

TRIBUNE

CEYLON NEWS REVIEW

Vol. 27 — No. 41

JULY 16 1983

Rs. 4.00

- ★ NO RAINS ?
- ★ RESHUFFLE
- ★ SLFP MIXUP
- ★ COPRA IMPORTS
- ★ GRAPE FRUIT
- ★ PESTICIDES
- ★ AIR LANKA



★ NO RAINS
★ RESISTANCE
★ SLEEP MIXTURE
★ COPPER IMPROVEMENT
★ GRAPE FRUIT
★ PESTICIDES
★ AIR LANKA

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CEYLON NEWS
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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR	1
— <i>The Real Test</i>	
EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK	2
— <i>Why No Rain?</i>	
SHERLOCK HOLMES	4
— <i>Reshuffle. SLFP, Copra Imports, Cattle Exports</i>	
IVAN MINAYEV	5
— <i>In Sri Lanka (1874)</i>	
FILM FOCUS	8
— <i>Lester James (2)</i>	
SRI LANKA CHRONICLE	9
<i>June 27 - July 3</i>	
FOREIGN SCENE	11
— <i>Akalis, Missiles, Rule of Law</i>	
AGRICULTURAL DIGEST	15
— <i>Grape Fruit, S. L. Agriculture - 7 Pesticides</i>	
FOCUS ON THE VILLAGE	19
— <i>GAM Udawa '83, Papaya, Rural Abodes</i>	
SPORTSCOPE	23
— <i>World Cup, Chronicle</i>	
CONFIDENTIALLY	28
— <i>Air Lanka</i>	

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

IT IS STILL "MADURU OYA" on the cover this week too. We take this opportunity to place on record the excellent newspaper, radio and TV coverage on the Maduru Oya Project and the official commissioning of the Reservoir on July 2. Apart from this, an excellent pictorial booklet entitled *Mahaweli and Maduru Oya* is one of the best of its kind we have seen. The pictures are appropriate but what was even better was the text. In a few succinct paragraphs the whole story of the Mahaweli Accelerated Scheme, with special reference to Maduru Oya, is placed before the reader. Some of the newspaper articles and features tended to be verbose and often apologetic (why we do not know). In sharp contrast to such circumlocutory expositions was the homely talk on the Rupavahini by Minister Gamini Dissanayake on the the day before the official opening of the Reservoir. The story of Maduru Oya and the Accelerated Plan could not have been better told. It was in Sinhala, and it is our view that Tamil, and English versions should be prepared and telecast. Another superb Maduru Oya feature on Rupavahini — in English — entitled *The Two Thousand Years Dream* merits special mention. If Oscars are awarded to a TV documentaries, this 40 minute production deserves to be placed on the top of the list. written and produced by the Canadian team, Warner Troyer and IGlenys Moss, who had trained the first group of TV personnel for Rupavahini, *The Two Thousand Years Dream* is a classic. This documentary should be shown with Sinhala and Tamil narrations. The Mahaweli Authority and other governmental agencies, which have mobile units with video cassette recorders, should take these short tele-films and show them right round the Island. These TV films will show the magnitude of the task already achieved by this government and more especially the Mahaweli Ministry. Video Cassettes for the ordinary domestic recorders should be made available on hire. Hundreds and thousands of homes will get them: for viewing in their leisure. Many pre-occupied with their daily chores often do not have the time to view these films when they are telecast over Rupavahini. Such people must be given opportunities to see them at their convenience in their homes, in their scholls, or in community centres. *We also take this opportunity to mention that the building and commissioning of raservoirs is only one third of the work before the Mahaweli Ministry and the Government. The balance two-thirds is the more difficult and the more arduous — the settlement of farmers and the immense work of inducing agricultural production and thereafter ensuring the profitable marketing of the produce.* Though some attention seems to have been paid to the problem of settlements under the umbrella of the World Food Council and the Freedom For Hunger Movement (which provide dry rations until production gets going), we do not see adequate concerted and integrated efforts to induce profitable production and the maximum utilisation of the land. Nor is there evidence that sufficient thought has been given to concretise the marketing of agricultural produce and the harnessing of banks to provide credit not only for development and production but also for servicing agricultural marketing. We have had an overdoze of lipservice on production, marketing and rural credit at workshops, seminars, newspaper articles and supplements, but we have failed to see evidence of practical, viable and acceptable (to the farmers) schemes on the field. *Tribune* has been assured that in some sectors "good work" has been done in the matter of production, marketing and rural credit., We hope that what these official say is true. *Tribune* proposes to study developments in the settlement areas at first hand and our reports will appear in our columns from time to time. The real test of the Accerated Mahaweli Scheme is production which will transform the economy of the country.

Why No Rain ?

From the beginning of January this year, the high priest of our Meteorological Department J. C. Kariyawasam, has made various predictions about rain. His predictions have proved to be invariably wrong and like other experts in this country he is usually wiser after the event. He offered various explanations as to why rainfall was below normal (or even nil) in January, February and March. He predicted heavy inter-monsoonal rains in April and a normal south-west monsoon rain from May. But the inter-monsoonal rains never came and Kariyawasam had a wishy-washy excuse about a high pressure umbrella over the Bay of Bengal—when only a low pressure depression would have brought rain. These are the old text book theories which every student of geography (last alone climatology) could have trotted out.

Then, the Met High Priest made optimistic predictions of a normal Southwest Monsoon which he said was round the corner. The Southwest winds came with full force from the third week in May, but there was little or no rain. The monsoon rains would come later, he said, and he was sure they would come. A delayed monsoon, he said. But even the delayed rains did not come to Sri Lanka. They went over to India and have caused major floods in Kerala, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Gujarat. Even Tamil Nadu which relies only on the Northeast has had more than a heavy quota of unseasonal rain. The Monsoons went to India late, but it had brought rain.

Southwest monsoon rains usually break in Sri Lanka about May 15 and on the West Coast of India two weeks later around May 30. When the Monsoons were delayed in Sri Lanka, our Met. Chief was certain that, though delayed, the rains, when they came, would be plentiful. Finally, when the rains had failed, Kariyawasam at a Symposium made a declaration that savoured of sacerdotal infallibility which the *Daily News* frontpaged under a banner headline **LANKA HAS TO LIVE WITH RECURRENT DROUGHTS**. The report by senior Lake House staffer T. Sabaratnam read: "Sri Lanka will have to live with recurrent droughts, Met chief J. C. Kariyawasam yesterday warned at a symposium on 'The drought and its effects on the Tea Industry' organised by the Planters Association and the Sri Lanka Tea Board. Refusing to commit himself to a theory on an annual drought, Mr. Kariyawasam declared that 'we don't have sufficient data to arrive at a definite conclusion about the periodicity of the recurrence of droughts. But they do occur in cycles'. The Met chief agreed that there was a progressive weakening of both the South West and North East monsoons. But the inter-monsoonal thunder showers were regular. The Meteorology department has done a study of the rainfall between

1931 and 1960 and compared the figures with the rainfall between 1951 and 1981. The picture was a clear trend of decreasing rainfall, aggravated during the last decade.

"The monsoon (this year) had broken on May 24 Mr. Kariyawasam said, but the clouds had blown over Sri Lanka to sea off the West coast of India before they could rise to a height of 10,000 feet. The result was the poor monsoon this country has seen this year. 'He said there were global changes in the weather attributable to atmospheric factors. Those familiar depressions in the Bay of Bengal that bring the rain this season have not yet formed, he said. Hence the comparatively dry weather at a time of the year when it should not be safe to venture outdoors without an umbrella or raincoat. Mr. Kariyawasam said that the monsoon was really an 'import' brought into the country by continental and maritime air masses. 'So imports can fail—contrary to what may Lankans believe cracked a wag.

If our Met High Priest cannot do better than indulge in this kind of amateurish speculation ("we don't have sufficient data"), the country has to do something soon to make the Met. Dept. function as it should. *The Island's* report of the same symposium also drew pointed attention to such speculative flights of fancy. The report read: "Global weather patterns have been responsible for the drought prevailing in the country Meteorology Director, J. C. Kariyawasam, told a seminar on the effects of the drought on the tea plantation sector yesterday. Addressing the seminar, "Drought—How to avoid its adverse effects on tea", organised jointly by the Planters Association of Ceylon and the Sri Lanka Tea Board, Mr. Kariyawasam said, "the local weather depends on how much 'imported' weather the country has". He did not agree that deforestation affected the entire weather conditions in the country. "De-forestation affects only the micro-climate, that is the climate in that particular region", he told the seminar. The Meteorology Director confirmed that the drought for the first four months of this year was the worst of this century 'We are likely to have more droughts in the next few years than in the past', he added. Mr. Kariyawasam pointed out that the south-west monsoon has come but because of a depression, there has been little rain. He said in all parts of the world the weather patterns were changing and there were droughts in many areas. 'The pumping of carbon dioxide into the air by the industrial sector in many parts of the world affected the atmospheric pressures which in turn upset weather pattern's he said.' Again it was a case of ignorance and generalities that any reader of popular science magazines could have propounded.

One noteworthy fact is that Kariyawasam did not base his talk on statistics. Either the newspapers did not publish them (if he cited them) or the Met. Chief was satisfied with profundities like "the worst

TRIBUNE, JULY 16, 1983

drought in the country'. He also made another equally "profound" observation that "he did not agree that deforestation affected the entire weather conditions in the country" and indulged in a little technical jargon about "micro-climate". He did not seem to realise that Sri Lanka in any case is a "micro-country". But the finest Kariyawasam gem is that though the "Monsoon had broken on May 24 but the clouds had blown over Sri Lanka to sea off the West Coasts of India before they could rise to a height of 10,000 ft. . . . The result was the poor monsoon this country has seen this year. . . .". *Why did the rainbearing clouds leap-frog over this emerald isle of Sri Lanka and drop its rain on parts of the Deccan plateau and other areas in India? Why? We are not competent enough to answer this question but there are many who are erudite in the vagaries of the weather who say that deforestation, especially in the high montane region of Sri Lanka is the primary reason for the continually decreasing rainfall.* Further, they say that the pinus and the eucalyptus which serve their environmental purpose in the temperate zone have done more harm than good in this country except to provide fuelwood and scholarships for departmental officers to go to Temperate Zone Universities. They also assert that if we want to attract rain the high and mighty tropical trees indigeneous to the island and the region must once again constitute the bulk of the vegetation and forest cover.

There is no doubt that weather patterns are changing all over the world—and so also perhaps in Sri Lanka too. But apart from making hazardous predictions on the TV every night (wrong nine times out of ten) and an occasional frontpage Delphic proclamation now and then, our Met. Dept. seems to be satisfied with glib talk and bluff. Has any Research been done or published? Have the statistics collected for over a century from colonial times been properly put together and evaluated? Or have most of the statistics in their archives become food for the termites?

We do not believe in comparisons. And it would be wrong to compare little Sri Lanka with big India. But has any effort been made to intergrate weather forecasting in Sri Lanka with that of India? Unfortunately as far as we know there does not seem to be any such co-operation—except when a few Met. chieftains and high priests go to India for holidays under the official excuse of attending seminars and conferences. To give an idea to our readers of how India approaches problems of weather we reproduce a report (PTI) from New Delhi June 10 under the heading WILL 1983 BE ALSO A DROUGHT YEAR? "While the monsoon is playing hide and seek, the biggest question mark is whether 1983 will also be a drought year. Officials of the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) said here that there was a one-in-fifty chance of failure of the monsoon. This is based on 100 year data which shows that only once there were two bad monsoons in successive years.

With the entire economy tied to the south-west monsoon, officials are cautious about commenting on the probable outcome of another bad monsoon. Dr. Yash Pal, chairman of the committee set up to investigate the vagaries in the weather said he would not like to talk anything about the monsoon and agriculture. In the last 100 years only once the onset of the monsoon was delayed till June 15. It was in 1915 and that year monsoon was bad.

"A gigantic computer at the IMD daily evaluates satellite photos from space and two international monsoon expeditions in 1973 and 1969 have apparently not helped the scheme of monsoon forecasting. According to the weather analyst Dr. G. S. Mandal the monsoon is certainly delayed this year but if previous data is any yearstick " the delayed onset need not mean that the monsoon will be bad." There had been 20 instance in the past when the monsoon broke out after June 11. Most of them were good monsoons he said. Similarly Dr. Mandal said there had been times when the monsoon was bad although the onset had been on time. Last year for instance the onset was on May 30 but it turned out to be a bad year. Dr. Das listed six conditions for the onset of the monsoon and some of them are yet to be fulfilled.

"The easterly jet stream has established and a cloud belt has been observed over five degree latitude. But the critical low pressure trough near the Kerala tip noticed two days ago has disappeared. A low pressure system extending from northwest India towards the Indo-Gangetic plains is said to be developing, but depressions in the Bay of Bengal which normally should occur at this time are absent. A high pressure system that should be present over the 90 degrees meridian is 10 degree west of it. There are indications that all the necessary conditions for onset of the monsoon may become normal in four days and the weak currents will get stronger. The IMD has strongly denied that the country was experiencing any climatic change. "What we see now are fluctuations in weather and not a change in climate". . . .

The review of the weather from New Delhi should be an object lesson to our Met. "experts" Or do they think that the public is too ignorant to benefit by such information. The public will have a little more confidence in our Met. Department if it provided statistical data and other information—if they had them. Colombo is now threatened by a water cut—the reservoirs at Labugama and Kalatuwawa are almost dry. Met. Chief ariyawasam says that one cannot expect anything more than 1.5 inches a week (how does he arrive at this figure?). Does he know that the big and mighty forest trees that had surrounded Labugama and Kalatuwawa areas for centuries had been cut and exported (to the Middle East) during the time of the last government? Does he think that this denudation has no effect on this "micro-climate"?

region? Has any effort been made to reafforest this area—or has the land been parcelled out under Land Reform? *The prospects for rain are grim, but something must be done in the first instance to know all the facts about the situation. Is the world climate changing or have our own blunders made the situation worse for our 'micro-climate'?*

x x x

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Sherlock Holmes

CABINET RESHUFFLE

"Do you think that there will be a major Cabinet reshuffle after July 21?"

This is a question that I am asked at every turn these days. Ever since the Presidential election in October 1982 and the Referendum of December 1982, it was thought that the President would effect some major changes in the Cabinet to carry the government for the next six years. When the President failed to act then, it was suggested that it would be after the by-elections. And when this did not happen, the date was moved to July 21 or some date thereafter.

Why July 21? The term of the Parliament elected on July 22, 1977, would normally expire on July 21, 1983. Every Minister would then have served the full term. It would be appropriate, therefore, to effect Cabinet changes and bring into being what might be regarded as a new government sustained on the Referendum.

The TULF, which had opposed the Referendum to extend the life of the Parliament, has threatened to submit the resignations of all its MPs—if the Party Executive Council so directs. Mr. V. M. Navaratnam, M. P. for Chavakachcheri, has made a public statement that he will, in any case, tender his resignation on July 21 even if other TULF MPs did not do so.

TULF resignations are not likely to have any repercussions on the Cabinet reshuffle about which there is no hard information. Nobody seems to know what the President will do. There are, of course, guesses. One is that 4 or 5 'Senior Ministers' will move upstairs to diplomatic assignments—and make way for young political personalities or even technocrats. Over ten ambassadorial appointments are due to fall vacant before the end of this year (some are already vacant) and the "guess" is that the vacancies may be divided more or less equally between political personalities and Foreign Office career men. Names have been mentioned for particular assignments, but guesses can be only guesses. *And I refuse to guess.*

4

SLFP TANTRUMS?

"What is happening to the SLFP? What is its future? Will unity be re-established again?"

These are difficult questions to answer. The troubles within the hierarchy of the SLFP began when they threw out the LSSP in 1975. The electoral defeat in 1977 brought matters to a head. The deprivation of Mrs. Bandaranaike's civic rights made matters worse. From 1975, accusations and counter accusations had filled the air. They increased after 1977. Then came the splits. The Maitripala group broke away taking Anura (temporarily) with them. Factions grew. There was splintering at every level. One faction grabbed the Presidential nomination. This led to further troubles and accusations about Naxalism added to the confusion. It is also said that the radicals had packed the Politbureau and the all Island Executive Committee.

And now, according to oldtime SLFPers, Mrs. Bandaranaike and Anura have got together and were making joint efforts to re-establish her "rule" and that this has led to a spate of resignations. It is said that attempts to oust her have so far failed and the present resignation from office (and not the Party) of SLFP VIPs were intended to stampede the party rank and file to throw Mrs. B and Anura out of the Party.

I am not certain if the radicals will succeed. As it is there is no SLFP without the Bandaranaikes (Chandrika is now a Kumaranatunga and Sunethra a Nanayakkara). There is also talk of organising a new version of the SLFP which will co-operate with the other "progressive parties" like the LSSP, CPSL, MEP JVP etc. etc. to form an anti-UNP front. Such a development cannot be ruled out. But it is still difficult to see on what basis the "unity" can be forged. In the recent debate in Parliament on the resolution to set up a Select Committee to examine the Constitution the Election Laws Franchise etc. the SLFP (S) proclaimed one view, the MEP an almost similar view, the CPSL an opposite view and the SLFP (M) was silent.

As to what will happen next in the SLFP is anybody's guess. And nobody likes to guess.

COPRA IMPORTS

"Have you heard of an attempt to import 7,500 tons of copra to supply the government owned Oil and Fats Corporation? Is there no copra in Island?"

I do not know if there is no copra in the island. I am making my own investigations on this matter. But, I do know that a story is going the rounds in commercial circles that Telex inquiries have emanated

TRIBUNE, JULY 16, 1983

from certain "operators" in Colombo to "brokers" in Singapore to locate 7,500 tons of copra for the Oils and Fats Corporation. The Singapore broker has, it is whispered, contacted possible suppliers in the Philippines, to Fiji Islands, the Seychelles and may be even in Trimbuctoo.

To service this import, in which a few millions may pass under the table, a propaganda barrage will start soon to show that Sri Lanka is short of copra and even coconuts owing to the drought. This copra import business is something that must be watched very carefully. And investigated

I will have more to say on copra imports soon.

CATTLE EXPORTS

"Did you see in the papers that 2,000 heads of cattle are to be exported from Trincomalee? Have we such an excess of cattle that we can export 2,000 (as a preliminary) order to Saudi Arabia?"

I read this news item with shock and dismay. But, the Editor has asked me to withhold comment until he receives a memorandum from the Ministry of Rural Industrial Development. The Editor tells me that he has asked the relevant authorities why they were exporting cattle when the country was short of cattle. Various explanations were given over the telephone, but he had wanted a written statement on which the decision to make this export was made. The Editor had expected the memorandum or some kind of official communication on the subject in the course of last week. But it has not yet come. "Let's give them another week" the Editor told me.

In the meantime, a few inquiries reveal that the cattle (to be exported) is from the Ampara Batticaloa area, that the exporter has a Negombo address (or is it Wennappuwa?) and that the destination is the UAE and not Saudi Arabia.—*More later.*



IVAN MINAYEV

Russian Scholar in Ceylon in 1874

By Vladimir Yakovlev

This article opens the series of journalistic notes by Vladimir Yakovlev a well-known Soviet diplomat and journalist, the first USSR Ambassador in Sri Lanka and Vice-President of the USSR-Sri Lanka Friendship Society, about Russian and Soviet scholars, writers and public figures, whose works contributed a lot to stronger friendship and deeper mutual understanding between the two countries.

TRIBUNE, JULY 16, 1983

In April 1957, having just arrived in the Colombo airport, I told a group of journalists that I would be glad to work in Sri Lanka and to learn more about its open-hearted and hospitable people. The next day one of the leading newspapers questioned venomously: "How can this Russian, who has just stepped on our land, know that the Lankans are open-hearted and hospitable?". I knew that from books written by many of my compatriots who had at one time or another been to this sun-lit island and who had left behind many research and literary works. All of them wrote about Ceylon with great sympathy. Unfortunately, very few people in Sri Lanka remember them today. That is why I decided to write about my compatriots who had acquired Russia with this distant island. *One of the first scholars to visit Ceylon was Ivan Minayev—a prominent Buddhologist of the 19th century.* His name ranks with the founders of the Russian school of Buddhism, while among his pupils are world-known Orientalists S. F. Oldenburg and F. I. Shcherbataskoy. Incidentally, monk-scholars in Colombo showed me the two-volume "Buddhist Logic" by Shcherbataskoy which they consider the pride of their library. Orientalists are familiar with the fundamental work by I. Minayev entitled "Buddhism, Research and Documents" published in 1887. As for the number of published works by this outstanding Russian Orientalist, it totals 130. Analysing Minayev's scientific heritage, the well-known Soviet Orientalist G. M. Bongards Levin wrote that Minayev understood and always emphasised the great role of Buddhism in the cultural and historical development of the Orient and widely used Buddhist documents in his studies of folklore, literature, ethnography, religion and languages. Minayev knew very many languages including Sanscrit and Pali, which enabled him to analyse archive papers in European libraries. However Minayev was not an armchair scholar at all. Apart from studying manuscripts in Sanscrit and Pali he was willing to learn "live" Buddhism: first of all Theravada. In 1874, 1875 and 1877 Minayev made several lengthy trips to Ceylon, India, Nepal and Burma.

EARLY IN THE MORNING on July 18, 1874 Minayev landed at the port of Galle. Before going to Ceylon, he Russian scholar had made a thorough study of the ancient Lankan chronicles of "Dipavamsa" and "Mahavamsa" and also of the classical work by Emerson Tennent about Ceylon, issued in London in 1959. By that time Minayev had already written books about the famous travellers Marco Polo and the Russian merchant Afanasy Nikitin who spent three years in India in the 15th century. Minayev had already made up the map of Ceylon's different regions, where monuments of ancient Buddhist culture were still preserved and which he was planning to visit. The geographical map was all speckled with Minayev's pencil notes which marked the most interesting places. Later Minayev

described all his way to once flourishing and now jungle-grown places on bandies or on foot, the way he examined the ruins of temples and palaces, unscrambled ancient inscriptions and made sketches of architectural monuments and wall paintings in his diaries. "Those historical relics were a live book of intellectual and spiritual life of the ancients", wrote the traveller. Not infrequently, Minayev would live in ordinary cells of the monks, many of who become his friends. In his diaries he often wrote about Rev. Hikkaduva Sri Sumangala, Rev. Migetuwatte Gunananda and monk Rev. Subuthi Battaramulla from Kalutara with whom he exchanged letters after his return to Russia. Minayev called Rev. Sri Sumanagala "the most learned of the Sinhalese". In 1873 Rev. Sri Sumangala founded the Vidiodaya Pirivena which has now become a Buddhist University. He was also the only teacher of this unique educational institution, whose aim was to arouse the Lankans' interest for the rich heritage of the ancient national culture. At that time the pirivena was attended by 45 monks and 12 laymen. Minayev described in detail the monks' way of life and also the layout of their "small and neat cells". Everything he wrote about was new and interesting to Russian readers.

THE TRAVELLER often noted the monks' cordial hospitality. "They are very open-hearted, never shun Europeans and never hide their sacred relics or books from the newcomer. They are very kind and complaisant and willingly to show all the things of interest in the monasteries". The Russian traveller writes affectionately about the local people noting their modesty and love for neatness. Speaking about the five ethical rules of Buddhist laymen, Minayev underlines their highly moral nature. He quotes the Parita-Potha and writes that all the ancient Buddhist texts are imbued with an "amazingly strong love for all real beings". While reading these lines, one comes to think about the changes that have taken place in the Buddhist ethical teaching, first of all in the rules which proceed from the principles of non-injury of everything living. How valid are these norms in our turbulent time?

THE WORLD HAS CHANGED and today Lankan monks who wear yellow or orange *chivaras* usually made by themselves like a hundred years ago think not only about the saving of their souls for reaching Nirvana. They become patriots and active participants in the public life. So it is not mere accident that W. Saranankara Thero a modest monk from Gampaha, became a winner of the Lanin International Prize "For Strengthening Peace Among Nations" in 1958. The main observation and information about the work in Ceylon can be found in Minayev's fundamental book "Sketches of Ceylon and India" published in 1878. The book familiarizes the reader with the ancient history of Sri Lanka, with the King Vijaya and the glorious past of the independent insular

state. "It was a centre of world trade," writes Minayev, "and a place where merchants from remote countries used to get together. The islanders lived quiet life, but in 1517 Portuguese invaders landed at the island and began a war. By fanatically eradicating the old religion and spreading Christianity, the Portuguese conquerors left a bloody scar on the island," writes the Russian scholar bitterly.

While in Sri Lanka Minayev used every spare minute to make fresh notes in his diary about his new impressions, he was so thirstily collecting. Here is what we read: "The vicinity of the sea and rich and magnificent vegetation make the local landscape unusually charming. The farther you go and the more scenes of the wonderful tropical world open to your eyes, the more fascinated you get at what you see... As you travel on, you meet naked people from coastal villages and the monks in the streets waiting for alms from the people who are already hurrying to them with some food wrapped in banana leaves". The next stop was at Weligama, where Minayev examined an image of a human figure carved on the rock and learned from the local people the legend about a leprous king and his magic healing. In Matara he stopped at an inn about which we read in the diary: "Everything is clean and neat around." To the East of Matara sprawled the ancient kingdom of Ruhunu. Minayev meticulously examined the surviving monuments of the once flourishing land. Walking about the ruins, he determined and wrote down the dimensions of the once magnificent stupas and temples and made their exact sketches. From Minayev's book the reader learns about the grand temple on the Dondra cape which was barbarously ravaged by the Portuguese invaders, about Tissamaharama Buddhist sacred relics, about the fight of King Duthagamani against Elara—head of the Chola dynasty and about the death of Elara and the liberation of the entire island from the conquerors.

To be concluded...



EXPLOITATION

Of Migrant Labour

United Nations, Selling cheap labour is big business. There are at least 20 million legal migrant workers in foreign countries today. Many millions more have walked, swum or flown across the frontiers without papers, and live in fear of the tap on the shoulder from an immigration official. The largest number of illegal migrants — between four and five million — is believed to be in North America, drawn from Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean to two of the richest countries in the world.

"Migrants now make up a substantial proportion of the global work force", says the *United Nations Fund for Population Activities*. The agency's 1983 state of world population report calls for an international agreement on a process that is occurring with a "complete lack of order and regulation." *Money is the key to most international migration. Rich countries still want the cheap labour that helped fuel most industrial development in the West. Poor countries hope for extra income by "exporting" their earners. Migration to West Asia has been at such a rate in recent years that bona fide citizens of the United Arab Emirates are now only 24 per cent of the total population.*

Around 80 per cent of the 'export' income of countries like Egypt and Pakistan comes from the pay packets of migrant workers. This sounds very equitable — an international exchange that benefits both side. But doubts are now being raised about the way that trade in people is being carried out. Migrants sometimes find that an employer says one thing when the forms are being signed, but quite another once they are in the country and on the work site.

And some of the labour exporting countries are having second thoughts about the financial benefits too. The money that workers send home is often used for conspicuous consumption of imported goods — from ears to video recorders. Migrants seem to want to enjoy the benefits of their exile as soon as they come home.

The trade in migrant workers amounts to an aid programme from poor countries to rich since the workers are often the most energetic and highly educated parts of the workforce in their home countries. Pakistan loses at least half its medical school graduates every year and India sees 30 per cent of its graduate engineers disappear to overseas. According to one study, would have cost West Germany 33 billion dollars to rear and educate the number of workers gained by immigration between 1957 and 1973.

* * *

POEMS

PASSING THE TIME

*How will I pass the time today ?
Will I watch
The sailing clouds
Form pictures
On a blue back-drop.
and see the faces
Of long lost friends.*

*How will I pass the time today ?
Will I feel
The gently passing breeze
Caress my face
My hair,
And feel the rebirth
Of old forgotten loves.*

*How will I pass the time today ?
Will I smell
The perfume in the air
Stealing like a thief
Across my mind,
Touching my heart
Recalling other drugging scents.*

*How will I pass the time today ?
Will I dream
New dreams,
Scheme
New Schemes,
Forget what was
In the unknown glory of
What is to be ?*

Lorraine.

IN SEARCH OF PEACE

*Our prophetic role is
To announce:
Justice and Peace,
Love and Liberation,
Unity and Harmony,
Equality and righteousness;*

*To denounce:
Pride and Prejudice,
Bias and Hatred,
Strife and Discord,
Discrimination and favouritism,
Terrorism and Separatism,
Nepotism and Corruption.*

*Let us unite,
wield our pens
to defend freedom without fear;
from pulpits
to proclaim justice without victimation;
through the communications media
to foster understanding without prejudice;
equality without discrimination,
liberation without repression.*

*In search of PEACE,
that's our mission;
in pursuit of Development,
that's our priority.*

Fr. George B. Perera

Lester James—2

Film critic Derek Elley of the *International Film Guide*, has swept over a wide spectrum to spotlight why Lester James Peries has earned a coveted "niche" of recognition by the cinematic journal concerned. And touching on Lester's bio data, April 5th (1919) has been mentioned as the date of his birth—significant as Sri Lanka first experienced the rain of Japanese bombs (in 1942) and on this date also the outbreak of insurgency (in 1971) which is now history. Born to Roman Catholic parents his christian-based education was so rigid that Lester was well within reach of the caskock at one time. He took to writing instead with a journalistic flair and moved on to "photography" as a prime hobby under the tutelage of Lionel Wendt. A spell in UK from 1946 to 1952 followed, and returning to the island, he joined Ralph Keene at the Government Film Unit. It was from here that he blossomed out with his creative cinematic artistry, surfacing the god-given talents that were whispering inside of him.

