ceylonese memorandum itself which spelled out the concept as having two dimensions. On the one hand, the objective was to ensure "that major powers, by tacit or explicit action, by mutual agreement or unilaterally will agree to respect the region as a zone where they will refrain from any action injurious to the cause of peace."

This implied voluntary limitations on the freedom of the high seas and voluntary limitations on the part of the great powers to keep away from "their involvement in collective security arrangements" and "not to seek or use any facilities for militarising the Indian Ocean." But the Peace Zone also had a "parallel corollary" in

the obligation of the regional states bordering the Indian Ocean" to refrain from "action prejudicial to the concept of a Peace Zone. In her speech at the Singapore Conference Mrs. Bandaranaike appealed to the Conference "to give serious consideration to accepting in principle, a formulation ... on the maintenance of the Indian Ocean as a peace zone and a nuclear free zone".

THE PEACE ZONE CONCEPT is implicit in the very concept of Nonalignment signifying that the territories of the Nonaligned countries should be outside the pale of great power conflicts. In the early 50s Jawaharlal Nehru had advanced the concept of an area of peace to counter the Dullesian strategy of so-called "collective security" through military pacts. The Cairo Conference of Nonaligned countries in 1964 followed by the Lusaka Conference in 1970 extended the peace zone concept to the ocean areas. Subsequently this concept has been endorsed by several international forums including UN General Assembly and has gained wide support among the littoral and hinterland states. The Cairo Conference of the Nonaligned states in 1964 which applied the concept of a zone of peace to ocean areas also recommended the establishment of "denuclearised zones" in Europe and Asia and commended the declaration of African states regarding the denuclearisation of Africa and the aspiration of the Latin American countries as "steps in the right direction." The Cairo Conference condemned the "expressed intention of imperialist powers to establish bases in the Indian Ocean as a calculated attempt to intimidate the emerging countries of Africa and Asia and an unwarranted extension of the policy of neo-colonialism and imperialism." If the names of the powers were not specifically mentioned at Cairo it did not mean that the resolution was directed at powers other than the United States, Britain, France etc. It was only to create a broader consensus and to carry together even weaker states which feared to come out openly against the Western powers that specific names were not mentioned in the Cairo resolution. But if the Cairo Conference confined itself to supporting the creation of a denuclearised zone in "areas in Europe and Asia" and "oceans of the world", the Lusaka Conference of the Nonaligned states in 1970 came out with a specific proposal for declaring the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace free from "great power rivalries and competition as well as bases conceived in the context of such rivalries and competition." It further demanded that "the area should also be free of nuclear weapons."

The UN General Assembly resolution of December 16 1971 on the declaration of the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace made a pointed reference to the Lusaka Declaration's call that "the area should also be free of nuclear weapons." The zone of peace strategy in the Indian Ocean was aimed at establishing peace "in an extensive geographical area in one region" to produce "a beneficial influence on the establishment of permanent universal peace." This a gradual advance from

the regional to the universal and not vice versa lay at the core of the UN resolution which only endorsed the basic Nonaligned approach as outlined at Cairo in 1964 and subsequently confirmed by the Lusaka Declaration of 1970. To say that the peace zone idea was directed only against the outside great powers' military presence and does not entail any obligations on the part of the States of the region is to miss its very essence. The peace zone is conceived both as a disarmament and collective security measure. The object is to establish "a system of universal collective security without military alliances" and "strengthening of international security through regional and other cooperation. The idea of establishment of peace zone in the Indian Ocean has caught the imagination of a large number of littoral and hinterland states. It is fully supported by at least one great power, the USSR, which has time and again expressed its willingness to work for its implementation. It has the support of several International forums — the Nonaligned, the Commonwealth Conferences, the Arab League, the Organisation of African Unity etc. India's interest in the Indian Ocean being a peace zone is not just utopian and idealistic. Being an arms control and disarmament measure, it is one of the several important initiatives of the Nonaligned countries to eliminate arms race, and international tensions which hinder the peaceful economic development vitally needed by them. It also imparts a new dimension to the Afro-Asian countries' struggle against colonialism in all its manifestations. Irrespective of the chances of its realization in the near future, it gives a certain leverage to the militarily weaker countries. The only way to prevent a proliferation of military bases in the Indian Ocean is to keep up the campaign for a peace zone.

Temporizing by some leading Nonaligned nations including India on the question of condemning foreign basis, their reluctance to indict the United States by name for expanding its bases as also their "super power rivalry" gloss over the escalation of the US military presence has only facilitated the grant of new bases to the United States by such littoral countries as Kenya, Somalia and Oman. The denigrators of peace zone tend to forget that it was a strong concerted opposition to the Diego Garcia base which caused delay in the US Congress voting the funds to expand and mobilize it. Suggestions that "the Indian Ocean peace zone concept affords India a diplomatic stick to beat the big powers of both blocs and gain some leadership in the Nonaligned movement" (see P. K. Nambudiri, JP Anand and Sreedar: *Intervention in the Indian Ocean*. Delhi 1982) can only sully the image of the country and provide grist to the mills of India-baiting. Nonalignment does not mean an unprincipled balancing game between the two blocs. Surely, it has a positive content. Such an approach of "equidistance" can hardly be endorsed by the Indian Ocean states like Angola, Mozambique and others who fully realise the implications of US presence in terms



of support to racist South Africa and Zionist Israel — the two major sources of threat to the freedom of a large number of Arab and African countries.

Another disquieting trend which might lead to the isolation of India among the Nonaligned countries and bring her into clash with not only the radicals but also many conservatives among them is the one-sided interpretation of the concept of peace zone as solely directed against outside great power's military presence and competition. The general consensus at a seminar on the Indian Ocean held in December 1980 under the auspices of the India International Centre was that India should "take note of anti-Indian nuances present in the attitude to some countries while continuing to play 'a major role' in the campaign for a peace zone." It was suggested by many participants that the idea of denuclearisation was not a part of the peace zone concept and it was being added to twist India's arm. The inseparable line of regional denuclearisation with the basic Nonaligned approach has already been brought out above. In the face of clear references to denuclearisation in the various resolutions passed at the Nonaligned Conferences and the UN one wonders how it can be said that the Indian Ocean zone of peace had nothing to do with regional disarmament or denuclearisation of the Indian Ocean. The overemphasis on the exclusion of great powers as the sole aim of the peace zone proposal tends to end support to the anti-Indian propaganda by certain countries that India wants them to be out of the Indian Ocean in order to establish her own domination over the area.

The Nonaligned nations must realise that the US military presence and designs in the Indian Ocean which are anterior to the appearance of the SLBM system remain basically directed against the national liberation movements and radical transformations in the newly independent countries prejudicial to the US interests. The US strategy in the Indian Ocean is influenced not only by the new weapon system but also by the usefulness of an island-based onslaught against the forces of national liberation. The Rapid Deployment Force is directed not against the USSR but the countries of the Indian Ocean basin. Since the Soviet presence in the Indian Ocean is only a counter-measure to offset the US presence, "the initiative in renouncing a strategic role in the Indian Ocean, as the SIPRI Year Book of 1973 rightly commented, "should belong to the USA." The frontlines in Southern Africa which are receiving valuable military assistance from the USSR and the socialist Cuba in their grim battle for survival against the armed intervention of racist Pretoria regime, cannot view Soviet military presence as an extension of the super power rivalry, an expression so popular with sections of Indian leadership and officials in the South Block.

TRIBUNE, APRIL 2, 1983



**Notice Under Section 7 Of The Land Acquisition Act (Chapter 460) as Amended by Land Acquisition (Amendment) Act No. 28 of 1964.**

Reference No: 3/2/5/S/1072

It is intended to acquire the land described in the schedule below. For further particulars please see Extraordinary of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka. Gazette Extraordinary No: 236/2 of 14. 03. 1983

**SCHEDULE**

A.G.A's Division : Ja-ela.  
 Village : Ja-ela,  
 Situation :  
 Name of Land : Ranasinghe Road.  
 Lot Nos. : 1 to 8.  
 Plan No. P. P. Gam. : 168

Kachcheri,  
 Gampaha.  
 Date:- 01.03.83  
 MWS/17/10/1980.

**A.L.S. Malwinna.**  
 District Land Officer,  
 of Gampaha District.

**NOTICE UNDER SECTION 9. of the Land acquisition Act (Chapter 460) as amended by the Land acquisition (Amendment) Act No. 28 of 1964**

Reference No. ATH 3/681

It is intended to acquire the land described in the Schedule below. For further particulars please see Gazette Extraordinary of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka. No. 236/14 of 18. 03. 1983

D.R.O's Division : Homagama.  
 Situation : Udugahapattu minor Division.  
 Village : Palogama.  
 Name of Land : Kekunagahalanda alias Atagahakanatta.  
 Lot No. : 01.  
 Plan No. P. P. Co. : 6001

The Kachcheri,  
 Colombo.  
 Date- 16 3 1983

**H. C. Gunawardane**  
 District Land Officer  
 Colombo District.

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## March 14 - 20

### 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

**MONDAY, MARCH 14:** Sri Lanka's "flag of opportunity" scheme to attract foreign ship registrations here has hit a stamp duty snag and many shipowners attracted by the incentives offered are having second thoughts about registering here, shipping circles said. Tough new regulations governing the marketing and promotion of infant milk foods and other infant foods have been drawn under provisions of the Consumer Protection Act. The trial-at-bar of Rev. Mathew Peiries and Mrs. Dalrene Ingram for conspiracy to murder and murder of their spouses will begin today—*CDN*. The State Transport Board has been asked to provide a better transport service to the public; informed sources said that there was a tendency for the SLTB to relax their services in favour of the private transport service on particular routes—*CDM*. The Criminal Investigations Department has been called in to probe complaints of theft and damage to property of the Airports Authority which will soon be converted to a public company, Lanka Aviation Services Ltd. An Opposition MP wants to know the number of ships purchased by the Ceylon Shipping Corporation, their tonnage and the amount of foreign money paid for each vessel. The Sri Lanka Freedom Party has condemned the midnight gazette and the budget which it says, have "burdened the poor masses with a load that they cannot bear"—*SU*. Finance Minister Ronnie de Mel's proposal to grant a Rs.100/- salary increase to public servants drawing less than Rs. 1000 a month, has caused a series of problems for the Labour Minister and his department officials. Sri Lanka will not only achieve self-sufficiency in cement within the course of this year, there will be even a surplus for export; the prelude to this was the ceremonial sale yesterday of cement produced by Phase I of the Kankesanturai Cement Complex—*IS*. There will be conventional thunder showers in the hill country in the next few days, predicts Meteorological Department's Director R. Mahadeva; the central hills have been parched without a drop of rain, last experienced in late February

this year, he said—*EO*. Minister of Industries and Scientific Affairs Cyril Mathew said that there was a possibility of the prices of oil being decreased and that the government was considering this—*D.P*.

