

TRIBUNE

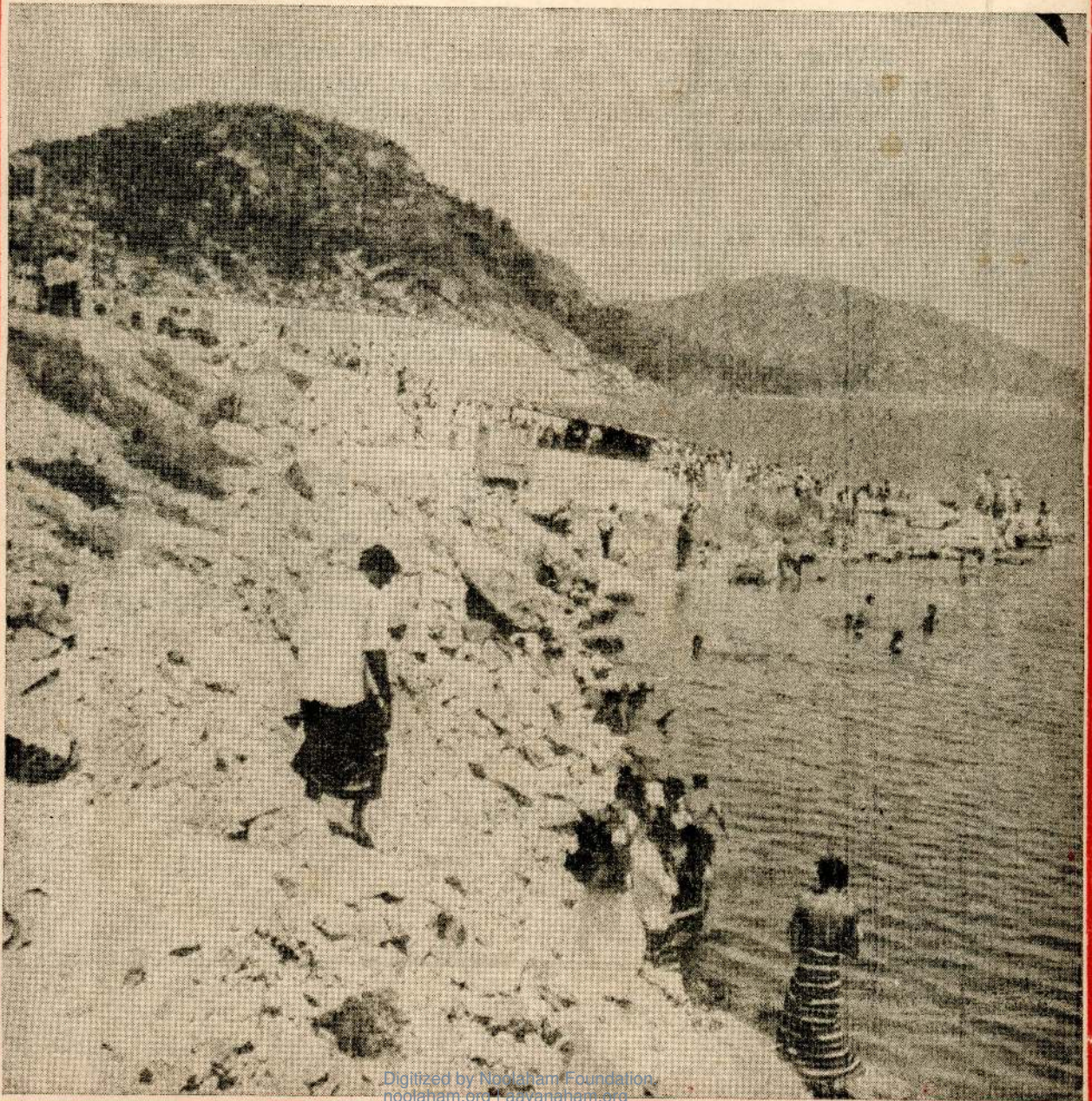
CEYLON NEWS REVIEW

Vol. 27 — No. 43

JULY 30 1983

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- ★ ENGLISH ALSO
- ★ FORESTS & RAIN
- ★ NEW ERA?
- ★ PLANTATIONS
- ★ MALARIA CURE
- ★ SPORTSCOPE
- ★ TAX EVASION



TO OUR READERS

This issue of *Tribune* was in print when the disturbances broke out on July 25. We could not resume work until August 9 owing to many technical and practical difficulties.

We do not want to skip the issue of July 30, and we are therefore publishing it as a matter of History and Record. We have eliminated the articles that have become dated especially on Foreign Affairs and some aspects of Domestic Politics.

To catch up with time this issue, and may be the next, will have fewer pages. We are, however, endeavouring to catch up with pages and schedules as quickly as possible. In view of everything that has happened, *Tribune* which was already Development-Oriented will devote much of its attention to questions of Rehabilitation and Reconstruction and also national Reconciliation in the coming months.

We now have also problems of distribution. We do not know how many of our regular subscribers have been temporarily or even permanently displaced. Our network of sales agents in Colombo, Kandy and other towns has been shattered. We have to build anew and we look forward to our readers and well-wishers to help us restore our system of distribution in the different districts. We will be grateful for suggestions — *Editor*, August 9, 1983.

TRIBUNE

43, Dawson Street,
Colombo 2.

TRIBUNE

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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

TRIBUNE has been inundated in recent months with requests for a weekly course in Spoken English for Sinhala youth in the rural areas. As the weeks go by such requests have kept increasing. Readers from the rural districts tell us that the most insistent demand in any village today is for English. It was not a case of abandoning or discarding the mother tongue, they said, but it was simply a demand for *English Also*. *Tribune* has there fore been persuaded to publish a weekly lesson in Spoken English specially prepared for rural youth. Persons competent to prepare such a course have undertaken to have one ready as early as possible. *Tribune*, it will be recalled, has consistently pointed out, even from the dizzy days of *Swabasha* and *Sinhala Only* fanaticism, that without a world language like English this island and its people will be devalued internally as well as internationally. This fate has overtaken this country and it will be sometime before the strenuous efforts being made now can bear fruit. It is well to remember that the English language is today the nearest thing to a *lingua-franca* around the globe. It was brought to many remote parts of the world by colonialism and in many of these places it remains an important means of communication. For instance, when India won independence from Britain in 1947, Hindi was made the official language but English was maintained as the link language. The most influential of the old British colonies to retain English as its main language is, of course, the United States. However, it is as a second language — in addition to a country's native language — that English is so important internationally. World bodies from the Olympic Committee to the Miss Universe pageant use English as their official language. In four particular spheres, English has become the universal language: world trade, popular music, diplomacy and science. For Pop singers all over the world English seems to be the natural language for their songs. English has replaced German as the language of science after the Second World War when many of Germany's top scientists went to Britain. Many world leaders are fluent in English, so it is usually used at international political conferences. The use of English in international trade and politics has made the teaching of English a very successful business. Any one working in these fields who does not speak the language is likely to find himself at a disadvantage and for this reason many large businesses run English courses for their employees. English language schools are opening everywhere and they do very good business. This is true of Sri Lanka too. Unfortunately, the standard of teaching is often very low. Good English teachers are few and they are in constant and great demand. Some countries, however, resent this invasion by the English language, but they are unable to contain the global upsurge for a knowledge of English. In some newly independent countries, where a desire to shed every vestige of what is regarded as "cultural imperialism" manifested itself, with an overdoze of chauvinistic fervour, English was discarded completely, but after a few years most of them have once again reverted to English not as the official language but as a world language to open the doors to modern knowledge and technology. In spite of resentment and hostility from some countries, the place of English as *lingua-franca* to the world appears to be firmly set. According to Robert Burchfield, however, who is editor of the *Oxford English Dictionary* English may suffer the same eventual fate as that other international language - Latin which broke up into several quite different languages, such as French and Italian. And Mr. Burchfield believes this is already happening to English. Two years ago, Oxford published a new dictionary to exist alongside the *Oxford English Dictionary*. They called it the "*Oxford Dictionary*". In Sri Lanka, too, the English language may evolve its own distinct identity.

A New Era?

Colombo, August 9: This is a postscript to the issue of *Tribune* dated July 30 released over two weeks late. This is one way to place on record the impact of the holocaust that struck this island from July 24/25 in the momentous and unique times in which we live.

The picture on the cover was intended for another era—just three weeks removed. It is a scene on the banks of the Madura Oya Reservoir that was commissioned on July 2. Many had looked forward to a peaceful period of construction and had hoped that development would lead to harmony and national unity.

But sinister forces had decreed otherwise. In less than 48 hours from the late evening of July 24 and during a frightful six hour spell on July 29 this country underwent a traumatic experience in which it was transported into another era altogether. For nearly ten days and more arson, looting murder and mayhem erupted in the capital city, in some of the bigger towns and in many other places. All this has brought fundamental changes not only in the situation in the country but also in the thinking of all segments of the population. We will go into this when the present storms, uncertainties and especially the maelstrom of nervous tensions have abated. We will also withhold in-depth analytical examination of the events that have transformed Sri Lanka beyond recognition until the censorship is lifted. Such examination is not possible with the constraints of censorship, however selective and however restricted. *Tribune* will, for the time being, be silent on matters which are subject to censorship. This has been our practice whenever censorship was imposed. And when censorship was total, we had on two occasions temporarily suspended publication, in 1958 and 1971.

We will, however, publish in our columns what the censor has passed for publication in the daily papers. Such matters will draw attention to the developing trends in the new era of rehabilitation and reconstruction. While this goes on, development and production has to be sustained, intensified as expanded in all fields—agriculture, industries and exports. How tourism is to be put back on the rails is a conundrum hard to solve.

There is always a silver lining, not in every dark cloud, but in some. And right now we can detect such a lining in the pleas for sanity that has brought hope that a new dawn will soon be upon us.

First, we wish to draw attention to an editorial in the *Sun* on August 3 entitled CONSOLE THE AFFLICTED. "The deluge of ethnic unrest during the past one week has also left a mass of displaced people huddled up in makeshift so called welfare centres in Colombo and the provinces. Their number has already exceeded sixty thousand. And the plight of these people—victims of a monstrosity engineered as it is by cold calculating political vermin is almost irredeemable. Not for a very long time to come. Most of these unfortunate people have lived like brothers and sisters with the majority down the years. Most of them have fought tooth and nail against the lunatic crusaders for a separate state. That is why their anguish is immense and their present predicament equally unbearable. Like that of the small eight year old Tamil boy interned in a camp telephoning his Sinhala classmate and asking him why these people burnt his house when he speaks and learns only Sinhala and that he knows no Tamil". Venerable Madihe Pannaseeha Mahanayake, the much admired and loved monk of Lanka's Buddhists, made a fervent plea through the columns of the 'SUN' to help those thousands of distressed people now languishing under difficult conditions in the camps. Symptomatic of the noble teachings of his leader the Mahanayake reminded the people that it is their duty as Buddhists to help those who are in need. Every religious leader would agree and endorse the sentiments expressed by him. And every Lankan has been provided an excellent opportunity to express his compassion and selfless altruism in rendering humane service to alleviate the misery and suffering of the helpless multitude.

"It is true that the Government has set up emergency programmes to provide them with bare necessities during this period of temporary displacement. But that is apparently inadequate. The refugees are in dire need of good clothing and other basic amenities which the Government alone cannot handle. A massive relief operation on a voluntary basis should be initiated before the situation takes a turn for the worse. The efforts already taken by some of the service organisations are commendable. Those afflicted men women and children who need succour and material help were only a week before people with a sense of dignity and means to lead a respectable life. But for some unnatural disaster they have been condemned to suffer within four walls of a "Welfare Centre" where despair is written in large letters. But their mental agony and physical grief could be reduced with a little bit of loving kindness and above all genero "

Second, we refer to an editorial in *The Island* of August 5 entitled HEALING THE WOUNDS. "The stark facts of the national tragedy which stole upon the country last Monday have now been disclosed in full. Two hundred and sixty seven people have been

killed while 1,438 cases of arson have been reported to the authorities, the Secretary to the Ministry of State Douglas Liyanage had revealed to newsmen at this daily press briefing on Wednesday. It is possible that these numbers are greater but whatever it is, the available statistics alone are enough of a condemnation which the whole country has to bear and for which there might never be any sufficient act of national penance. Statistics do not normally bleed, but these figures put out by the authorities reek from end to end of that intolerance and hate which transformed men into beasts during the last week. But now that the country is at last facing squarely upto its shame and tragedy it is the duty of all citizens to turn inward and ask themselves what each of them can do to alleviate the misery of the uprooted and the orphaned. The people in the refugee camps have often been left with nothing on their backs but what they had been wearing when the mobs struck. There is an urgent need for clothing and medicine for the inmates of the refugees camps. Every person however humble or poor can contribute his mite towards the relief operation, for by such deeds alone can we compensate (if compensation is indeed possible) for the savagery of our own fellow men whose heartlessness has reduced an entire community to stark misery and indignity unworthy of the human personality. This kind of fellow-feeling and sympathy for the afflicted is all the more necessary because there is the very real danger of the gulf between the Sinhala and Tamil peoples widening beyond redemption because of the recent events. This is a trend every right-thinking person must do everything in his power to arrest. This is no time for jingoism and sabre-rattling. The tragic outcome of such petty heroics is all around us to see. The need of the hour is to put this chapter of shame in the nation's history behind us and begin anew the task of nation-building in which struggle the Tamil people of Sri Lanka have to play their own role. Repairing the bridges between the two communities ravaged by the insensate acts of vile men is a task which falls on every citizen. The nation owes a debt to all those selfless men and women who in the face of the mob's fury came forward to give refuge in their own homes to the displaced. By their acts of self-sacrifice and courage they have testified to the vestigial humanism of man and redeemed the nation's good name from being totally sullied and dragged in the mud. The country has to learn a lesson from the example set by these Sinhalese in our midst and begin the task of reaching out to the Tamil people who have been affected by the recent holocaust. Each person must do this within his or her own circle, trying to regain the confidence of Tamil friends and associates and offering proof that in spite of all the ugly happenings of the past few days all is not lost. Answering questions of the current situation in the Indian Parliament. External Affairs Minister Narasimha Rao had stressed the need "for reassuring the minority as essential for restoring not only

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communal harmony but even law and order'. This is a valid point which everyone at every level would do well to bear in mind during these troubled days. This task of reassuring the Tamil people, of building the damaged bridges between the two communities and drawing the Tamil people, back into the mainstream of national life is the greatest challenge which awaits the country today."

Both editorials bring a feeling of relief and hope that sanity may yet begin to prevail in the land.

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EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

Do Forests Bring Rain?

Colombo July 23: Even before our issue of July 16 with the piece "Why No Rain" appeared on the newstands, a sudden spurt of "moderate" monsoonal rain had begun to fall in certain parts of the island. Our notes are usually written about a week before the date of publication, and a time lag is inevitable between event and comment. On July 14, the *Daily Mirror*, in a piece entitled *Much Awaited Rains Picking Up*, said "Good news is in the offing for city dwellers who have to depend on pipe borne water. Colombo dwellers who kept their fingers crossed after the Water Supply and Drainage Board issued warnings of impending water cuts can now relax even for a moment. According to latest reports from weather forecasters at the Colombo Observatory, the Southwest monsoon is showing signs of picking up. The monsoon pattern has been holding from last Friday, Met. Department sources told the *Daily Mirror* yesterday. There was a possibility of this pattern stabilising. In simple language the much awaited rains are coming soon" *There has been rain — undoubtedly monsoonal — from that time up to date. But Labugama and Kalatuwawa have received no rains. The High Priests of the Metereology have still not issued a new proclamation about this rain nor attempted an analysis of its distribution.*

We have no desire to sermonise our meteorological pundits about their cocksure pronouncements on matters climatological but an article in the *New York Times* on the weather has prompted us to revert to this subject again. In our note on July 16 we had mentioned that Sri Lanka's Meteorology's chief Kariyawasam had "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"

We had then asked out: "Why did the rain-bearing clouds leap-frog over this emerald isle (of Sri Lanka) and drop its rain in India? Why? We are not competent enough to answer this question but there are many who are erudite about 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 indigenous to the island and the region must once again constitute the bulk of the vegetation and forest cover"

Ever since its inception in 1954, *Tribune* has been drawing attention to our dwindling forest cover. At that time it was well over 40% — some say about 45%. Today, it is between 20% to 25%, and illicit felling continues to reduce the forest cover even more. (We hope the Action Committees set up after the recent G. A.'s. Conference will be able to check this menace). We have during the last (nearly) three decades published articles on why our indigenous trees and forests are needed to attract rain. We had also warned the authorities that pinus and eucalyptus planted indiscriminately would do more harm than good. (In this we have been proved correct). Many experts and "academicians" have in the same period in newspaper articles, seminar papers and radio talks refuted the idea that forests were needed for rain and scoffed at the idea that forests attracted or caused rain. To controvert them we had published articles from other authorities that trees and forests bring rain. *Meteorological boss Kariyawasam appears to be one of those who*

seems to think that deforestation has no impact on the occurrence of rain. Such pundits have always said that there was no "hard scientific evidence, to prove that there was any connection between forests and rain.

It is on this wrong premise that the single-track pundits of the Forest Department have concentrated on the pinus and eucalyptus — as fuel wood. There pundits of the Forest Department have concentrated on the pinus and eucalyptus — as fuel wood. There is also no doubt that the Forest Department is as guilty as the illicit loggers in devastating large forests (to obtain legal timber etc.) in the belief that quick growing pinus and similar nondescript fuelwood trees would compensate for the cutting down of the big indigenous trees by the Department. We will, in the coming week, revert to such nationally dangerous activities (over the years) of the Forest Department which were carried out by intellectually arrogant "experts" labouring under misconceptions and theories detrimental to the interests of poor developing countries dependent on rain for agriculture and without mineral or oil resources.

In the meantime we will cite excerpts from the article in the *New York Times* entitled *Forest's Impact On Weather Patterns*: "A team of researchers studying the dynamics of South America's tropical forest has produced scientific evidence showing for the first time that a forest can return as much as 75 percent of the moisture it receives to the atmosphere. The finding indicates that the forest plays a much more important role in weather generation than had been previously believed.. The pioneering study, conducted in the world's largest forest in the Amazon river basin, is also the first to show that the amount of water a forest gathers can be returned to the air in large enough amounts to form new rain clouds. *Naturalists had long thought there was some relationship between forests and rainfall, but evidence for such a connection has largely been circumstantial or anecdotal* The new research also indicates that land covered by trees collect and return to the air at least 10 times as much moisture as bare deforested land and twice as much as land where grasses or plants other than trees predominate. Other data give evidence that water runoff is greatly increased without the heavy mass of vegetation to break the fall of rain and that the rate of which water infiltrates into the soil is considerably lower in compacted pasture soils than in other types. These two findings mean that most of the runoff from precipitation travels relatively far from the site and is not easily returned to the atmosphere.

"The study also shows that removal of trees adjacent to rivers or their tributaries contributes to greater

runoff, rising levels of streams and flooding of low-land areas. Many hydrologists had previously discounted the possibility that forest clearance or replacement by other types of vegetation such as pasture or annual crops would have any major impact on amounts of rainfall, water balance and flooding. The new findings have been reported in a paper submitted by Dr. Eneas Salati, professor of Meteorology at the University of Sao Paulo and head of the research team. *Dr. Salati says the findings can be helpful in and use planning and useful in carrying out forest protection programmes in temperate as well as tropical forest zones.* I think we have shown that the water and energy balance — the life support system — of a land area depends on the kind of cover you have on the land. Although the basic finding of the study that a larger forest can generate its own weather patterns, it is believed to have opened a new path of research into the dynamics of a tropical forest, but it is not yet known how its findings may be applied to the nurture of forests in the temperate zone. Forests in varying geographical areas, with different wind patterns, temperatures, soil composition and terrain and affected by differing external forces have correspondingly different internal water and nutrient dynamics.

“Since tropical forests make up nearly one half of the world’s 48 million square miles of wooded land, the results of the new research are expected to have significance for all scientists who are studying forest ecology, hydrology and energy balance. And although the study does not show that a forest may influence weather and climate patterns far from the forest, many scientists think its ability to create clouds and rainfall may significantly affect global weather patterns. Such an effect could occur from changes in solar heat reflection caused by the formation of clouds above a forest. When clouds are formed, the temperature of the earth beneath them changes, a major factor in the generation of winds and weather.

“By sampling air moisture along an east-west line across the Amazon basin and measuring its changing molecular composition in terms of oxygen isotopes the scientists were able to determine how much moisture the forest recycled into the atmosphere. Samples of water vapour were collected on the ground and in the air across the Amazonian forest from the Atlantic Ocean to the Andes Mountains 2000 miles to the west. The researchers used as the basis of their investigation the fact that the isotope oxygen 18 is found in known amounts in water vapour and rain clouds laden with moisture from the Atlantic Ocean. They also knew that oxygen 18, one of the heaviest isotopes in water vapour molecules, falls preferentially to earth when it rains. This, in theory, as the prevailing winds from the

east moved moisture-laden air from the Atlantic across Amazon to the west rainfall along the way would greatly diminish the proportion of oxygen 18 as well as the water content of the moist air,

“The most dramatic finding was reported by the team leader, Dr Salati, who is also Director of the Centre for Nuclear Energy and Agriculture in Sao Paulo. He cited studies that showed that the forest near Manaus in Brazil recycled 75 percent of the rain back into the atmosphere by evaporation and transpiration. In that area, approximately 25 percent of the rain was diverted into stream runoff that transported the water far from the site. But another 25 percent was evaporated back into the atmosphere from raindrops that stayed on the leaves and 50 percent was returned to the air above the forest by transpiration. In transpiration, moisture absorbed by tree roots from the soil is carried by the plant’s vascular system back up to the leaves and exuded through their pores. The United States office of technology assessment and a Brazilian forest-monitoring programme have recently independently estimated that about 15,000 acres of Amazonian forest is being levelled every day. Similar destruction is also occurring in the forests of Africa and South-east Asia.”

What the research team in Brazil has found as “scientific evidence” has been known from the beginning of the recorded history of man. People with a little common sense have not been misled by operators who wanted the timber from the tropical forests of Third World countries into believing that there was little or no connection between forests and rain. *Our Met. and Forest Dept. theologians must realise there a little learning can be dangerous.*

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REPORTAGE

The Mahaveli - 2

By Malcolm Jansen

THE MAHAVELI which arises as a small mountain stream in the rain drenched slopes of Horton Plains, over 7,000 feet above sea level runs its winding course for over 200 miles before casting its precious silt laden cargo into the clear blue waters of Koddiiyar Bay at Trincomalee. Fed by heavy torrential rains of the hills country it carries a flow throughout the year, winding for more than half its length through parched wind-swept lowlands.

Below Manampitiya, is the general floodplain area of the Mahaveli where in the Maha rainy season, the swollen river spills its banks — an annual feature that

gives the floodplain its characteristic rich value. The yellow silt laden waters fill the numerous wide depressions, or *villu* basins, that dot the floodplain. These saucer-shaped marshy ponds or *villu* are highly productive ecosystems that sustain a wide variety of life. Enriching each such pond are treeless verdant plains; a swamp during the wetter months. Beyond the plains unbroken jungle or *palu*, *wira* and *kumbuk*.

On the left bank of the river is the large *Velankadu Villu* and on the right bank the *Karapola Villu*. The rich gazing value and the fisheries potential have attracted settlers to the *villu* and led to the initiation of settlements centred around them. The villagers of *Manikkampatiya*, *Divulana* and *Padur* stand on the western perimeter of *Velankadu Villu*. The well-worn tracks that lead down from the village to the *villu* were testimony of the influence of the *villu* on the daily life of the people. The beautiful *Velankadu Villu* stands out also for its amazingly rich avifauna. As dawn broke out over the *villu*, the sky above appeared speckled with flocks of hundreds of cormorants, terns, shags and teal. They alight on the water and soon the *villu* was covered with noisy and colourful birds. Lacy-white egrets, black and white spashed *jacanas*, purple *coots*, painted *storks* and *herons* provided a panorama of colour. We approached a large and well established island and opted for the right channel. Ahead was the former small village of *Alinchipotana* abandoned after the recent cyclone. What remains today are the ruins of the mosque and the rubble of what was once a school building. The floodplains of the Mahaveli are generally very sparsely populated with only a few isolated villages like *Katuwanwila*, *Karapola*, *Mutugala* and *Rotawewa*. It was 'back of beyond' country where one may yet enjoy the wild freshness of the forest and grass clad plains. It was amazing to find that the same village tank, which is the artery of life to the villagers, is shared by crocodile, elephant, heron and wildboar. Animal and human hardly seem to conflict in such remote areas

WE WERE NOW ON THE LOOK OUT for a spot on the left bank of the river named *Anaikallu* where the head of a baby elephant carved in rock stands at the edge of the water. Very little is known of the origin of this sculpture although there is a belief that it dates back from the fourth century. We located *Anaikallu*, but what remains today is only a jagged rock-vandals having blasted the culptured head. The sun had long set now, and save for the sounds of the rushing river and the splash of water against wood, the night was very still. This was the area of the *Somawathiya Sanctuary* an area respected for its famous elephant populations and recognized by some. that its floodplain habitat represents an area in which much of the evolution of the Asiatic elephant took place. In other words, through genera-

tions the Asian elephant appears to have evolved in relation to ecological conditions of an abundant and constant supply of grass, browse and water afforded by riverine systems such as the *Somawathiya*. Thus they seem to be nest adapted to such habitats, which are reflected by the high elephant density in the area.

Historically the fertile floodplains of most Asian countries have been the first to be affected by human settlements; the fertile floodplains of the great Asiatic rivers such as the Indus, Ganges and Chao Phraya now contain some of the densest populations in the world. This had led to the exclusion of the Asian elephant species from all but hilly and very mountainous regions, the last bit of land to be developed by man. This however is in contrast to what had happened in Sri Lanka; abandonment of the early civilization centred around the dry lowlands and the subsequent development of the mountainous regions under plantations. *Somawathiya* and its environs may perhaps be one of the very few floodplains left in Asia where elephants are still found.

We soon approached a fork on the river and later passed the arm of the *Kandakadu Aru*. The two channels of the main river closed to envelope a small island that must have been under tobacco, judging by the numerous fires that appeared on its banks. It was well past nine o'clock when we located the campsite and finally stumbled across a wide sand-spit towards the camp; bedraggled and weary. The sun had long risen when we woke up the next morning. The previous night's makeshift camp was located underneath a large reclining *Kumbuk* at the edge of the large a sand - spit. Numerous elephant droppings and footprints stood out prominently in the sand. We spent the next two nights too, under the large *kumbuk* tree. The *damana* grasslands were extensive on the wide expanses that extended east of the river. