

TRIBUNE

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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

MAY DAY this year did not provide any sensations. The UNP, as, in recent years, made a carnival of it with a few political homilies as a prelude to the main musical tamasha. The picture on our cover this week is of a folk dance of the Muslim peasants from the Eastern Province and it symbolises the UNP approach to May Day. The UNP has continued its policy of transforming May Day — which in the past (ever since the Left Movement came into being in the mid-thirties) was a day of mighty demonstrations with revolutionary slogans and fiery rhetoric — into a cultural show with top-flight musical stars from India to delight the crowd. From the time it came to power in 1977, the UNP has sought to depoliticise not only May Day but also Trade Union Movement. And there is no doubt that to a very large extent it has succeeded. This may not be due to the stars of India's filmdom who have come down with great regularity every May Day from 1978. In political circles it is freely admitted that it was disunity of the Left Movement that made it possible for the UNP to give effect to this strategy. After the frustrating seven-year rule of the SLFP from 1970 to 1977, in which the LSSP was a coalition partner until 1975 and the CPSL until early in 1977, the Left Movement was in shambles. The JVP insurgency of 1971 had added to the general disillusionment about the SLFP and Left policies, programmes and administration. It will be recalled that the Trade Unions and the Left Movement were powerful forces in the politics of this country from the end of the Second World War. But the Left could not achieve national leadership because of disunity in its ranks on ideological grounds and personality clashes. There have been at all times in Sri Lanka three or four Left parties each contending that it was the only genuine proletarian party guided by the true authentic Marxist gospel. The result was that the Left had no alternative but to tail behind an emergent Sinhala Only nationalist-cum-religio-revivalist movement led first by S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike and later his wife Sirimavo. This was a brave attempt to get a foothold in the parliamentary Establishment. The theme song was "Unite To Defeat the UNP", but to establish a working arrangement with the SLFP, the Left parties had to put into deep freeze their policies on language, on the minority question and even on religion. After the 1977 SLFP debacle, the UNP led by J. R. Jayewardene has struck every blow possible to keep the SLFP and the Left divided and disorganised. Trade Unions was thrust into a straight-jacket to prevent them from disrupting production in industry and agriculture as they had done from 1956 onwards. It is noteworthy that the SLFP, in spite of its bedrock Sinhala Only support and also the flirtatious support of the Left has not been able to recoup from the hammer blows dealt by the UNP. The 1983 May Day, celebrated last weekend, is a reflection of the state of politics in Sri Lanka today. The parties opposed to the UNP held ten separate rallies in Colombo. The TULF and the ACTC had held pro forma meetings in Jaffna. Taking all meetings together the turn out for May Day 1983 was poor. Even the JVP show of strength was less than a quarter of what it was two years ago. The number of people willing to join the demonstrations of the Left and Opposition parties has been diminishing every year. If anyone wants proof or evidence of the continuing depoliticisation of the Trade Unions and the devaluation and devitalisation of the Left Movement in Sri Lanka, May Day 1983 will bear ample testimony. And the SLFP and the Left Parties have only themselves to blame for this unfortunate situation where the country is now virtually without an opposition. Leftist leaders in recent speeches have finally come round to publicly admitting this.

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Trincomalee

Many events of significance *vis-a-vis* Sri Lanka's relations with out neighbours as well as with the world at large have taken place in recent weeks. After the Seventh Summit of the Nonaligned Movement which was concluded on March 12, Sri Lanka's Foreign Minister Shahul Hameed went to the United States on an official visit to meet Secretary of State George Schultz and other officials. He also met Francis Pym in London and called on the Pope in Rome. After his discussions with Schultz and Pym, our Mr. Hameed was a little more hopeful about the possibilities of holding the Indian Ocean Peace Conference in Colombo next year. Prime Minister Premadasa in an extensive five-week tour visited South Korea, the USA, France, Britain and Finland. According to the *Daily News*, May 3, in an arrival statement Mr. Premadasa said that he was deeply struck by the friendship shown Sri Lanka by both the leaders and people of the countries he visited. "There is respect for the democratic ideals and processes we follow. There is admiration of the leadership of our President and our country's progress excites their interest and admiration", he said. The leaders and people he met were particularly appreciative of the country's liberal economic strategy and greatly interested in what Sri Lanka was doing to strengthen its rural economy and preserve its cultural heritage. Some of the major achievements of the tour were (a) the possibility of obtaining an added £ 25 million funding for the Victoria Project. . . . "Since the British Prime Minister was very impressed with our progress on this dam, this request, I have no doubt, will be favourably considered". (b) The possibility of getting further US support to meet financing gaps for system B of the Mahaweli; "I feel the US government will respond favourably since they recognized the fact that Sri Lanka makes very good use of its aid"; (c) A pledge from France of 35 million francs for the Negombo water supply scheme and possible further financing of the Nilwala Ganga project. "I feel this too will receive a positive reply". (d) An invitation from the Mayor of Los Angeles to set up a trade and tourist information centre which will cover the West coast of the US. (e) Positive measures to correct adverse trade balances, particularly by Finland and Korea. The possibility of exporting packed tea direct from there to Finland rather than through Britain will also be considered; (f) Great interest in tourist development was expressed in all the countries Mr. Premadasa visited. Finnair will increase the capacity of its winter charter aircraft (this hopefully should increase tourist arrivals from Finland by 100 per cent); (g) Strong support has been expressed for the Cultural Triangle project. The Smithsonian Institute will mount an exhibition on it while a mobile exhibit will be set up at the Commonwealth Institute in London with UNESCO assistance;

(h) Several pledges for the Gam Udawa and Gramodaya funds have been received from Lankans and others wishing this country well. Mr. Premadasa said that in Hongkong a group of Lankan businessmen pledged US \$200,000, a group of Korean businessmen US \$ 200,000, a religious in London Rs. 2 million plus Rs. 3 million for the Sugathadasa Stadium fund. Many Lankans in California have also pledged substantial sums to the Gramodaya Mandalaya fund. President Jayawardene's New Delhi initiatives for leaders of the rich and poor nations to devise a strategy for meeting Third World poverty had been followed up with all the leaders he met who agreed 'that the present economic crisis warrants urgent remedial actions on a global scale,' the Prime Minister concluded."

When Mr. Premadasa was away the Malaysian Prime Minister paid a four-day visit to Sri Lanka and he was followed immediately after by Mr. P. V. Narasimha Rao, the Indian Foreign Minister. The official communiques issued after each visit set out the matters discussed and the conclusions, if any, arrived at. Sri Lanka's Foreign Minister Shahul Hameed went back to New Delhi with his Indian counterpart to attend on April 29 a 11-nation Nonaligned Foreign Ministers' meeting to discuss how best President Jayawardene's suggestions about initiating the North-South dialogue at the highest level could be concretised.

It would be pertinent at this point to refer to the fact that Sri Lanka media personnel who attended the Nonaligned Summit in New Delhi and other Conferences and Seminars attended by nonaligned and the Third World countries were always asked whether Sri Lanka had "sold out" to the Americans — whether Trincomalee was already a US base, whether the VOA has been given rights to set up a counterpart of the Radio Free Europe, and whether the IMF—IBRD teams were running the affairs of Sri Lanka. After the advent of the Jayawardene government in 1977 with its liberalised economic policies with heavy emphasis on private enterprise, Sri Lanka was able to obtain massive foreign aid from Western sources. This had led to an impression in many nonaligned and Third World countries that Sri Lanka would not be in a position to resist the political and geo-strategic demands of the USA and the Western powers. The Opposition, especially the Left Parties, in Sri Lanka, presuming that massive foreign loans meant a "sell out" had proclaimed to all the world that Trincomalee had been secretly handed over to the US Navy and that it would be only a matter of time before the Pentagon publicly took over the finest and biggest all-weather national harbour in Sri Lanka. This charge was made in 1977/78 and it has been repeated with great regularity in the five years thereafter.

When Sri Lanka called for tenders to lease the 101 oil tanks, and an American firm — Coastal, forshort —

had made an offer with a clause that it should have the right to refuel US Navy ships, there was a hue and cry that the Government would not be able to resist this demand. But the Government rejected it and called for fresh tenders. And when Coastal's attempt to smuggle the same clause under a smokescreen in the new tender was not accepted, Coastal withdrawn from the tender leaving a Dutch, West German and an Indian firm in the field. This is where it stands today.

In the meantime, the Government has announced that it proposes to make Trincomalee Sri Lanka's major commercial port with facilities for setting up industries for reexport. A Japanese firm has joined hands with a Sri Lankan industrialist to set up a cement industry mainly for export. It is significant that though the government has repeatedly reiterated that it did not propose to lease Trincomalee to the US Navy, certain politicians and newspapers in Sri Lanka have continued to assert that the Jayewardene government had no alternative but to succumb to US demands sooner or later. Echoes of these statements were frequently echoed and re-echoed in India which had good reason to be concerned about Trincomalee becoming the military base of the United States or any other power especially one which can turn hostile to India.

The fact that the charge that Trincomalee was already a US base was first made at the end of 1977, but it still remains what it was. Even the TULF had warned the Government about leasing Trincomalee to the USA or any other power but TULF's concern was that Trincomalee was situated in the heartland of their dream world called Eelam and that a Sinhala government could not barter away Tamil property.

There is no doubt that whatever the rhetoric or the propaganda there has as yet been no "sellout" of Trincomalee to the US. It has been also said that in the age of missiles and rockets, Diego Garcia was enough for the USA for all its geo-strategic requirements in the region and that at present Washington's main concern was to ensure that Trincomalee did not fall into the hands of a country that could turn hostile to the US. *It is also said that US geo-political diplomacy for this region found that a nonaligned Sri Lanka would be more useful than an aligned state with an American naval base.*

Whatever the pressures, if any, the Government has done well to maintain the status quo of Trincomalee as a sovereign part of an independent Sri Lanka. It is in Sri Lanka's national interest to keep it that way. If Trincomalee is leased out to any foreign power as a military base, Sri Lanka immediately becomes a target for attack — conventional as well as nuclear — in case of war or even a localised confrontation when guns begin to boom.

Statements made in Parliament by government spokesmen and answers to newsmen both in Sri Lanka and abroad by government leaders have made it clear that the government had and has no intention to lease

Trincomalee as a base to any foreign power. The government no doubt is aware of the universal sentiment in this country that Trincomalee must be maintained as an integral part of a free and sovereign Sri Lanka. More than anything else, selfish national interest demands this.

With regard to the VOA plans to update its relay station in Sri Lanka, Foreign Minister Shahul Hameed in a statement had stated that Sri Lanka did not propose to accept VOA's latest proposals as it would be contrary to the country's national interests. *The Island*

The Island in a recent report set out the position under a headline GOVT. REJECTS VOA PLAN TO SET UP 1000 ACRE STATION: The report read: "The Sri Lanka government has rejected the draft agreement proposed by the Voice of America (VOA) to expand its facilities here. The agreement 'impinges on the security and sovereignty of Sri Lanka,' a highly placed government source told *The Island*. They said proposed agreement between the VOA and the SLBC had been turned down because the VOA had been unwilling to incorporate in the draft certain amendments suggested by Sri Lanka to safeguard the country's right to monitor the VOA programmes and to have access to its archives. The proposal would therefore have to be negotiated afresh, the sources said. Under the proposed agreement, the VOA was to be granted 1000 acres in Mutturajawela to set up a new transmitting station from where broadcasts were to be beamed in some fifty languages to India and other countries of the South Asian region, as well as China, the Middle East and Africa. At present VOA broadcast via the Seeduwa receiving station and the Ekala transmitting station under an agreement signed in 1951, renewed in 1953 and extended for 10 years in 1961, with further extensions of 5 years each. In August last year, two VOA officials arrived here and proposed a draft agreement which provided for four 500 k.w. transmitters and two 250 k.w. for Mutturajawela. The VOA had also promised to gift a 250 k.w. transmitter to the SLBC. This draft agreement has come under heavy criticism both here and abroad. Opposition parties here have criticised the agreement as a potential threat to the security of Sri Lanka. The prestigious *Washington Post* has criticised it as an attempt to "politicise" the VOA. National interest again demands that Sri Lanka should not become the launching pad for American cold war propaganda.

x x x

DELHI SUMMIT -6.

Global Coverage

By S. P. Amarasingam.

BELOW IS PUBLISHED the remaining part of the re-statement of the principles of nonalignment from the Political Declaration of the Seventh Summit. Then we

have an overview of the global press coverage of the remaining paragraphs 18 - 27 touch on all the other aspects of importance to the NAM. "The great advances in scientific and technological research and development have opened up virtually unlimited vistas of progress. Yet the fruits of these developments continue to be denied to a large proportion of the world's population who live in conditions of utter deprivation and backwardness. While the revolution in communications has compressed physical distance around the world, political, economic and racial barriers continue to widen the gulf between the developed and the developing and between the affluent and the poor. The economic gap between the developed and the developing countries is widening and the latter are being denied effective and equitable participation in the benefits of international development. Unity and solidarity among the nonaligned countries are all the more necessary in the present crisis in international relations. They are indispensable to the independence and strength of the Movement and the realisation of its objectives. For over two decades now the Movement of Nonaligned Countries has brought together a growing number of States and national liberation movements bound by certain fundamental principles. These nations have demonstrated their ability to overcome their differences through democratic discussion and to find a common platform for action. At the same time, they have rejected any attempt and all kinds of pressures by outside forces to weaken the unity of the Movement and divert it from its original principles and objectives. The aspirations of peoples and countries to achieve full political, social and economic independence and true equality in international relations are opposed by force which are seeking to perpetuate unequal relations and privileges. The efforts of the nonaligned countries to promote international peace and security for all based on justice, disarmament, the universal application of the principles of peaceful co-existence, the completion of process of decolonisation and the democratisation of international relations and cooperation on an equal footing are being intensified. The Heads of State or Government consider that problems affecting peace, security, development freedom and independence require solutions through endeavours on the part of the entire international community. The policy of nonalignment and the efforts of the Movement of Nonaligned Countries to find just solutions to these problems are acquiring ever greater importance. The nonaligned and other developing countries, national liberation movements and democratic and peace and freedom loving forces throughout the world are playing an active role in the struggle for peace, universal detence and the general progress of the world.