**TUESDAY, MARCH 15:** The first cautious indications of Sri Lanka's population responding to the big new development schemes in the countryside is revealed in the Census and Statistics Department's "Socio-Economic Indicators of Sri Lanka," just off the presses. A forest fire raged at Saman Eliya and Kuda Oya over the weekend destroying 300 acres of pine established by the Forest Department, police and military were called in to assist to put out the blaze *CDN*. The Government is to abolish the contractor system; this was announced by Fisheries Minister Festus Perera addressing a public meeting at Bandirippuwa in Wennappuwa electorate on Sunday—*CDM*. Nearly 200 Tamil youths who have sought political asylum in Switzerland are likely to be deported shortly; this comes in the wake of a decision by the Swis Government to adopt a series of stern measures to ensure that foreigners do not abuse the privileges under their law of asylum. All necessary action has been taken the over counterfeiting of currency notes and cases have been filed in the courts, Finance Minister Ronnie de Mel told Parliament yesterday. Confusion reigned at the Gangodawila University yesterday morning with allegations and counter-allegations being flung by groups of students and university officials—*SU*. The Ceylon Petroleum Corporation may not consider a substantial reduction in oil prices even if OPEC decides on a price reduction of five dollars per barrel, a Government spokesman said yesterday. Police have arrested the king-pin behind the forged currency note circulating in the country, Finance Minister Ronnie de Mel disclosed in Parliament yesterday—*IS*. About 640,000 public servants, local government employees, pensioners, university staff and certain categories of government corporations like the CISIR which is fully funded by the Government will benefit from the Rs. 100 salary increase announced by Mr. Ronnie de Mel, Minister of Finance and Planning, in his budget last week—*EO*.

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16:** The JVP, the NSSP (Vasudeva group) and DWC (of Mr. Abdul Aziz) will have to seek fresh recognition from the Elections Commissioner if they plan to run at the forthcoming by-elections. Return to lectures by March 18 or forego your bank loan for the month of March, the University Grants Commission gave this ultimatum yesterday to striking undergraduates of the Colombo and Sri Jayewardenapura Universities. The Rs 10.7 million electronics factory, Lanka Hiqu Ltd., began operations at the Katunayake Free Trade Zone yesterday; this the first of its kind, has been set up by Woelke Magnetbandtechnik of West Germany—*CDN*. Dr. Stanly Kalpage, Secretary, Ministry of Higher Educa-

tion yesterday warned Mahapola Scholarship students that if they do not make good use of the facilities provided at the Universities he would ask the Board of the Mahapola Trust Fund to withdraw the scholarships—*CDM*. Sri Lanka's booming hoteliering and building construction industries are expected to draw over a billion rupees in investments under new registrations made from March 9 to March 31. The Central Bank of Ceylon is expected to announce the biggest refinance scheme for non-traditional export development, tentatively being discussed "on the basis of an unlimited level of assistance through refinance to this sector", an official source said yesterday—*SU*. A sub-committee appointed by the SLFP Central Committee to formulate a report to map out party strategy has recommended that immediate legal action be taken against the breakaway "Maithripala faction" to prevent this group using the "Hand" symbol and the party name. Members of Parliament in the Jaffna Galle and Kandy districts have complained that regional offices of the Department of Immigration and Emigration in those districts were not functioning properly and had no adequate staff informed sources told *The Island*—*IS*. The major cause of unrest in the two universities—University of Colombo and Sri Jayewardenapura is attributed to outside interference of left wing politicians, according to university sources—*EO*.

**THURSDAY, MARCH 17:** The Cabinet yesterday approved the levy of an embarkation tax of Rs. 50 from passengers leaving Sri Lanka from the Talaimannar Pier; repatriates to India will however not be called upon to pay the tax; fifty percent of the tax collected will be credited to the Development Council of Mannar. The Cabinet decided to withdraw the interest subsidy given to factories; this is because it is double relief since the subsidy is already not taxable; the subsidy on tea machinery will however continue—*CDN*. Hard core prisoners will be kept in one maximum security prison and taken to court only at the time of the trial; this proposal by the Police will be implemented by the Ministry of Justice in view of the large number of persons who have escaped while being transported to Court on the Flimsiest grounds—*CDM*. The State Ministry is to impose a ban on tobacco advertisements in Sri Lanka's newspapers; legislation to make them fall in line with the ban now in force on Radio and TV will be introduced in Parliament shortly. "No government is infallible; we all got shortcomings. But have we in the opposition got any alternative? No we have not. Under these circumstances let us all unite and help the helmsman President J. R. Jayewardene fulfil his ambitious programme which he has so ably displayed at the recent Nonaligned Conference in India," S. D. Bandaranayake SLFP MP for Gampaha stated in Parliament yesterday—*SU*. The Government is finding it difficult to recover Rs. 36.2 million due from lessees of the ten Departments of Textile Industries textile plants leased to the private

sector. Poor children warded at Lady Ridgeway Hospital Borella go hungry for want of an adequate supply of gas for cooking; very often their meals are prepared on hastily constructed on open air hearths using firewood—*IS*. Following the price reduction announced by OPEC the Ceylon Petroleum Corporation will review the local prices of petroleum products this week, a spokesman for the CPC said—*EO*. The Defence Ministry has instructed the Army commander for the Northern Division that the Vice-Chancellor's approval should be obtained prior to arresting any university student and that if such approval was not obtained details regarding the arrested student should be furnished to the Vice Chancellor immediately—*VK*.

**FRIDAY, MARCH 18:** A group claiming to be Tamil Liberation Tigers has written to the police threatening to "execute" a prominent politician and some police officers within the next two months, and to attack several Eastern Province police stations. The by-elections are likely to be held on the 1981 electoral lists—the same register on which the October presidential election and the December Referendum were conducted—*CDN*. Stringent security precautions will be adopted in the issue of passports in the future; the attention of the government has been drawn to the desirability of completely overhauling the security precautions now followed in the issue of passports on account of the alarming increase in the forgery of Sri Lanka passports—*CDM*. An impending fare revision by state run bus services is likely to raise charges on some routes and lower it on others; this revision now being planned by the Transport Board Ministry is intended to standardise bus fares so they may be uniform on all routes. Northern youths seeking to gain political asylum in several European countries have been found to be in possession of forged court warrants and summons which they were using to substantiate their claims of "prosecution"—*SU*. Ministers under whom respective Corporations and Boards fall have been empowered by Finance Minister Ronnie de Mel to take independent decisions on the payment of the Rs. 100 salary hike to workers in their respective Corporations and Boards, taking into consideration the viability of these bodies—*IS*. A proposal to cancel the registration of internal undergraduates who are either on strike or boycotting lectures is before President J. R. Jayewardene, who is also Minister of Higher Education, for a decision—*EO*. It is understood that resulting from a leak in the hatch of a steamer carrying sugar for Sri Lanka a consignment of sugar valued at Rs. 2.8 million has got damaged—*DP*.

**SATURDAY, MARCH 19:** The second reading of the budget was passed in parliament last night by 117 votes for and 13 against; Mr. S. D. Bandaranayake (SLFP) MP for Gampaha was not present; the TULF, both wings of the SLFP and the communist Party voted against. The State Fertiliser Manufact-

ing Corporation had a net loss of over Rs.124 million in 1982, official sources said yesterday. An agreement for the expansion of the present flight kitchen building at Katunayake airport was signed yesterday between Air Lanka Catering Services Ltd., and Mitsui Construction Company Limited of Japan—*CDN*. Foreign collaboration of loans to finance hotel projects will not be permitted in Sri Lanka unless they have more than 100 rooms—*CDM*. Tourist arrivals showed a marked improvement in January vis-a-vis the figure last year; a total of 49,104 tourists arrived in the country recording a 20 percent increase over last January's figure. Government is not likely to lower fuel prices consequent to reductions by major oil producers—*SU*. Leader of the Opposition A. Amirthalingam may resign his Kankesanthurai constituency and face a by-election if General Elections are not held in August as demanded by the Opposition; informed sources said that a proposal to this effect would be submitted at the TULF's General convention scheduled to be held in Batticaloa in May. The Government will call for international tenders for the import of the country's fertilizer requirements for the second half of 1983 by the Ceylon Fertiliser Corporation; the approximate value of the tender is US \$ 13 million—*IS*.

**SUNDAY, MARCH 20:** The inability to convince the people that the SLFP can govern the country was the chief cause of the party's debacles since 1977; this is pin-pointed by the special 3-man committee of the SLFP (S) Central Committee consisting of Dr. Premadasa Udagama, Mr. Ariya Bulegoda and Mr. Lakshman Jayakody which was appointed to probe into this—*SO*. The "flag of opportunity" scheme introduced by the Minister of Trade and Shipping, Mr. Lalith Athulathmudali two years ago has accrued to the Exchequer Rs.23 million in foreign exchange and employment on board foreign ships to a large number of Sri Lankan seafarers; a spokesman for the Ministry of Trade and Shipping said that 20 foreign ships had been regiszered under the scheme—*ST*. Attention is now being focused on the East as the new staging and training area of the Northern terrorist organisations; Defence Ministry Sources claimed that the terrorist build up in the area was linked to a well organized operation by a social service organisation to provide incentive payments and settle large numbers of families of Indian origin on crown land in the Trincomalee District. Although the financing of the main dams and power stations in Mahaveli have been satisfactorily completed, the financing of the downstream development still presents serious problems to the government—*WK*. Immigration authorities have expressed grave concern over the large number of foreigners who have overstayed their visas and are actively involved in a series of vices, specially in tourist resorts. Minimum qualification for admission to the teaching profession should be G.C.E. Advanced Level or a recognized certificate in a particular sub-

TRIBUNE, APRIL 2, 1983

ject, states a joint memorandum from the All-Ceylon Union of Teachers and the All Ceylon Union of Teachers to the committee for Review of Teachers' Salaries—*IS*. Next to Katunayake a second international airport is to be constructed at China Bay in Trincomalee discussions in this connection between the Airports Development Board and the government have been finalised—*CH*.