The rest is history in the march of local cinema, where Lester played a major role. The many issues of *Tribune* have spelt out all his cinematic achievements to date, but Derek Elley excels in summing them up accurately in the following lines: "Almost single-handedly, during the past 25 years, Lester James Peries has pioneered the establishment and development of a truly national Sri Lankan cinema beneath the mighty shadow of its Indian neighbour. His concerns are those of many other Third World film makers—the conflict between town and country life, the legacy of colonial rule, the uneasy role of superstition in a modern age—but he has consistently related these concerns to everyday Sri Lankan life. The peculiar magic of his cinema is difficult to sum up in words; he lacks the polemic anger which motivates much Third World film making and is clearly uninterested in large tableaux. His is the cinema of simple contrasts, subtle shades of feelings and emotions in short, lives which reflect larger conflicts being played just out of view".

Joining hands with William Blake (a cameraman of Dutch descent) and editor Titus de Silva, the triumvirate launched out to bring to the screen their first nationally orientated creation in *'Rekawa* (Line of Destiny), a comparative study of which film was seriously made with Satyajit Ray's "Pather Panchali" both efforts, divided by the Palk Straits, being rated as challenges to an established style and system in the two respective countries. Of *Rekawa*, the "Guide" comments that Peiries' style were never more marked than in this film where the components of rural life were so well knit (a money lender, a landowner, a boatman, a wondering minstrel, a village

headman etc.) that Peries's power of the allusive, rather than direct image becomes clearly established. While his *Sandesaga* skimmed over the colonial era of Portuguese occupation, *The God King* projected with a telling impact, the tyranny of King Dhatu Sena and the rise and fall of the tyrant patricide king Kassapa in his fortress kindgom of Sigiriya *Veera Puran Appu* however ran very true to history but failed towards curtains to sustain the Lester touch, due to reasons beyond his control.

Then came into focus the Martin Wickremasinghe trilogy that Lester took on very painstakingly with *Gamperaliya* collecting the Indian Peacock Award followed by *Kali Yugaya* and the yet to be released *Yuganthaya*—the first two making a wider impact on all audiences locally and abroad (please refer relevant *Tribune* reviews). It was the respected and well read Martin Wickremasinghe once again who gave Lester the material for a children's film in colour—*Mahal Duwa*, where two children boited the vagaries of nature, to set up home on a deserted island. All these brilliant "Gams" in the repertoire of the master creator converged via *Nidhanaya* on the controversial *Baddegama* which kicked up a little dust from critics of a sort, but turned to fold dust eventually to collect many major awards and notch recognition in international film markets. It requires a fine pin to sift and sort exactly the various facets that glittered in every one of Lester's creations, but running like a silver thread in most of them was the human relationship woven with a deep national fervour, blending the past and the present (as very clearly in *The God King*) brilliantly. This column wishes that the "Master" stretches his magic wand to weave a harmony film as well considering the parlous state that prevails in that context today—and Tamil film or two to forge unity, as local human relationships appear to be cleaving apart. Will he?

YOU ONLY LIVE TWICE (English): Yet another Ian Flemming novel, peddling his pet craze of world domination themes turned into film, directed by Lewis Gilbert with "Broccoli" too joining in as always, in the series of modern gadget laden James Bond enterprise. The *piece de resistance*, after a considerable spell, in this production, is the reappearance of the suave and playboyish Sean Connery as the British Secret Agent 007. Many have stepped into his shoes since, but none—even Roger Moore—has made the grade in this intervening period. Well then, Sean is back again, having lost none of his charm and polish in exile, as Bond, to answer the call of the Big Powers to track down the brains, behind a yawning missile in space that gobbles up all scientific expeditions in those stellar regions.

James N. Benedict.

TRIBUNE, JULY 16, 1983

June 27 - July 3

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; RV—Riviresa; DK—Dinakarā; EN—Eelanadu; IS—Island; DI—Divaina; IDPR—Information Dept. Press Release.

MONDAY, JUNE 27: The six-month long drought has dealt a heavy blow to many tea plantations in the Balangoda and Pelmadulla areas and some estates in the Southern districts completely wiping out new clearings on some estates. Forbes and Walker, the Colombo broking firm, has reported. European investors are more than willing to put their money in Sri Lankan ventures if the right local collaborator came along, a month long Foreign Investment Advisors Committee investment promotion tour of 5 countries has shown. Egypt has decreed a rise in its oil prices, bringing the price of the key Suez blend up by 50 US cents to 28.25 dollars a barrel, a spokesman for the Egyptian General Petroleum Corporation said yesterday—*DN*. Corrective measures taken by the Sri Lanka government to check a deteriorating economic scenario last year brought in its wake a drop in consumer prices when compared to 1981—*CDM*. The Government has learnt that northern political groups were colluding with opposition political parties in Tamil Nadu in their campaign to withdraw cases against terrorists and obtain asylum for them in India. Airlanka's Chief Operations Manager Peter Swift, a Britisher will terminate his services with the national carrier from June 30. The Irrigation Department has agreed to release funds from its allocations for the construction of more coffer dams at Kandakadu that will enable the Allai tank to get more water from the tributary of the Mahaweli—*SU*. Work on the Rs. 700 million Integrated Rural Development Programme for the Mannar-Vaunuiya area will commence immediately, and not next year as scheduled earlier. A new mineral sands processing plant and a new marketing strategy are two moves made by the Minister of Industries and Scientific Affairs Mr. Cyril Mathew to get better prices in world markets—*IS*. The Kurunegala Police reported that 40 persons were injured after a gale-force winds struck the Kurunegala District at 8 a.m. yesterday — the 80 miles per hour winds lashed down the Arangawela, Sumangala Road and Nimalapura areas rendering several homeless;

TRIBUNE, JULY 16, 1983

trees were uprooted leaving a trail of destruction—*EO*. The Kopay Branch of the TULF has demanded that the Members of Parliament of the TULF should resign their posts from 27th July and then seek election by the mandate of the people—*VK*.

TUESDAY, JUNE 28: Sri Lanka will have to live with recurrent droughts, Met chief J. C. Kariyawasam yesterday warned at a symposium on "the drought and its effects on the Tea Industry" organised by the Planters' Association and the Sri Lanka Tea Board. All telephones (24 district lines) at the Transport Ministry at D. R. Wijewardene Mawatha were dead yesterday and were not restored up to 6 p.m. although the relevant authorities were informed, ministry sources said. A Franco-Egyptian naval expedition, searching for the remains of the sunken fleet of Napoleon Bonaparte, said yesterday it may have spotted the Emperor's flagship *L'Orient*. A World Food Council report has commended many countries in the Asian region for achieving a high measure of food self-reliance and for their special programmes directed to increase the incomes of landless persons—*DN*. Prime Minister R. Premadasa said in Parliament yesterday that the government was compelled to continue the State of Emergency unwillingly as acts of communal violence still prevailed—*DM*. The infectious diseases hospital is bursting at the seams following the outbreak of dysentery and other water-borne diseases and the consequences are spilling over to neighbouring areas. Cabinet is to decide on a series of stringent new laws and operational plans to combat a wide spectrum of problems relating to the laws' delays illicit felling, gem smuggling, narcotics, overstocks and firearms and explosives. The Government clamped down an official curfew on the trouble-torn Trincomalee town last afternoon and announced that it would continue throughout today—*SU*. Global weather patterns have been responsible for the drought prevailing in this country, Meteorology Director, J. C. Kariyawasam told a seminar on the effects of the drought on the tea plantation sector yesterday. Unity negotiations between the SLFP (S) and SLFP (M) have come to an abrupt halt with very little hope of success; moves to unite the two rival factions got underway even before the by-election when SLFP (M) Vice President A. M. Karunaratne made overtures on behalf of his party to Mr. Anura Bandaranaike to rejoin the SLFP (S)—*IS*. Students seeking university admission will have the best chance of entering a university in 1984, according to University Grants Commission sources—*EO*.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29: Prime Minister R. Premadasa winding up the debate on the Emergency in Parliament on Monday asked the TULF how they could claim to be leaders of the Tamil people when they were at the mercy of the terrorists who were holding them to ransom and dictating life in the North. The National Housing Development Authority

has without adequate warning, called upon some 2,022 tenants of the Raddoluwa Housing scheme to make lump sum payments ranging between Rs. 5,000 and Rs. 14,000 as transfer fees for the houses they moved into barely a year ago. New artillery clashes broke out between rightist Christian militant and leftist Druze Moslem fighters in the hills outside Beirut last night, Lebanon's rightwing Falangist Radio reported—*DN*. Twelve international suppliers of crude oil have made three offers for the supply of 1.2 million tons of crude oil to the Ceylon Petroleum Corporation on the spot market. Industrial circles are perturbed over the prospects of raw cashew nuts being permitted for export; at present there is an effective ban on the export of raw cashew nuts; this was done as a measure of support for the local processing industry—*CDM*. The extensive circulation of dud foreign currency notes and cheques has led several banks in Colombo to make increased claims under the Barkers' Indemnity Policy Scheme of the National Insurance Corporation. The Attorney General's Department which awaits a Police report on the demonstrations in front of the residences of three Supreme Court judges, yesterday finalised amendments to the Police Ordinance regarding processions—*SU*. Five European countries have made representations to the Sri Lanka Foreign Ministry over what they called "unfair and discriminatory practices towards shipping vessels from their countries," authoritative government sources said yesterday; that the missions had brought to the notice of the Foreign Ministry that in the past few months, none of the vessels plying from their countries were allocated export cargo when they called at the Colombo Port—*IS*. Sky Pirate Sepala Ekenayake was this morning sentenced to life imprisonment by the Colombo High Court Judge, Mr. J. J. F. A. Dias; Ekanayake was found guilty of hijacking an Alitalia Boeing 747 Jumbo Jet on the night of 30 June 1982 in flight from New Delhi to Bangkok and was sentenced to life on this count; the judge also sent sentenced him to three years rigorous imprisonment on the charge of retaining stolen property which was the ransom money amounting to US dollars 299,700—*EO*.

THURSDAY, JUNE 30: The Asian Development Bank headquarters in Manila announced the approval of a technical assistance grant to Sri Lanka for its energy planning program. The Colombo Eye Hospital, which serves the whole country treating hundreds of patients with eye disease every day may be compelled to restrict admissions shortly. Egypt and Sudan, Chad's strongest supporters in Africa, yesterday threatened to take what they called appropriate measures against alleged Libyan military intervention in the Central African state. Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin, reported to be downcast and withdrawn is maintaining a self-imposed silence, a senior aide said yesterday—*DN*.

The Cabinet yesterday approved a proposal for the Ministry of Finance and Planning and the Ministry of Agricultural Development and Research to jointly look into the question of the continuing loss suffered by the Paddy Marketing Board—*CDM*. A senior civil administrator is to be appointed shortly as coordinating authority in the north as a prelude to the launching of a major anti-terrorist offensive by the government. A tussle between the Police and the Duty Free Shopping Complex brought business to a standstill at the complex for over an hour yesterday—*SU*. The Cabinet of Ministers presided over by the President J. R. Jayewardene, yesterday decided to amend the Monetary Law to make the Government's banker which was named from the inception as the Central Bank of Ceylon to be known as "The Central Bank of Sri Lanka": A deputation of the Medical Students' Union of the University of Colombo said that their Union would continue their strike today and will decide to continue it further or not on the response they receive to their demands from the authorities—*IS*. The Sevena Lottery conducted by the Ministry of Local Government, Housing and Construction has already netted in Rs. 30,000,000, Prime Minister R. Premadasa told the *Observer*—*EO*.

FRIDAY, JULY 1: Dysentery has assumed epidemic proportions in Sri Lanka since its outbreak in the estate areas in March; over 150 persons including 30 children at the Lady Ridgeway Hospital Borella died of the disease. One hundred school children from Polonnaruwa will sing the welcome song and the Mahaweli song at the ceremonial commissioning of the Maduru Oya reservoir by President J. R. Jayewardene tomorrow afternoon. US Secretary of State, George Shultz today plunges into talks with Indian leaders covering topics ranging from nuclear spare parts to an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon. Sacked British Foreign Secretary, Francis Pym, broke his silence yesterday over his abrupt dismissal from Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's cabinet and described it as "an actually hurtful experience".—*DN*. A Special Committee will examine the question of the import of cars for the use of engineers, doctors, judges and other state officers; the proposal for a committee to be appointed was made by the Acting Minister of Finance and Planning, Mr. M. H. M. Naina Marikar—*CDM*. An Education Ministry investigation is now under way into student unrest at Thurstan College which has led to the closure of the school still Monday. The creation of an adequate financial incentives' environment accompanied by a variety of institutional changes such as improvements in the management of state plantations, intense export promotion programmes and aggressive development banking are the major recommendations the World Bank has made to improve Sri Lanka's balance of payments prospects—*SU*. The Sri Lanka Freedom Party is

TRIBUNE, JULY 16, 1983

seriously considering the possibilities of returning to the 1976 party constitution because it finds the present constitutions which was formulated in 1980 "unworkable." The Transport Ministry is seriously considering the possibility of introducing trolley buses to replace the existing CTB buses in Colombo City; it is learnt that this step is to be adopted in view of the long term benefits such as low maintenance costs—*IS*.

SATURDAY, JULY 2: The Commander of the Navy Rear Admiral Asoka de Silva was yesterday appointed Chief Co-ordinating Officer for Trincomalee by President J. R. Jayewardene; the appointment followed a briefing by the Inspector General of Police Mr. Rudra Rajasingham who met the President yesterday morning. In a meticulously planned attack a 12 member terrorist gang set fire to the Yal Devi at the Kondavil railway station about 4 p.m. yesterday causing an estimated Rs. 1 million damage. Vietnamese Premier Pham Van Dong met visiting Australian Foreign Minister Bill Hayden for 30 minutes here yesterday and later said he was satisfied with the talks —*DN*. The troubles that have besiged the Sri Lanka Freedom Party not only seem to continue but there are clear sings of escalation; yesterday the Deputy Leader of the Party, former Trade Minister Mr. T. B. Illangaratne resigned from his high standing within the party including his membership of the Central Committee; another Vice-President of the Party, V. W. Kularatne, Attorney-at-Law followed suit—*CDM*. The Working Committee of the UNP yesterday decided to nominate Paul Perera, Director-General of the GCEC, for the vacant Kaduwela seat; UNP Chairman, N. G. P. Panditharatne and General Secretary Harsha Abeywardene were appointed to select a candidate for the vacant Hiriyaala seat—*CDM*. Mr. V. W. Kularatne who resigned from his post of Vice President of the SLFP, the Central Committee and President of SLFP Lawyers's Association in his letter of resignation states that a reasonable doubt exists as to whether the SLFP now had the capability of winning the confidence of the people to form an alternative government to the UNP. The Canadian Government yesterday gifted an IBM computer system valued at over 500,000 Canadian dollars to the Mahaweli Development Authority for the management of water resources of the Accelerated Mahaweli Development scheme. The Minister of Industries and Scientific Affairs, Mr. Cyril Mathew, it is reliably understood, has reported to the Government that Marubeni Corporation of Japan had supplied 182,083 metric tons of crude oil and that delievery has been taken by the Ceylon Petroleum Corporation; the value of this purchase was US \$ 37,272,996—*IS*.

SUNDAY, JULY 3: The *Saturday Review* and *Suthanthiran* — two newspapers published in Jaffna — have been proscribed and the presses

TRIBUNE, JULY 16, 1983

have been sealed by the police. SLFP Party sources said that any moves to go back to the 1976 party constitution which virtually gave dictatorial powers to the President of the party will be resisted; the sub-committee headed by Mr. T. B. Illangaratne to sort out the resolutions from Working Committee members that should go before the Working Committee has recommended that all resolutions in respect of amendment to the SLFP party constitution should be referred to the 600- strong All Ceylon Executive Committee —*SO*. The Acting Minister of Education, Mr. Samaraweera Weerawanni has taken steps to reinstate 350 employees of the Education Department who were involved in strikes; these include teachers and other employees; Letters of reinstatement are to be sent to these employees shortly—*ST*. Government is to take steps to more effectively implement the provisions for the Tamil language in the Constitution in another effort at finding a political solution to some of the problems of the Tamil minority. TULF and Opposition Leader A. Amirthalingam yesterday telegraphed President J. R. Jayewardene asking that TELF leaders Dr. S. Dharmalingam and Kovai Mahesan be released and that more Tamil officers be posted in Trincomalee —*WK*. The President and Secretary of the Tamil Eelam Liberation Front (TELF) have been detained under the emergency regulations at the Jaffna Prisons; Dr. S. A. Dharmalingam, the president and Mr. Kovai Mahesan Secretary of the TELF and Editor of the *Suthanthiran* were taken in for questioning by the Police on Friday following their call for a "hartal" in the north on that day—*IS*.



AKALIS

Decline of the Moderates

By V. D. Chopra

New Delhi, "Punjab is on the brink" was how Bhagat Singh Bilga, a veteran freedom fighter described the latest situation in Punjab—a situation which has become a political psychodrama between the extremists and the moderate Akalis on the one hand and almost the entire Opposition and the Centre on the other. Standing before the portraits of hundreds of Punjabi freedom fighters hung in the central hall of Desh Bhagat Yadgar Memorial building in Jullundur, white beaded Bilga asked: "What has gone wrong with the leaders of the various political parties ?

Can't they see that Punjab's vast plains tinged with the blood of many a freedom fighter — beginning with the exploits of the heroes of Rewari and Gurgaon in 1857, the cannon blasting of the brave 'Namdharis' in 1872, the persecution of Kama Gata Maru, the bravery of the Babber Akalis, the self-sacrificing heroism of hundreds of Ghadar Party leaders and ending with the price Punjab paid after the partition of the country — are today infected with communal virus, which is threatening the unity of the entire country?" He paused a while and himself answered this question, though partially: "The glowing and celestial faces of Madan Lal Dhingra, Kartar Singh Sarabha, Lala Lajpat Rai, Udham Singh Sunam, Ajit Singh, Hardayal, Rahmat Khan, Aziz Abdullah, Bhagat Singh, Raj Guru, Sukh Dev, Baba Sohan Singh Bhakhaa and Baba Gurmukh Singh have been forgotten under the compulsions of the present situation." He looked at their portraits and then looked at me with wet eyes. These feelings are not confined to the veterans of the freedom struggle alone. In Ludhiana, Jullundur, Amritsar and Tarn Taran one can see that the people are indignant at what is happening in their State. A feeling of revulsion is writ large on their faces. But there is also a feeling of helplessness because an atmosphere of uncertainty prevails in the State. The deadlock between the Centre and the Akalis continues and with the passage of time violent incidents are rapidly increasing — including killing in broad daylight of innocent people.

Anyone who has witnessed the communal carnage of March 1947 in places like Rawalpindi and adjoining areas can smell what is in store in the present atmosphere of Punjab. The whole sequence of developments during that communal holocaust rises before the mind's eye. Maybe most of the national leaders of the various parties have not gone through this agonising experience and therefore cannot realise how Punjab is sitting on a volcano. There may be an element of subjectivity in this assessment and it is bound to be there when a person feels passionately about the unity of the country. But there are indeed many factors in the current situation of Punjab comparable to 1947. The vast majority of the Muslim masses hated communal riots; some were indignant and some apathetic. Almost a similar situation has developed in Punjab today. In 1947 the trouble started when "someone" threw heads of slaughtered cows outside the temples and those of pigs outside the mosques. This has begun happening in Punjab in recent months. In 1947 a handful of terrorist gangs appeared on the scene and vitiated the atmosphere of communal amity. Is this not happening in Punjab again? However, there is one vital difference between the present situation in Punjab and the one which developed in 1947. On the eve of the partition, imperialist rulers themselves were aiding and abetting communal forces because they wanted to implement the notorious plan to sow permanent seeds of discord between the two newly created

states — India and Pakistan. They may not be operating openly in Punjab but one has to go round Amritsar and find out for himself how certain foreign agencies are active in this game of disruption. All these facts are well known in Chandigarh and journalists do not hesitate to admit it though they would not like to be identified at this stage.

It is against this backdrop that one needs to analyse why moderate Akalis have turned down the offer of the Centre to refer territorial and water disputes to different tribunals. These are the only two issues which need to be resolved because all other issues have been resolved. Obviously, if a negotiated settlement has to take place, there should be some basis for it. The Centre has provided a basis and has made it clear that it would be willing to examine any other alternative proposal as basis for a dialogue. But all these months the Akali leaders have been taking the stance of accept "all our demands" unilaterally or reject them. This is a most unreasonable position to take because to solve complex problems like sharing of river waters and territorial disputes in which other States are involved, any solution has to take into account the stand and the interests of other States. After all, the various States are constituents of India and the Centre has to consider this factor. Sometimes one gets the impression that some Akalis are bargaining with the Centre as if Punjab has a "special" status in the Indian Constitution. To say this however, does not mean that one should doubt the bona fides of the moderate and sober Akali leaders. Sant Harchand Singh Longowal, in one of his informal discussions with this writer, rightly said that Punjab is and will continue to remain part of India and our present dispute is between the elder and the younger brothers. *In spite of the pious declarations of the moderate Akali leaders, they are under tremendous pressure of the extremists.* In fact, some of them take similar security measures as some anti-Akali leaders of Punjab do. One has only to go to Sector 9 and see for himself how armed guards have been posted at the residence of former Chief Minister Prakash Singh Radal and how most of the Akali leaders move about the State with armed bodyguards. It was only the other day that former Finance Minister Balwant Singh had a narrow escape when a bomb was thrown at his residence in Sector 27 — a few yards from his living room, where he was having dinner with his family. All these are known facts. The point is that even some of the moderate Akali leaders might be on the "hit list" of the extremists.

What is happening in Punjab today is while the deadlock between the Centre and the Akalis is continuing a climate of terrorism is being built up by the extremists and their mentors. This is the essence of the situation in Punjab today. Hindus are being terrorised to leave the State and communal Hindus are organising themselves for counter-terror on the pretext of "self-defence". This building up of a psychology of

TRIBUNE, JULY 16, 1983

terrorism is not a phenomenon peculiar to Punjab. This is true of other parts of the world such as Palestine, Israel, Lebanon, and Cyprus. It is not difficult to see the secret hand behind it and those who are master-minding it. That being the situation it is certain that the moderate Akalis might be the titular leaders of the agitation but those who really mould their policies from behind the scene are extremists. The moderate Akalis on their own cannot change the course of events in Punjab.

The situation in Punjab can only be transformed if there is a national consensus that Punjab's tangle should be resolved through negotiations and all Opposition parties raise their firm voice in support of this. The Congress - I has undoubtedly committed many acts of omission and commission in Punjab. But the Centre has not failed to take one initiative after another to create the basis for a negotiated settlement. If the Opposition parties are not satisfied with these initiatives, what is holding them back from putting across their alternative solution and mobilising the people in support of it? It is not easy to answer this question. But one conclusion is inevitable that even on the question of unity of India, partisan attitudes have developed because some political forces do not want to annoy the Akalis. They perhaps have an eye on the parliamentary elections. Does not Punjab once again remind us that on certain national issues, all similar and anti-imperialist forces should unite. —*Patriot.*

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MISSILE RACE

Threatens Peace

Washington: President Ronald Reagan's new "flexible" strategic arms reduction stance has generally had strong bipartisan support in the States, but it does not seem acceptable to Moscow which notes that the Reagan proposals will require the scrapping of 70 percent of its intercontinental missiles while the US will have to scrap only 30 percent. Barring a new breakthrough in negotiations the grim prospect is that the missile race will continue. The US will build the new and more powerful MX missiles. It will install Pershing and Cruise missiles in Europe. The Soviets are expected to counter by installing medium range missiles in the German Democratic Republic and Czechoslovakia. Even more alarming are reports that with western and eastern Europe bristling with missiles both sides may be forced into a strategy of "fire on warning" for the intercontinental missiles. At present both sides have 90 minutes to activate the hot line between Moscow and Washington. As hundreds of false warnings about missile launchings will have appeared on the radar screen once the fire order is given, onp

TRIBUNE, JULY 16, 1983

side or the other will launch nuclear missiles under the mistaken belief that the other side has already done so. *The safety element of second thoughts will have disappeared. The future of humanity will then depend on one technician whose reading of the radar screen may be faulty.*

Meanwhile, the NATO Foreign Ministers have confirmed their intention to begin deploying US nuclear missiles in western Europe in December "if concrete results cannot be reached" in US-SOVIET arms reduction talks in Geneva. In a communique on the second and last day of their first Paris meeting in 17 years, the 10 ministers stressed a willingness to reach "a balance, at the lowest possible level," of nuclear weapons in Europe. The communique said the ministers "call upon the Soviet Union to contribute constructively to a successful outcome of the negotiations (in Geneva), which address the legitimate security concerns of both sides and welcome current US efforts to that end." The official communique also expressed "grave concern about strong evidence of continued use of chemical weapons in southeast Asia and Afghanistan in violation of international law, and of Soviet involvement in the use of such weapons". On Afghanistan, NATO called for "the immediate withdrawal of Soviet forces, the re-establishment of independence, self-rule and voluntary return of the refugees". The public statement was largely silent on the subjects of East-West trade and the geographic limits of the alliance, but reliable sources said fiction surfaced on both points during the closed-door meeting. The Ministers again rejected Soviet demands that French and British nuclear arsenals be included with those of NATO for purposes of the Geneva negotiations. "Present Soviet proposals would include third country national deterrent forces which have no place in the negotiations and leave the Soviets with more SS-20 missiles than when the negotiations began", said the statement.

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PEACE CONGRESS

Urges N-Arms Freeze

Prague: "The World Assembly for Peace and Life against Nuclear War" yesterday called for an immediate freeze of nuclear arsenals. The assembly attended by representatives of 132 countries called for stopping of the arms race, both nuclear and conventional, in its final appeal adopted at the end of the six day meeting here. The assembly also called for the creation of nuclear weapons free zones, general and complete disarmament, peaceful political negotiations and not military confrontation, use of the world's resources for peace, life, freedom, independence and reosperity for all nations. The assembly called upon

the people of the world to concentrate on efforts to achieve the most urgent demands of the people and not allow 1983 to become yet another springboard to a new and mortally dangerous round of the arms race to further intensification of confrontation. The assembly declared that the preparation of a nuclear war was the most serious crime against humanity but war was not inevitable. It was however not yet too late to prevent a nuclear holocaust and salvation lay in uniting for peace.

The assembly noted that explosive situations existed in various parts of the world, above all in West Asia, Central America, Southern Africa, South East Asia and Far East. "Aggressions are committed against sovereign states, military conflicts between different countries are provoked from outside, thus hindering the just aspirations for political and economic independence, national sovereignty and territorial integrity, and endangering world peace." The network of military bases on foreign territories was expanding and an acute danger was represented by the plans for deployment for first-strike missiles in Western Europe. This would sharply increase the danger of a nuclear conflict, which would not be limited to Europe alone but would lead to a global holocaust, the appeal noted. It asserted that it was urgent to stop the deployment of missiles in Europe, reduction of nuclear weapons on the continent and to work for the total elimination of all nuclear weapons throughout the world.

The nuclear arms race had reached such threatening proportions today that new military programmes were being approved and additional weapons of mass destruction were being designed. Attempts were being made to impose on the people the idea of acceptability of nuclear weapons, of the possibility of carrying out a limited or a protracted nuclear war, the appeal said. Summarising statements made by various group meetings, the Czechoslovak State-run CTK news agency said many participants in one such panel "stressed the responsibility of the Reagan administration for the present stage of the arms buildup." Other delegates were reported as sharply criticising "the extension of US nuclear military bases" in Asia and the Pacific—PTI.

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UNITED STATES

Rule of Law

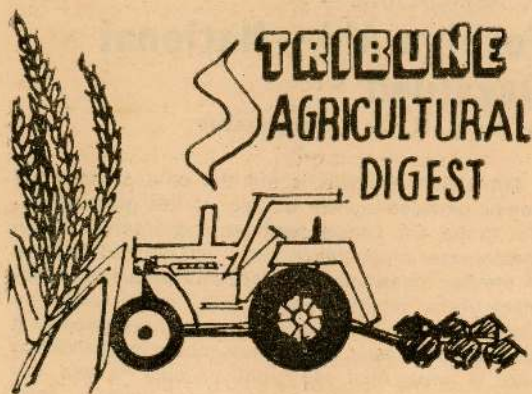
Washington, June 29, : In countries where the rule of law is taken seriously, the constitutional rights and principles are not empty promises but guarantees that are enforced with the full authority of the laws. This was made abundantly clear in the United States last week, when the Supreme Court

announced its decision in a seemingly obscure case. The case was brought by Jagdish Rai Chadha, a native-born Kenyan. In 1973, Our Bureau of Immigration, acting in accordance with its regular procedures ordered Chadha to leave the country — but the US Attorney General, an officer in the executive branch reversed this order and then, to make matters even more complicated, the Attorney General's action was overturned, also under law. By a resolution on one of the two Houses that make up our Federal Legislature, Chadha, then facing deportation appealed the Legislative action to the courts.

For Chadha this case may have seemed to be primarily concerned with Immigration Law. But it was also the focus of a much larger Constitutional issue: whether one House of our legislature could overturn an action by the executive branch, simply by passing a resolution. The Supreme Court's decision in this case — that it could not — was based on the constitutional requirements for legislative action. Those requirements — that a law must first pass both houses of the legislature that it must have been presented to the President for his signature or veto, that Congress may override the President's veto by a two thirds vote — were, said the court, "intended to erect enduring checks on each branch and to protect the people from the improvident exercise of power".

It is likely that future Supreme Court decisions will further clarify the issues raised by this case. But the principle of checks on government, to protect against arbitrary action, will remain at the heart of our political process. The ultimate victory in the Chadha case does not belong to any one of the branches of government, or even to Chadha himself. It belongs to the people. Because, as the Supreme Court said, "with all the obvious flaws of delay untidiness and potential for abuse we have not yet found a better way to preserve freedom than by making the exercise of power subject to the carefully crafted restraints spelled out in the constitution..."—VOA / USIS

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GRAPEFRUIT

Fruit of Paradise

APPROXIMATELY ONE AND a half million hundredweight of Grapefruits are imported into Britain each year, chiefly in the form of fresh fruit, tinned segments and tinned juice. Although nothing can beat the flavour and succulent goodness of the ripe fruit in its natural state, the Grapefruit lends itself to a variety of culinary purposes. As it promotes the appetite it is most popular as a breakfast food or juice but half a Grapefruit spread with brown sugar and rum butter or spices and lightly grilled makes a pleasant appetizer to any meal. The juice can be blended with vegetable juices to provide a vitamin-rich, thirst-quenching drink or used instead of lemon juice in sauces and, with the segments, to garnish fish dishes. Chilled segments, covered with honey or syrup and sprinkled with nutmeg, will enhance a fruit salad, while Grapefruit fritters, which are usually eaten as a dessert, can also be served with boiled bacon. And Grapefruit marmalade is well known for its refreshing, tangy flavour.

Dietary Value Despite its often sharp, sub-acid taste, fresh Grapefruit has an alkaline reaction in the system. It is rich in Vitamin C, contains some Vitamin A, B1, B2, and P. Fair quantities of calcium and phosphorus are present as well as a small amount of iron. There is also an alkaloid, peculiar to the Grapefruit, known as hesperidin.

Medical Powers For its stomachic and tonic properties the fruit is recommended in cases of biliousness and, because it contains a natural 'quinine', is beneficial in the treatment of malaria. This 'quinine' is very helpful, too, in banishing feverish colds and it can be extracted from the fruit quite simply by boiling a quarter of a Grape-

fruit and straining the pulp. The Vitamin P content is valuable for toning up the arteries and lessening the risk of high blood pressure. Taking a glass of fresh Grapefruit and lemon juice in equal proportions is also an excellent way of dispelling general tiredness after a day's work.

Pomelo or Shaddock This is the ancestor of the Grapefruit and it is still grown in some parts of the world, particularly in India, where superior varieties are eaten as a desert fruit, and in China, for the branches and blossoms which are used as decorations during the New Year celebrations. Known as *Citrus grandis* or *Citrus maxima* because it is the largest of the citrus family, it is a bitter, pear-shaped fruit with a tough, almost solid flesh and a coarse, thick rind. The Malay archipelago is believed to be its place of origin though it spread to the islands of the South Seas and the tropics generally at a very early date.

Pomelo is a corruption of the Dutch word *pumple-moeses*, for the fruit grew abundantly in the Dutch East Indies. This was noted in the log of Captain Cook when he visited Java in 1770. He knew the fruit as *Shaddock*, which also grew in the West Indies. It was taken there by Captain Shaddock, the commander of an East India ship, in 1696, when he interrupted his journey home to England by visiting Barbados and left seeds of the fruit to be planted on the island.

At first the *Pomelos* or *Shaddocks* grew true to type. The twenty foot high bushes bore single fruit measuring up to 8 inches in diameter and weighing anything from 15 to 20 pounds. But, by the time they had spread to Jamaica, a mutation occurred, possibly because of cross pollination between the Shaddock and the orange, or simply a natural evolution due to different conditions. Whatever the reason a new fruit had arrived. The evergreen Grapefruit tree is more vigorous than the Shaddock and varies in height from 20 to 40 feet. It is covered in a dense foliage. The leaves are dark green and glossy on the upper surface and light green beneath. Its white, sweet-scented flowers are similar to other fruits and, though larger, most resemble orange blossom.

The fruit varies in colour and may have a pale yellow or pinkish flesh, while the rind is usually between a quarter and half-an-inch thick. Growing in clusters, Grapefruit look like bunches of grapes and so received their modern name. But the natives of the West Indies so enjoyed the taste when Grapefruit first appeared that they believed nothing more tempting could have grown, even in the Garden of Eden: so they called the new wonder 'Forbidden Fruit' or 'Fruit of Paradise'.

Cultivation Count Odet Phillipe, the chief surgeon in Napoleon's navy, is reputed to have

Foreign Aid—National Devalued

By Dr. S. N. de S. Seneviratne

introduced Grapefruits into the United States of America. He had been captured at the Battle of Trafalgar in October 1804 and sent, as a prisoner, to the Bahamas. Two years later he was freed and spent some time in Charleston, South Carolina, where he practised medicine. But he could not forget the luxurious fruit that grew in the West Indies and, eventually, he decided to become a planter. So the Count travelled to Florida and, about 1823, he established a citrus grove with seeds which he brought from the Bahamas.

Yet another sixty years passed before interest in Grapefruit spread to Arizona, Southern Texas, and California. By 1895 the fruit was considered a commercial proposition in these areas of the United States, for the trees begin to bear after the fifth year of planting and a single, fully mature tree can yield an annual crop of up to 1500 pounds of fruit.

Grapefruits came to be cultivated on a wide scale but remained virtually unknown in Britain. Then in 1914, the fruit was introduced into Palestine where, because the trees prefer a fairly fertile, somewhat sandy soil, they flourished. It is from this area, particularly the narrow strip of land that is the new state of Israel, that we import the Jaffa variety. Today, other countries producing the fruit include Cuba, Puerto Rico, Argentina, North Africa, Mozambique, Swaziland, and South Africa.

Growers are continually trying to produce better strains with greater flavour, a higher sugar content, thinner rinds and fewer pips. Completely seedless varieties cannot yet be guaranteed for in the natural state Grapefruit have an abundance of pips which are very hard to eliminate. The South African Grapefruit are nearly all of one variety called 'Marsh Seedless' which has a white flesh, few seeds, and is particularly juicy. Occasionally a pink-fleshed, very sweet variety is imported. This is called 'Red Blush' and is a sport because it was grown accidentally and not deliberately cultivated.

How to Choose your Grapefruit. A greenish tinge to the skin does not necessarily denote an unripe fruit, nor are blemishes an indication of poor quality for these may have been caused at an early stage and merely became large as the fruit with little juice and a leathery, stringy pith.

As some varieties are firmer than others, don't reject a Grapefruit which is soft unless it is also slightly soggy to the touch with a green or brown discoloration showing that decay has set in.

Because Grapefruit are sold according to their size and not to their quality, the best way to test for juiciness is to weigh the fruit in your hand. The heavier the Grapefruit is, in relation to its size, the juicier it will be.

DRAUGHT POWER is not the only purpose that can be provided by the buffalo. It has great potential in the Sri Lankan context and deserves much greater research attention than it has hitherto received. If prestige considerations necessitated the establishment of an "international institute" in Sri Lanka, no better candidate than the buffalo could have given such an institute its name. All this fuss about independence was in order that we might be able to take our destiny into our hands, to free ourselves from foreign domination. Yet, there is no dearth of evidence of continuing foreign domination via foreign aided projects, foreign experts and various subtle mechanisms. This does not necessarily mean that collaboration with foreign agencies or associations with foreign personnel stand condemned wholesale. On the contrary, meaningful links can be forged which are mutually beneficial. What has to be exposed and condemned are the vulgar, dishonest, corrupt and exploitative aspects of the system.

In his perspective book on the Atlantic slave trade, *Sins of the Fathers*, James Pope-Hennessy holds Europeans of many nations — English, Dutch, French, Portuguese, Danish — accountable for its initiation and success. But he emphasises that this inestimable human misery would not have been inflicted in this way had it not been for the cooperation of African Kings, tribal chiefs and local private traders who profited from this horrifying business. There is a parallel today, in Sri Lanka too. For it is the local chieftains — the elites, the VIPs in Ministries, Corporations and elsewhere who are exploiting the foreign aid system, with the collusion of some foreigners, to their mutual private benefit. For the chieftains the foreign expert is a non-taxable asset who can organize trips abroad, foreign assignment, and consultancies and provide gifts and liquor. For smaller fry, he is rather like a hairy dog — they cling to his furry back — for a scholarship, Sometimes, the foreign expert is a kind of mercenary hired to assassinate locals.

What, for instance, is the justification for installing a FAO plant pathologist, pay around Rs. 60,000 per month, in the Department of Agriculture? Was it purely for this country's benefit that no less than five members of the Directorate (including one on the verge of retirement) were sent to the United States by the Soya Bean Project? (That project advertises the "Soya Keeps You Going" even on its vehicles) During the period 1977 to 1982, the capital pumped into the soya bean project

TRIBUNE, JULY 16, 1983

amounted to over nine million rupees (Rs. 9,845,900/-) There were huge allocations for recurrent expenditure too. Where, oh where, did all this money go ?

In the University's Faculty of Agriculture too, the foreign connection is apparent. Staff members are frequently abroad — on conferences, seminars, workshops, sabbaticals etc. Relatively junior staff members carry a large share of the teaching burden for undergraduates. Perhaps, senior staff members are needed more in the PGIA — the Postgraduate Institute of Agriculture (which might well be called Private Industry for Agricultural Graduates). Meanwhile, foreign lecturers are secured to meet the need for teachers. They include an assortment of types — good men and con men. A prestigious American journal, *Plant Disease* carried the following new item: "Coming and Goings. George A. Bean, Professor of Plant Pathology, Department of Botany, University of Maryland was in Sri Lanka, Ceylon, in January to establish a cooperative mycotoxin and plant pathology program between personnel of the universities of Sri Lanka and Maryland. The two universities will exchange faculty and graduate students in a number of research areas including agriculture. Currently no one in Sri Lanka is trained in plant pathology or mycotoxicology which are two areas of great concern to agricuturists in that country " (*Plant Disease*, June 1980) *Are there trained personnel in Plant Pathology in Sri Lanka ? Has Sri Lanka just emerged from the stone age. ? Such dishonesty must surely affect the character and quality of the products from Peradeniya's Faculty of Agriculture and that tall building, the FGIA (tall is not beautiful)*

Two more points and I am done. Why does all this dishonesty, this distortion, this rottenness exist ? Why are dubious ventures launched, projects implemented and priorities distorted ? One reason is because there isn't a technically competent authoritative body (an Agricultural Research Council) to assist in the decision making processes. In the absence of such a mechanism to tap well informed personnel whose integrity is respected, ill-informed bureaucrats including some with vested interests influence the decisions — all too often to the benefit of an expanding tribe of globe-trotting directors.

Note. The very first point in President Jayewardene's National Science and Technology Policy statement enunciated on 4th December 1978 when he inaugurated our Association's 34th Annual Session promised "to involve scientists in the formulation of policy and in decision making at the highest levels". *That promise has yet to be fulfilled.* Elsewhere, in a paper entitled "An Agricultural Research Council — Some Notes " prepared for a workshop organised by the National Science Council

TRIBUNE, JULY 16, 1983

of Sri Lanka in 1980, I have discussed possible ways of implementing the President's policy statement with respect to agriculture. In another paper entitled "Towards the Achievement of Self-reliance in National Scientific and Technological Capability" prepared in 1981, I have suggested some measures relating to the second point of the President's policy statement, "..... to maintain a vigorous drive towards self reliance in national scientific and technological capability."

Finally, the human component and the human drain. Foreign aid is a supplement to national commitment, not a substitute for it. A country must rely primarily on its nationals to shoulder the burdens of national development — with joy. If a country has the desired scientific and technological capability in her nationals, if there is a sense of national commitment can be stimulated and their morale sustained, then there is reason for hope, for optimism.

A Third World country can then qualify for that euphemistic designation "developing country" — it need not be a disintegrating one. Unless our trained nationals can be sustained in committed service in their motherland, aid is a farce, progress an illusion. Trained personnel are not expendable — for export, disposable. They are the country's priceless resource to be drawn on and utilised for national development. I know the quality of the people we have — labourers, middle level technical officers, staffers. But those of us nationals, in work places such as ours are pariahs. We have third class citizenship in our motherland — after foreigners, expatriate nationals, and the con men. Our humans in national research organisations (those not living on "perks" and rackets) are collapsing or leaving in search of opportunities to earn a living in some other country.

The President's National Science and Technology policy of Sri Lanka was enunciated in 1978. It promised, among other things, "To provide our scientists and technologists with good working conditions, adequate remuneration, due recognition for their labours " That promise has yet to be realised. It has been a long and weary night for national scientists and technologists. How much longer will they be denied the light of dawn ?

Concluded.

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HAZARDS

PESTICIDES

THE QUESTION OF IMPORTING DANGEROUS PESTICIDES largely depends on the importing country and not on the exporting country. For the exporting

country it is a "big" business. But to the importing countries it is a question of life and death. It is admitted that the bulk of the export of pesticides exported by EEC countries contain dangerous or poisonous pesticides which have been either banned or restricted in the respective exporting countries. Most of these exports have been to the Third World countries which do not have sufficient control over imports or testing facilities. *Some 60% of these pesticides have been exported to Third World countries under attractive brand names. The exporters do not specify the ingredients that goes to manufacture these pesticides. These pesticides manufactured in European countries contain substances which the British Health Authorities have described as "poisonous".*

And the WHO has described them as highly hazardous for man and beast and for the environment. Some of these contain *dinoseb, disulfoton, chlorphenvinphes and phenyl acetate. It has now dawned upon the Europeans who import fruits such as mangoes, kiwi, papaya etc., from third world countries that they may be contaminated with residues of the pesticides which they export.* High concentration of these pesticides causes poisoning to death. Farmers fall prey to it. The farmers are often blamed that they do not take sufficient precaution before spraying them but how is it that even passers by are affected long after it was sprayed ?

IN THE USA the pesticide regulations stipulate that an exporter should print his instructions both in English and the language of the importing country. Though the firms may confirm to this how many farmers bother to read and act or are literate enough to read those microscopic letters. Especially in countries like India and Bangladesh and where the rate of illiteracy is about 64% and 75% respectively written instructions would be of no avail. *Besides the above restriction by the American Government also demands from the exporter a letter of consent from the importer acknowledging the status of that particular pesticide in America.*

The Dutch Government has been concerned over the harm wrought by the import of pesticides by the Third World countries and has suggested various proposals: that it is up to the Third World countries to tighten their regulations, that they should frame legislation restricting the import of pesticides which contain dangerous substances, regulate repacking and labelling. The relatively harmless and safe pesticides may become fatal when they are wrongly used. Finally the manufacturers should be called upon to obtain letters of consent from the respective Third World governments before a particular brand is exported. Local environmentalists should carry on a campaign of educating the farmers. —OMEGA

GUINEA PIGS

Third World Children

Nairobi. A giant multinational has used human beings in the Third World as guinea pigs to test its pesticides, according to *Ecoforum* a journal published by the *Environment Liason Centre* here. The victims of this dreadful experiment were Egyptian children. On the multinational's own admission these kids were used as "volunteers" in 1976 to test the safety of the pesticide, *galecron*, which was subsequently linked with cancer. This *galecron experiment* has been regretted by the multinational whose spokesman has said "it was not correct for us to have done this." Quoting *Manchester Guardian* weekly, the *Ecoforum* says, that the *galecron experiments* were uncovered by the Swiss *Third World Lobby* group, in the *Declaration of Berne*, which gained access to the concerned multinational's own documents.

The documents list the names and ages of the Egyptian children who were intentionally sprayed with the pesticide to discover how much of it was retained in their urine. *Examples of multinationals dumping bazardous drugs and pesticides in Third World countries are by now known to many but it is perhaps for the first time that a case of direct exploitation of human beings in the developing world has been brought to light now.* This bizarre affair says the *Ecoforum* was recently highlighted in a Swiss television documentary which showed Mexican children handling *galecron* and an adult Mexican field worker receiving a zero range blast of the substance from a crop spraying aircraft. The concerned multinational has claimed that the film was staged and its spokesman said that an injunction has just been granted in a Swiss court preventing rebroadcast of the documentary. "But the company has pledged that it will withdraw *galecron* from sale in countries where it finds safety measures are ignored." The pesticide *galecron* was withdrawn from sale by the company in 1976 after the cancer link was discovered. But it reappeared in the world market in 1978 and *galecron* is now legally used in countries including Egypt, Mexico and the United States for cotton spraying.

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IN SRI LANKA

1000 DIE OF PESTICIDE POISONING EACH YEAR

An average 1000 persons die and 13,000 are hospitalised annually because of pesticide poisoning, an official study has revealed. It has been found that 73 per cent of the total

TRIBUNE, JULY 16, 1983

admissions with histories of pesticide poisoning were persons who had used them with the intention of committing the suicide while 24.9 per cent, however have taken the poisonous substances by mistake.

The study has been carried out by a team of experts comprising Dr. J. Jeyaratnam, Head of the Department of Community Medicine, of the Medical Faculty of the University of Colombo, R. S. de Alwis, lecturer of the same department and J. F. Coppleston of the World Health Organisation. The team, whose assignment was to identify the causes of pesticide poisoning and to recommend measures to ensure safety of human life have also recommended urgent steps that the state should implement.

Here are the comprehensive figures of hospital admissions with pesticide poisoning and deaths each year from 1975—1980:

1975:—	Admissions: 14,653,	Deaths: 938.
1976:—	Admissions: 13,778;	Deaths: 964.
1977:—	Admissions: 13,648,	Deaths: 1,042.
1978:—	Admissions: 14,699,	Deaths: 982.
1979:—	Admissions: 11,372,	Deaths: 1,045.
1980:—	Admissions: 11,811.	Deaths: 1,112.

FOCUS ON THE VILLAGE

FOR THE RECORD

Gam Udawa 83

Excerpts From The Daily Press

SEVENA LOTTERY NETS Rs. 30 MILLION

The Sevena Lottery conducted by the Ministry of Local Government, Housing and construction has already netted in Rs. 30 million, Prime Minister R. Premadasa told the "Observer". Mr. Premadasa said the money will be used for the construction of flats and houses for the lower and middle income groups. He said the money will also be used to provide the necessary water in drought stricken areas. For this purpose he has already bought a rig to dig deep wells in the dry zones at a cost of Rs. 4.5 million. *Meanwhile*, the Gam Udawa in Nikaweratiya is drawing massive crowds with well a 1000,000 persons a day viewing the exhibition. It will go on till 3 July when President J. R. Jayewardene will be the chief guest. All permanent structures constructed for the Gam Udawa will be gifted to the Wittikuliya school adjacent to which the buildings have been constructed.

TRIBUNE JULY 16, 1983

TRIBUTE TO PM FOR GAM UDAWA Al-Haj M. I. M. Naleem, chairman of the Muslim Rehabilitation Movement and a well known philanthropist of Beruwela, on Tuesday (28/6/83) paid a tribute to Prime Minister R. Premadasa. He said Mr. Premadasa carried on the Gam Udawa Movement out of sheer love for humanity, pacing no heed whatsoever to any distinction based on any consideration such as race, religion or caste. "I fervently wish that he may be blessed with good health and long life to carry on this humane work for a long time to come" he said. *Al-Haj M. I. M. Naleem*, speaking at the Gam Udawa '83 exhibition at Nikaweratiya, where he was the chief guest, said that it was rarely that the people get the opportunity to view an exhibition of that nature which was of great educational value to all, specially to the youth. The great and noble service that was being rendered to the common people of this country by the Prime Minister was too well known to be discussed and that valuable exhibition was a product of his great organisational ability, he said.

GAM UDAWA UMBRELLA PROVIDES BASIC FOR LIVING

Dr. Mrs. Hoda Badran, the UNICEF representative in Sri Lanka, said on Wednesday (29/6/83) that she was glad to note that housing and drinking water, the two most basic essentials for living have been provided under the umbrella of the Village Reawakening Movement. Dr. Badran who was chief guest at the Gam Udawa '83 exhibition at Nikaweratiya told a news conference in third world countries showed that two of the most basic essentials for living sought by people were shelter and water. These two facilities were found to be more essential than even education and health care, she said. Dr. Badran said that on this basis she found the Gam Udawa concept covered not only shelter and water but also pre-education facilities as positive concepts that give priority to the most essential needs. She said the fact that Prime Minister R. Premadasa had grasped this and worked towards the provision of these facilities was indeed an intelligent move. It was a positive approach from a political, social and human, point of view, she stressed. Dr. Mrs. Badran said they had asked a general question from people who did not own homes of what they would do if money, so to say, fell from the blue. Everyone of them had said that their first priority would be to build a house. This showed the extent of the feeling the Prime Minister had for human welfare when he initiated a program to provide for the need for shelter which people had. She also said the Prime Minister has quite rightly thought of education and health care too.

Dr. Badran said she felt honoured to be the first foreigner who was Chief Guest at the Gam Udawa 83 Exhibition and the gesture of the Prime Minister in inviting her to open the Exhibition was

indeed an honour given to UNICEF. She felt the display of bio-gas generation and the home gardening aspects at the exhibition were an important emphasis. Though UNICEF had not organised bio-gas projects in Sri Lanka it hoped to help with this too. Asked whether UNICEF planned to play a role in the implementation of the 1987 U. N. International Year of Shelter for the Home-less proposed by Sri Lanka's Prime Minister she said UNICEF would assist in some way with this project though not directly as in other International years. Commenting on the deep wells drilling program launched by the Prime Minister to provide safe drinking water in the dry zone Dr. Badran said, UNICEF was glad to be of assistance in this project. The program under the project ends this year. But they would be launching a fresh program for the provision of water and sanitation from 1984.

BODHI POOJAS, PRAYERS FOR RAIN

BY P. M. Prime Minister R. Premadasa performed a special Bodhi-Pooja on Thursday (30/6/83) morning at the sacred Sri Maha Bodhi, Anuradhapura and prayed for rain in the 15 drought-stricken districts and the success of 'Gam Udawa' to be held in Anuradhapura next year. The Maha Sangha led by the Atamasthandhipathi the Ven. Pallegama Gnanaratana Nayaka Thera chanted seth pirth. Speaking on the occasion Mr. Premadasa said the government had already taken steps to provide relief to the drought victims. The blessings of the sacred Sri Maha Bodhi would be sought before inaugurating the Gam Udawa '84 celebrations. "The Buddha vanquished the forces of mara under the Jaya Sri Mahabodhi. I have belief in the powers of the Sacred Bodhi. I have always sought the blessings of the Triple Gem and the Sri Maha Bodhi for the success of my efforts. I have never been disappointed," he said. The Ven. Pallegama Gnanaratana Nayake Thera said he was giving his blessings to the Prime Minister. The efforts of the Prime Minister to eliminate poverty in the country were commendable. District Minister, Anuradhapura, Chandra Bandara, M. P. for Anuradhapura, East, Yasapala Herath' District Minister Vavuniya, G. D. Mahindasoma and Deputy Minister of Transport Boards' H. B. Abeyratne also participated in the ceremonies.

PM ON THE AIMS OF 'GAM UDAWA' EXHIBITION

The aim of the Gam Udawa exhibition is to propagate the Village Re-awakening concept throughout the country said Prime Minister R. Premadasa on his visit to Anuradhapura yesterday. (30/6/83) The Prime Minister visited Anuradhapura in order to select a site for the Gam Udawa '84 exhibition. Mr. Premadasa was hosted by the Tissawewa West villagers to a lunch. The Premier, who appreciated the hospitality of the villagers, said that he had an opportunity of enjoying a typical village meal. The Premier in his speech paid a tribute

to the villagers of Anuradhapura and said that it was the centre of Buddhism in the country. Referring to the "Udagama" concept the Premier said that his intention was not only to provide houses but facilities to generate self employment in the villages. "My effort is not to make people millionaires but industrious" the Prime Minister added. The Prime Minister, who was accompanied by District Minister Chandra Bandara and the officials of the Ministry of Housing participated in a religious ceremony and inspected a stretch of land 53 acres in extent which was chosen for the Gam Udawa '84 exhibition.

PRESIDENT CHIEF GUEST ON FINAL DAY

President J. R. Jayawardene and Mrs. Jayawardene will be the chief guests on the final day of the Gam Udawa '83 exhibition at Vitkuliya in Nikaweratiya tomorrow (July 3). The President will be received by the Prime Minister R. Premadasa and Mrs. Premadasa at the exhibition grounds at 3 P. M. A colourful procession including floats will also be held. An average of a lakh of people had seen the exhibition each day and the organisers expect a record crowd on the final day. The exhibition which provided clean and wholesome entertainment and education also provided an opportunity for the people to make purchases like agricultural implements, handtractors, textiles, handicrafts and a host of other items. One of the attractions at the exhibition was the display of methods in the use of bio-gas and solar energy, home gardening and animal husbandry in the 59 houses of the model village created in the exhibition grounds. The exhibition itself finances and does not involve government funds. Many of the permanent buildings constructed on the site like the two storeyed exhibition secretariat (which will be donated to the school of the area), the model of the parliamentary complex building the Colombo town hall model, the ceramic corporation stall etc., will remain to serve the model village and the people of the area.

GOVT. WILL SOLVE PROBLEMS OF TAMILS TERRORISTS WILL BE REJECTED — PREMIER

The Government will go to the Tamil people and solve their human problems their, basic human needs such as housing and the provision of water over the heads of terrorists and Eelam preachers the Prime Minister R. Premadasa told the "Sunday Observer". In an interview Mr. Premadasa said "I have a feeling what happened to the Marxists in the country will happen to the terrorists within the next two or three years, and when we meet the needs of the people the terrorists will be rejected." The Prime Minister who was speaking from his temporary headquarters at the Gam Udawa 1983 in Nikaweratiya, said that while the terrorists were preaching separatism the chairmen of the best Gramodaya Mandalayas in Jaffna, Mannar, Vavuniya, Mullaitivu, Batticaloa and Trincomalee had presented themselves for the receiving of cash prizes of Rs.

TRIBUNE, JULY 16, 1983

10,000 each and certificates from this which clearly indicated that the Tamils were not for Eelam. *Today on the final day of the Gam Udawa '83* the President J. R. Jayawardene will be the chief guest and the organisers are prepared for an unprecedented crowd. Each day over 100,000 people from all parts of the country visited the exhibition and on Saturday it was over 200,000. Mr. Premadasa said the aim of the government and the Gramodaya Mandalaya was to give the people a sense of prestige. He said in its first six years the Government laid stress on the development of the infra-structure to provide the basic needs — the development of irrigation, roads, water supply, housing, agriculture industry and electricity. Without this there could be no production and to achieve this we had to divert resources from consumption to development. *Our next program* will be to concentrate on village level activities, development and production. This would mean further decentralization through development Councils and Gramodaya Mandalayas. When money was diverted from consumption to producer people were benefited through direct employment and self employment" he said. Dealing on the question of cost of living Mr. Premadasa said "We have to increase the earning power of the people and increase avenues of investment either in Sri Lanka or abroad." Referring to Government corporations which are running at a loss Mr. Premadasa said they would be converted to joint stock companies either with foreign or local entrepreneurs.

PRESIDENT AT NIKAWERATIYA: NO. GOVT. HAS DONE SO MUCH FOR THE PEOPLE President Jayewardene said on Sunday (3/7/83) that no previous government had done so much for the country as this government. It was absolute truth and not a proud boast. This will be proved further after the next six years" the President said. President Jayewardene was speaking on the final day of the Gam Udawa '83 exhibition at Nikaweratiya. The President and Mrs. Jayewardene were the chief guests. The President said this government also wanted the people to act according to the teachings of the Buddha which was the greatest doctrine in the world. It was on those principles that the government intended to build a free and just society. The government believed not only in development but also the spiritual uplift of the people. "Therefore if we are to make progress we should live according to the teachings of Lord Buddha and eschew any form of violence. We should all learn to live in friendship without fighting and killing each other" he said. *The President also said* the government would always continue its development policies within a democratic framework. It believed in upholding the democratic traditions. Democracy would be respected and protected. That was an important aspect of a free and just society. Such a society could only be built when there was no hatred or violence. This government has given

TRIBUNE JULY 16, 1983

freedom to trade unions. Even the Supreme Court has held that peaceful demonstration should be allowed. This government did not intend curbing trade unions. Even processions are being allowed. The supreme court had recently given a judgement in favour of conducting processions. This government did not intend curbing demonstrations or freedoms such as conducting processions. It wanted to create a new system to solve the problems of the people.

The President said he and the Prime Minister were at Maduru Oya on Saturday and they saw the waters of the Maduru Oya flowing for the benefit of the people after 1500 years. The Canadian engineers had discovered an old dam when they explored the place to build a new one. When they built the new dam they found the old sluice gates. The work at the old dam and sluice gates proved to the people the efficiency with which they had been constructed. "Today I, my Prime Minister, the Cabinet Ministers and MPs have attended the 5th anniversary of the Gam Udawa '83 exhibition. While the Mahaweli project will provide water to the people for their use, to cultivate their fields and generate electricity, the Gam Udawa program helps to provide them houses. These two important schemes have been possible after July 1977 because of the massive mandate the people had given this government." *This Government was not only keen on providing food, shelter and clothing, but also wanted to create a new civilisation in the country.* There should be peace in the country if they were to forge ahead with development programs and usher in a golden era. The people of this country had suffered as slaves for many centuries first under the Indian invasion and later under invasions from the West. There were constant wars during this period ending in 1815 with the whole country surrendering to the British. After that we got our freedom in 1948. The wounds of 400 to 500 years of foreign domination had not been healed and the people were bent on following their own traditions. The President said, however, after the country obtained adult franchise the UNP under the leadership of the late D. S. Senenayake, built a new agricultural civilisation by restoring ancient tanks. After independence successive governments were unable to follow any stable policies due to the fear that they would be thrown out at the elections. In 1977, the people gave the UNP a massive mandate which no other democratic country had given any government. They gave that mandate on the assurance the UNP had given the people to create a free and just society. "For six years we have travelled along that path and are now reaping the fruits of those labours. We were due to hold elections in August 1983 but our leaders thought we should go to the people and ask them for a mandate to continue our policies to another six years. The people gave that mandate and they have endorsed our policies"

PAST GOVTS WERE UNAWARE OF PEOPLE'S NEEDS—PM

Prime Minister R. Premadasa said on Sunday that the failure of many past governments was due to their not gaining a proper knowledge of understanding of the needs of the people. These governments acted only on what they thought the people wanted. It was the present government under the leadership of President Jayewardene which really understood the aspirations of the people of this country, the premier said. He was addressing the Jana Hamuwa on the final day of the Gam Udawa '83 exhibition at which President J. R. Jayewardene and Mrs. Jayewardene were the chief guests. Mr. Premadasa said that all these days there was a belief that our people wanted everything. But the people themselves proved that this was only a myth. The Prime Minister also paid a tribute to Mr. S. Thondaman, Minister of Rural Industrial Developments for the assistance he and officials in his Ministry had given towards the success of the exhibition. The land on which the exhibition ground was situated belonged to Mr. Thondaman's Ministry. But when he (the Prime Minister) wanted it for this exhibition Mr. Thondaman not only arranged to give it but also instructed his Ministry officials to do their best towards the success of the exhibition. He thanked all other Ministers and MPs who too helped to make the exhibition success. *The Prime Minister said they were honouring the President on that occasion.* It was this leader's goal to set up a just and free society and eradicate want and poverty. "I think, with the co-operation and goodwill of the people, the day when this aim could be achieved was close at hand. He had a special word of thanks for the officials of his Ministry who took great pains to make the exhibition a success. The curtain was coming down on it after 11 days. In connection with this anniversary exhibition about 20 model villages were opened. We have completed 22 model villages. 153,000 houses would have been completed by the end of this year. The large and disciplined crowds which thronged the exhibition grounds daily were an indication of the endorsement of the government's policies by them. He thought the only occasion he saw such a big crowd as on Sunday was July 1977 when their leader addressed the nation from the pathrippuwa in Kandy after the massive U.N.P. victory.

Mr. S. Thondaman Minister of Rural Industrial Development said it was an accepted fact that every family needed a house. Every government in the past had a separate Ministry of Housing to achieve this objective. Every country was keen in solving the housing problem but succeeded to some extent in Singapore but on the whole it was only the Prime Minister who tried to maintain a target. Those who doubted his claims to build 150,000 houses are now confident that he would reach even more than his target. The Gam Udawa project carries with it the theme, 'Make the village and make the country' in

the same way let us save the cow and save our health. Mr. Gamini Jayawickrema Perera, District Minister for Kurunegaala, said that the President was participating in an event which would take the country further towards progress. The government had not only worked to solve the problems of the people during the past six years but was committed to continue this work towards creating a free, just and contented society. It was the confidence the people had in this government that made the people rally round the UNP and give them a further six years to rule. It was the aim of the government to give every family a land and house to live in. This ideal was being pursued not only in the Kurunegala district but in other areas as well. Mr. U. B. Wanninayake, District Minister for Puttalam and MP for Nikaweratiya said that a great service had been rendered to the people of North Western Province by the Gam Udawa movement which was started at Yapahuwa. This Government takes pride of place among the movements started on the basis of self help and virtue. It was only this government which had worked towards economic progress.

SIMPLE BEAUTY

Rural Abodes

VILLAGES — be they in ancient India or in the modern West — have much in common: the freshness of nature, verdant expanses untouched by modern civilisation, placid streams and swaying trees, where men and women have time to pause, where simplicity does not allow sophistication to creep in and where one finds innocent pleasure in the so-called minor aspects of a rural way of life. A far cry from the grand concrete structures and skyscraper monstrosities of the modern Western cities is Marken, as a little cluster of houses in a Dutch countryside is called. Though ethereal, this "drop" (means little village in Dutch) is very much a reality. The approach to the village is through acres of a flat green countryside dotted with trees. The village comes into view as one catches a glimpse of the small cluster of wooden houses predominantly painted in green and topped with sloping roofs. It looks quaint and toylike with a few women with shopping bags moving around leisurely decked in traditional attire. Perhaps in deference to the wishes of the villagers tourists are kept at bay.—

Marken is a fishing village. The quayside is neatly lined with boats in different colours. The village's passion for cleanliness is revealed in the meticulous care lavished on it from the beautifully painted nameplates decorating the doors to the gleaming bicycles and the well-maintained canals. The stonepaved lane leads to a small fenced backyard.

TRIBUNE, JULY 16, 1983

A table with some flowers on it adds colour to the scene. The famous Dutch shoes made of wood hang on the fence and painted crimson hearts embellish the window shutters. The window sills are lined with plants and ceramic-ware and the casements flaunt laced curtains. The proverbial cat on the doorstep basks lazily in the sun.

FROM THE LUSH GREENERY of the Dutch village to the hot sandy dunes of Rajasthan is apparently a sharp contrast. The *Jaisalmer village* in the desert seems unconcerned with the town of Jaisalmer which is steeped in history and rich in forts and ornate houses. Here the simple village folk seem content to clean grain or spin cloth under a none too benign sky. Their traditional colourful costumes and low houses made of sand-plaster in red and white speak volumes of a quiet dignity unruffled by the hectic pace of life outside their domain. Though simple, the village has an air of being well-kept, and looked after. The walls are decorated with traditional motifs and streets are clean. The houses have courtyards lined with a few rooms. Granaries and little enclosures for storing provisions during the year are well decorated with designs embossed on their facade. The camel with its head in the air proclaims its indispensable role in the transportation of their goods. Underlining the apparent disparities between the Dutch and Indian village scene is the atmosphere of quiet dignity and simplicity pervading both. The even tenor of life flows in harmony with a serene environment.

The narrow alleys of Jaisalmer, easily spanned by a man's outstretched arms, snake up and down, in and out. The houses cluster closely and are not high. Those of the poor, made of white-washed mud and brick, neatly bordered with ochre bands around the doors, courtyards windows, cling precariously to the alleys. Occasionally adorned with simple designs of stylish peacocks, swastikas or parrots in ochre and terracotta, the dwellings display an aesthetic sense of graphic design. There is very little water in the whole of this region where a glass of milk is reportedly cheaper than water. People depend on tube and small rain water wells and on earthen tanks for their own needs, their crops of bajra and jawar and their cattle. Since the backbone of the economy is cattle and sheep breeding, paucity of fodder forces some members of the family to migrate to more hospitable pastures in summer and return after rains in October. During the extremely lean years or during famine — the entire family, barring the very old and the very young, threads its way on camel-back to eastern Rajasthan or Madya Pradesh in search of food and fodder. Because of the rigours, it is a simple life, where wealth is measured in terms of sheep, goats, camels and milch cattle. Luxuries are confined to a quid of tobacco or a friendly exchange of opium, and entertainment, to an occasional song or dance to the accompaniment of a drum or flute.

TRIBUNE, JULY 16, 1983

CULTIVATION

Dioscorea

THE RESULTS of an observational trial carried out in three research stations is shown below. It will be noted that the indigenous varieties are on par with the introductions.

Variety	Yield in t-ha.		
	Gannoruwa	Wagolla	Matara
Kahata-ala	63.0	39.8	49.4
Lisbon White	66.8	13.4	50.0
Boke	60.5	48.2	46.3
Ezumah	25.9	62.8	50.9
Jaffna purple	62.4	64.3	—
Kirikondol	28.9	56.2	—

Unlike cassava and sweet potato which are propagated from stem cuttings which are available in plenty, dioscoreas have to be multiplied from the tuber. This in itself is a limitation to expanding the cultivation of this crop. Research Officers are therefore investigating the feasibility of using aerial tubers which are not used for consumption and even seed in certain flowering varieties.

Meanwhile, cut pieces of the ground tubers may be used for propagation. These pieces should contain at least one dormant bud and weigh half to three-quarter pound each. They should be dipped in a fungicidal solution prior to planting to prevent each rotting. To break the dormancy of the buds, the sets must first be closely planted in a sand nursery, and only after they have sprouted should they be transplanted in the field. —*Research Highlights.*



SPOTLIGHT

World Cup

India, West Indies, Sri Lanka, South Africa

THE GLAMOROUS WORLD CUP CRICKET TOURNEY sponsored by Prudential Assurance of England ended in a blaze of glory at Lord's with

the 200 to 1 outsiders at the start of the tourney, India, engraving its name on the glittering Trophy. The final which was played at the Headquarters of English cricket, Lord's, brought to an end one of the finest and much looked forward to cricket tournaments ever conducted. Interest in the tournament was at fever pitch from the first from the first game and attracted tremendous spectator interest.

The organisers, Prudential Assurance deserve a big bouquet for their superb organisation of this tournament well on schedule. When one considers that they had to complete 19 matches in just 16 days, it speaks volumes for their organisational ability. The sponsors spent nearly 750,000 pounds on the entire tourney. Indications are that Prudential will not sponsor the next World Cup tourney because of the colossal amount of money they have to spend every four years. But cricket officials in England are still confident that Prudential will continue its sponsorship because they have given a new impetus to the game.

About the tournament. It was very creditable that India emerged champions beating the mighty West Indies by 43 runs in a heart throbbing final at Lord's before packed stands. With weeks to go for the tourney to begin it was announced that all tickets had been snapped up for the final, with the critics predicting a West Indies — England final.

But the Indians who began the tourney with a defeat inflicted on them by Sri Lanka in one of the warm-up games never expected to be in the final. With India precariously placed with defeat staring them in one of the second round games against Zimbabwe, Kapil Dev came to their rescue after they had lost five wickets for a meagre 25 runs and hammered a career-best individual score of 175 to stall the Zimbabweans and lead India into the semi-finals from which stage they never looked back till the trophy was all their own. The Indians caused the first upset in the competition when they inflicted the first defeat on the West Indies since the tourney started. The West Indians were never before beaten in this tourney and it was creditable for the Indians to have done so. They were beaten in the second round game by the Windies but showed that their first round victory was no mere flash in the pan by defeating the Windies in the final.

The Indians who were up against the might of the Englishmen in the semi-finals played with great determination and confidence to rout the Englishmen and enter the final and then crush the Windies much to the jubilation of all the Indians on the ground and all over India. It was a final played in the best of traditions of the game and one which will live long in the memory of all those who were fortunate to obtain tickets to the final.

When this final is spoken of, the name of Kapil Dev will not be forgotten. His brilliant leadership coupled with his inspiring performance with both bat and ball makes him the number one allrounder in world cricket today. He is sure to serve India well in the years to come. The running catch he took to dismiss champion batsman Vivian Richards in the final and muff the life out of the West Indian batting lineup was a masterpiece. Indian cricket fans in England and in India, it is reported, danced and sang late into the night after this incredible victory over the seemingly unconquerable Windies.

The West Indies who were clear favourites to make it three-in-a-row will certainly have to infuse young blood into their ranks when the next World Cup tourney arrives if they are to maintain their position in world cricket today. Their fast bowlers Andy Roberts, Michael Holding, Malcolm Marshall and Joel Garner have been hunting together for far too long now. They are certainly fast but Robert and Holding are not as hostile as they used to be. Probably Roberts and skipper Clive Lloyd played their last game in this sort of cricket. Lloyd who was one of the best batsmen in the game seems to be reaching the end of a highly glamorous career that stretched for well over decade. He led them to their two earlier triumphs and was expected to write *finis* to his career making it three-in-a-row but he never expected that brand of resistance from the Indians which put paid to his hopes. At one stage with Richards pulverising the Indian attack one thought that the final will end earlier than expected. But impetuosity caused his dismissal and with that went his team's chances. It also proved that without Richards in full cry the Windies batting is vulnerable.

The Indians are not a brilliant star-studded side. They are a determined and a well balanced team in all departments of the game. And in Kapil Dev, I say they have the best leader in world cricket today. He is always on the ball as the saying goes and never lets up till the final ball is bowled. He is a firm believer that a game is not won or lost till the final ball is bowled.

SRI LANKA ENTERED THE TOURNEY looking confidently to enter at least the semi-finals. But as the tournament progressed it was blatantly clear that they were ill-equipped for this type of game. They certainly lacked a good allrounder who could also have been the fifth bowler in the side. They were a side equipped for the 45-over game and certainly not for the 60-over game.

However they did well to beat the New Zealanders in the second round game that was played at Derbyshire. They could have had a victory over the Pakistanis too. Here panic caused them the game which they lost by just 11 runs. Individually the

TRIBUNE, JULY 16, 1983

star performer in the Lankan squad was hit man Asantha de Mel. He was a cut above the others and came in for respect from all opposing batsmen and praise from all the scribes covering the tourney. He had five wickets on two occasions in the tourney and before that had a five wicket haul against the Zimbabweans in one of the warm-up games. De Mel with his fine bowling helped to raise Sri Lanka's prestige in the game. He was certainly an annoyed man when he was nearly kept out of the tour for reasons other than his ability. When he was selected he grabbed the opportunity to cock a snook at his detractors. With more concentration he should become one of the top all rounders to be produced by Sri Lanka.

The presence of Sir Garfield Sobers as coach of the Sri Lanka team in England certainly went to boost Sri Lanka's image. All cricketing personalities in England and the visiting teams and officials hold him in respect and awe and his presence was indeed a tonic to the Sri Lankan cricketers and its cricket. It is hoped that the cricket authorities here will continue to keep Sobers in charge of our cricket.

After this tour we are certain that the cricketers and the authorities would have learnt a lot. The cricketers by watching the game's greats and the authorities by way of watching the superb organisation and the competent running of the tourney.

DURING THE PRUDENTIAL WORLD CUP TOURNEY that enigmatic Joe Pamensky, President of the South African Cricket Union, arrived in England and began wooing cricket authorities in an endeavour to break the isolation of South Africa from established cricket. He made these endeavours before the two-day meeting of the International Cricket Conference was held at Lord's. However Pamensky's efforts were in vain because South Africa received another rebuff from the World's cricket authorities when the ICC threw out their appeals to rejoin the International Cricket Conference. "Apart from hardening of feelings nothing has changed", said Jack Bailey after the two-day conference of the ICC. Both the South African Cricket Union which runs the game for the white players and the South African Board of Control, the organisation for black players, were refused permission to attend the ICC meeting.

The conference decided to maintain the 'status quo.' Mr. Bailey said: "Neither body was recognised as being fully representative of cricket in that country, which is one of the conditions for the admission to ICC". It was the consensus view that members were not prepared to play representative cricket in South Africa unless apartheid laws were changed. Some countries would say that they cannot play normal cricket in an abnormal society", added Bailey

TRIBUNE, JULY 16, 1983

"Things have happened since last year which have hardened views both ways", said Bailey. This was the sequel to tours made by rebel West Indian and Sri Lanka cricketers.

Mr. Bailey added that the majority of members saw no point in giving either of the South African bodies an audience. Pamensky, said: "We will carry on with our tours and we have no conscience about it. South Africa has got political problems but still has a vote in the United Nations where these problems can be discussed. "I don't share the view that there is a hardening of opinions against South Africa by the ICC members. But delegates go into the conference with a mandate they must follow", he said. "We are upset by the decision not to give us a hearing. But we believe that there is still room for compromise within the ICC"

However Pamensky confirmed that the West Indian rebel tourists would return to South Africa in December for an extended tour, with possibly four Tests. Pamensky added that the ICC's continuing refusal to talk would only harden his attitude towards further tours. "If they come and talk to us the rebel tours will stop. If not we will carry on and we won't have any conscience", he added

Allrounder.

* * *

SPORTS CHRONICLE

June 27 - July 3

MONDAY, JUNE 27: A deadly spell of left arm leg spin bowling by Gamini Goonesena who had figures of 9-4-7-5 and a 62 — run third wicket stand between Bede Perera 54 and T. Sherifdeen 28 helped Don Carolis beat John Keels in the final of the B Division Mercantile Cricket Championships at the Bloomfield grounds yesterday: Don Carolis 153 in 49.2 overs and John Keels 118 in 45.1 overs. The Defending champions CH & FC scored a narrow 17 points (two tries, three penalties) to six points (two penalties) win over Air Force in their Clifford Cup return rugby match at Maitland Crescent yesterday. Army "Colts" 9 points (a goal and a penalty) beat Kandy Lions 3 (a drop goal) in their B Division rugby tournament match at Nittawela yesterday after leading 9-3 at halftime. Ratnam SC beat Jupiters SC 5-4 in the penalty tie-breaker in the second semi-final soccer match of the V. A. Sugathadasa Memorial Cup tournament played at the Police Park, Bambalapitiya yesterday.

TUESDAY, JUNE 28: An unfinished second wicket stand of 71 runs in 32 minutes between Ian Mahroof (48 not out with 9 fours) and Dushan Soza (28 not

out with one six and 3 fours) helped Metropolitan Agencies beat Associated Motorways by 9 wickets on the NCC grounds and enter the final round of the Mercantile D Division cricket tournament. In reply to AMW's 101, Metropolitan Agencies scored 103 for 1. St. Sylvester's College, Kandy scored a first innings win over Sri Rahula College, Katugastota in their schools under 15 cricket tournament match played at Police grounds, Kandy; Sri Rahula 136 all out and St. Sylvester's 140 for 9 wickets. Maliyadeva College, Kurunegala, scored a close first innings win over their home town rivals St. Anne's College, Kurunegala, in their under 17 cricket match played at St. Anne's grounds recently; Maliyadewa 121 all out and St. Annes 116. Pushpadana Balika Maha Vidyalaya defeated Wattegama Balika Vidyalaya by 3 goals to nil in their Kandy Schools under 15 hockey tournament match played at Peradeniya recently.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29: St. Peter's College, Bambalapatiya emerged unbeaten under 17 (Division 1) group leaders when they beat Royal A, Ananda A and Thurstan A and drew against D. S. Senanayake A in the preliminary round matches of the schools junior cricket tournament now in progress; they have thus qualified to play in the final round; beat Royal A by 77 runs: St. Peters 242 for 7 in 44 overs and Royal A 165 in 51.4 overs; beat Ananda A by 23 runs: Ananda A 199 in 35 overs and St. Peters 222 in 46.3 overs; beat Thurstan A by 106 runs; St. Peters 184 in 51.5 overs and Thurstan A 78 in 39.4 overs. Dimbulla scored a 10 points (1 try 2 penalties) to 3 points (1 penalty) win over Police "Griffins" in their SLRFU B Division rugger tournament match played at Radella recently. Kingswood College created a major upset when they toppled the joint reigning champions St. Sylvester's College Kandy, by two goals to nil in their Kandy schools under 19 hockey trounament match played at the Asgiriya Stadium recently.

THURSDAY, JUNE 30: Two half centuries by Saman Ratnayake 86 not out (16 fours) and Asanga Disanayake 64 (7 fours) helped Dharmaraja beat Kegalu Maha Vidyalaya by 270 runs in their under 15 schools cricket trounament pre-quarter match played at Lake View grounds, Kandy; Dharmaraja 310 for 9 and Kegalu MV 40. Maliyadewa College, Kurunegala gained a shock first innings win over Dharmaraja College, Kandy in their schools under 17 cricket tournament match played at Kurunegala, recently Dharmaraja 125 all out and Maliyadewa 210. Kelani Valley scored an easy 31 points (4 goals 1 try 1 drop goal) to 4 (1 try) win over CR & FC "Bees" in their upcountry league rugby tournament match played at Longden Place recently. Nalanda Vidyalaya trounced Hindu College by 5 goals to nil after leading 2-0 at the break in the Under 18 schools' hockey tournament match played at Colts Grounds yesterday.

FRIDAY, JULY 1: A match-winning eighth wicket stand of 38 runs between Vas Gunawardana (34 not out) and Samansiri Perera (20) saw Hentley's pull off a thrilling one wicket win over Whittals in a Mercantile E division cricket match played at Reid Avenue; Whittals 114 in 43 overs and Hentlys 115 for 9 in 33.3 overs. Trinity College scored a hard fought 4-3 win over Dharmaraja College in their Kandy Schools under 19 hockey tournament match played at Peradeniya. After a goalless first half Mackwood Winthrop edged out reigning champions Browns 1-0 in the semi-final round of the Mercantile Services A Division knock out hockey tournament at the NCC grounds yesterday. Dharmaraja College Kandy beat Kingswood College 3-0 in an under 19 K. S. H. A. tournament match played at University grounds Peradeniya recently.

SATURDAY JULY 2: Defending champions CH & FC remained unbeaten and continued to lead the Clifford Cup Rugby Championships with a 17 points (1 goal 2 tries 1 penalty) to nil victory over Havelocks in their second-round League match played yesterday at Maitland Crescent; all the scoring was done in the first session of play. CR & FC scored a hard fought 17 (2 tries, 3 penalties) to 9 (1 goal, 1 penalty) win over Kandy Sports Club in their second round Clifford Cup League rugby match at Nittawela yesterday after leading 11-3 at halftime. St. Anthony's 18 points (2 goals and 2 penalties) beat St. Peters 7 points (a try and a penalty) in their schools rugby match at Nittawela on Thursday after leading 9-4 at half time. St. Sylvester's College, Kandy, scored a close 1-nil win over Anuruddha Maha Vidyalaya, Nawalapitiya in their John Tarbat Shield under 17 soccer tournament match played at Police grounds, Kandy recently.

SUNDAY, JULY 3: Trinity boosted their morale for the Centenary Bradby Shield Foortball encounter against Royal in Colombo on July 16, when they beat the Royalists by 14 points (2 tries and 2 penalties) to 6 (a goal) in a roistering first-round encounter at the Bogambara Stadium yesterday. The large crowd at Police Park last evening was treated to some energetic rugby in the match between the Army and Police; the verdict went in favour of Police who beat Army by 9 points (3 penalties) to, 3 (a penalty). Samuel Sons beat Hotel Ceylon Intercontinental by 5 wickets in the Mercantile E Division tournament match played yesterday on the BRC grounds at Havelock Park; Hotel Ceylon Inter-continental 121 abd Samuel Sons 122 for 5 wickets. Royal College and Bishops College won the Boys and Girls overall titles respectively when the 10th Sri Lanka Schools National Swimming and Diving Championships conducted by the Sri Lanka Aquatic Sports Association came to a close at the Josephian S/Swimming pool yesterday.

TRIBUNE, JULY 16, 1983

TENDER NOTICE

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

Tenders for the construction of following building works in Matale District will be received by the Chairman, Tender Board, Superintending Engineer's Office, Department of Buildings, Kandy up to 10.00 a. m. on 1983. 07. 20:-

- (a) Construction of Field Officers' Qrs. Gr. III at Kaludawela in Rattota Electorate in Matale District.
- (b) Construction of Field Officers' Qrs. Gr. III at Kaludawela in Matale Electorate in Matale District.

02. Tender Forms could be obtained from the District Engineer, Department of Buildings, Matale, before 4.15 p. m. on 83.07.15 by Registered Contractors or "Trial Letter" holders of the Department for Rs. 200,000/- and above on production of a Tender Deposit Receipt for Rs. 200/- in respect of each of the above works issued by Buildings Department, Colombo or any Kachcheri outside Colombo.

03. Private Company tenderers should declare the names of the current Directors and share - holders. Public Company Tenderers should declare the names of the current Directors.

A. Supramaniam.
Superintending Engineer,
Central Division (Buildings).

DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,
Kandy, 1983.07.08
G/

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Air Lanka

IS IT NOT TRUE that there is a great deal of uneasy speculation over reports that Air Lanka had contemplated signing an agreement with Taiwan's national airline? That only a few months ago Beijing had cancelled the landing rights (in China) granted to a big US air line because it had subsequently entered into a similar agreement with the Taiwanese government? That the Beijing government is extremely sensitive about the "Two Chinas" card which some countries had played from 1949 when the Communist regime was set up on the mainland? That in the last 30 odd years most governments except a few have discarded the "Two Chinas" policy? That even the United States had formally put the "recognition" of Taiwan into a kind of deep freeze in order to "normalise" relations with "mainland" China? That Reagan's recent attempts to keep the Taiwan connection going under various excuses (e.g. selling arms under old agreements etc.) had ostensibly disturbed the smooth flow of US-China relations? That it will be recalled that Sri Lanka has from 1950 recognised the Beijing government and that after the 1952/53 Rice-Rubber Agreement had completely ruled out all attempts inspired by certain Western lobbies to have a mild flirtation with the "Two Chinas" gambit? That after 1977 the UNP government, in pursuance of its open economic policy, permitted the Taiwan government to open a trade office in Colombo and thereafter Sri Lanka has imported fairly large quantities of consumer goods from Taiwan? That this business of imports from Taiwan had begun surreptitiously in the days of the SLFP Left coalition government from 1970-77? That even larger imports had then been allowed from South Korea though the Seoul government had been put into a kind of political quarantine as an "imperialist outpost" by the Sirimavo government? That the Jayawardene government has regularised relations with South Korea in the same way India and many other Non-Aligned countries have done? That the UNP government however has scrupulously avoided the creation of even the slightest suspicion that it would develop a "two Chinas" tilt and had therefore been able to develop extremely friendly and cordial relations with Communist China in trade and all other matters?

THAT IN THIS CONTEXT AND BACKDROP, the story about Air Lanka's attempt to negotiate an agreement with Taiwan had come as a first class thunderbolt? That the first hint that something was in the offing came in a *Reuter* report from Taipei dated June 23? That it said: "Air Lanka has asked Taiwan for permission to fly to Taipei, a Communications Ministry spokesman said here today. He

said talks would be held soon between *Air Lanka* and *China Airlines* on extending to Taipei the Sri Lankan carrier's present route from Colombo to Hong Kong, with reciprocal facilities for the Taiwanese Airline. Air Lanka is the National Airline of Sri Lanka which has diplomatic relations with Peking. But Airline sources said Peking was not expected to say much in public about the Air Lanka application, unlike its angry reaction to the recent resumption of flights to Taiwan by *Pan American World Airways*. Peking has asked the US Government to designate another Airline for mainland route and cancelled *Pan Am's* right to land at Canton in emergencies such as the closure of the Hong Kong Airport. The sources said Peking's reaction to the *Pan Am* move was not as strong as expected and this has encouraged other carriers to draw up their own plans for services to Taiwan. Communications Minister Lien Chang said last week that *Japan Air lines*, *British Airways*, *Air France* and *Lufthansa* were negotiating on air links with Taiwan. The four previously had air agreements with Taiwan although not all flew to the Island. Lien said Taiwan welcomed foreign airlines as long as fair and reciprocal principles were observed." That in Colombo *The Island* had immediately followed this *Reuter* report with a story under the headline *NOT YET - RAKKHITA*. "Air Lanka Chairman Captain Rakkitha Wickremanayake yesterday denied foreign reports that Sri Lanka's national carrier had sought permission from Taiwan to fly to their country. The Air Lanka Chairman, when asked for his comments, told *The Island*: 'We have no plans to fly to Taiwan yet', but admitted that he had been to Taiwan three months ago on a courtesy call. Capt. Wickremanayake also said 'we will not make any application until we get clearance from our Government. Asked whether he had discussed the matter with the Sri Lanka Government the Chairman said 'Not Yet' adding 'There is no purpose in consulting Government until a study shows the route is viable'. In reply to another question whether Air Lanka planned to carry out such a study Capt. Wickremanayake said: "We plan to do one shortly? . . . " *That this story about Air Lanka wanting to do a deal with the China Airlines of Taiwan raised a mild storm in the front pages of some daily papers in Colombo?*

To be continued.

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MINISTRY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT
HOUSING AND CONSTRUCTION

IN RECENT TIMES, THERE HAVE BEEN
MANY ACCIDENTS AT LEVEL CROSSINGS

INFORMATION PROJECT OF THE CENTRE FOR HOUSING
PLANNING & BUILDING

VACANCIES

AT UNMANNED LEVEL CROSSINGS,
THE RAILWAY TRAIN HAS RIGHT OF WAY

Graduate Civil Engineer or Architect with 8 years experience
or Member of the Sri Lanka Administrative Service with
8 years experience in the field of Housing and Planning.

You Must, Therefore,

Observe Safety Signals

Do Not Cross in the Face of

An Approaching Train

Be Vigilant and Careful

Stop, Look Both Sides and

Then Proceed

Don't Rush to Collide With Train

A MOMENT'S CARELESSNESS MAY MEAN DEATH

REMEMBER YOUR FAMILY IS WAITING FOR YOU

Space Donated

MINISTRY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, HOUSING AND CONSTRUCTION

SRI LANKA CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY TRAINING PROJECT

INFORMATION PROJECT OF THE CENTRE FOR HOUSING,
PLANNING & BUILDING

VACANCIES

The Sri Lanka Construction Industry Training Project invites applications for the following posts from suitable candidates for employment in the above Project.

(1) DEPUTY DIRECTOR

QUALIFICATIONS : Graduate Civil Engineer or Architect with 8 years experience or Member of the Sri Lanka Administrative Service with 8 years experience in the field of Housing and Planning.

(2) ENGINEER - RESEARCH

QUALIFICATIONS : B. Sc. Engineering Degree or Equivalent with 5 years experience. Preference will be given to those with experience in research activities in the Construction Industry/Housing and Planning.

(3) ASST. COURSE CO-ORDINATOR (CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT)

QUALIFICATIONS : B. Sc. Engineering Degree or Equivalent with at least 3 years experience, preferably in academic work.

(4) LIBRARIAN

QUALIFICATIONS : A pass in the G. C. E. (O/L) Examination in 6 subjects including Sinhala/Tamil Language, Arithmetic/Mathematics/Commercial Arithmetic and English Language in not more than 2 sittings or Equivalent, and Intermediate Examination of the Sri Lanka Library Association or Diploma in Library Science or Part I of Library Science of the University of Kelaniya.

SALARY : Negotiable in respect of all the above posts.

GENERAL CONDITIONS : (a) The appointment will be on contract basis.

(b) Retired person with the above qualifications may also apply.

(c) Applications from employees in Government Departments and Corporations, Statutory Bodies should be forwarded through their respective Heads of Department/Corporation/Board.

Applications giving full Bio-Data with experience and posts held together dates, copies of certificates and salary expected, should be sent to reach the Director, Sri Lanka Construction Industry Training Project, 'Stewart Lodge', 154, Galle Road Colombo 3 on or before 27th July 1983. Post applied for must be marked on the left hand corner of the envelope.

DIRECTOR
SRI LANKA CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY TRAINING PROJECT.