THE HEADS OF STATE OR GOVERNMENT emphasised the importance of devoting special attention to, and persevering in efforts aimed at finding peaceful solutions to the differences and disputes arising among member States of the Move-

ment. They were conscious that many of these differences and disputes were aggravated by former colonial powers or the outcome of conditions of disequilibrium imposed from outside rather than any deliberate intent on the part of fraternal States of the Movement to fuel animosities among themselves. The effort to eliminate such conditions and to establish equitable international relations between States has been one of the principal motivations for the establishment of the Nonaligned Movement. The Heads of State or Government noted with satisfaction that cooperation among nonaligned countries in information and mass of communication is successfully contributing to reducing dependence on transnational information agencies, despite obstacles and opposition to the establishment of a new international information and communication order. They also noted with particular satisfaction that an international consensus is emerging on the concept which had its genesis in the Nonaligned Movement, of a new more just and more effective international information and communication order, aimed at correcting inequalities in the flow of information by ensuring, with due respect for constitutional provisions and applicable international instruments and agreements, a free, wider and better balanced dissemination of information. The quest for a new international information and communication order is integral to the struggle for the New International Economic Order. The Heads of State or Government grant special importance to cooperation among nonaligned and other developing countries in the fields of education and culture and consider that it contributes in a decisive way to development and social progress as a whole, to the consolidation of independence and political equality as well as to the strengthening of world peace and international understanding among nations. They underlined the need for bilateral, international and multilateral cooperation among nonaligned countries in the fields of education and culture.

"THE HEADS OF STATE OR GOVERNMENT reiterate their commitment to ensure respect for and promotion of human rights of individuals and the rights of peoples in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights which is essential to assure peace and security in the world.

"The Conference affirmed that achievement of fundamental freedoms and basic human rights are integral to the struggle for the transformation and democratisation of international relations and therefore are also linked with the need for change in the present international economic relations. Civil and political rights and economic, social and cultural rights are inseparable. The Heads of State or Government confirmed the importance of the right to development as a human right and the fact that equality of opportunity for development is as much a prerogative of

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nations as of individuals composing them. The right of people under colonial and foreign domination and occupation to self-determination and independence and the freedom of all peoples to choose their own political, economic and social systems as well as their right to permanent sovereignty over their natural resources must be scrupulously respected. The Conference urged the United Nations to continue working for the achievement of human rights of individuals and peoples in this comprehensive perspective. They also called for respect for rights of nationals, ethnic and religious minorities as well as those who have emigrated in search of work. The Conference stressed that since the Sixth Summit four extraordinary meetings of the Coordinating Bureau had been held at Algiers in March 1981, in Kuwait in April 1982, in Cyprus in July 1982 and at Managua in January 1983 — in order to deal specifically with the questions of Namibia, Palestine and Lebanon and the situation in Latin American and the Caribbean respectively and that they had been of great importance, and emphasised that they had played an important role in the context of the Movement with the just struggle of the people of Namibia, Palestine and Latin America and the Caribbean.

IT WILL BE ONLY FITTING to refer at this stage to a paper prepared by the *Edatata Narayan Centre for Research and Development in Communications* on the way the world media covered the conference. "Fifteen hundred journalists from all corners of the globe were covering the summit; 60 countries telecast the inaugural session and most newspapers covered this event in some way. The Indian Overseas Telecommunication Service (OCS) recorded a total of 44,014 minutes of telephonic services during the summit. However, the contents of the messages leaving the lavishly furnished Media Centre at Vigyan Bhawan were widely divergent. Reports and editorials in different countries varied from critical to eulogic. They offered a comment on the nature of the world information order and the nature of journalism in different countries. *Media in the Soviet Union and the United States whose power and politics are the raison detre for the movement — were diametrically opposed in their attitude towards the summit.* **The Soviet press** repeatedly emphasised the positive and influential role of nonalignment in international relations and its contribution to peace. It endorsed the 'detailed, comprehensive and fruitful discussion of urgent economic problems: and the stand taken by the participants 'against the nuclear threat, against the ruinous and dangerous arms race, for concrete measures in the sphere of disarmament.: *Izvestia* emphasised that 'only by a joint and concerted effort can the peace-loving forces 'protect the right of man — the right of life.:

"In sharp contrast was the **US** view of the *New York Times* which consistently referred to the summit as a 'meeting of countries that call themselves nonaligned.,

Interestingly, a score or so of American journalists who covered the New Delhi summit preferred to operate from their hotel rooms rather than from the Media Centre. *The Chicago Tribune* in an editorial on 9 March described it as 'one of those excruciatingly tedious meetings'. It sarcastically commented on Mrs. Gandhi's call for a nuclear freeze by saying that 'it would have been impolite for her to admit that her own country, India, has built and exploded a nuclear weapon, possibly setting off a nuclear arms race in South Asia and thawing what had until then been an effective Third World nuclear freeze.: Mrs. Gandhi, the editorial went on is simply 'more diplomatic in her misaligned nonalignment than Mr. Castro' Jonathan Power of the *International Herald Tribune* tried to be 'constructive: (?) in approach. He reminded member countries that 'to all intents and purposes: they had a veto in the Security Council since 9 out of 15 votes were in their hands. He warned them against being non-aligned against the West. Power didn't approve of the attempt to 'isolate' Israel 'when what is needed is support for policies to woo the Israelis and instill confidence in the United States.: For him, the economic deliberations at the summit were an effort to impose some still undefined deadening economic super-structure on the world banking system and prophesied that it would encourage the leaders to keep the money under the bed.

Supporting the American line were the Pakistan and Australian print media. *The Australian* of Sydney termed the summit a 'non-event' and the *Morning Herald* carried a article captioned "Third World Summit—Pomp and Poverty" written by the Indian New Delhi correspondent. The article says that the nonaligned club is far removed from its citizens and that the 'The Kings and Presidents will be have as the Dukes at a 19th century European conference rather than the representatives of a poor world". The direct contrast to Zia's rhetoric in New Delhi was the bad blood created between the two neighbours by the Pakistani press. The Delhi correspondent of the right-wing Urdu daily *Nawa-i-Waqt* complained that he had not been given a visa to visit cities other than Delhi. An India spokesman denied this allegation. The Pakistani press noted that India gave wide coverage to what was 'essentially a much diluted reference to Kashmir. Of course all papers reported that Kashmir leaders welcomed Zia's call. Other comments across the borders were much more stinging. The *Pakistan Times* actually re-wrote history by explaining that Nehru had veered towards 'expansionism and personal aggrandisement in the sixties. The fact that India agreed to hold the summit at the eleventh hour is explained as India's eagerness to steal the limelight and 'to project itself in a big way'. It even described nonalignment as lacking credibility, insitutional viability and ideology. Other neighbours tended to be frivolous. Mervyn de Silva from Sri Lanka filed a front page story that dwelt on the bomb explosions and demonstrations that took place in the Capital during the summit'

and even attributed the early departure of the Sheikhs to these incidents. Similarly, a Bangladesh daily opened that Gen Zia's reference to Kashmir 'added spice to the day's dull proceedings'. Dacca journalists reported with a seeming surprise that Gen Ershad's speeches and photographs received prominent coverage in India. The African press by and large, looked upon the nonaligned summit as a positive step towards global peace and mutually beneficial economic ties. In Kenya, all the three English dailies carried the basic theme of hope that the Chairmanship of India would put the movement back 'on its original nonaligned tracks. An editorial in Tunisia's *L'Action* reported that 'in spite of obstacles and realities of fratricidal fights dividing the Third World countries the summit in New Delhi promises to be a historical meeting which will make the movement pick up and return to its pure sources'. The Nigerian press too was complimentary to India, though *Punch* commented that Africa, the largest group in the conference had a 'disproportionately small share of key posts. In Algiers, *El Moudjahid* consistently gave the summit wide coverage, and great prominence to Mrs. Gandhi's inaugural address.

A *Reuter* report that tight security arrangements isolated journalists from leaders was reproduced in Jamaican, Mauritian and Canadian papers. A US columnist's attack on the 'one-sided nature' of the meet also appeared in a North American journal. But this was mild compared to a Portuguese right-wing paper's reference to the poverty of the nonaligned nations, dissensions within the movement and its role as an (instrument of Russian strategy in the world). But others like *Expresso* took a more positive line. On the whole, European papers even in the same country, were divided in their attitudes, disproving the connection that the Soviet Union had hijacked the free press of the first and third worlds. Who could have dictated to (*Le Monde*) France's top daily, that it devoted so much space to the summit? Not only was Mrs. Gandhi's interview with its correspondent featured on the front page, but the third page carried long extracts from her speeches at the plenary session. *Le Figaro* said the preliminary discussions seem to have led to a certain re-orientation in the movement leading a more balanced attitude. In Spain, *El Pais* published a story captioned 'The Moderation of Gandhi succeeds to the radicalism of Castro'. *Diario 16* on the other hand, charged that the movement had turned into 'an instrument of the Soviet Bloc nations: and 'an international shop window for unrepresentable dictatorship. The editorial even questioned the Spanish Government's motives for attending the summit. In West Germany, a despatch claimed that the Iraq President Saddam Hussein had cancelled his visit to Delhi because of his unhappiness over the indiscretions of the Indian press. In Britain, all national dailies gave a factual account of the inaugural session, with photographs. Editorial comment, of course, reflected the papers, perceptions of how the movement has been shaping up, but unlike their friends across the Atlantic,

they at least acknowledged its importance. The editor of the *Yorkshire Post* put the nonaligned countries in double quotes, and Cuba was referred to as being in the 'hip pocket of the Soviet Union'. The *Times* (London) lead headed 'Realigning the Nonaligned: was grateful to Indians chairmanship and held that Fidel Castro had made a mockery of it. The 'shift' was explained by the fact that 'Soviet-style communism no longer appeals whether or not the regimes seek aid from Moscow. British papers also interpreted Mrs. Gandhi's emphasis on economic and technological cooperation as an attempt to distract attention from the main aim, which they saw as political cohesion. Even those who approved of the movement going back to 'age old every day issues of how people make a living: attributed it to the fact that 'colonialism has passed into history, and the old slogans are now used only for 'platform purposes'. An editorial in *The Times* also wanted the movement to 'redress the imbalance of recent years by censuring the Soviet Union, on the Afghanistan and Kampuchean issues. Otherwise would simply serve to blur the distinction between, progressive ideals and the interest of the Soviet Union

What are the implications of the world press coverage of the New Delhi summit? Besides the nature of the western media discussed above, there are some development in the Third World media which, if not ideal, at least can be lived with. One found that newspapers in each country gave prominence to issues of national interest although this was not a true reflection of the importance of issues or a delegate's impact in the meet. Argentina's papers stressed the summit's stand on Malvinas, Arab countries West Asia and African countries Namibia. *Al Nadwa* of Saudi Arabia identified problems before the summit as the Iran-Iraq war, Afghanistan and the Palestinian problems. But these reveal the preferences of those countries than what actually happened at the summit. Anyway, the millions of words that have left the Overseas Communication Centre projected a variety of views, some clashing, some complementary. However, one had to do more than scratch the scratch to see what impact the Third World newspool did or did not make.

* * *

FILM FOCUS

Exhibitors Meet President

THIS COLUMN understands that a deputation from the National Exhibitors Guild met His Excellency the President On 8.4.83 to ventilate their grievances. The Exhibitors Association too appears to have met his Excellency thereafter, but what transpired at the latter meeting is not to the knowledge of this column. Why these two bodies with common interests could not meet simultaneously, this column finds difficult to surmise. However the Guild representative were Asoka David (President), Anton Vanstarrex (vice President), N. Nandakumar (Secretary — not an Exhibitor, representing Liberty Cinemas) Antony

TRIBUNE, MAY 7, 1983

A. Page (Treasurer), Ranjith Weerasinghe, Stanely Frenando, and T. Namasivayogam. The Chairman of the National Film Corporation, Anton Wickremasinghe, and his General Manager were present at this meeting. A very sympathetic hearing was given to the Exhibitor requests which in point form had been listed as follows: (1) Representation of the film exhibitots on the Directorate of the National Film Corporation of Sri Lanka; (2) Holdover problems for Sinhala and Tamil films; (3) The adverse impact of cinema attendance when Sinhala and Tamils are telecast on Rupavahini every week and video cassette screenings at several places all over the Island; (4) Revision of film hire rates on imported films; (5) The acute shortage of imported Tamil films and the release of four commercially viable Hindi films per year; (6) Equitable and bilateral contracts between the Film Corporation and the exhibitors; (7) Permission to levy an electricity surcharge of Rs.1/- at the two uppermost classes at non airconditioned cinemas with effect from 1st May 1983 and (8) The appointment of another Film Commission.

This column was pleased to hear that items 1, 3, 5 (with reservations regarding Hindi Film imports), 7 and 8 were permitted by the President, as the *Tribune* had been in the forefront for a curable panacea for the ills of the Exhibitors today. Depriving Sinhala and Tamil viewers of TV film telecasts weekly could however lead to much heartburning and this aspect however needs careful study, unlike Video Piracy which is blatant. *Film Focus* has also consistently maintained that the Chairman of the NFC was not to be blamed at all for this unfortunate state of affairs, for he had to work within the ambit of a rather obsolete "Act" which needed revision, and had to be fair by the Exhibitors and Producers as well, with yet another eye of the future of the local film industry. This column was emphatic always that besides administering a large corporation, and giving a very patient hearing to all those connected with the industry almost daily, he did get about this unenviable task admirably. Now that a healthy rapport has been established by this get together with Presidential blessings, nine should crow about that any victory had been wrested at this parley. This column stresses this aspect, as one vernacular newspaper went to town with the mischievous headline that the NFC had been given a month's ultimatum to place its house in order or close shop, and that an absolute free import of films by exhibitors had been allowed. Whoever fed this newspaper was only bent on damaging the goodwill that had ensued between the NFC and the Guild — an attitude that must be deplored. It must be borne in mind, that quite above winning a point or two, at such parleys, it is the picturegoers interests that must be safeguarded, and any effort to throttle the local film industry must be deplored. If the Exhibitors' Association wished to publicise any of the decisions arrived at in their discussions with His Excellency J. R. Jayewardene, this column would be only too glad to give them due publicity.

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NILYAKATA PEM KELEMI (I loved An Actress) Sinhalese: Quite a refreshing film, based on a popular cartoon feature story of Daya Rajapakse, with a stirring performance from Joe Abeywickrema and embellished by eye-fuls of down to rural earth photography by W.A.B. de Silva. Yet it could not sustain itself regretably for a longer run in the circuit although spilling over with realism of the days gone by. The story revolves around a small time stage actress named Chintamani Acca (Sriyani Amarasena), whose musically lined dramatics was the talk of the village. The name "Chintamani": brought memories to your reviewer of an earlier Tamil film under this title which created a furore of hearts in this country, with many admirers crossing the Palk Straights (with some of them plunging into it with broken hearts) to take a long look at the lanky actress Aswathamma who took on the main role in this, her only film. To come back to the film under review, this Chintamani's stage wagon which rolled around from one village to another consisted of her foster husband (Somi Ratnayake) and a dim witted village idiot with a quick temper (Joe Abeywickrema) as a handy helper around the house with a secret crush on his employer — the actress. With the reputed prowess of a natural actor, Joe settled into this role with the relish that actor Kamalahassan displayed similarity in the Tamil film "Pathinaaru Vayathinile." The story careder from the sublime to the ridiculous, with Joe grabbing the Honours throughout, and Sriyani Amarasena lending the adequate glamour to her role. A word of praise for Somi Ratnayake too who is maturing into serious roles with easy from a tough with a tart tongue, in most of his films. The film was flamboyantly flawless, and deserved better patronage for the vintage histrionics of Joe alone. A family film — not to be missed.

THE MOUNTAIN MEN (English): A Columbia release directed by Richard Lang and set in times when all that was vile in men, surfaced in the wild west under a canopy of snow capped mountains. The virile and veteran actor Charlton (Moses) Heston roles one such man, Bill Tyler, who is caught with his companion constantly in a crossfire of warring Red Indian tribes, and losing his heart to one (Victoria Reximo) amongst them. A third man the tribal chief, imposes himself on the dalliance and the showdoen at curtains is the piece-de-resistance of the film. Yet towering above all the sporadic action was the splendid scenic background, taken in perfect photography for visual pleasure — the camera emerging the victor in the final analysis. Even Charlton Heston may wear on you, but the totality of this outdoor film will not. Hence see it when down your way.

James N. Benedict

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April 18 - 24

DIARY OF EVENTS IN SRI LANKA COMPILED FROM DAILY NEWS - PAPERS PUBLISHED IN COLOMBO

DN—Daily News; CDM—Daily Mirror; EO—Evening 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; RP—Riviresa; DK—Dinakara; EN—Eelanadu; Is—Island; DI—Divaina; IDPR—Information Dept. Press Release.

MONDAY, APRIL 18: Despite the dry weather which has affected many crops countrywide, Sri Lanka's vital tea production picked up in February with a crop of 11.1 million kilos reported against 9.8 million kilos in the comparative period last year. An unofficial curfew may be enforced in some parts of Jaffna as the security authorities move to locate troublemakers believed responsible for last Thursday's incidents in the area DN. Between sunrise and sunset in Sri Lanka six persons die either through violence or accidents on the country's roads and an average of two people commit suicide; these frightening statistics are revealed on a large board at the Information Centre at Police Headquarters—CDM. The Police probe on the alleged "Naxalite" type plot to unleash violence following the presidential elections, has been revived with Deputy Inspector General Tyrrel Gunatilleke questioning the Second MP for Nuwara Eliya—Mas-keliya Anura Bandaranaike at length yesterday morning. The Advisory Committee of the Export Development Board has called for a 25 percent devaluation of the rupee "to provide a stable currency rate and avoid further frequent devaluations for at least the next five to six years."—SU. The National Milk Board has blown the lid off a massive racket by a well organised gang who are selling yoghurt packed in NMB containers around the country—EO. The Ceylon Workers' Congress will not field any candidates for the forthcoming local elections because negotiations to forge an electoral alliance with the United National Party have fallen through. Thugs backed by gem merchants have taken over the Cobalt Deep Ray Radiation Therapy Unit at the Cancer Hospital, Maharagama; this machine is used to treat hundreds of cancer patients daily—IS.

TUESDAY, APRIL 19: With just three more days to go for the by-election nominations, the main political parties continued to play their hands very close to their chests with no candidates' lists still officially accounted; "That makes good sense", said a veteran political observer; "That way there is less chance for disappointed aspirants to try to split votes by running as

independents."—DN. Sri Lankans, as food producers are far better than all countries in South Asia and have now only to surpass Thailand and the Republic of Korea in Southeast Asia and East Asia—CDM. Only four political parties — SLFP, CP, MEP and NSSP — will form the grand coalition that will contest the forthcoming by-elections. The United National Party yesterday denied a statement made by the Ceylon Workers Congress that it had gone back on its agreement to nominate CWC candidates on the UNP list at the local government elections. The city of Colombo will in future be the venue for arrival ceremonies of heads of state and government visiting Sri Lanka—SU. Police are on the look out for over 12,000 motor vehicles that have not been licensed for this year, a spokesman for the RMV told the *Evening Observer*—EO. A high-powered three-man Ministerial Committee is to be appointed shortly to probe northern terrorism and submit a report, authoritative sources told yesterday. Following a threat held out allegedly by Northern terrorists, strict security measures were enforced from yesterday in and around the precincts of the Bullers Road High Court (No. 1) where the Vicarage double murder case is being heard at present —IS.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20: Parliamentary by-elections to the 18 electoral districts and elections to all Municipal Councils and Urban Councils other than the 4 Urban Councils of Kalutara, Ambalangoda, Tangalle and Hambantota will be held on Wednesday the 18th May 1983. There were no surprises in the UNP's by-election candidate list announced at Sri Kotha last night by party secretary Harsha Abeywardena; no runner has yet been picked for Mahara—DN. India and Sri Lanka will work out a permanent solution to the tricky question of Stateless persons living in Sri Lanka amounting to nearly half a million when talks are held next week in Colombo between Sri Lankan political leaders and Indian External Affairs Minister Mr. P. V. Narasimha Rao—CDM. Sri Lanka will purchase 240,000 metric tons of crude oil from Malaysia; the Ceylon Petroleum Corporation and the Malaysian Government owned Petronas have already concluded negotiations for this deal which will be for the coming 12 months. The Sri Lanka Freedom Party yesterday issued the final list of candidates for the forthcoming by-elections; the list which was classified as tentative, includes electorates allocated to the NLSSP and the MEP under the agreement which was reached last week.—SU. Foreign physicians wishing to immigrate to the US on the third preference visa and the nonimmigrant medical graduates there who wish to apply for permanent residency will find it more difficult due to a new examination that will come into effect from July next year—EO. The Health Ministry has suspended distribution of Triposha through the Gandhiyam Movement in Vavuniya, Pt. Pedro and Trincomalee with immediate effect, informed sources told *The Island* yesterday—IS. Police officers serving

in the Eastern province will be given army training; this training will include counter action against attacks by terrorists—*DP*.

THURSDAY, APRIL 21: The LSSP and CP have come together to field common candidates lists against the SLFP for local bodies like Ratnapura and Matara, authoritative source said yesterday. Sri Lanka is making a bid to attract Indian capital investment here following President J. R. Jayewardene's meeting with Indian industrialists during his visit to that country for the Nonaligned Summit — *DN*. Sri Lanka has managed to have its spending on foreign exchange on essential food items like wheat, rice and sugar but continued to incur heavy expenditure on the import of crude oil—*CDM*. Over two million voters are expected to the polls on May 18 to elect 18 Members of Parliament and representatives to 46 Municipal and Urban Councils. Finance Minister Ronnie de Mel has sought aid from the European Economic Commission to bridge the unfinanced gap of 450 million rupees for the downstream development of system B under the Maduru Oya scheme—*SU*. The UNP yesterday sprang a surprise by nominating Mr. Kamal Jayakody for the Mahara seat at the forthcoming by-election; Mr. Jayakody was UNP's organiser for Gampaha. The Booksellers Association of Ceylon in a memorandum to President Jayewardene states that the Customs Duty and the Business turnover tax levied on imported books, periodicals and newspapers by the government are violations of the UNESCO, Florence agreement of which Sri Lanka is also a signatory—*IS*. The United National Party will contest all seats at the forthcoming Municipal and Urban Council elections including the Northern and Eastern provinces on May 18—*DP*. Elections Commissioner Chandrananda de Silva said yesterday afternoon that nominations were handed over for all the local body elections throughout the island peacefully and without any incidents of disturbances—*VK*.

FRIDAY, APRIL 22: The UNP is the only political party running at all fifty local elections polling in May. The nominations that were handed on Wednesday reveal; the SLFP is fielding candidates in forty of the local bodies — ten municipalities out of the 12 that will poll on May 18 and 30 out of 38 urban councils. At the invitation of the Queen. President and Mrs. J. R. Jayewardene will pay a state visit to the United Kingdom from June 7 to 10. The government announced yesterday — *DN*. The nominations to the 50 local bodies which concluded last Wednesday saw many clashes among the so-called common Opposition front consisting of the SLFP MEP and the CP at a few local bodies—*CDM*. Processions will be allowed only in Colombo on May Day; Inspector General Rudra Rajasingham yesterday directed Divisional Superintendents to ensure that no processions were held in other parts of the country. A ten hour fast is to be staged today in Jaffna by the Tamil

United Liberation Front; this will be as a mark of protest against the Prevention of Terrorism Act and the arrest of several persons. The Executive Committee of the Ceylon Mercantile Union has called on all political parties which opposed the extension of the life of the present Parliament until August 1989 to refrain from fielding candidates at the forthcoming by-elections set for May 18—*SU*. World Bank programmes in rural Sri Lanka are a sign that the West has faith in Sri Lanka's ability to break out of the mould — of worsening economies burdened by high expenditure on oil and reduced demand for commodity exports — which has most Third World countries in its grip says June Kronholz in a special report to the Asian Wall Street Journal of April 19—*IS*.

SATURDAY APRIL 23: A total of 82 candidates are running at the 18 by-elections for vacant seats in parliament; the UNP is fielding runners in all these constituencies while the SLFP is contesting 14. A technical training centre for the railway is to be set up at Ratmalana shortly at a cost of Rs. 90 million Mr. G. P. S. Weerasooriya General Manager of Railways said yesterday — *DN*. The TULF Nomination Board at Trincomalee headed by the MP Mr. R. Sampanthan has to go from house to house coaxing individuals to accept nomination as party candidates for the forthcoming Urban Council elections—*CDM*. A total 82 contenders yesterday entered the fray for the 18 vacant seats in Parliament; the nominations of these 82 candidates were accepted last morning at seven kachcheris. Central Environment Authority Chairman K.H.J. Wijayadasa warned yesterday that Sri Lanka was in for a serious bout of cancer caused by the vehicular explosion particularly by those vehicles which used high-octane fuels resulting in an emission of massive doses of lead fumes into the environment — *SU*. There were few surprises when the "Zero hour" came for closure of nominations to 18 parliamentary seats for which by elections are to be held on May 18; perhaps the only major surprise was that Mr. Ratnasiri Wickremanayake General Secretary of the SLFP who was widely tipped to be the party candidate for the Habaraduwa seat not submitting his nomination papers. The TULF yesterday commenced a fast in protest against the detention of Christian priests for alleged connections with terrorist activities; the fast is being staged at the Chelvanayakam Memorial Hall Jaffna—*IS*.

SUNDAY APRIL 24: Next Sunday's May Day rally which opposition parties had planned to use as the springboard for their joint opposition campaign at the forthcoming by-elections has fallen flat following the discord among the major opposition parties the SLFP (S) and LSSP to agree on common candidates for the hustings; their show of strength will thus be confined to individual party meetings—*SO* Sri Lanka has survived despite an unprecedented hostile international economic situation not by some.

type of divine miracle but by tremendous sacrifice and sustained effort of a kind rarely seen in third world countries—*ST*. Two hundred baby elephants will be brought to Sri Lanka shortly to replace the aging tuskers being used by the Buddhist temples in processions and other rituals; these baby jumbos to be imported from Thailand. Burma and India will cost Rs. 30 000 each. Terrorist leader Uma Maheswaran and his lieutenant Jothiswaran alias Kannan who were on a conditional bail in Madras following a gun duel with the Prabakaran group are now believed to have slipped out of India. The severe drought in several districts in Sri Lanka has affected several crops and caused severe hardships to the people—*WK*. A proposal from a foreign social service organisation to set up a billion rupee ultra-modern hospital in Negombo has been turned down by the Government following foreign Ministry investigations which have revealed that the project was not intended to set up a hospital but a five-star hotel in the area. Recruitments on an ethnic basis is the latest proposal being considered by the government to ensure proportionate representations by Tamils and Muslims in the prestigious Administrative Service—*IS*.



FROM THE SUMMIT
POLITICAL DECLARATION

Latin American and Caribbean Issues

THE HEADS OF STATE OR GOVERNMENT recalled the already long struggle of the peoples of Latin America for their independence and sovereignty and they noted with satisfaction their determination to pursue a nonaligned policy and to struggle against imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism and all forms of foreign domination, hegemony and interference in the internal affairs of States. In this regard they noted with satisfaction that since the Sixth Summit 10 Latin American and Caribbean countries had become members of the Movement. They also expressed satisfaction at the efforts of the States of the region to strengthen their unity solidarity and cooperation through the various processes of regional integration, and supported the aspirations for the creations of a regional organisation representative of the interest of all the countries of the region. The Heads of State or Government noted that the Final Communique

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issued by the Extraordinary Ministerial Meeting of the Coordinating Bureau in Managua, Nicaragua from 10 to 14 January 1983 to evaluate the situation in Latin America and the Caribbean once again confirmed the universal applicability of the principles and policies of non-alignment. They further recalled that the meeting was convened taking into account the grave situation existing in the region especially in Central America and the Caribbean.

The Heads of State or Government took note with great concern of the continuing tension in Central America, the Caribbean and the South Atlantic. Furthermore, having analysed the situation in the region, they considered that Central America faced a serious political, social and economic crisis brought about for the most part by the traditional repressive power structure and by national economic structures that produce poverty inequality and misery and aggravated by the interference and intervention to which those countries have been subjected since the end of the last century. The Heads of State or Government asserted that the processes of change in Central America could not be attributed to or explained by an East-West ideological confrontation. They also observed that although the crisis situation prevailing in the region could not be viewed in isolation from the adverse developments in the global context characterised by great power confrontation, it has been aggravated by the intensification of imperialist interference in the internal affairs of the States of the region. The Conference denounced the new and increasing threats and acts of intimidation and the growing seriousness and increased number of acts of aggression against Nicaragua, particularly the violation of its air-space and territorial waters, utilisation territory of foreign countries, in and outside the region as bases for aggression and training of counter-revolutionary forces; commission of terrorist actions and sabotage, particularly the attacks of armed groups of ex-Somoza guards through its northern border which had resulted in considerable loss of life and property, as well as measures of economic pressure at the international level. These were considered part of a deliberate plan to harass and destabilize that country as has been acknowledged by a foreign power.

IN REVIEWING the prevailing tense situation in Central America, the Conference commended the peace initiatives presented by Mexico, France, Venezuela, Colombia and Panama; welcomed the positive response of Nicaragua and called on all States concerned to adopt a similar attitude. The conference requested the Coordinating Bureau to closely monitor the events in the subregion and made an appeal for the cessation of all hostile acts against Nicaragua. The Conference called on the Governments of the United States and Honduras to adopt a constructive position in favour of peace and dialogue. In conformity with the principles of international law and

called on all States to avoid any act or policy that might increase tensions in the region. The Conference expressed the view that the cessation of military manoeuvres or demonstrations of force will reduce tension and facilitate the necessary dialogue for the achievement of the political and negotiated solutions of the problems of the region. The right of any State to freely choose its own political, social and economic system was considered to be of paramount importance in this context. The Conference also expressed the view that all States in the region should deploy maximum efforts to resolve their problems themselves free from all external interference and help to generate a situation of peace and tranquility

RECALLING the resolutions of the Sixth Summit Conference the Heads of State or Government noted with concern that another dangerous focus of tension exists in the region in Guatemala, whose regime is pursuing a repressive and expansionist policy which is reinforced by the use of its special military ties with the Zionist regime of Israel and with imperialism and which constitutes a threat to other States in the region, especially Belize. The Heads of State or Government expressed their concern that the situation in El Salvador has continued to deteriorate owing to unsolved social and economic problems and to continuing repression and imperialist intervention which constituted a threat to the peace and security of the region. They therefore called for the immediate unconditional cessation of such intervention. They further expressed their concern at the growing involvement in the conflict of the army of Honduras which would contribute to its expansion. The Heads of State also urged the Government of the United States of America to adopt a constructive position which would contribute to the peaceful solution of the problem. In this context they recognized the need to promote a negotiated solution with the participation of all the representative political forces, one of which the FDR/FMLM has made a welcome proposal for a dialogue without preconditions. They also welcome the peace initiatives of Mexico and Venezuela and France and Mexico as well as all other initiatives pursuing the same objective and they rejected and attempt to prevent or obstruct such negotiations. The Heads of State or Government noted the recent events in Suriname and the measures taken by certain governments in response to these events. The Heads of State or Government expressed their support for Suriname's sovereignty and independence. They further expressed the hope that the future development of Suriname will be in accord with the interests and well being of its people, free from any external interference or pressure.

THE CONFERENCE recalled the solidarity offered to Cuba by the Movement of Nonaligned Countries since its inception and reiterated its appeal to the

United States Government for an immediate and unconditional cessation of all acts of aggression and threats of the economic blockade which has been maintained against Cuba for 22 years and has recently been intensified with the adoption of the Symms Amendment and by new restrictive measures against the financial credit and trade relations of Cuba. It also urged the cessation of the violation of Cuba's airspace and territorial waters and reiterated its full support for the just demand that the United States should return the territory illegally occupied by the Guantanamo Naval Base and pay compensation for the considerable material loss caused to the Cuban people as a result of the blockade and other aggressive measures. The Heads of State or Government urged all States to scrupulously refrain from all acts of aggression; resort to use of threat of force; intervention and interference in the internal affairs of States as well as other forms of pressure, including economic or military blockades. They reaffirmed the right of all peoples of the region to national self-determination, independence sovereignty and territorial integrity, and their right to their own political, economic and social systems and pursue their own economic development free from any type of external interference or pressure. The Heads of State or Government were glad to note that since the Sixth Summit Belize, Saint Lucia, Antigua and Barbuda had become independent and are now members or observers of the Movement of Nonaligned countries. They also reaffirmed their conviction that colonialism must be eradicated in the region; they urged all States and especially nonaligned countries to support the legitimate demands for freedom, peace and independence of those Latin America and Caribbean peoples which are still subject to colonial domination and dependence and called for the early implementation of United Nations General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) in those territories.

RECALLING the previous decisions of the Movement and reaffirming the need to do away with colonialism in all its forms and manifestations, the Heads of State or Government reiterated their support for the Puerto Rican People's inalienable right to self-determination and independence in conformity with resolution 1514 (XV). The Heads of State or Government recalled the decisions adopted by the Movement of Nonaligned countries since its foundation to the effect that the establishment of foreign military bases against the will of the countries in which they are installed constitutes a violation of their national sovereignty independence and territorial integrity and pointed out the danger represented by the existence of military bases and the conduct of military manoeuvres against the countries of the region. The Conference noted with satisfaction the entry into force on 10th October 1979, of the 1977 Panama Canal Treaties, known as the Torrijos-Carter Treaties, between the Republic of Panama and the United States of

America, ensuring the effective exercise of Panama's sovereignty over its entire national territory by means of a process of restoring to Panama its jurisdiction over the areas previously designated as the Canal Zone and of increasing participation by Panama in the administration and defence of the Canal, culminating on 31 December 1979 in the complete abolition of any vestige of colonialism in the Republic of Panama. The Heads of State or Government noted with satisfaction that process had been going its various stages, but expressed their concern at the persistence of the United States of America in carrying out policies and practices in the Canal area that hindered the strict application of the Panama Canal Treaties and, in particular, at the introduction of discriminatory wage scales and the passing of Public Law 9670 of the United States Congress, which were incompatible with and violated the aforementioned Treaties.

THE HEADS OF STATE OR GOVERNMENT expressed their solidarity with the Panamanian people and government, called upon the United States of America to put an end to all policies and practices that might interfere with the full application of the Treaties, and called for absolute respect for the permanent neutrality of the Panama Canal. Furthermore, they decided to reiterate their appeal to all States of the world to exceed to the protocol of Treaty concerning the permanent neutrality of the Panama Canal with due respect to the sovereignty of Panama and for the universal principle of nonintervention in the internal affairs of States. The Heads of State or Government expressed their concern for the continuing colonialist policies and the increasing economic pressures, the threats and aggressions in the Caribbean region. These facts constitute a real threat for the peace, security and development of this region. The Heads of State or Government condemned the covert and overt actions and the political and economic pressures being exerted by imperialist forces against Grenada. Mindful of the adverse effects of such pressures on economic development efforts, they expressed support for the inalienable right of the government and people of Grenada to pursue their own political, economic and social process free from all forms of external pressures and threats. The Heads of States or Government express support for the Government and people of Grenada and called on all countries to respect Grenada's independence and sovereignty. The Heads of State or Government reiterated their unconditional support for the independence and territorial integrity of Belize and denounced all pressures and threats against its sovereignty. In this regard, they supported the right of the Belizean Government to take whatever initiative they consider pertinent consistent with principles of Non-alignment and the United Nations Charter to effectively confront any threat and emphasized that the threat or use of force against Belize is unacceptable. They also urged all states to contribute to the economic development of Belize. Recalling the many initiatives that the

countries of the region have taken in their efforts to attain peace, safeguard independence and consolidate development, the Conference supported efforts to declare Central America and the Caribbean a zone of peace.

The Heads of State or Government reiterated their firm support for the Republic of Argentina's right to have its sovereignty over the Malvinas Islands restituted through negotiations and urged that those negotiations between the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom be reopened with the participation and good offices of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, and reaffirmed the need for the parties to take due account of the interests of the population of the Islands. This would ensure a speedy, peaceful and just solution to the question in conformity with the principles and decisions of the Movement of Nonaligned countries on the subject and with resolutions 1514 (XV) 2065 (XX) 3160 (XXVIII) 31/49 and 37/9 of the United Nations General Assembly. The Conference recognized that the Malvinas, South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands are an integral part of the Latin American region and accordingly expressed its satisfaction with the solidarity and firm support of the Latin American and other nonaligned countries to the Republic of Argentina in its efforts to settle the sovereignty dispute and prevent the consolidation of the colonial situation existing in these islands. At the same time the Conference considered that the massive military and naval presence and the activities of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in the Malvinas Islands region are a cause for grave concern to the countries of the region and adversely affect stability in the area. The Conference noted the efforts being made by the Government of Guyana to consolidate its independence and sovereignty. In connection with the claim which Venezuela is advancing to more than two-thirds of the territory of Guyana they recalled that the Protocol of Port of Spain had expired in June 1982. They called for a peaceful and just settlement of the controversy based on the principles set forth in paragraphs 134 and 135 the Communiqué of the Ministerial Meeting of the Bureau held in Havana in June 1982 especially those relating to the inadmissibility of the threat or use of force in the settlement of disputes and respect for independence sovereignty and territorial integrity and in strict compliance with the Geneva Agreement of 1966.

THE CONFERENCE once more reiterated its categorical support for the Republic of Bolivia's legitimate and rightful claim to recover a direct and useful outlet to the Pacific Ocean over which it would have full sovereignty. Convinced that the solution of this problem is of interest to the international community and recalling that international peace and security call for such a solution the Conference urged all states to voice their solidarity with

this inalienable right of the Bolivian people. The Conference expressed its hope that an equitable solution to this problem will be found by applying the peaceful procedures set forth in the Charter of the United Nations and in the framework of the objectives of the Movement of Nonaligned countries. Reaffirming their support for the social and economic transformations initiated by late President Salvador Allende, the Heads of State or Government demanded the implementation of the United Nations General Assembly resolution concerning Chile adopted at the thirty-seventh session. They further affirmed their support for the legitimate aspirations of the Chilean people to restore their fundamental freedoms and basic human rights and the nonaligned course set by President Allende. The Heads of State or Government recalled that Latin American countries have made an important contribution to the process of multilateral negotiations aimed at the establishment of more just economic international relations; that they have promoted initiatives of significance in the field of disarmament and arms control, and have adopted or strengthened measures oriented toward the full utilisation of their natural resources for the benefit of their people. The Heads of State and Government noted the existence in Latin America of an area in which nuclear weapons are proscribed by the Treaty of Teotelocono signed by 22 Latin American states but they considered that it could not be effected until conditions have been created to enable all Latin American States to sign and ratify it, and all nuclear powers to respect it. They appealed to the States that have international responsibility over non-sovereign territories in the region to ratify the additional Protocol of the Treaty of Teotelocono so that those territories may receive its benefits. In this connection, the Conference took note of the statements made by the Argentine Republic during the thirty-seventh session of the General Assembly with regard to the reported introduction of nuclear weapons by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in the region of the Malvinas Islands, South Georgia and South Sandwich. The Heads of State or Government welcomed the historic visit of His Holiness Pope John Paul II to Central America and the Caribbean with his message of peace and reconciliation.



NAMIBIA

US Guilty of Obstruction

United Nations A UN report has said US President Ronald Reagan's policy is the main obstacle confronting a UN drive to force South Africa to give up white minority rule on Namibia. The 52-page report, issued here on April 15 by the UN Council for Namibia, said that in recent years "the most harmful blow to the international efforts to obtain South Africa's

withdrawal from Namibia was the Regan Administration's adoption of a policy of 'constructive engagement' with South Africa, effective 1st March 1981. The report said the United States, Britain, West Germany, Japan, Switzerland, France, Israel and 'the local authorities in Taiwan' all had continued to increase their active collaboration with South Africa. The 31-nation council's latest report to the General Assembly said the US policy toward South Africa "ostensibly a relaxation of among other things the embargo on selling non-military items to South Africa's police and military, has far-reaching and adverse ramifications." It complained that the Regan administration had allowed the export to a Pretoria military hospital of a US-made heart-monitoring device, the export to South African police of "anti-terrorist" metal detectors for Jan Smuts airport in Johannesburg and the sale of sophisticated American computers to South Africa's Stateowned Arms Development and Production Corp. It also complained that South African senior military officers had been allowed into the United States in November 1981 and again in March 1982 and had met with US Assistant Secretary of State Chester A. Crocker, UN Ambassador Jeane J. Kirkpatrick and others.

The UN report said the United States, Britain, West Germany, Japan, Switzerland, France, Israel and "the local authorities in Taiwan continue to increase their active collaboration with South Africa" despite the 1981 Assembly resolution calling for sanctions against the Apartheid regime. It said such collaboration and the United States' "open support" of South Africa and its "consistent steps . . . to prevent the isolation of South Africa in all fields, including the political field, contribute directly to the survival of the Apartheid policies of South Africa, its illegal occupation of Namibia and its acts of aggression against independent African states." Transaction between South Africa and its traditional western trading partners "continue unabated and have in fact been further enhanced" the report declared. It said military and nuclear contacts of South Africa with the United States, Britain, France, West Germany, Belgium, Israel, Japan, the Netherlands, Switzerland and other countries had shown a similar pattern. —AP



DIEGO GARCIA

A Nuclear Threat

By Pedro Costa

For over two decades the world has been listening to the clamour of many nations in Asia and Africa demanding that the Indian Ocean be demilitarized and turned into a zone of peace. What is the background of this movement? The main factor is that in the

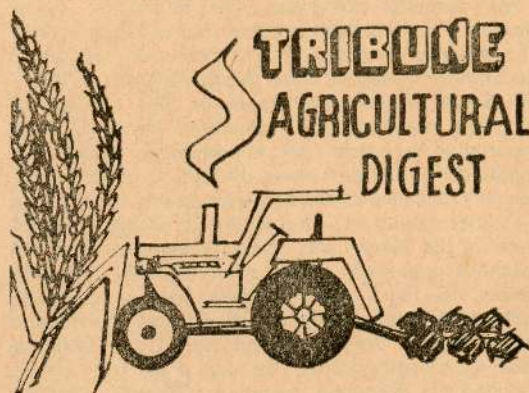
mid 60s Great Britain which has always been weak in the face of US demands granted the United States supremacy over Diego Garcia Island to build a military base there. An islet in the middle of the Indian Ocean, Diego Garcia, was separated from Mauritius by the colonial administration when Mauritius was about to achieve independence. The inhabitants were deported and now live in Mauritius. Since it received the island the United States has spent thousands of millions of dollars to expand the military installations on Diego Garcia. At the present time a vast operation is being carried out to turn this former Mauritian territory into a giant nuclear base containing Polaris and Poseidon missiles.

The Reagan administration has earmarked a special 3000 million-dollar budget for the little island. The money is being used for an enlargement of the port capacity, extension of runways for B 52 superbombers which carry nuclear weapons and tanker planes for refuelling the bombers in midair. The facilities that have been built on Diego Garcia now allow for a garrison of 500 soldiers to be stationed there. In addition, there is enough military equipment stored on the island for the combat operations of more than 20 000 troops. Diego Garcia is thus, part of the network of military bases that the United States has in Cape town, South Africa, Alice Springs, Exmouth and Cockburn Sound, Australia; and Berbera, Somalia.

One of the latest steps in the worsening of tension in the Indian Ocean has been the United States' setting up a Central Command from which they can control the operations of the Rapid Deployment Force in that Ocean and in Southeast Asia. In the Indian Ocean the United States maintains a military fleet including aircraft carriers and several merchant ships with equipment, fuel and water to support the Rapid Deployment Force. *Why is the United States increasing its military presence in the region? The fundamental reason from the United States point of view is that concentrated along the shores of the Indian Ocean are some of the most important natural resources deposits on this planet. This is where half of the known oil reserves are found, two-thirds of the uranium and half of the gold reserves to just mention a few.*

The US pretext however for setting up and expanding beyond all conceivable limits this center of aggression and threats in the middle of the Indian Ocean is well known by all since it has been repeated hundreds of times by the deceitful US propaganda apparatus: the alleged Soviet military threat. The Soviet Union has no aggressive intentions whatsoever in the area and has proved this fact in the United Nations by supporting plans to turn the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace. On repeated occasions the Soviet Government has declared that it has never had nor does it now have any inten-

tions of building military bases in the Indian Ocean and it has requested the United States to turn away from this dangerous path. The Soviet position coincides with that of the vast majority of countries with coastlines on the Indian Ocean and who wish the area to be demilitarized and turned into a zone of peace. The Movement of Nonaligned Countries shares this desire and is fighting for it. The White House and the Pentagon however have turned a deaf ear to such demands and refuse to give up their aggressive plans in the Indian Ocean. Diego Garcia is a clear example of this.—PL.



FROM "THE TROPICAL AGRICULTURIST"
IN 1939.

The Composition of Local and Import Citrus Fruit

By A.W.R. Joachim and
D. G. Pandittesekere

The average number of cases of citrus fruit imported annually into Ceylon between 1932 and 1938 was 9,030, the record being 13,581 in 1935 since when there has been a decline. There is likely to be a further decline in the future owing to the restriction which has been placed upon the import into Ceylon of fruit from countries affected by the Mediterranean fruit fly. On the other hand during the period under review there has been a steady and appreciable increase in the acreage under the crop in the Island, an increase which appears to show promise of being maintained. As a result, production will, in due course reach the point when the Island's entire requirements of citrus fruit for several months in the year can be met. *The question has therefore been raised as to how the quality of locally-grown citrus compares with that of imported fruit. Quality*

in citrus is determined by such factors as abundance and flavour of juice, texture of pulp, thickness of rind, facility of peeling, seedlessness, amount and character of rag. Inasmuch as the flavour of the fruit is governed to a large degree by its chemical composition it was considered that analyses of representative samples of local and imported citrus fruit would furnish useful comparative data on the point at issue. Accordingly, analyses have been made during the past twelve months of 62 samples of imported and local oranges and grapefruit, and though the samples examined were not, in the case of every sample group, as numerous as was desirable they were considered to be adequate for the purposes of this inquiry.

The samples comprised the following: Local oranges 15; Imported oranges 23; Local grapefruit 17; Imported grapefruit 7. The countries of origin of the imported samples were South Australia California South Africa and Rhodesia. No samples of fruit were available from countries from which the importation of citrus fruit is prohibited. Samples of imported grapefruit were difficult to obtain presumably because of the non-importation of fruit from the latter countries. The imported orange samples were of the Navel and Valencia varieties and the imported grapefruit mainly of the Marsh's Seedless variety. The local orange samples were good quality fruit of the Kotte, Valencia, Washington Navel and Indian types. Some samples were from seedlings trees others from grafts. The local grapefruit samples included the following varieties: Marsh's Seedless Cecily Seedless, Walters, McCarty, Trijumph, Fosters and Ellen. All the local samples of oranges and grapefruit were obtained from the Government Experiment Stations or from private growers.

METHODS OF ANALYSIS On receipt, each sample, which consisted of 6 to 8 fruits in the case of oranges and 3 to 4 fruits in the case of grapefruit, was examined for the following characteristics: Size and weight of fruit colour and thickness of rind, degree of seediness, colour and flavour of pulp, character of rag and percentage by weight of juice in the fruit. The following analytical determinations of the strained juice which was extracted with a Sunkist extractor were carried out by the methods specified except in regard to sugars which were omitted in certain samples:- *Total solids (Brix)* — these were determined by the Brix hydrometer, corrections for temperature being made from de villers, table (17). and also by the Zeiss refractometer fitted with a sugar scale. *Acidity* was calculated as citric acid with one molecule of water and in ml. of deci-normal caustic soda required to neutralize 10 ml. of juice. *Rugara* — Total and reducing sugars were determined by Lane and Eynon's method with methylene blue as internal indicator. *Vitamin C* — The improved iodine method of the California Fruit Growers Exchange was adopted for the estimation of vitamin C (21). *pH* — The quinhydrone method was used.

CITRUS MATURITY STANDARDS In most citrus-growing countries regulations are in force to prevent the export of citrus fruit particularly oranges, unless they attain a minimum "maturity" standard. The Standard commonly in use is based on the total soluble solid/acid ratio of the juice and is frequently though incorrectly designated the sugar/acid ration since sugars are the most important of the soluble solids. In these calculations the acidity is reckoned as citric acid. The ratio varies in the different countries with the species of fruit and occasionally with the variety or other factor. Thus in California and Florida all oranges for export should have a minimum maturity ratio of 8 to 1. In South Africa the ratio varies according to the variety being 5.5 for seedling oranges, 6.0 for Valencias and 6.5 for Navels. But fruit for export should in addition contain at least 45 percent juice by weight. The Palestine regulations demand a minimum sugar-acid ratio of 7 to 1. In New South Wales maturity is expressed in terms of titratable acidity. Navel oranges are considered "mature": when less than 23 ml. of deci-normal caustic soda are required to neutralize the acidity in 10 ml. of juice. In Jamaica the corresponding maturity maximum suggested is 20 ml. The export regulations in regard to grapefruit are less explicit. Thus the Palestine regulations state that "no grapefruit shall be exported from Palestine unless the fruits have reached an adequate state of maturity." The reason why no rigid standards have been prescribed for grapefruit are: (1) the solid/acid ratios for fruit of satisfactory flavour and quality have been found to vary appreciably with the district of origin. In California and Arizona they range from 5.5. to 6. 8 and in Jamaica from 7.3 to 11.3; the ratios are dependent on the total solid contents of the juices being generally the lower, the higher the latter. Suitable ratios suggested for grapefruit are 5.5 to 6.5.

While the total solid/acid ratios afford a fairly reliable indication of maturity in oranges they have certain limitations as indexes of flavour. Thus two oranges may have identical ratios but distinct flavours owing to the actual quantities of sugar and acid in the juices being markedly different. A juice with a low concentration of these constituents would tend to be insipid. A better guide to flavour is the true sugar/acid ratio, considered in conjunction with the actual amounts of sugar or acid or both present in the juice. Tentative formulae have been suggested for calculating from the chemical data indexes of flavour but these are not generally applicable to all varieties of citrus fruit not to all countries and soil and climate conditions. In the analytical tables which follow both the total solids/acids (and the sugar/acid ratios for the samples examined are furnished.

* * *

Improved Agricultural Tools

SICKLE, the simple agricultural tool, used for reaping the rice crop by the farmers has remained the same for ages without undergoing any improvement in its design and efficiency. Until recently, not many technologists bothered to work on this primitive-looking device used by a majority of the farmers. Any slight modification to better the efficiency of this harvesting-tool, will be greatly appreciated by the farming sector. Now the Konkan Agricultural University, Dapoiil, Maharashtra has come out with an improved sickle called 'Vaibhav' for the benefit of agriculturists. The newly developed sickle is light in weight easy to handle and costs only Rs. 8.50, according to Dr. P. V. Salvi Vice-Chancellor of the University. Vaibhav sickle has a distinct bend at the handle and serrated blade which significantly enhances its efficiency.

With conventional sickles it is difficult to harvest the rice straw very close to the ground. As a result, stubbles as high as 15 to 20 cm are left above the soil surface and studies revealed that such conditions provided ideal room for stem borer larvae to hibernate. The improved sickle will facilitate harvesting of the crop close to the soil and thus help in getting over such problems. Moreover the rice straw yield will also be increased by about 500 kg per hectare on the harvesting expense if this efficient tool is employed for cutting the crop, according to the Vice-Chancellor. Farmers of Maharashtra have found Vaibhav sickle more advantageous than the local ones, and there is a great demand for it in that region. Already more than 25,000 numbers of sickle had been supplied by the University, said Dr. Salvi. Extensive comparative trials of Vaibhav sickle along with five other types used locally revealed that operating hours required to harvest a unit area were the least (44.2 woman hours/hectare) with the Vaibhav sickle and the cost of harvesting rice was also the least (Rs 59.50) with this sickle amongst all the sickles tested.

Among the other farm tools and implements developed by the University are a bullock-drawn puddler rice stubble remover and mango nipper. The bullock drawn puddler is very efficient in operation and cost effective when compared to the wooden country plough. A very light and handy tool the rice stubble remover helps in speedy removal of stubbles from the rice fields. The new mango nipper is an ideal tool to pluck the fruits with the stalks as desired by the growers. It consists of a circular metal ring to which are attached two moveble spring-loaded blades. These blades cut the fruit-stalk using the resistance offered

by the fruits, and the fruit is collected undamaged into the net. Costing about Rs. 30, this nipper is becoming popular in Konkan tract, according to Dr. Salvi.

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FROM IRRI

New Rice Varieties

An early maturing, high-yielding and insect and disease resistant variety, IT -36, a product of the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), Manila Philippines has become the most widely grown variety of any food crop the world has ever known in a short span of six years. IR-36 with excellent grain quality (long slender and translucent grains with high milling recovery) has multiple resistance to the major diseases and insects, and tolerance to soil salinity, alkalinity, iron and boron deficiency and zinc deficiency in wetlands, and tolerant to iron deficiency and aluminium toxicity in drylands. Having very stable yield characteristics, IR-36, can produce between 4 and 6 tonnes per hectare in field conditions. It has been put to extensive coordinated trials by scientists at the All-India Rice Improvement Project (AICRIP) in 1978 and 1979, and has been found suitable for Indian conditions.

It was first introduced in Orissa in 1977, In West Bengal from 1978 it is grown widely during 'boro, and late transplanted 'aman season. Recommended as an all - India variety by the Central Variety Release Committee in 1981, this promising variety is now popular in Kerala (raised during punja season) Andhra Pradesh and Orissa (rabiseason), and Madhya Pradesh (kharif season). The early maturing IR-36 (about 107 days in Philippines), has a good resistance to blast bacterial blight, tungro-virus, grassy stunt, green leafhopper, brown planthopper, and stem borer. In India and Sri Lanka, this variety has been found to be particularly resistant to gall midge. The successful strain has been evolved pooling the desired characters of about 13 varieties got from 6 countries, according to a report from IRRI. The high-yielding trait and its adaptability to varied conditions were inherited from Peta and IR-8.

The other favourable qualities of early maturity, superior grain quality and resistance to bacterial blight and stem borers, grassy stunt, blast, tungro, green leafhopper and gall midge were contributed by varieties such as TKM-6, Tadukan, Oryza nivara, Ptb-18 and Ptb -21. According to the IRRI report, IR-36 is the first improved rice variety to have multiple resistance to all the major pests and diseases of rice. With the development of this short duration variety the cropping pattern in several regions has changed, say the scientists. In rainfed areas where

one crop was raised, now two crops are made possible and in irrigated fields three crops in a year are being raised. IRRI, in its pursuit to evolve diversified varieties, has brought three more multiple resistant varieties, with different genetic backgrounds. These varieties, IR-50, IR-52 and IR-54, have started replacing IR-36, wherever it was grown as monoculture. There is yet another promising strain, IR-56, from IRRI, which has yield potential and grain qualities comparable to IR-36, and it matures 2 to 3 days earlier than IR-36.



AERATION

For Processed Rice

STORAGE and processing of rice using modern techniques play a vital role in enhancing the shelf life of grains. During the process of huling aeration is very important for the rice which comes out of the polisher with certain amount of heat. If this rice is bagged immediately without aeration then the water particles surrounding the grain and the moisture released from the grain due to shrinkage of the molecules while the rice is getting cooled will lead to fungal infection. *Such moist conditions will be ideal for the growth of fungi. The toxin caused by the fungus is called Aflatoxin. Consumption of the fungus affected rice lead to liver diseases. This toxin is more potent than mycotoxin.*

Though aeration of rice by spreading and periodically turning of the material is quite possible in conventional rice mills of less capacity, the same is not practicable in modern rice mills of high turnover if about 80 tonnes of paddy a day. In these type of mills, aeration of rice which is coming from the polisher can be done by arranging a set of conveyors. The polished rice has to be allowed to pour in a conveyor belt of some distance and again this rice is to be poured in another conveyor belt which is running in the opposite direction. By this the rice can be allowed to move through a set of conveyors and during the course of running the rice will be cooled and the blowers also can be arranged to cool the rice further. Then the rice may be bagged which is devoid of moisture.

G. Singaravelu
Food Corporation of India
Avadi, Madras.



FOR HOME-GARDENERS

“Space-Age” Potato

AN IDEAL POTATO VARIETY for home gardens, that can be raised from seed with greater reliability has been developed by an American seed company at

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Buffalo. Named ‘Explorer’ the new variety, dispenses with the traditional and more tedious process of raising potatoes from tuber divisions or ‘eyes’. “Only gardeners who have grown potatoes in the past will realise the implication of this introduction” claims the company. Growing potatoes from seeds is not altogether a new concept and many people had attempted this all over the world. The difficulty encountered was that the seeds would reproduce only 50 to 60 per cent true to type. Moreover they were unreliable and had very poor germination rates. ‘Explorer’ is the first open pollinated potato from seed to be virtually free from wide variations, according to the company. It is after years of research work their percentage of germination has been improved to 80 or better.

The seeds are about a fifth the size of tomato seeds and are very easy to handle by home gardeners. About 100 to 200 gm if the tiny seeds will be equivalent to about a tonne of the regular seed materials (eyes) used for potato cultivation, and the cost is also a fraction of the bulky potato divisions. As open pollinated-seed-grown potatoes will mature at irregular intervals the company recommends it only for home gardener. A gardener can keep harvesting regularly following a time schedule uniform sized tubers or alternatively pick a variety of sizes in a single harvest. Commercial growers who will prefer to have tubers of uniform-size at one stroke may not desire this variety and that is why the company regards ‘Explorer’ as an excellent choice for kitchen gardens alone. Called the ‘space-age potato’ ‘Explorer’ may well prove to be the most significant breakthrough in agriculture in the last 50 years it is claimed. Horticulturists of the company say that being the first doesn’t necessarily mean that it will be the best years ahead and they are hopeful that successful hybrids of the future will be developed from stable open - pollinated varieties like Explorer Varieties with high degree of uniformity and good resistance to diseases are bound to follow soon. For home gardeners who fancy the new seed potatoes, the experts at the seed farm has this to say: “If you can grow tomatoes you can grow this complete growing instructions go with each seed packet containing about 50 to 60 seeds.

AGRICULTURAL CREDIT

Recovery of Loans

By S. K. Gupta.

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THE MOUNTING OVERDUES in the agricultural advances of cooperatives and commercial banks

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have been causing serious concern to the policy makers for the last few years. The increasing trend in the overdues of the credit institutions restricts the smooth flow of credit and thus adversely affects the productive investment in Agriculture and its modernisation on a large scale. In case of cooperatives the increasing levels of overdues restrict their borrowing capacity from the higher financing agencies and in case of commercial banks it may lead to postponement of fresh disbursements. The recovery of agricultural advances is less than 50 percent in cooperative and commercial banks.

THE MAJOR REASONS for the poor recovery are as follows: *Natural calamities and diseases*: Such calamities as droughts, floods, cyclones, famines, death of birds and animals, disease-epidemics and family catastrophies and the fluctuating marketing conditions are beyond the control of either the banker or the borrower. They result in partial or total crop failure and huge financial losses. Thus the recovery fails and overdues mount. *Inadequacy of loan*: Many a time, the banker has the tendency to believe that the borrower has given an overestimation and, so sanctions less amount. They finally result in half finishing of the venture or total misutilisation of loan. *Forms of loan*: Loans are mostly issued in the form of cash, and not in kind. Only the loans for fertilizers are issued in kind. If all the loans are given in kind it would certainly help minimise its misuse by the farmer. *Misappropriation of Funds*: With or without the connivance of the bank officials it happens sometimes that even though the finance is adequate and timely, it does not reach the borrower to the full extent. Such a practice is fraught with consequences similar to those in the case of inadequate finance. *Untimely Grant of loan*: Untimely grant of credit also results in misuse. There is a wide gap between the date of application for loan and date of granting it. *Illiteracy and Ignorance of Borrowers*: Most of the farmers are illiterate and they do not attach desired importance to the productive use of loan. On the other hand, they place greater emphasis on its use for consumption, and for social and religious ceremonies. They, thus, misuse the loans. This misuse leads to failure of repayment of loan in time. *Improper Repayment Schedule*: Sometimes the repayment schedule is fixed without keeping in view the capacity of the farmer to repay and the timing for such repayment does not conclude with the period of earning.

DEFECTIVE LOAN APPRAISAL particularly in terms of assumptions made with respect to yields, input costs and output prices. Unsatisfactory marketing arrangements resulting in the borrowers getting lower than expected prices for their produce. Unforeseen expenses of the borrowers and their tendency to repay loans from other agencies which carry higher rates of interest. *Lack of Supervision*: It has been found that once the credit is issued to a person he is

not asked to explain the purpose for which it has been used. Farmer utilizes the loan as he likes and no supervision and guidance is given to him for its productive use. The misutilisation of loans increases the overdues. Wilful default and political factors.

Given below are some of the steps which should be taken to help improve the recovery of loans. There should be coordination rather than competition among commercial banks and cooperatives in extending agricultural loans. Such a coordination would help minimise double financing problems. Credit planning must take care of this. Finance must be supplemented by technical guidance for effective use of credit. Commercial banks, extension officials and cooperatives should function together to accomplish this. A firm collection policy should govern the recovery of loans. Objectivity and sympathetic attitude on the part of bankers must be promoted by suitable training of personnel. There must be a provision to ensure that the repayment of loans is made in more than one or two instalments in a year. Integrated Rural Credit should be strengthened to reduce the overdues in the cooperative sector. Polite but firm recovery notices should be served on the borrowers about a month before the due date advising them about their ensuing liabilities and repayment within the stipulated time. Registered A. D. notices should be served to the defaulters and their guarantors advising them to repay bank's dues or face trial in the court of law.

ADOPTION OF AREA APPROACH for lending, particularly to supervise the utilisation of loans. Tie up agreements with marketing agencies. Timely reminding of borrowers through personal contacts and serving of demand notices. More careful appraisal of loan applications. In the case of group loans, making all members aware of their collective responsibility. Stern action against wilful defaulters. The working group of Agricultural Credit Scheme of Commercial Banks has made the following suggestions to improve recovery: Dues of the commercial banks should be appointed by the State Government to help commercial banks. Banks should be allowed to dispose of securities without the intervention of courts. Government should purchase the land of the wilful defaulters, if purchasers do not come forward to buy them. State Governments should not pass indiscriminately orders granting moratorium, remission of loans, land revenues etc. Introduction of farm pass books with legal backing to eliminate the possibility of a borrower taking loans from more than one agency. Crop insurance. Defaulters of bank loans should not be given "taccavi" loans or any other assistance by the government.

Some of the recent studies have shown that medium and large farmers accounted for the larger amount of overdues as compared to the small and marginal farmers. However, the

number of defaulters was high amongst marginal and small farmers. It is also reported that the bulk of the defaulters are chronic defaulters with overdue for three years or more. While the wilful defaulters mainly belong to the high caste literate group with large sized holdings, the non wilful ones belong to middle class illiterate group with smaller holdings. The managements of banks may, therefore conduct similar studies and lay down policies on the basis of their findings.

—Yojana

FOCUS ON THE VILLAGE

FLASHBACK

Village Re-Awakening

Concluding part of the speech made by Prime Minister R. Premadasa at the Sarvodaya Damsak Medura, Moratuwa on 8th October 1979.

Now from the point of view of economic stability these model villages can stand on their own feet. Now we have to bring in the moral element into the village. All the villagers must get together and form their own small State with their own President, Prime Minister, Cabinet and Parliament. They must solve their problems by themselves. They must realise their emancipation through their own collective efforts through their own sense of dedication. Loving kindness compassion must enter their lives and their actions. A prosperous and righteous society. This is my dream. It can be realised. We can. We'll try. *Wherever everybody worked for each other's well being prosperity is to be seen. That is why I thought that we should turn back and see what mistakes we have committed, correct them where possible and then go forward. The entire State machinery must participate in this movement.* Water Resources Boards Health Authorities Electricity Boards, all must participate. That is why I have specially invited the Hon. Minister of Highways and Power and all District Ministers to take part in this dialogue. We can through the District Ministers enthuse the local members of Parliament with this idea. I have invited the officials in charge of this project in order to participate in this act of dedication.

We were in bondage for long years. We fell into bondage not merely because we lost our freedom. We lost our moral values. We began to whine and beg.

Our Golden Age was the age when we lived and behaved and acted like free upright people. Even now in far away villages these feelings persist. They lack only the economic strength to stand up on their own. But when a roof has to be repaired everybody takes part. When a field has to be harvested everybody joins in. When somebody falls ill, the village doctor comes of his own accord, and everybody rushes about in search of herbs. And the patient feels better even before he takes the medicine because the whole village is behind him. But what about the town? There was once a very sick patient in a hospital unable even to breathe. A friend came running with a parcel of oranges. "You know there are old oranges and they are costly. There are blackmarketeers." The patient can't speak; can't move. But the chattering goes on: "I will go now. If I don't go now I will miss the train". He keeps the oranges near the sick bed and rushes away. Another wily person comes and quietly removes the oranges away. This is how most of us act and behave. Do we act and behave according to the dictates of our conscience? Work according to our conscience? If we don't do so the result is less than nothing. We can't wait and watch money being wasted. What could be done by one machine is being done by three machines. If something goes wrong we say, "What can I do he is responsible. It does not belong to my department." I thought I should bring the officials here and explain things to them.

When Mahatma Gandhi talked of Gramraj and Swaraj people laughed. He said, "Let us live in the villages, conduct our village business in the villages. People laughed at him. But now in the Middle East the oil wells are running dry. When oil dries up the mechanized lives become humanized once again. And reason enters the mind. Now people are talking of livestock and cattle. We are now talking of conservation of forests. Mahatma Gandhi once said that we need machines to serve men and not to ride roughshod over men. Today, even the soils have lost their natural vigour. Tractors do the work of draught cattle today. All the cattle have been eaten up. One does not hear even the crowing of a cock. Even it has been killed and eaten. We don't hear an old folk song but the obscenities uttered by a drunkard. But the oil crisis has helped to clear our minds a bit. This is a village according to our traditional methods that the oil Sheikhs cannot threaten us. I did not think of these today or yesterday. I wrote of these things when I was in the Opposition. *The economic development of Sri Lanka should start in the village and with the village. Today we are over-urbanised. Our productive enterprises are in the cities and the villages supply the raw materials. The villagers have to come to the city to buy their needs. There is no production in the village. The village should in fact be the focus of all productive activity and the town, the sales centres only, But because of what has happened*

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people are deserting the village and are coming to the towns and, in the towns spring up slums and shanties. The sickness of the city is taken to the villages. Everywhere there is sickness. Everywhere corruption rules. The reason is that we have allowed society to grow without any control, without any ideals, without any goals.

Therefore, all of us must now discuss among ourselves and map our strategy, our road, our path. We intend to achieve our goal through the village Awakening Movement. If the start here is right then we can spread the message across into other fields. For this task we have to harness the energies of the common man and of our officials. The officials must have a clear idea as to what our objectives are. We cannot hope to live the life styles we are used to for long. Even in developed countries they are finding beauty in simplicity, out of necessity. We cannot walk four feet. We need a bus or a car. But the villager walks fifteen to twenty miles a day and he is fit and healthier. We have to set an example. People see us. They are looking at us — at you and me. To rebuild our people, to give them a good example to emulate, we must think afresh and work afresh. I see four stages in the Udagama Plan. *First* is the planning stage. It has to be done carefully. By siting a school here and a community centre there the problem will not be solved. We must talk with the villagers. We are trying to fulfil their expectations. We must give preference to their wishes. The *second* stage is the building of the village. Here collective feeling, effort, self-reliance, belief in oneself must be generated and come into play. We cannot expect only the villagers to show self-reliance and community feeling. The officials also must participate. If there is no dedication on the part of the officials and the politicians there will be no dedication on the part of the people. The people who are selected to live in the houses must feel that this house is mine. I am building it. We must only help him in the task. We must build self-confidence in himself. The *third* stage is that of the ceremonial opening of the village where a new enthusiasm, a new feeling, a new determination must enter the hearts of the people. The *fourth* stage comes last. With economic emancipation must come moral regeneration. This is a very difficult stage and has to be handled carefully. The experience of one village may differ from another. It must generate new ideas, new feelings and give strength and vigour to a glorious cultural heritage. We cannot type plan model villages. Each model village must be unique.

In China there is no complete Marxist system in vogue. When I visited China recently I found it for myself. Marxism contains a solution to the problem of the economic depression which hit Europe over a hundred years ago. Though Mao Tse Tung embraced Marxism he did not blindly use Marxist prescriptions in guiding the Chinese people. He put into effect a policy

of standing on one's own feet, of walking with one's own two legs, of self-reliance. He and his followers first set an example, by dedicating themselves to the tasks of the nation, without regard for personal profit. They lived simple lives and in a way lived the life of monks. They leaders often enjoyed lesser rights than the people. There was no division into a personal life and a political life. And because the Chinese leaders were honest and good and humble the people believed in them and followed them so much that they took the words of their leaders to be as if they were Gospel truths.

This belief must arise in our people. In order that it may arise all of us have to be honest, disciplined and must be motivated by a spirit of service and dedication and not by the profit motive.

Concluded.

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PAKISTAN

Bio Gas In Rural Areas

By Azim Kidwai

Mr. Azim Kidwai is a well-known science writer who has contributed over 1,000 articles in the leading dailies of Pakistan. He is also a regular contributor to the prestigious English Science Journal NATURE

THERE are already signs of strain in the supply and demand position of electricity in Pakistan. The pressure on the electrical grid of the country is day by day increasing due to arise in the standard of living of the people, though only 10,000 out of the 45,000 villages have so far been electrified. Many of the villages are far from the main grid and the cost of transmission is exorbitant. Small low cost and locally operated systems of energy are therefore, imperative to improve the quality of life of nearly 80 per cent of the people living in the rural areas. *Such systems are generally based on tapping from what are known as the renewable energy sources — bio-gas, hydel power, wind, solar energy etc. Renewables, however, have not been generally exploited the world over, except perhaps in China. As a consequence, the renewable energy resources comprise only 15 per cent of the total energy basket at present, though they have tremendous potential.*

BIOGAS. In Pakistan, as in China, the most tempting of the renewables in the present milieu, is bio-gas that requires almost no sophistication or highly-skilled manpower to operate the plants. They are also not capital intensive and are therefore within the means of the average villager. *Solar electricity*

costs at present are prohibitive, at least five to six times that of fossil fuels. Wind-mills or hydel plants also are not that inexpensive when compared to bio-gas plants. Some of the small bio-gas plants evolved by the ATDO (Appropriate Technology Development Organisation) cost only Rs. 700/- (about 60 dollars). As in China, which has a large animal population (mostly pigs) that provide the dung for its bio-gas plants, Pakistan has a population of about 25 million cows and buffaloes. Their dung as the main raw material for the bio-gas plants, along with other waste from bio-mass, can well meet the bulk of the energy needs of the rural areas.

The most successful and widespread exploitation of bio-gas technology has been developed in China. A Chinese delegate at the International Symposium on Renewable Energy Resources held in Lahore in March last, disclosed that 7 million bio-gas plants are in operation in that country. India is yet another country to have successfully experimented with the generation of bio-gas in its rural areas. Some 20,000 bio-gas plants have been installed in India during the last one decade.

In Pakistan, attention to bio-gas has been given only lately. During the last few years, 2,500 bio-gas plants have been put up, though some of them are not functioning properly due to a weak extension service that has to back up any new technology to advise on such matters as any mal-functioning of the plant. It is perhaps necessary to build the extension service to promote the technology on a larger scale in the rural areas.

Bio-gas as a fuel bears similarity to the natural gas coming out of the crust of the earth. The bulk of the energy component in bio-gas is methane (about 65%), and so, it is a clean fuel in burning as is the natural gas. The percentage of methane in the natural gas is higher (about 90%), and that is why it can give more heat than bio-gas. Nevertheless, bio-gas can be used efficiently in burners for cooking, in lamps for lighting, and even to run modified petrol engines to generate electricity.

BASIC MATERIAL. The basic material in a bio-gas plant is animal dung and/or poultry droppings, and other waste bio-mass, mixed with water to form slurry. The slurry is fermented anaerobically (through bacterial action) in a closed vessel consisting of a digester and a gas-holder, with a narrow outlet for gas. After about 3 to 4 weeks of putting the charge in the closed vessel, the bio-gas is available for consumption. A bonus from a bio-gas plant is that at the end of the process, the leftover is a better quality fertilizer for the villager than, say, the cowdung. In the fermentation process, the bacteria increase the quantity of available nitrogen in the dung. Burning the dried cow-dung, as is often done in the villages of Pakistan, is the worst bargain. The villager neither gets as much energy as in bio-gas, nor any fertilizer as the end product.

In Pakistan, after considerable modifications, both the Chinese design bio-gas plants as well as the Indian type plants, have been tried. However, it has been found that the Indian design plants are more suitable in the peculiar conditions in the rural areas of Pakistan. The Chinese use a fixed RCC dome which is not practical in the rural conditions prevailing in Pakistan. The Indian plant uses steel for the gas holder which can be locally fabricated by blacksmiths from the steel-plate, or else, it is transported from one village to the other. The whole installation can be done in a couple of days. The fixed roof in the Chinese design also doesn't yield constant pressure, inhibiting gas-use in different situations. The Indian design gives reliably constant pressure and is more efficient for gas.

SMALL BIO-GAS PLANTS. The single family-size bio-gas plants of 100 to 140 cu.ft capacity, based on the dung of 4 or 5 animals, cost about Rs.4,000 to 5,000 in Pakistan. The ATDO has, however, developed a smaller portable type plant that costs even less. It eliminates the brick or block masonry in the construction of the digester, and the steel or the RCC for the gas holder. The plant uses the big rubber tubes of large trucks as the closed vessel. A small plant using second hand tubes with 2 metre cube capacity gas, costs only Rupees 700/-. If new tubes are used, it costs about Rupees 1,400/-. 20 to 25 such plants can be transported in a small pickup van to a number of villages, and the installation of the plant can be done in few hours time. These inexpensive small plants have proved very convenient for poultry farms that are now dotted in rural settings around big cities like Karachi. A 2.5 K.W. modified petrol engine can run on bio-gas to provide all the electricity needs of the poultry farm for its lights, fans, incubators etc.

However, further research and development work is needed to make the systems more efficient, using different raw-materials and in different conditions such as during winter when the efficiency of fermented systems goes down due to low temperatures. At the Lahore Laboratories of PSCIR (Pakistan Council of Scientific and Industrial Research), as well as at its Karachi Laboratories, experimental bio-gas plants with different combination inputs — cow-dung, poultry droppings, bagasse and city waste, are under investigation with different parameters to find out the optimum conditions and the best results. It is hoped to get more efficient bio-gas plants as a result of these experiments with methane increase, decrease of carbon dioxide, and more gas during winter months.

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Pakistan Feature Service
Karachi-19.

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Mother of Medicine

By J. P. Pathirana

Gall-nut or as it is commonly known 'aralu' is a highly valuable medicinal nut which has a pre-historic recorded past, dating back to the time of the ancient Rishis. This has the blessings of the Gods and has come down to earth from the high Heavens. Gall-nut has a close relationship and connection with God Vishnu and according to the Rishis it is said that this miracle 'Nut' germinated in the celestial abode of God Vishnu. As God Vishnu is named 'harthaki' the Gall-nut is also termed 'harthanki'. It is pre-recorded history that the God Sakra - the King of Gods - whilst drinking his celestial nectar seven drips of this divine liquid dripped down on earth and thereby sprang seven varieties of the gall-nut plant and thus gave human beings a touch of the glory nectar to be enjoyed by the lesser mortals.

Gall-nut or 'aralu' is grown in abundance in places like Uva, Bintenne, Anuradhapura, Kurunegala and in some parts of the Uva and Sabaragamuwa provinces. In India, it is grown wild in Mysore and Madras States. The fully matured fruit when fully dried, is mainly used for medicinal purposes. Though in the 'Materia Medica' of Ayurveda, seven varieties of gall-nuts are mentioned — the efficacy value of the nut with the golden-touch does not vary. The high properties of efficacy are common to each species. The seven varieties are: (1) Vijaya (2) Rohini (3) Putana (4) Amurtha (5) Abhaya (6) Jeevanthi (7) Chethaki.

Vijaya— takes the shape of a waterlemon. This has the medical efficacy for any general ailment. *Rohini*—is round in shape especially beneficial for ailments like rheumatism and backaches. *Putana*— has a tender outward bark and very efficacious in the preparation of 'pattus'. *Amurtha*— is fleshy and circular in shape and ideal for purgatives. *Abhaya*— has five marked horizontal markings on it. This is very good in the preparation of eyedrops. *Jeevanthi*—has a golden colour in it has a golden touch if taken raw or in powdered form it gives one, a golden-hued complexion. *Chethaki*—has three horizontal markings on it. Ideal in the preparation of medicinal powder.

The efficacy of gall-nuts or 'aralu' is wide and varied, and in general it is used as the 'base' ingredient by ayurvedic doctors along with *Bulu* and *Nelli*. Gall-nut in various preparations has magical power and immediate effect in the eradication of many ailments and acts as a soothing-balm and an efficacious paste to combat all types of skin and other dermatological diseases, insect bites skin-eruptions, burning and scratching sensations of the skin.

'Aralu' is described in the early manuscripts of Ayurvedic science as the 'Mother' of medicine. It is described that though even the Mother has her moments of anger and displeasure: the wonder gall-nut once swallowed will never show signs of anger or ill-will towards the human body.

Gall-nut with ordinary kitchen salt, will cleanse the bowels well and purify the blood of babies. 'Aralu' powder mixed with breast milk or salt is an ideal remover and cleanser of the mouths of babies, before the feeds. This nut mixed with 'vada-kaha' is an ideal instant arrester of stomach-aches and pains. Excess phlegm may be eradicated in the mixture of '*shinda lunu*: and 'aralu' powder.

To combat excess bile, take powdered gall-nuts with sugar-candy (*sukiri*) Taken with ghee, it takes off the excess 'wind' off your system. Taken with sugar-cane juice, it is an ideal nourisher.

Mixture of 'aralu' boiled with garlic is an ideal decoction for all stomach ailments and an ideal antidote for diarrhoea. To promote hunger or to ruse your appetite: take gall-nuts boiled with dry-ginger and drink with sugar or sugar-cane juice and enjoy great relief.

This miracle nut or 'aralu' is a 'God-send, to human beings. Divine qualities towards all ailments human beings are subject to, is enclosed in this golden-hued nut, and know your nuts for better and healthy living. It is with this idea foremost that our ancient kings of the past did cultivate, acres and acres of 'aralu' and termed as 'aralu-wana: (Gall-nut jungles) and tended with such care and love and paid all the respects to this great gift to mankind.

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GREEN FODDER

To Increase Milk Yield

MILK production is naturally associated with good feeding and management. To increase milk production in bovines, sufficient nutrients should be pushed into the blood stream, so that, the animal can show its full genetic potential for milk production. These nutrients are carbohydrates, fats, protein, minerals and vitamins. The availability of the nutrients are comparatively more in lush green fodders like legumes. In concentrate feeds also the above nutrients are available, but it is economical to go in for fodder nutrients.

A 400 kg-cow yielding 5 kg milk can be easily maintained with lush green fodders, by feeding 45-50 kg non-legume green (or) 25-30 kg legume fodder and 2-3 kg dry fodder. Feeding crossbred animals

with legume and non-legume mixture is always better than feeding one fodder only. To achieve this object' an increased level of fodder production using short duration and high yielding varieties, is the only promising way. Intensive fodder production in rotation can yield upto 500 kg of green fodder (or) 100 kg dry matter (or) 10 kg digestible crude protein (or) 65 kg total digestible nutrients per hectare/day all through the year. If legume fodders are included in the crop rotation, a milk yield of 5-8 kg per animal per day can be easily maintained without any concentrate feeding.



SPOTLIGHT

○ Moratuwa ○ Umpires

SRI LANKA'S YOUNG HOPEFULS did well to thwart the Australians from notching up their first victory on Sri Lanka soil when they held them to a creditable draw in their three-day encounter which ended at the Tyronne Fernando Stadium recently. With this drawn game the Aussies had nothing to show victory-wise before they took on Sri Lanka in the First Test that was played picturesque Asgiriya International Stadium in Kandy. It was blatantly clear that the visitors were determined to win the three day game and thus boost their morale before the "big game" but they never bargained for the fighting spirit of the youngsters led admirably by the experienced and former Sri Lanka player Ranil Abeynaike.

When the game at Moratuwa started it was distressing to see only a handful of spectators present to lap up whatever strokeplay the Aussies were going to put on display that day. Several were the reasons put forward by the organisers for the poor attendance. On the second and third days the organisers decided to slash the ticket rates and this to an extent went to attract the crowd. But here again most of them got free or the majority of them were helpers and officials. The best crowd however was seen on the third day and that too after tea when the organisers decided to let the spectators in free. The Board of Contr,l for Cricket in Sri Lanka will obviously think twice before offering Moratuwa another three-day game in the future.

However the organisers must be congratulated for the efficiency which prevailed during the course of the

game. Considering the fact that this was the first time that they were conducting a game for more than a day they did a marvellous job. But their good work was sullied by an individual who apparently after one too many made a big joke of himself by trying to fight pressmen. He probably thought he was a saw-dust Lord Nelson. "He needs Dutch courage to act like this", said a friend of his. On the eve of the game, Moratuwa and its surrounding area had some rain and the ground staff were disappointed to find that the rain had seeped through the covers.

The Australians who would not take the risk of injuring themselves on the slippery surface had an early inspection with the local skipper, ground staff and the umpires and decided to allow the sun to shine on the affected areas before starting play one hour late. The Australians who were led in this game by David Hookes with Greg Chappell playing in the team, won the toss and decided to bat. Openers Wood and Wessells made a quiet start as they were finding the local pacemen, especially the tall and lanky Granville de Silva difficult to score off. The Australians ended the first day on 211 runs for the loss of six wickets with all of their batsmen entering double figures and the top score for the coming from left hander Greame Yallop who made 43. However the best batting came from the young Tasmanian wicket keeper batsman Roger Woolley who remained unbeaten on 42.

Woolley who has the makings of a good wicket keeper/batsman continued batting on the second day as well. With the Aussies looking for runs Woolley completed a grand 50 before losing his wicket. The Australians finally totalled 259 which was not big enough considering the strong batting line-up. The bowlers to impress for the local team were paceman Granville de Silva and off spinner Oshadie Weerasinghe. Both bowled their different styles economically and with great variation and the Australians were in some sort of trouble or other against them. For their good work, both de Silva and Weerasinghe were included to the Pool that will train for the tour of England for the World Cup Tourney in June. The other paceman Ravi Ratnayake from whom much was expected as a bowler is now showing promise as a batsman. But this was not the role Ratnayake was originally picked for.

The President's XI in reply gave a pathetic display of batting and crumbled like nine pins to be all out for 131 giving Australia a big lead of 128 runs. They increased the lead to 155 when the openers saw the day to the close without loss for 27 runs. The only batsman to show fight were Sumithra Warnakulasuriya, Brandon Kuruppu and Ravi Ratnayake. After the President's XI lost their two openers for no score, Warnakulasuriya and Kuruppu brought about a recovery of sorts adding 38 runs for the third wicket. With the dismissal of these two, the others went as quickly as they came with

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Ratnayake swinging the long handle managed to save the follow on which at one stage looked a certainty. The innings ended at 131.

Dennis Lillee and Tom Hogan finished the day with 3 for 26 and 3 for 37 respectively. On the final day the Aussies started on 27 for no loss and lost their openers Wessells and Wood with the score moving to 48. There was an unbroken stand of 67 runs between Smith and Yallop at which score lunch was taken and the declaration made leaving the home team to score 244 for victory in 150 minutes plus the 20 mandatory overs. The declaration was a good one which gave both sides and equal chance of searching for victory. However, although the local team got nowhere near the required target, it was indeed creditable for the home team to deprive the Aussies of victory. At one stage when skipper Abeynaike and Mendis were at the wicket one felt that a victory was possible. But with the start of the 20 mandatory overs, a rot set in and both Abeynaike and Mendis lost their wickets and with it went any hopes of victory. The local team ended up at 184 for the loss of eight wickets.

THE UMPIRES COMMITTEE of the Board of Control for Cricket in Sri Lanka ran into some foul weather when the umpires selected to stand against the Aussies revolted, saying that they would not like to stand with another of their fraternity who was selected to do the Test Match at Asgiriya. Apparently both parties, the Umpires Committee and the Umpires Panel were at fault. The Umpires Committee was at fault because they should have scrutinized the credentials of the umpire and whether he came up to the requirements set by them when the selection was first announced. The Panel members are at fault because they allowed their colleague to be nominated to the Panel and then when it became known that he would do the Test they showed their protest by saying that none of them would stand with him. Anyway the controversy was finally solved and the Umpires Committee decided on Herbie Felsing and Basil Anthony for the Test. Whatever the outcome, the fact remains that the Umpires Committee comprising Sarath Wickrematne, Annesley Fernando, Lincoln Perera, C. Warnakulasuriya and D. P. Wickramaratchi have fallen from grace as they had to change their original nominee.

Prime Minister R. Premadasa who is up with the news wherever he may be was quick to appreciate the victories scored by Sri Lanka over the Australians in the Two One-day internationals and immediately sent this cable from London to the manager of the Sri Lanka team: "Please convey my congratulations to the captain and the members of the Sri Lanka team and my best wishes for their continued success in the series." Compliments conveyed in the true spirit of the game would surely have strengthened the spirits of our cricketers for the rest of the tour.

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Mr. Phil Ridings, Chairman of the Australian Cricket Board arrived in Sri Lanka on invitation by the local Cricket Board and was a keen spectator at the Test match at Asgiriya between Sri Lanka and Australia. Mr. Ridings has done much for the inclusion of Sri Lanka in to the International Cricket Conference.

ALLROUNDER.

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SPORTS CHRONICLE

April 18 - 24

MONDAY, APRIL 18: The City Foot Ball League President XI beat the Sri Lanka Referees Association XI by five goals to three in the match played at the City League grounds on Saturday under floodlights. Upali Dassanayake riding his Golden Race 347 cc set up a New Course Record of 1 minute 32.1 seconds for Motor Cycles (up to 500 cc) at the meet conducted by the Sri Lanka Motor Cycle Club at Nuwara Eliya yesterday. Sri Lanka had another successful day against the Australians; yesterday a Board President's team restricted them to 211 for on the opening day of a three-day match at the Tyrone Fernando Stadium. A fighting innings of 91 by India's Mohinder Amarnath failed to prevent West Indies taking command on the second day of the fourth cricket Test at Bridgetown on Saturday. India first innings 209 and West Indies 80.

TUESDAY, APRIL 19: Yorks SC beat Gurnager Singing Fish SC by 5 goals to 3 in their V. A. Sugathadasa Memorial Cup Soccer Championship match on the Police Park yesterday. Ratnam Sports Club held last year's winners Victory Sports Club to a two-all draw in the Mayor's Cup Football Tournament final played at the City League grounds on Sunday under floodlights. The touring Australian cricketers had their most successful day on the field when they ended the second day of the three day match 155 runs in front of the Sri Lanka Board President's XI at the Tyrone Fernando Stadium, Moratuwa yesterday. Australia first innings 259 and Sri Lanka 131. The West Indies overcame several anxious moments against steady Indian spin bowling to reach 355 for 4 on the third day of the Fourth cricket test match at Bridgetown. West Indies first innings 355 and India first innings 209.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20: Ananda College, Colombo created a major sensation when they upset all predictions to become A Division champions of the All Island Inter-school Under 16 Badminton Tournament conducted by the Sri Lanka Schools Badminton Association concluded at the University Gymnasium Peradeniya recently. Ananda who were seeded No. 3 beat No.2 seeded Dharmasoka in the semifinals and

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then upset top seeded St. Anthony's Katugastota in the finals. Southlands have now won this title which is played for the Dr. A. D. John Challenge Shield for the third successive year; the Southlands team captained by Yasintha Liyanage included Ruwanika Rajapakse, Tanuja Abeysirwardene and Nilanthi Jayasekera. The touring Australians were further frustrated on the eve of the inaugural Test against Sri Lanka starting at Asgiriya on Friday when a young Board President's team held them to a draw in a three day match played at the Tyrone Fernando Stadium Moratuwa yesterday; Australians first innings 259 and Sri Lanka Board Presidents XI first innings 131.

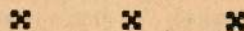
THURSDAY, APRIL 21: Mahara Sports Club, Mahara beat Nilmini Sports Club, Kadawatta by 3 goals to 1 in a soccer match played at Kadawata Maha Vidyalaya grounds recently. CR & FC beat CH and FC by 21 points (a goal 3 tries and a penalty goal) to 14 points (a goal and 2 tries) in their traditional Captains Game rugby encounter played at Longden Place yesterday. All the way leader T. D. R. Peiris unbeaten for six rounds lost the seventh to Ishan Weerakoon and they now share the lead in the Standings with 6 points each at the National Chess Rating Tournament. With India in their second innings reeling at 138 for four and Mohinder Amarnath, their most consistent batsmen injured, West Indies are in a winning position at the end of the fourth day's play in the Fourth Test. West Indies in their first innings were all out for 486, a score that included in innings of 130 by Augustine Logie, playing in his first series and in his fourth test. India first innings 209 and West Indies first innings 355 for four.

FRIDAY, APRIL 22: Two new records were established at the Second Inter-Universities Games now on at the Colombo University grounds, Thurstan road M. M. M. Faleel of Batticaloa University established the first record in the High Jump with 5 feet 8 inches and in the Women's 4 x 100 relay Kelaniya University broke the existing record with a time of 54.3 seconds; at the end of the first day Colombo University led with 61 points. Ishan Weerakoon was held to a draw by Lakshman Wijesuriya and T. D. R. Peiris who drew a Bye, took over the lead once again at the end of the eight round of the National Chess Rating Tournament. A no-ball from India's vice captain Syed Kirmani gave West Indies a comfortable 10/wicket victory on the final day of the Fourth cricket Test here yesterday. India first innings 209 and West Indies 486.

SATURDAY, APRIL 23: A splendid all-round performance by Saliya Perera (54 not out and 3 for 25) enabled Bank of America to win their second annual 40 over cricket match over CitiBank by 8 wickets at Reid Avenue. Citibank 105 all out in 33 overs and Bank of America 108 for 2. Morawewa Air Force SC became champions in the men's events at the interclub sports meet of the Morawewa AGA Division conducted by the Ministry of Sports; Morawewa

North Sinhala Vidyalaya SC won the women's championship title. T. D. R. Peiris maintained Top Spot in the standings at the National Rating Chess Tournament with 8 points out of a possible 9 when he beat Lakshman Wijesuriya in the Ninth round. A magnificent century by Kepler Wessels put Australia in a commanding position on the opening day of the Inaugural Cricket Test against Sri Lanka at the Asgiriya Stadium yesterday. By the close Australia were 258 for 2 with Graeme Yallop nine runs away from his Seventh Test Century and Skipper Greg Chappel on 19. Australia 1st innings 258.

SUNDAY, APRIL 24: Saunders annexed the prestigious blue riband of Sri Lanka football the Gilded FA Cup when they defeated Ratnams 2 - 1 on the CR and FC grounds Longdon Place in the presence of President J. R. Jayewardene. Sri Lanka reeled under the fiery pace of Denis Lillee and Rodney Hogg to be 65 for 4 wickets at close on the second day of the inaugural cricket test against Australia continued at the Asgiriya Stadium yesterday. Australia first innings 514 and Sri Lanka first innings 65. The Netherlands won the Fifth Women's World Cup in Hockey when they beat Canada 4 - 2 at Kuala Lumpur yesterday. Top seed Martina Navratilova of the US came back from the brink of defeat today to win her match against Hana Mandadlikova of Czechoslovakia 4 - 6, 6 - 2, 7 - 5 in the semi-finals of a 200,000 dollar tennis tournament.



ROWING

Concluding Regatta

What is called the Concluding Regatta of the Colombo Rowing Club was held from the 28th to the 30th April. There were eventually four Thomian entries in the Novice Pairs over 880 yards and one from the Moratuwa University. The winners, M. Hassen and A. Junaideen coxed by S. Dassanaikie, had in the heats beaten A. Kumaranayagam and R. Rajaratnam coxed by S. Senarath easily in 4 mins. 8 secs., and then the Moratuwa University pair easily in 4 mins. 14 secs., before beating A. Yapa and M. Liyanage coxed by M. L. de Silva, who had earlier beaten R. Wijesinghe and R. Paranavitana coxed by S. Cooke easily in 4 mins. 52 secs. The time in the finals was 4 mins. 25 secs and the race was won easily.

In the Firms Pairs, the one heat had been rowed in the dark, and the Subasinghe brothers steered badly after leading most of the way and lost to C. Handy and Rohan Fernando by 1½ lengths, the time 4 mins. 24 secs. The winners of this heat, representing the Tea Buyers, lost in the finals to the Army pair, Major O. J. P. Gunasekera and Major P. P. Fernando, who won easily in a time of 3 mins. 29 secs.

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The Open Pairs was won by Srimal Wickremasinghe and Dylan Perera in the Neville Sirimanne by three lengths in 4 mins. 13 secs and they beat Patrick Daniel and Randev Jayasuriya rowing in a boat of their name. This was the first time these boats had been used in a race. The losers led after starting at a higher rating and the winners swept passed them about the Point.

The Colombo-Outstation Challenge Cup was won easily by Colombo in the good time of 3 mins. 48 secs the crew M. L. Perera bow, Sihil Daluwatte 2. Rohan Abeysekera 3, Lloyd Randall stroke, and coxed by S. Cooke, beating P. M. K. Wickeremaratne bow, V. Welikale 2, O. K. P. Gunasekera 3, P. P. Fernando stroke, coxed by P. R. Daniel. The losers started very badly, the winners sweeping through to a good lead which they never lost.

The Sculling Championship was won by a rank outsider, if I may say so. The event had started two days earlier with Srimal Wickremasinghe beating Sasanga Fernando easily in 8 mins. 7 secs., and Percy Fernando beating Rohan Fernando by four lengths in 7 mins. 53.6 secs. On the second day Hussain Anverally beat Wickremasinghe easily in 7 mins. 44 secs., and he won the finals by beating Percy Fernando easily in 7 mins. 55 secs., over the mile course.

Except for the Novice Pairs, the other three events were rowed over a 1,000 yards. The winners of the Novices, who won easily, were quite out of time as we saw the race from the Club lawn near the finish. In the sculling finals, too, Anverally, who also won his race easily, cannot be said to have sculled stylishly. Percy Fernando was by contrast more impressive, and yet Anverally won. Perhaps there is a lesson in this for us to learn, and it may be this, that winning rowing and sculling races cannot be equated with just rowing and sculling better than your opponent, although by the very nature of the equipment you use you must certainly know how to do both.

Our Rowing Correspondent.

BAMBOO PIPES TO CARRY WATER

Dar Es Salam, Tanzania has made a unique successful experiment of using bamboo and wooden pipes for large water supply network instead of the conventional pipes used all over the world. These wooden pipes have not only proved to be far better than the conventional pipes but also longer lasting with an average of 50 years as compared to 40 years durability of plastic pipes and 15 years of steel pipes. Research results in the country have shown that wood end bamboo when properly treated are better than any other conventional pipe.

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Govt



Notice

Land Acquisition Act (Cap 460) as Amended by the Land acquisition (Amendment) Act No. 28 of 1964

NOTICE UNDER SECTION 7.

Reference No. 34/3261

The lands described in the Schedule below have been acquired. For further particulars please see the Gazette Extraordinary of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka. No. 241 / 2 of 18. 04 .1983

SCHEDULE

Situation of Land : Gabadaweediya, Ward No: 7 of Urban Council of Matara, Wellaboda Pattu West & Four Gravets Matara District.

Name of Land : Vidanaralalagewatte Moottukkaragewatte

Lot & Plan No. : Lot No. 1 in Preliminary Plan No. 306 / 1047

The Kachcheri.
Matara,
08. - 04. - 1983

C. D. Vidanapathirana.
Acquiring Officer
Matara District.

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Scientists' Chicanery

IS IT NOT A FACT that the final outcome of the Mawatagama visitation from outer space proved to be an anti-climax that made the scientists of the Atomic Energy Authority not only the laughing stock of the nation but also of the world that had been fed with sensational stories by international news agencies? That it must be mentioned that right up to the end before the final debacle newspapers in Colombo had kept up the scientists theory that the "object" was something from outer space? That one paper (*Sun* on 29/1/83) had proclaimed in a headline METALIC TRACES IN USO and said: "Evidence of a metallic traces in the ashes of the unidentified space object (USO) that fell in Pitakande, Mawatagama on Saturday has ruled out the possibility of it being debris from a meteorite. However, no conclusive evidence that the object is part of the Soviet space satellite Cosmos 1402 that fell in the Indian Ocean early last morning has been reached as yet. According to Industries and Scientific Affairs Ministry Secretary Justin Dias, it will take at least another four days to ascertain the actual nature of the burnt out object.

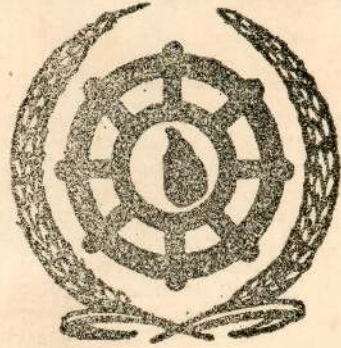
IS IT NOT TRUE that the truth was revealed in a lengthy statement issued by the Atomic Energy Authority which was published in the dials papers on February 1? That through the scientists statement ran into several pages, the *Daily News*, *Sun* and *The Island* condensed it into a few sentences (and only the *Daily Mirror* published it in full)? That the *Daily News* report read: "The mysterious flaming object that fell out of the sky on to a coconut plantation at Mawatagama on January 22 was neither a part of that Soviet Cosmos satellite nor a meteorite. It was only a flare fired in the neighbourhood of Pitakande Estate Dr. Granville Dharmawardena, Director of the Radio isotope Centre and Chairman of the Atomic Energy Authority, has reported The Preliminary report in the incident which attracted considerable publicity at home and abroad was released yesterday. The report says that a hot object had actually fallen at the site and burned itself out leaving white lumps resembling burned out magnesium. Dr. Dharmawardena has said that mild radioactivity found at the spot was due to natural causes. Instrumental analysis of the white lumps showed the presence of small quantities magnesium, aluminium and iron with high percentage of barium. There was no nickel and traces of manganese, titanium, zirconium and yttrium had been found. 'Examination for residues of gunpowder revealed the presence of potassium nitrite and chloride which are the residues usually found in exploded devices used in fireworks', he said. The report makes the point that had trained nuclear scientists not taken timely action to appoint and train an emergency team, there could have been very serious disturbances at Mawatagama that day. Most of

Cosmos has already crashed into the Indian Ocean. But the highly radioactive nuclear reactor core is still in orbit and is expected to crash down on earth between February 10 - 15. The emergency team will undergo further exercises and remain ready to rush to any part of the island during this time,' the report said". *That this final tid-bid about the nuclear core of Cosmos 1402 which was expected to fall in to the earth's stratosphere in mid February was only a further attempt to justify the tomfoolery perpetrated on the Sri Lankan public? That scientists in the USA, USSR, UK and other countries in the Nuclear Club had stated very categorically that so far as the nuclear core of Cosmos 1402 was concerned it would burn itself out as it entered the earth's stratosphere? That the Sri Lankan scientists concerned refuses to accept this: That the Sun published a lengthy extract from the statement released by the Atomic Energy Authority and concluded thus: "..... Examination for residues of gun powder revealed the presence of potassium, nitrite and chloride which are the residues usually found in the exploded devices used in fireworks. Our investigations conclusively show that the object that fell at Mawatagama is not a part of a satellite or a meteorite. It is only a flare fired in the neighbourhood of Pitakande Estate."* That the *Sun* also published the same justification for leading the Sri Lankan public up the garden path thus betraying the smug complacency of scientists (and others of the same intellectual and bureaucratic ilk) who take themselves too seriously and take the public for granted? "An important consideration here is that if the nuclear scientists who are trained not to take any chances where public safety is concerned did not take timely action to appoint and train an emergency team where would have been a very serious disturbance at Mawatagama on that day. Major part of the Soviet satellite Cosmos 1402 has already crashed into the Indian Ocean. However, the highly radioactive core of the nuclear reactor of this satellite is still in orbit and expected to crash somewhere on earth between February 10 and 15. The emergency team will undergo further exercises and remain ready to rush to any part of the island during this time.

That the nuclear core of Cosmos 1402 burnt itself out in space as anticipated by all except the scientists of the Sri Lanka Atomic Energy Authority who had held themselves in readiness, (in the meant time)? That these scientists did not publish a valedictory statement when nuclear core of Cosmos 1402 disappeared into thin air before it reached the earth? That *Tribune* however proposes to publish shortly (space permitting) the statement of our "Atomic Scientists" For *The Record* for our readers to have a document about the chicanery of our Atomic Energy Authority for easy reference?

Concluded.

TRIBUNE, MAY 7, 1983



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