THE NEW DELHI

## Message

The message was adopted by Heads of States or Governments at the eighth plenary session shortly after 3 a.m. on Saturday. The plenary accepted a minor amendment proposed by the PLO leader Mr. Yasser Arafat in the paragraph dealing with urgent political issues. He sought to describe the Palestinian people as "brave" and include the withdrawal of Israel from Jerusalem, occupied Palestine and Arab territories and from the Lebanon" among the urgent political issues. The amendments were promptly accepted at the plenary.

In its 13-point Delhi Message, the Summit proposed the immediate convening of an international conference on money and finance for development, with universal participation and a comprehensive restructuring of the international monetary and financial system.

The following is the text of the New Delhi Message:

1. Our world is increasingly turbulent and insecure. International economic relations continue to be characterised by inequality, domination and exploitation. The gravity of the situation is evident in the intensification of the arms race, in the resistance of the strong to the initiatives for change in favour of the weak, in great-power involvement in regional conflicts and in the threat of a worldwide nuclear catastrophe.
2. Peace and peaceful coexistence, independence, disarmament and development are the central issues of our time. But peace must be based on justice and equality because the intolerable inequality and exploitation established by colonialism and imperialism remain the most important causes of tension, conflict and violence in the world.

3. We, the heads of state or government of non-aligned countries appeal to the great powers to halt the arms race which is consuming, at an ever-increasing rate, the scarce material resources of our planet destroying the ecological balance and wasting much of our finest scientific talent in sterile and destructive pursuits. These should be used to revitalise and restructure the world economy. The resources released by measures of disarmament should be diverted to promote the development of developing countries.

4. The nonaligned countries speaking for the majority of the world community, want an immediate halt to the drift towards nuclear conflict which threatens not only the well-being of humanity in our times but of future generations as well. The nuclear weapon powers must heed this voice of the people of the world. From all indications, 1983 may be a crucial year for nuclear disarmament. We urge the nuclear - weapon powers to adopt urgent and practical measures for the prevention of nuclear war. They should agree on an international convention prohibiting the use of threat of use of nuclear weapons in any circumstances and stop further production and deployment of nuclear weapons. It is also essential that they observe existing arms limitation agreements while seeking to negotiate broader and more effective programmes leading to general and complete disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, under international supervision.

5. The world economic crisis, which originated in some of the major industrialised countries, has now become truly global in character and scope. In developed countries it has led to economic stagnation and rising unemployment to which they have reacted by adopting protectionist and other inwards-looking policies. In developing countries, whose economies are specially vulnerable, it has led to enormous balance of payments deficits, mounting debt burdens and worsening terms of trade due to the steep fall in their commodity prices and to the sharp rise in the prices of industrial products which they have to import. All this has brought many of these countries to the brink of disaster.

6. Never before have the economic fortunes of the developed and developing nations been so closely linked together. Yet, the rich nations of the world are turning in the midst of this common crisis to the catastrophic bilateralism of the 1920s and 1930s rather than to enlightened multilateralism. They still refuse to recognize that the economic revival of the North is simply not possible without the economic survival of the South. Solutions to these problems must necessarily be global.

7. The present crisis has demonstrated the inadequacy of the existing international economic order to deal

with the problems of development. A thoroughgoing restructuring of this order through a process of global negotiations is necessary. All hurdles must now be overcome so that these negotiations can be launched without delay. Non-aligned countries are committed to strive for the establishment of the new international economic order based on justice and equity.

8. Concurrently, immediate measures must be taken to start a process of recovery and to bring the world economy back to the path of sustained growth. The activation and stimulation of the growth process in the developing countries, must be a key objective of this endeavour. Immediate measures are needed in several areas. Special emphasis must be placed on enabling developing countries, particularly the least developed countries to solve their acute balance of payments problems without interrupting their development process. At the same time, satisfaction of their basic needs of food and energy, enhanced access to markets and fair prices for commodities must be ensured. Protectionist trends must be reversed and immediate measures to dismantle trade barriers implemented. It is necessary to put an end to unequal exchange between developed and developing countries. Besides, many developing countries are in a tragic situation because of their inability to meet their debt obligations. This serious problem should be urgently addressed.

9. We propose the immediate convening of an international conference on money and finance for development, with universal participation, and a comprehensive restructuring of the international monetary and financial system.

10. We are deeply concerned about the tensions and confrontations between the great powers and their disturbing effects on nonaligned countries. We are determined to resist economic and political measures that might be exerted by any great power small and vulnerable states.

11. Urgent political issues such as the pressing need to restore to the brave Palestinian people who are waging a heroic struggle against Israeli forces, their inalienable right to establish a national sovereign state of their own in accordance with UN resolutions, withdrawal of Israel from Jerusalem, Palestine occupied Arab territories and the Lebanon, the independence of Namibia to be achieved by the speedy implementation of Security Council resolution 435, the need to achieve peace in Central America through political negotiations between the parties concerned, as well as the problems in South-East Asia, South West Asia, the Indian Ocean, the Mediterranean and other areas in the world, call for a sincere effort on the part of all countries of the world to resolve them in accordance with the principles of peace and justice, independence and equality. No less urgent is the common responsi-

bility of all of us to ensure that our fellow human beings everywhere live in dignity and honour. Many wrongs have been perpetrated on the continent of Africa and its long-suffering people. The people of South Africa are bravely struggling against the obnoxious and oppressive system of racism and apartheid. We reaffirm our solidarity with the African people and their noble cause. There are some great powers in a position to help achieve this objective faster and hopefully with less suffering all round. We earnestly urge them to do so.

12. We, on our part, are committed to pressing these and other critical issues at the 38th Session of the United Nations General Assembly. We urge the heads of state or government of all countries of the world to join us there. We stand ready to cooperate with them in finding equitable, fair, speedy and just solutions to these problems. Our destiny is common.

13. The crisis which confronts our civilisation today is unprecedented in history. Great tasks call for wise decisions. We appeal to the great powers to give up mistrust, engage in sincere, forward-looking negotiations in a spirit of shared good faith to reach agreement in various disarmament measures and to find to reach agreement on various disarmament measures and to find a way out of the deepening economic crisis which threatens all of us. Unitedly, the members of the nonaligned movement are prepared to do everything in their power to assist in this process. The earth belongs to us all — let us cherish it in peace and true brotherhood based on the dignity and equality of man.



## SUMMIT DECLARATION

# Indian Ocean

**Below is the full text of Chapter VIII (paragraphs 74 - 80) of the Political Declaration of the Seventh Nonaligned Summit on "The Indian Ocean As a Zone of Peace." We have also included Chapter IX (paragraph 81) on Mauritian Sovereignty Over Chagos Archipelago including Diego Garcia."**

74. Ever since the Lusaka Summit Conference first called upon all States to consider and respect the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace, (Nonaligned States have consistently extended their unanimous support to the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace) adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in its resolutions 2832 (XXVI) of 16 December 1971, which sought to protect the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the States of the region and to bring about the elimination from the

Indian Ocean and its natural extensions, of foreign bases, military installations, logistical supply facilities the disposition of nuclear weapons and weapons of mass destruction and to free the region from any manifestation of rivalries and competition for influence among the great powers — which have led to an increase in their military presence and threatened the peace and stability of the area.

75. The Conference reaffirmed the determination of the Nonaligned States to continue their endeavour towards the attainment of the objectives embodied in the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of peace and as considered at the Meeting of Littoral and Hinterland States of July 1979 as well as at the subsequent meetings of the *Ad Hoc* Committee of the Indian Ocean. It reiterated its conviction that the presence in the Indian Ocean area of any manifestation of great power military presence, foreign bases, military installations and logical supply facilities, nuclear weapons and weapons of mass destruction conceived in the context of great power rivalries constitute a flagrant violation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace.

76. It viewed with disquiet and concern the continuous escalation of great power military presence in the Indian Ocean area, including the expansion of the existing bases, the search for new base facilities and the establishment of the new military command structures of Great Powers, against the express wishes of the littoral and hinterland states of the Indian Ocean and other nonaligned countries. These activities endangered the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and peaceful development of the States in the area.

77. It noted with concern that the quest for spheres of influence undermined the objective of establishing universal collective security without military alliances and the security interests of the nonaligned countries. It also noted and condemned the development of strategic concepts conceding to the South African racist regime a regional role which it was using as a pretext to maintain the *apartheid* system by force, to occupy the international territory of Namibia illegally and to destabilize neighbouring independent States.

78. The nonaligned countries are determined to work for the success of the Conference on the Indian Ocean to be held in Sri Lanka in 1984. They urge the United Nations *Ad Hoc* Committee to complete its preparations for the Conference strictly in accordance with its mandate. They welcome and support the efforts of the nonaligned members of the *Ad Hoc* Committee to finalize preparations for the said Conference despite unwarranted delays resulting from the attitude of some great powers, which has thus far prevented the completion of the preparations for holding the Conference. They also urged all great powers and other major maritime users to participate in the Conference in a cons-

tructive spirit and in the meanwhile to start a process of reducing their military presence in the Indian Ocean area.

79. The Conference called for the resumption of bilateral negotiations between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics which should result in the reduction and the eventual elimination of the military presence of the powers concerned and thereby contribute to the implementation of Resolution 2832 (XXVI) on the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace.

80. The Conference reiterated its satisfaction over the initiative taken by the President of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar to suggest the convening of a Summit Conference on the Indian Ocean to be held at Tananarive. The Conference requested the nonaligned countries of the region to hold consultations on the elaboration of an international convention on the Indian Ocean as proposed by Madagascar.

#### MAURITIAN SOVEREIGNTY OVER CHAGOS ARCHIPELAGO, INCLUDING DIEGO GARCIA:

81. The heads of State or Government expressed, in particular, their full support for Mauritian sovereignty over the Chagos archipelago including Diego Garcia which was detached from the territory of Mauritius by the former colonial power in 1965 in contravention of United Nations General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and 2066 (XX). The establishment and strengthening of the military base at Diego Garcia has endangered the sovereignty, territorial integrity and peaceful development of Mauritius and other states. They called for the early return of Diego Garcia to Mauritius.



#### SEVENTH SUMMIT

## Palestine

**Below we publish from the Political Declaration of the Seventh Summit the full text of Chapter X (paragraphs 82 - 97) on "The Question of Palestine."**

82. The Conference reaffirmed that the Movement of Nonaligned countries as a whole has undertaken to give its support to the Palestinian people for the liberation of their homeland and the recovery of their inalienable national rights.

83. The Conference reaffirmed that the Zionist occupation of Palestine and the usurpation and denial of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people are the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict. The Conference affirmed that a just and durable peace in the Middle East

cannot be established without the total and unconditional withdrawal of Israel from all Palestinian and other Arab territories occupied by it since 1967, including Jerusalem, and without the achievement of a just solution of the problem of Palestine on the basis of the attainment and exercise in Palestine of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, including the right of return, self-determination without external interference and the right to national independence and sovereignty, including the right to establish the Palestinian Independent State in its home land, Palestine.

84. The Conference reaffirmed that the Palestine Liberation Organisation is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and that the PLO has the right to participate on an independent and equal footing in all endeavours, international conferences, activities and international bodies, organs and agencies on the basis of resolutions of the United Nations relevant to the question of Palestine with a view to ensuring the attainment and exercise in Palestine of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, and consequently the Conference rejects all plans, arrangements and agreements which are not in conformity with the provisions stated above.

85. The Conference welcomed the resolutions of the sixteenth session of the Palestinian National Council held in Algeria from 12 to 22 February 1983, which reaffirmed the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people under the leadership of the PLO, its sole and legitimate representative. The Conference also affirmed its full solidarity with the PLO, which has confronted Zionist aggression courageously and come through that ordeal stronger, more resolute and determined to fight until the rights of the Palestinian people are realized.

86. The Conference stressed the urgent need to undertake endeavours to achieve a just and comprehensive peace on the basis of the principles enunciated above in this declaration. No action should be taken which is inconsistent with these principles or would adversely affect the struggle of the Arab countries for the liberation of their territories of the Palestinian people for the liberation of their homeland, Palestine and the exercise of their inalienable rights therein.

87. The Conference strongly condemned Israel for its continued occupation of Palestinian and other Arab territories and for its persistent acts of repression against the Palestinian people, and demanded that the Security Council of the United Nations invoke the powers vested in it with a view to imposing on Israel the relevant sanctions prescribed in the Charter of the United Nations until Israel withdraws from all occupied Palestinian and Arab territories and demolishes all Israeli settlements established in these territories and complies fully with the relevant decisions of the Security Council.



88. The Conference especially condemned Israel for the acts of genocide perpetrated against the Palestinian people in the Sabra and Shatila camps in Lebanese territory under occupation by Israeli armed forces.

89. The Conference also decided to request the international community to set up a war crimes tribunal in order to try Israel under international law for the crimes committed against the Palestinian people in all the territories which it has occupied since its establishment in 1948.

90. The Conference referred to the responsibility of the Government of the United States of America for violating the commitments it had undertaken to guarantee the safety and security of Palestinian refugees.

91. The Conference reaffirmed its firm opposition to the policy and practices of Israel in the occupied Arab and Palestinian territories, including Jerusalem, and sharply condemned them. It condemned in particular and viewed as illegal the establishment of Israeli settlements in these territories, since this constitutes a serious obstacle to a just and comprehensive solution to the question of Palestine and the Middle East crisis.

92. The Conference reaffirmed in this context its total rejection of all the Israeli policies designed to modify the geographical characteristics, demographic composition or legal status of the Arab and Palestinian territories occupied by Israel since 1967. The Conference decided not to recognize any change made by Israel in the above territories and called on all States not to recognize such changes and to refrain from any cooperation with Israel that might encourage it to pursue its policies and practices in the occupied Arab and Palestinian territories.

93. The Conference reaffirmed the resolution of the Conference of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Non-aligned countries held in New Delhi in 1981 which had firmly condemned the hostile attitude of the United States of America on the subject of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people and the PLO and total and unconditional withdrawal from all occupied Arab and Palestinian territories, including Jerusalem, an attitude which violated the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the General Assembly resolutions on the questions of Palestine and the Middle East and was an obstacle to the establishment of a just peace in the region.

94. The Conference condemned the policy which the United States is striving to impose in the region and which is prejudicial to the liberation of the occupied Arab and Palestinian territories, including Jerusalem, and to the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people.

95. The Conference also condemned the support given by the United States of America to the Israeli entity in all fields, especially the military and the political. The Conference affirmed that the pursuit of this policy harmed the relations and interests which linked the nonaligned countries on the one hand with the United States on the other.

96. The Conference noted with satisfaction the efforts made by the United Nations Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People in the search for a just solution to the question of Palestine. The Conference welcomed the measures taken by the Committee in accordance with the General Assembly resolution 37/86 to organize the International Conference on the Question of Palestine to be held in Paris in August 1983. The Conference also declared its conviction that this Conference would make a positive contribution to realize the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people. The Conference called upon all members to take an active part, and to be represented at a high level, in the International Conference and in the regional preparatory meetings so as to contribute to the success of the International Conference.

97. The Conference called upon the Security Council to implement the United Nations General Assembly resolutions on the question of Palestine, and in particular resolution 37/86 (D and E). It called upon the Secretary General of the United Nations to implement the provisions of resolution 37/120 (I and J) as soon as possible.

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UNITED STATES REGRETS

## Summit Declaration

*Washington, March 15:* The US on Monday expressed regret at the final declaration of the recent Nonaligned Summit in New Delhi, saying it was in many respects unbalanced and polemical. State Department spokesman Alan Romberg said unfair attacks on the US and the absence of criticism of the Soviet Union undermined the declaration's credibility. The five-day conference of 101 nonaligned countries approved a document attacking the US on several issues, including its policies in West Asia, Southern Africa and Latin America. But the declaration, seen as more moderate than in past conferences also appealed for inter-national action to prevent economic collapse.

The declaration "is in many respects an unbalanced and polemical document which does not reflect the principles of nonalignment which the movement proclaims." Mr. Romberg said. "The United States regrets this." Mr. Romberg said many negative elements in the political part of the declaration overshadowed some positive elements which he called

"more serious and measured" — an apparent reference to the economic section. The unfair attacks on the United States in the political part of the 138-page declaration and the absence of any criticism of the Soviet Union detracts from the credibility of the declaration and reflects the continuing ability of the radical elements within the nonaligned movement to manipulate it," he said. He said the US respected the true principles of nonalignment on which the movement was founded and would "continue to look for a more faithful application of those principles within the NAM in the future." AFP adds: Many observers at the New Delhi conference considered that the final communique took a moderate stand on international issues and pointed out that the Soviet Union was also criticised over Afghanistan.—*Reuter*.



JAPAN

## Welcomes New Delhi Message

*Tokyo, March 15:* All Japanese major newspapers have unreservedly appreciated the results of the New Delhi Nonaligned Summit and gave Prime Minister Indira Gandhi full marks for the way she piloted the nonaligned movement back to its original line of moderation. Influential and independent *Asahi Shimbun* editorially agrees with the "New Delhi Message" and reads in it two urgent calls for "disarmament" and "development", two principal "pillars for world peace". The daily says "we would like to pay our respect to the New Delhi message".

It took particular note of the summit's call for a total nuclear disarmament and offer to constructively work together with the industrialised nations for a new economic order. *Asahi* suggested the seven nation Western Summit this summer take up the New Delhi message and examine it with respect and scrutiny. It appreciated the way the movement was realigned with the true ideals of nonalignment originally developed by its founding fathers like Nehru and Tito. *Asahi* recognised a sense of crisis within the Third World about the worsening international situation and said this helped the nonaligned close their ranks. Calling the Movement a "huge success" the largest circulated *Yomiuri Shimbun* said, "the movement has reinforced itself and promise to follow a healthy line under India's leadership".—*PTI*.



CHINA HAPPY

## About Summit

*Beijing, March 14:* China has expressed "warm appreciation" of the "positive outcome" of the New

Delhi summit of heads of state and government of nonaligned nations which ended on Saturday. Speaking at a banquet last night in honour of the visiting Nigerian vice-president Dr. Alex Ekwueme, the Chinese premier, Mr. Zhao Ziyang said, "the non-aligned movement has become a political force exerting important influence in international arena." The Chinese government and people deeply appreciate and firmly support independent, sovereign and non-bloc principles followed by this movement," a Xinhua report quoted Mr. Zhao as saying.

Mr. Zhao is the second Chinese leader to hail outcome of nonaligned summit, first being the vice-premier Mr. Wan Lif. During the meeting with Dr. Ekwueme, Mr. Wan had said the New Delhi summit reflected aspirations of an overwhelming majority of nonaligned countries. "being a developing country., China resolutely supports and actively promotes South-South cooperation and regards economic and technological cooperation with African countries as an important component of China's participation in South-South cooperation," Mr. Zhao said in his banquet speech. He assured Dr. Ekwueme that China "is willing to make its contribution to South-South cooperation and promotion of the North-South dialogue by vigorously increasing its economic and technological cooperation with African countries in principles of equality and mutual benefit." Dr. Ekwueme, who arrived here on Saturday after attending the summit, said that Namibia should be allowed to progress without further delay to independence under the UN plan—*PTI*.



NATO Urges US

## To Cut N-Arsenal In Europe

*Washington, March 15:* A report by the NATO alliance has urged Washington to make a substantial cut in its stock of battlefield nuclear weapons in Europe because they are outmoded, militarily vulnerable and political liabilities. The report by NATO's assembly concluded that NATO has little to lose and much to gain by reducing if not eliminating (existing tactical nuclear weapons). The report has not yet been formally released but *Reuters* obtained a copy following a *Washington Post* report yesterday that high Pentagon officials are now questioning the need for thousands of short-range nuclear weapons in Europe. Over 5,000 such weapons are now deployed there, according to US officials and the Defence Department has requested funds to build an additional 1,000 nuclear artillery shells with anti-tank neutron high energy warheads.

The NATO report states that many of the battlefield nuclear systems lack accuracy. . . . the warhead yields are too large for battlefield use . . . . most have extremely

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short ranges which would mean use on or near our territory... and the warhead sites are vulnerable to pre-emptive attack. It added that political disagreements within NATO over when and how to use battle field nuclear weapons have festered for years. NATO has not yet managed to agree on guidelines for the follow on use of nuclear weapons if a first attempt to communicate NATO's intention through controlled demonstrative use did not succeed in persuading the adversary to halt hostilities, the study said. There is a growing realisation that the present tactical nuclear system are effectively unusable the report said adding that cutting them back would be politically useful.

—Reuter.



MULTIPLE USES OF

## Katurumurunga or Agathi

By Prof. N. R. Chandrasekeran

Tamilnadu Agricultural University,  
Coimbatore.

*SESBANIA GRANDIFLORA* popularly known as *Agathi* in Tamil and *Katurumurunga* in Sinhalese is a native of Malaysia but is extensively cultivated in countries like Philippines, Indonesia, Guyana, Australia, Sri Lanka and India. In Philippines it is known as *Bacule* or *Katurai*, August flower in Guyana, West India Pea tree or *Turi* in Malaysia and Java. Cultivation of this crop is done extensively in high rainfall zones in Far Eastern countries up to an altitude of 1000m. In India, its cultivation is largely done as a standard for betelvine, pepper crops and as a shade or companion crop to chillies and onions.

Agathi is a perennial tree and can be raised in any part of the year. Heavy black cotton soils are ideal for the Agathi plant. Its seeds are not very hard and hence do not require any treatment. Before sowing,

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soaking of the seeds overnight in cow's milk is popularly believed to induce germination and also remove the bitterness in the leaves of the emerging plant. Fertilizers are not generally applied to Agathi. However, as a legume, it should respond well to phosphorus application which will, incidentally promote nodulation as well. There is no specific rhizobial culture for Agathi and the 'Cowpea strain' should do well. The rhizobial culture promotes profuse, big nodulation. As a standard to betelvines, Agathi is generally planted to a spacing of 1m. x 1m. From the studies taken up at the Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, this spacing was found to be advantageous for subsequent cutting management. Agathi can be sown directly as seeds or planted as seedling when about 45-50 days old. Though vegetative propagation is feasible, it is advantageous to use seeds/seedlings. Agathi is remarkably fast growing. In one year, it reaches a height of 4 to 6 metres or in 3 to 4 years about 8 to 9 metres, ultimately reaching a maximum height of about 10 metres. A full grown plant has an average diameter of 30 cm. at breast height. The bole is cylindrical and the wood white and soft.

This plant has a very shallow root system. Not many varieties are available in this crop. The red flowered and the white flowered ones are the two major varieties met with. Generally the varieties are known by the place where they are extensively cultivated. Agathi is a tree with an open crown and spreading leaves which allow sunlight to pass through. For this reason it is extensively used as a standard to many crops. This peculiar plant architecture and the prolific nodulations are probably the two main reasons contributing to the increased yield of its companion crops like chillies, pepper, etc. Agathi leaves have, on an average, 25% crude protein, 42% crude fibre, 12% ash, 22% amino acids, like arginine, cystine, histidine, isoleucine, leucine, methionine, phenyl alanine, threonine, tryptophan, valine, thiamine, riboflavin and nicotinic acid. Agathi leaves are sometimes bitter in taste. This bitterness is due to the saponin present in the leaves which on hydrolysis, gives rise to bitterness-producing saponin, oleanoic acid, galactose, rhamnose etc. The leaf lase contains an alkaloid called as grandifloral.

Agathi flowers, which are large, are used as an article of food. The inflorescence is 2 to 4 flowered, of 6 to 10 cm long with a crimson, white or pink corolla. They are succulent, sweetish in taste and contain 87% moisture, 2% crude protein, and 1% crude fibre apart from Vitamin C, Nicotinic acid, Thiamine etc. Agathi pod is pendulous, 30 to 40 cm. long, 0.6 to 0.8 cm broad and flat containing 15 to 50 seeds. When they are tender these pods are consumed by man and animals. The mature seeds, however, contain 'Canavanine', an uncommon amino acid that acts as an antimetabolite to arginine, a nutritionally important amino acid. Normally, the traditional cooking detoxifies not only this amino acid but others as well. Seeds of Agathi are normally

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unpalatable. The seeds have 36% crude protein, 7% fat, 50% carbohydrates and 4% ash. The seeds of Agathi having a biological value of 36% is deficient in amino-acids like lysine and methionine (sulphur containing). Seeds also yield about 10% oil having a composition of stearic, oleic and linoleic acids. The saponification value of its oil is 205.5, while the iodine and acid values are 22.7 and 15 respectively.

As a green manure crop, with dense sowing, it will give a yield of about 50 to 55 tonnes of green leaves in 7 to 10 months under favourable conditions. In Jawa and other countries, Agathi is used for this purpose. Agathi leaves are valuable as fodder for cattle. The quantum of feed should be limited to 3 to 5 kg/per/head per day. They have given a green fodder yield of about 90 tonnes/ha in the first year under irrigated conditions and 36 tonnes/ha under rainfed conditions, in the studies taken up at the Dept. of Forage Crops of Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore. After 15 to 18 months, a tapering in the yield was noticed. Cutting the plant at a height of one metre for harvest as fodder is about the best considering regeneration as well as subsequent ease of harvest. Agathi stems are a good source for manufacturing paper pulp as they have fibre length of one mm, same as the average hard woods used for making paper. Its chemical composition also recommends its use for paper making by the sulphate process. The pulp of Agathi bleaches to a high brightness.

The wood of Agathi which is soft and white having a density of 0.4 is of little or no value since it is not durable. The wood yield is around 20 to 25 cubic metre/year. The wood is largely used in toy making. As a fuel wood also, Agathi is of no use. The charcoal from Agathi has a limited use in the manufacture of gun powder. The bark of the Agathi plant contains a gum and some tannis which find an industrial application. The Agathi plant has a lot of medicinal properties. The juice of the root is used as an expectorant and for treatment of rheumatism, swelling etc. The bark is used for treating diarrhoea, malaria and some eruptive fevers, as well as in the treatment of ulceration of the tongue, alimentary canal and other infantile disorders of the stomach/ Leaves are used as a laxative and diurectic. The leaves are also chewed to disinfect the mouth and throat and especially to treat sore throat. The juice of the flower is recommended to correct dimness of vision. An aqueous extract of this bark is reported to be toxic to American cockroaches.—Hindu

JAPAN

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## Low Absence Rate

The ordinary office of factory worker in Japan took no more than an average leave from work of 4.5 days per person annually either for reasons of illness or to

attend to private business. This is one of the findings contained in a survey on Japanese working hours, conducted by the Ministry of Labour for the year ended September 30, 1981, details of which were made public recently. The survey covered 6,000 private companies with 30 or more full-time employees, the companies belonging to nine leading industries, including the manufacturing sector. The number of working days per year fixed by employers in the period covered by the survey came to an average of 274.3 days. Out of this the workers did not attend their offices of factories on account of illness or to attend to private business for only 4.5 days for an unbelievable absence rate of 1.6 per cent that is, the ratio of days of absence to the total work days. If we look at similar statistics for four western industrialised countries, the corresponding absence rate in Italy was 10.6 per cent (in 1978), in France 8.3 per cent (1980), in the Federal Republic of Germany 7.7 per cent (1979), and in the United States 3.5 per cent (1978).

Even if the difference in the corporate systems between Japan and the other countries is taken into full account, the absence rate of Japanese workers can be seen to be exceptionally and strikingly low. In other words, what the Labour Ministry's survey has indicated is to confirm once again the diligence and dedication of Japanese salaried workers. The average weekly working time in Japanese companies in 1981 came to 41 hours and 50 minutes, three minutes shorter than the preceding year. This is in keeping with a growing tendency for shorter working hours that is being demanded by workers in Japan. Almost half the number of Japanese business enterprises (47.8 per cent of all enterprises in the country) had adopted the five-day work, week, recording a small increase of 0.2 per cent over the previous year. Japanese workers in 1981 enjoyed 15 paid holidays annually on an average for an increase of half a day over the previous year. The big corporations employing 1,000 or more workers gave a greater number of paid holidays than medium sized and small enterprises. Although the number of annual paid holidays rose to 15 days in 1981, the number of paid holidays actually taken by the salaried workers in that year in fact decreased by 0.5 days to 8.3 days, as compared with the preceding year. - *Kyodo*

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VALUABLE FOOD

## Red Gram

PULSES have, for many years, been considered a valuable source of protein, vitamins, and minerals in our daily diets. Unfortunately the per capita availability of pulses in India has decreased from 75g in 1959 to 49g at present; while the standard requirement is 68g. An increased supply of pulses in our daily

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diets will go a long way to alleviate the basic problem of widespread protein-calorie malnutrition in our country. Red gram also called pigeonpea, is the second-most important pulse crop in India. Locally known as arhar, tur or kandipappu, it is extensively grown and consumed in the States of Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat and Karnataka. Red gram is consumed predominantly in the form of dhal by boiling decorticated matured dry split seeds in water until they become tender. In several States of India, especially in Gujarati, green seeds of pigeonpea are utilised for vegetable purpose.

Recently scientists from the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) conducted a survey in Gujarat of consumer preferences for vegetable pigeonpeas. Plenty of green pods of pigeonpea were found in the vegetable markets in several cities visited during this survey. For use as a vegetable, green pigeonpea pods are picked before maturity. This operation is performed generally about 25 to 30 days after flowering (a little more than half the period to maturation). Picking of pods starts in mid-September and continues until mid-February. The availability of pods in vegetable markets depends on the flowering habit of the pigeonpea varieties. Environmental factors like temperature, rainfall also play an important role in influencing the availability of pigeonpea pods. Around big cities, where irrigation facilities are available, pigeonpea is specifically grown as a vegetable crop. Demand in cities for vegetable purpose is often supplemented by farmers in outlying villages. In general, after making several pickings of green pods the remaining pods are left to ripen to give dry seed. It is not known exactly how much of the total pigeonpea cultivated is consumed as a vegetable in Gujarat State. Pods of pigeonpea vary in size and colour. The colour ranging from green to purple or dark brown. Raw pigeonpea seed obtained from green coloured pods were generally more acceptable than those obtained from purple pods. When picked, pigeonpea pods intended for use as a vegetable are fully grown but the seeds are still green as in gardenpea commonly called matar. These seeds are cooked in the same way as are gardenpeas. Like gardenpeas, green pigeonpeas cook very well in combination with other vegetables such as potato, carrot, cabbage and cauliflower.

Laboratory tests indicated that pigeonpeas require slightly longer cooking time than gardenpeas. However, there was no noticeable difference between pigeonpeas and gardenpeas in the amount of water taken up or in the increase in volume during cooking. Generally, gardenpeas are preferred to pigeonpeas in view of their sweeter taste. Pigeon peas contain about 5 per cent soluble sugars on a dry weight basis to 10 per cent in gardenpeas. The protein

content of pigeonpeas is also lower than gardenpeas but starch is higher. A detailed comparative study of the nutritional aspects of green and matured pigeonpea seed favours the consumption of pigeonpea as a vegetable rather than as a matured grain. Flatulency is the production of gas in the intestinal tract and is associated with the consumption of large quantities of matured grain legumes. This problem is caused by certain complex sugars in the grain called oligosaccharides. The flatulence causing sugars are absent or present in much lower concentrations in green seed than in ripe grain. These sugars apparently accumulate as the seeds approach maturity. Starch and protein are the main constituents of pigeonpea seeds. Protein quality of green seed of pigeonpea is better than that of the matured seed when assayed in terms of protein content, protein digestibility, and the levels of the essential amino acids, methionine, cystine and tryptophan. Furthermore, starch digestibility of the green seed of pigeonpea appears to be better than that of the matured seed. The levels of protease inhibitors and amylase inhibitor which interfere with the protein and starch digestibilities, respectively are less in the green seed than in the matured seed. These observations strongly suggest that green seeds of pigeonpea used as a vegetable are nutritionally better than the matured seed.

**Dr. U. Singh,**  
Biochemist, ICRISAT,  
Andhra Pradesh

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ROBOTISATION OF

## Farms

Farmer Kyoshi Bannai rarely has to go near his fields or get his hands dirty. He simply sits in front of a computer console in his modern farmhouse controlling his crops by remote control. Mr. Bannai is in the vanguard of a belated technological revolution in Japanese farming. Computerised crop growing, robotics, genetic engineering and seed cloning—this is the shape of things to come. Traditional farmers sneer at such advances, regarding them as expensive toys invented by city slickers with nothing better to do with their time. To others, however, the developments are not only logical but also very necessary. One reason is the rapidly advancing age of Japanese farmers. The nation in general is growing old fast as birthrates slump and people live longer. On the farm this is exacerbated by the departure of the younger generation which is more interested in well-paying jobs in the city than in backbreaking, dirty contact with the soil. *But the technology that has transformed Japanese industry into a powerful world force has been late in reaching the countryside.* This is partly due to a concentration on rice growing.

the limited nature of other crop farming and heavy dependence on imports (with the United States being the No. 1 supplier) for almost everything but rice. Rural productivity lags well behind that of the industrial sector. Inefficient Japanese farmers could not hope to survive international competition without heavy government subsidies and the protection of import quotas.

Farming must be ruthlessly reformed to be competitive, the government had decided. And for this to succeed a heavy dose of advanced technology is needed. Near Sayama, a Tokyo "dormitory town," Kyoshi Bannai acts as a guinea pig. After a great deal of careful deliberation, he has fed a crop-growing programme into his computer. Optical sensors in the fields feed information back to the computer to indicate how things are going in the soil. In turn, the machine controls the fertilisation or other crop-growing conditions. Apart from emergencies, Mr. Bannai, a descendant of an ancient farming family, has to go out into the fields only at harvest time. And even there, science is getting ready to take over: Leading agricultural machinery manufacturers are developing automated tractors, combines and other machines. Some already operate without a driver. Others respond to voice commands by the human operator, with a synthesised voice able to ask questions when the machine's computer is not sure what to do. Japan's Industrial Robot Association envisages widespread robotisation within this decade of farms for chemical spraying, fertilisation, cultivation control and many other traditionally dirty, backbreaking jobs.

At a research center in Tsukuba, some 70 km north of Tokyo, the Ministry of Agriculture has built an experimental farm that operates without any human worker. It features a nine-metre-wide computer operated gantry running over a plot of land doing everything from drilling and sowing to the final harvesting. A recent rice-growing test resulted in a yield 19 per cent above the national average. Meanwhile, with a combination of American and Japanese technology various experimental "farm factories" are being established to mass produce vegetables and crops around the year regardless of the weather. A central computer feeds water and liquefied fertiliser to seed beds at regular intervals. One system designed for cold northern climes, uses lamplight to raise vegetables in only five days. The big drawback: heavy electricity bills. The high cost is the biggest problem with many of the systems now under development. A spokesman for the Agriculture Ministry says: "The challenge now is to bring these innovations within the scope of the average farmer's tight purse."— *Christian Science Monitor*.

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## THE CULTIVATION OF

# Grapes

GRAPES can be grown in a wide range of soil types except heavy clay, very shallow poor drained soils. High concentrations of salts of the alkali metals are toxic to them. They are deep-rooted plants that fully explore the soils to a depth of 2 to 3 metres or more if root penetration is not obstructed by hard pan, impervious clay substrate, toxic combination of salts, or a free water table. The stand of the crop and the quality of berries are better in red loamy soils and in alluvial soils in Tamil Nadu. Sub-drainage is most important in viticulture which allows enough water to escape and prevents the accumulation of injurious concentrations of salts, otherwise the vines will be short lived.

The second is the irrigation water, Irrigation water contains a complex array of salts and vary widely in composition. In large parts the salts that are brought to the soil by the irrigation water are left behind when plants and evaporation remove the water. Unless the salts are leached out, they accumulate in the soil solution of the root zone, sometimes reaching toxic levels of concentrations. Grapes are moderately tolerant to salt concentrations. Injuries may be caused by higher concentrations of total salts. Since, viticulture requires heavy expenditure, the farmers are advised to have a thorough analysis of their soil and water before they decide to take up grape cultivation. A few rupees spent before planting grapevine by way of soil and water analysis would save thousands of rupees at later stages. — *Hindu*

## REVIEWS

### FILM FOCUS

## Video Piracy

THE RATHER CHALLENGING press advertisement of the availability of the brilliant film "Gandhit" on video cassettes took this column and many others with shocking surprise. This production cost Sir Richard Attenborough a sizeable fortune and a lifetime ambition to create this biography of a saint of our times, who was felled by an assassin's bullet, and this much acclaimed film internationally, has been effortlessly lined up for many Oscars this year. And yet the earth has been dug under its feet by the multiplying video pirate fraternity of modern times. Hollywood awakened

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to this problem last year and the hue and cry by film producers was loud enough to move the hand of Americas's President Ronald Reagan, who signed into the statute book a bill which drastically increased the penalties for film, videotape, record piracy and the corresponding counterfeiting of same. Under this law all cases of video piracy were treated as felonies for the first offence with punishment up to five years in prison, and or a fine of 50,000 US dollars. This law was hailed by the President of the Motion Picture Association of America as a "watershed event in the continuing battle against theft of intellectual property." The White House by so reacting recognized without hesitation that this endemic form of piracy had become one of the fastest breeding white collar crimes in the world and one that should be punished as severely as any form of theft. It is expected that these film laws would undoubtedly result in increased law enforcement action, as well as significant jail sentence for those convicted.

In Sri Lanka, many such Video houses have proliferated unchecked overnight, and disaster awaits the local film industry as well. There is a two way threat, with outstanding foreign film cassettes illegally flowing in and Sri Lanka's creations of merit flowing out. His Excellency President J. R. Jayewardene who administers film affairs and has been positively reacted to constructive criticisms and exposures in this column, is bound to initiate appropriate legislation as in the USA in this matter of concern to those in the local film industry. The honour and the integrity of this country would be at stake, if such video fissions go on uncontrolled, with the NFC too looking on helplessly in the absence of any teeth to this malaise, in the existing Film Corporation Act.

**KEEL VAANAM SIVAKKUM** (The Reddening Horizon): Tamil: After a spate of near average performances, Maestro Sivaji Ganeshan has come into his own in this excellent film directed by V. Seenivasagam. If one were to dissect the causes for this recent failures, it would be clear that Sivaji had been projected into roles that carried very little story value. His inborn histrionic talent, thus became blunted and many, as your columnist too feared that he was on the way out with the younger set like Kamalahasan and Bharathi Raja, breathing down his neck. This story however is neatly cut out for an actor of this class, and he pilots it all the way so absorbingly. As a reputed eye surgeon, living happily with his only son (Sarath Babu) and daughter-in-law (Saritha), he is caught off guard by the twin crisis edging towards his door steps. While his son philanders around town dispossessing the virtues of the many beauties around, his devoted and unsuspecting wife unknowingly becomes the victim of a terminal disease, which grows by the hour to place a sentence on her life. To make matters worse for the surgeon, who becomes aware of these tormenting events, walks into his surgery, the blind brother (Jai

Shankar) of a victimized virgin, to regain his sight for a kill that he is thirsting for in revenge. The scene is thus set for the surgeon (Sivaji) to sway between his Hippocratic Oath and the harmony of his offspring and wife. Moments such as these are meat for the maestro, and he takes on the conflicts with a rare bite in acting brilliance. The dialogue is pruned to telling effect and a cutting finesse in delivery, and the rather corpulent Sivaji tightens the role to match his performance of note, a decade or two ago. Actress Saritha kept on his histrionic heels with determination while Sarath Babu and Jai Shanker fitted like gloves into their brief roles. The story was the victor, for it is one for our times, when a heartless growing generation loses sight of the treasured values of yesteryear. Embossed with excellence the film is a must for mature audiences. Any flaw if at all were in the antice of the comedians who rubbed a little shine off the story. If you begin to wonder however, why such a classy film did not register many full house shows, switch back to the introductory lines to this column and you will be the wiser — for local video pirates had raced ahead of the film.

**PENNIES FROM HEAVEN** (English): A film that blends two generations in "Kali Yugaya" style, but musically, it is directed by Herbert Ross and released with the MGM lion's roar, which is becoming rarer now. There is a triangular marital debacle, which develops the story with a husband (Steve Martin) walking out on his wife (Jessica Harper) irked by the several Nos to the former's male chauvinistic demands of the barnyard kind. He fails into the laps of a pretty and pleasant pedagogue (Bernadette Peters) whom he intimates into an intimacy, that pitches her eventually on the streets for many pennies! The predatory husband is also a hapless sheet music salesman who longs for the life in the sheets he sells. The story was thin but erotic — yet it was an excuse to surface in flashback many musical hits of yesteryear. Among them were the catchy Pennies from Heaven, Bing Crossly's "Did your Eversee a Dream Walking", Rudy Valley's "Lets Put out the lights and sleep", Fred Latham's Roll Along Prairie Moon and Fred Astaires Lets face the Music. These numbers were sandwiched cleverly as the film progressed, with animation and fantasy alternating in the secret world of the salesman. With a generation not prepared to take a peek at the post, the film has faded out post haste. To your reviewer however, it was lot of old wine in new bottles, that did inebriate.

**WOODLINE** (English): A star studded Paramount Production, based on a well read novel by Sidney Sheldon, the story revolves around the titling fortunes of a Pharmaceutical Empire, whose impending collapse emerges by the machinations of an insider. To stem the rot of this Roffe Empire steps in an attractive Managing Director (Audrey Hepburn), by inheritance, and lays the villain intuitively in Agatha Christie style.

Classy actors like James Mason, Ben Gazzara, the late Romy Schneider and Omar Shariff strode the film to keep one guessing, but it was Gert Frobe, as the Police Inspector who together with his computerised team of tees was probed far enough to steal many moments in the film. A chilling effort in the prevailing dry climate, it does not disappoint.

James N. Benedict

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TO VARUNI - WITH LOVE

*I stand upon  
The shifting golden sands  
And watch the waves  
Dance up  
And hug the shore  
And think of you  
My child,  
A-sail upon  
A silken turquoise sea  
So far away  
From home -  
A -sail for distant lands.*

*It's just a month  
No more —  
And yet it seems  
Like years!  
I seem to see  
A silhouette  
Of you —  
Against the flaming  
Sunset's glow.  
I see your smile  
I hear the music of your voice  
So near.*

*Be happy child.  
You took our love  
With you  
The day you sailed  
To distant lands.  
And so we wait  
Encased and warm  
In your remembered love  
For us.  
Till you are home again  
With us  
Once more.*

LORRAINE.

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SPOTLIGHT

● Cricket ● Soccer ● Carrom

The 49th, "Battle of the Saints", ended in a thrill-packed draw with both teams going all out to force a decision. The match was played at the P. Saravanamuthu Stadium on March 18 and 19. There was confusion when the umpires removed the bails with some three of the 20 mandatory overs yet to be bowled and St. Joseph's 18 runs away from a well deserved victory. The Peterites who won the toss and decided to bat first dominated play for three quarters of the game and the Josephians wresting the initiative and the honours in the closing stages of the game.

On the second day the game looked poised for an interesting finish and so it was. The Josephians had lost nine wickets and still 22 runs short of having to suffer the humiliation of being asked to follow on. The Josephians last pair of Premil de Silva and Shanmugalingampillai were never unnerved by the situation and with some very correct cricket obtained the 22 runs required to save the follow on and then the match looked as though it would peter out into a tame draw. But the Peterites who were the more enterprising side with a first innings lead of 90 runs went for quick runs in their second innings and declared at the fall of the 6th wicket setting St. Joseph's 204 victory in 100 minutes and the 20 mandatory overs.

The Josephians after three early reversals were not going to let the game slip into another draw. Skipper Hiran Cabraal and the diminutive left hander Jonathan Alles threw caution to the winds and set about getting the runs at a brisk pace. With three overs remaining and 18 runs for victory, the umpires called stumps and this 49th encounter too went into the record books as yet another draw, but certainly not a drab one. It has been suggested that the 50th encounter between the two schools next year will be of three days duration. This is a good idea. Not only will it bring this big match into line with Royal and S. Thomas, but will give more time to get a decision.

This game was dominated by two left handers Rohana Paulpillai of St. Peter's in the first innings

TRIBUNE, APRIL 2, 1983



and Jonathan Alles of St. Joseph's in the second innings. Paulpillai playing in his first "big match" showed immense maturity for one so young and by dint of some very correct batting put his name in the record books as being one of the few freshers to have notched up a 50. Paulpillai has just turned 15. Little left hander Alles was all style and grace as he took the Peterite bowling apart in the Joes chase for victory. Quick of eye and feet, this youngster showed that there is a lot of cricket in him by offering a straight bat and playing down the line very correctly. Alles especially has what it takes to sport the national cap and it is hoped that he will be taken in hand by the Cricket Board and guided on the correct lines. He has the knack of stepping out and lofting a bowler straight over his head, something that is very rarely seen in cricket these days. To be able to do that is a sign of the potential in him and we hope more will be seen of this lefthander in the years to come.

Incidentally the fathers of these two left handers, Anton and Augustine both played cricket for their schools. Anton for St. Peter's and Augie for St. Benedicts. On leaving school Anton and Augie turned out for the Tamil Union. Angie sadly has gone to his eternal rest. The game though ending in a draw had as remarked earlier many thrilling moments which kept the supporters of both schools on their toes. We hope the Ananda-Nalanda cricketers will take a cue from the Royal-Thomian and Josephian - Peterite game and give spectators some positive and enthralling cricket. As usual there was a lot of merry making and everyone present enjoyed the fun. Scores: St. Peters 203 for 6 declared and 112 for six decalred: St. Joseph's 113 and 183 for 5 at close. Comments on the other "Big matches" will appear in our next issue.

THE TWIN TOURS OF AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND by the Sri Lanka cricketers are over with our cricketers having lost the Two Tests and the three one-day games to New Zealand. From the outset it was obvious that these tours were going to be disastrous for Sri Lanka's cricket. Not in one game did the Sri Lankans show fight, but went down very tamely to the New Zealanders. It was unfortunate that injuries hit skipper Duleep Mendis and his deputy Roy Dias. Both are batsmen in the top bracket and their absence from the team in the two Tests certainly had a bad effect on performance of the team. The one day games, too were lost with the two final one day games seeing the return of Duleep Mendis to the team.

Although playing in the two final games it was apparent that Mendis was not his usual self. It is reported that he was in great discomfort while gripping the bat and was never able to give free rein to his natural strokeplay. We hope the Cricket Board will do everything possible to get Mendis and Dias fit before the arrival of the Australians. Now that the tour is over, it will do Sri Lanka cricket much good if an

analysis is made to find out what really went wrong. The selection of the squad left much to be desired and we hope the Board will learn from these mistakes and have the best side ready when taking on the Australisns.

The Cricket Board will do well to immediately pick a pool of cricketers and put them through a very serious training schedule. There are many cricketers of promise who should be taken into the pool and a quite a few who should be dropped. In the meantime, Asgiriya, is a hive of activity these days what with the Test match against Australia to be played there. The Cricket Board has nominated E. W. Balasuriya to be in charge of the arrangements. Well known for his organisational ability, Balasuriya has the backing of several sports promoters in Kandy in his assignment and spectators who will thing Asgiriya are in for a good time.

ITALY, THE WORLD CUP SOCCER CHAMPIONS, were shocked a few years ago by being accused of a scandal in which its soccer players were alleged to have taken bribes for fixing mtches in their domestic tournaments. One of the players to suffer from this inquiry was pin up boy Palos Rossi who steered Italy to the World Cup. Now comes the startling news from Hungary where soccer players, referees and self-confessed bribe takers gave out details of a fixing scandal involving some 50 Hungarian soccer teams and the wholesale swindling of the National Pool's system. Among the 26 people arrested were two heads of syndicate and they described how the rigged matches by bribing team members.

Tibor Moinar one of the syndicate bosses arrested said according to *Reuters* "The players and coaches involved were all honest men—they look the payments in advance and returned them if the results went wrong". Janis Fargo, head of another syndicate said he made 150,000 dollars last summer by fixing matches. Fargo said he bribed key players, one of whom told the Radio they always worked "on a collective basis of share and share alike". Pool promoters put the syndicate's total winnings at 750,000 dollars. A former referee said Fargo paid him a retainer of 125 dollars a month to introduce him to other referees. For each successful introduction he received the equivalent of 75 dollars and a quartely bonus of 250 dollars for good work. Laslo Targo, manager of a first division team said he asked the Hungzrian Football Association id 1979 to seek Police investigation. "Nobody wants to do anything, Everyone is afraid of taking the first step against people looked up to as trainers, coaches, leaders and so on," he said.

INDIA had it easy against Sri Lanka in the first ever Women's Carrom Test series played in Sri Lanka and won by 6 matches to nit to annexe the Pragash Rolling Trophy. India triumphed in the First Test

played at the Insurance Corporation Recreations Tables by 4 matches to one; the Second Test at the Oils and Fats Corporation by 3 matches to 2; the Third Test at Bandarawela Town Hall by 3 matches to 2; the Fourth Test at the Sri Lanka Ports Authority Hall by 4 matches to one and the Final Test at the Petroleum Corporation Recreation Hall by 3 matches to 2.

### ALLROUNDER



### SPORTS CHRONICLE

## May 16 - 20

**MONDAY, MARCH 14:** An unbeaten 94 with 11 fours by Lal Peiris helped SSC score a first innings win against Colts in a Donowan Andrees trophy Final Round match at Maitland Place yesterday: Colts 176 and SSC 233. A. Nishantha (86) and N. Lanerolle (76) helped Rahula recover from 50 for 5 to 234 for 7 declared in their cricket match against S. Thomas Matara on the Uyanwatte Esplanade yesterday. At close of play St. Thomas were 44 for no loss. A good doubly by Chrysantha Mendis (47 and match bag of 10 for 76) helped Mahanama pull off a thrilling one-wicket win over Hindu College Bambalapitiya yesterday: Hindu 157 and 153 and Mahanama 191 and 120 for 9. Sparkling Travels scored an easy 115 run win over Backwell Lanka Ltd., in their cricket match played at St. Anthony's College Grounds at Wattala. Sparkling Travels 200 for 8 dec and Backwell Lanka Ltd. 85.

**TUESDAY, MARCH 15:** A match bag of 12 for 95 by Saman Senanayake had a fluent 95 with 8 fours by S. Silva helped St. Thomas Matala to an innings and 39 runs win over Vidyartha in a match played at Matala yesterday. Vidyartha 94 and St. Thomas Matala 228. Sri Sumangala scored 208 and St. Johns replied with 61 for 1 wicket at the close of the cricket match for the Janalal Rodrigo Trophy which began at the Panadura Esplanade yesterday. The Rahula-St. Thomas Matara match at the Uyanwatte esplanade ended in a draw yesterday. Rahula 234 for 7 declared and 55 for 3 at stumps and St. Thomas 245 for 9 declared. Vahira Perera one of Sri Lanka's Rated Chess players led the points table with a possible 3 points at the end of the Third Round matches at the Major Division Tournament of the Chess Nationals.

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16:** Kapila Perera and Prasanna Ranatunga hit centuries and figured in a four-wicket partnership of 217 runs to put Ananda A on top at the end of the first day of their match against Tissa Central at Ananda Mawatha yesterday. Ananda A declared at 328 for 5 and captured 8 Tissa Central wickets for 103 by the close, Nalanda's batsmen went

on a run spree and scored 428 for 7 at stumps to draw their cricket match against Mahinda at Campbell Place yesterday. Mahinda declared their first innings at their overnight total of 270 for 9. St. Servatius collapsed to 65 for 7 in reply to Dharmasoka's (Ambalangoda) total of 194 in their cricket match played in Matara yesterday. St. John's drew their match with Sri Sumangala and so retained the Janalal Rodrigo Trophy at the Esplanade at Panadura yesterday. Sri Sumangala 208 and 94 for 3 declared and St. Johns 150 for 8 declared.

**THURSDAY, MARCH 17:** Dharmasoka, Matara set a victory target of 142 runs. St. Servatius were all out for 137 and lost their cricket match against them by five runs at Matara yesterday Dharmasoka Ambalangoda 194 and 49 and St. Servatius Matara 102. In another game at Matara yesterday St. Thomas were well placed on 114 for 4 in reply to Piliyandala MMC's 117 for 8 declared. St. Joseph's halted St. Peter's run of victories with an impressive 99 points to 88 win in their 10th Annual Basket ball match played at Darley Road yesterday and regained the Aloy Jayawardene Trophy after seven years. Suzanne House with 154 points became Overall Champions with Carmel House second (150) and Sebastian House third (139) at the 80th Anniversary Inter House Sports meet of Holy Family Convent, Bambalapitiya held at St. Peter's grounds yesterday.

**FRIDAY, MARCH 18:** The cricket match between Isipatana and D. S. Senanayake MV played on the BRC grounds on Wednesday ended in a draw. Isipatana 147 and D. S. Senanayake 259 for 4 declared. The cricket match between C. W. W. Kannangara MMV and Ananda Sastralaya ended in a draw at Matugama on Wednesday. C. W. W. Kannangara 167 and 84 for 4 declared and Ananda Sastralaya, Matugama 78 for 8 declared. Samson House took the Championship Shield with 193 points at the Inter house sports meet of Girls High School, Kandy, held at the Bogambara Stadium recently. Eaton House were second (186 points) and Langdon House third (183 points). Centuries completely different in character by Mohinder Amarnath and Captain Kapil Dev enabled India to earn a comfortable draw in the Second cricket Test of the five-test series against the West Indies at Port-of-Spain: India, First Innings 175 and West Indies First Innings 394.

**SATURDAY, MARCH 19:** Tamil Union fought back magnificently through their seventh wicket pair Channa Wijemanne and Nirmal Perera on the opening day of the crucial Lakspray trophy final round match against defending champs Bloomfield at Reid Avenue yesterday; from a hopeless position of 123 for 6 Tamil Union recovered to 304 for 8 by the close. Wesley's Sanjeev Wijesinghe scored his third century of the season when he hit an unbeaten 107 which helped

his side to 240 for 8 at the close of the first day's play in their cricket match against Nalanda at Campbell Place yesterday. Wesley 240 for 8 at close and Nalanda 83. A 90-run second wicket partnership between Bandula Fernando and Chandimal Jayasuriya followed by an unfinished seventh wicket stand of 57 between Harsha Walpola and D. Liyanaarachchi saw Isipatana declare at 276 for 7 in their match against Ananda at Ananda Mawatha yesterday; in reply Ananda were 83 for 1 wicket at the close.

**SUNDAY, MARCH 20:** Royal regained the Mustangs trophy when they beat traditional rivals S. Thomas College by six wickets in their ninth 50 over clash played at the CCC grounds yesterday. Zahira College beat Sri Sumangala Vidyalaya by four wickets in their annual cricketing encounter played at the Panadura Esplanade yesterday. Sri Sumangala 229 and 93 all out and Zahira collge 222 all out. Centuries by Prasad Hewagama and Vasantha Fernando highlighted Ananda's drawn game against Isipatana at Ananda Mawatha yesterday. Isipatana 276 for 7 declared and Ananda 83 for 1 wicket overnight and 455 for 8 wickets declared. Maliyadewa's Priyanga de Silva earned himself the personal glory of knocking up 51 runs and thus amassing to top the 1000 run mark in the encounter between Maliyadeva and Dharmapala Pannipitiya which ended in a draw yesterday. Dharmapala 195 and 260 for 9 and Maliyadeva 276 for 9 and 130 for 6 at close. St. Servatius were in the box seat at the end of the first day's play in their encounter against Rahula College played at the Uyanwatte Stadium Matara yesterday; St. Servatius 215 and Rahula 58 for 4 at close.

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# TENDER

# NOTICE

**MINISTRY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT,  
HOUSING & CONSTRUCTION.  
DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS**

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

Tenders for construction of 3 Storeyed building (90'X25') at Southlands Ladies College, Galle - Stage II will be received by the Chairman, Tender Board, Department of Buildings, Colombo 1, up to 10.00 a.m. on Wednesday 20.04.83.

Tenders for construction of 3 storeyed building (90'x25') at Sangamitha Ladies College, Galle, Stage I will be received by the Chairman, Tender Board, Department of Buildings, Colombo 1, up to 10.00 a.m. on Wednesday, 20.04.1983.

02. Tender Forms could be obtained from District Engineer/Galle before 4.15 p.m. on 15.04.83 by registered Contractors or "Trial Letter" holders of Department for Rs. 500,000/- and above on production of a tender deposit receipt for Rs. 250/- issued by Buildings Department, Colombo or any Kachcheri outside Colombo.

02. Tender Forms could be obtained from District Engineer/Galle before 4.15 P.M. on 15.04.83 by registered contractors or "Trial Letter" holders of Department for Rs. 500,000/- and above on production of a tender deposit receipt for Rs. 250/- issued by Buildings Department, Colombo or any Kachcheri outside Colombo.

03. Please note that Private Company tenderers should declare the names of the current Directors and shareholders. Public Company Tenderers should declare the names of the current Directors.

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

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

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

DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS  
P.O. BOX 504,  
COLOMBO 1.  
23.03.1983

DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS  
P.O. BOX 504,  
Colombo 1.  
23.03.1983.

## Airport Scandal

IS IT NOT A FACT that Sri Lankans who use the Katunayake Airport for embarking and disembarking have been reduced to virtual untouchability so far as portage and the moving of their luggage is concerned? That for them trolleys to push their goods along are virtually unobtainable because Airport Authority porters grab nearly ninety five percent of them and less than five percent of them ( a dozen or so) has to be shared by hundreds of brown-skinned Sri Lankans? That this arithmetic may be an oversimplification, but it errs on the wrong side of even the five percent of the trolleys being available for Sri Lankans? That what is worse is that the porters who cling to these trolleys refuse to handle any of the luggage of the Sri Lankan travellers with the excuse that they have been "booked" by travel agents, tour companies etc.? That they also cater to the large number of groups of duty-free shoppers who bill several trolley loads of goods that have to be "handled with care"? That even if a Sri Lankan passenger offers a more than generous payment for the services of a porter with a trolley, it is spurned? That *Tribune* had received reports of this kind of behaviour by porters at Katunayake over a period? That all that we had heard was confirmed when the Editor recently went to New Delhi for the Nonaligned Summit? That on the way out and the way in he was snubbed by every porter he approached to move his luggage? That everyone of the porters the Editor approached with a request either to move his luggage or hand over the trolley to which he was clinging arrogantly refused to do so? That at the time the requests were made the porters were doing nothing but were "waiting" for white-skinned tourist custom or duty-free shoppers? That the traffic these porters expected came long after the Editor had lugged his luggage to the Customs bench and thereafter to the Airline counter? That even if the Travel Agents had "booked these porters", they were, at the relevant times, only lazily standing by holding on to the trolleys as if they owned them? That the Airports Authority should look into this matter without delay? That, if Travel Agents want to "reserve" porters and trolleys they should do so on a rotation basis leaving a fair percentage of porters and trolleys for Sri Lankan travellers? That at present the "reservation" of porters and trolleys by the vested interests in the tourist trade seems to be on a "total-shut-out" basis? That the Airports Authority should keep a *Complaints Book* ( and make it known that it is available for complaints at an easily accessible place) in which passengers can register their complaints? That each porter should be given a number for easy identification for complaints of refusal to move luggage, insolence etc. to be made That the Airports Authority

will do well to follow the system in Indian airports where a fee is charged for each piece of luggage a passenger wants a porter to carry? That the Indian Authority thereafter makes sure that a porter or porters are available to every passenger without any insidious or invisible priorities for tourists or tour groups by travel agents? That in the old colonial days, even in Sri Lanka certain hotels, clubs and areas were out of bounds for Sri Lankans especially the coloured ones? That in Singapore and the Federated Malay States ( now Malaysia) until up to the time the Japs over-ran, these territories, there were notice boards outside certain parks, hotels, and other public places ( not merely private clubs) that stated "*Asiatics and Dogs Not Allowed*"? That in the year 1983 in Sri Lanka a new kind of discriminatory touristic apartheid seems to be creeping in and one manifestation is the treatment meted out by the Airport Authority porters to Sri Lankans?

IS IT NOT TRUE that though rhetorical speeches are made by politicians and some exponents of culture-vulturnism that tourism should not be allowed to spoil the "cultural and national traditions" of this island, a dangerous infection has begun to spread its poison? An article on the Travel Page of the *International Herald Tribune* of December 3, 1982 by Nick Stout stated *inter alia*: "... But if a tourist's first impressions are the truest, then Sri Lanka is neither mango nor pearl. To this visitor at least, it is a teardrop, shed for the dearth of dignity in a jungle of beggars and underage touts, where palms of flesh, lean and outstretched seem to outnumber the coconut variety. More than poverty must be at play, because the poor in Asia are not always so bereft of pride. It there was a colonial sense of servitude and humility, then it has not disappeared, but has been ironically exaggerated to exploit Western wealth. In any event, the harassment is always there on the street, in any hotel .... Throngs of teenaged, boys wait outside the gates of a beachfront hotel waving madly at any guest who shows his face at the entrance. They pounce upon those who venture outside the hotel grounds and badger with offers of cheap taxi rides and pleas for rupees, T-shirts and ball point pens. They spot what could be a pleasant walk through the country greenery, among the unleashed goats and cows that wander along the road ... The pity is that this harassment at every turn can keep the visitor from appreciating the island's charm." **Isn't it time that something more than speeches is done to check this devaluation of Sri Lankans and Sri Lanka traditions by a thoughtless promotion of tourism at any price?**

TRIBUNE

## PRICE INCREASE

From this issue each copy of **TRIBUNE** will cost **Rs. 4.00**. The annual subscription in Sri Lanka will be **Rs. 220.00** post-free.

We had resisted a price increase as long as we could. But costs have proliferated and the Turnover Tax is also levied from small weekly Papers like **TRIBUNE** and this casts a heavy burden on our finances.

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## WARNING



Work in the Mahaweli Project Sites is now progressing at full pace, and with this increasing pace, the Contractors have advised us that there have been a series of accidents, including a fatal one, in the recent past.

Members of the public who wish to visit the sites are therefore advised that they must, in the interests of their own safety, confine their visits to the viewing platforms at the respective sites.

Any special groups who wish to study the projects in detail should please give at least a week's notice to the Mahaweli Educational Centre, now at 28, Sulaiman Terrace, Colombo 05. These visits will be allowed on Saturdays and Sundays and other non working days only.

Whilst regretting any inconvenience caused to members of the public in this connection every effort will be made to continue to provide adequate facilities to the increasing number of visitors to the Mahaweli Project areas.

# Mahaweli Educational Centre

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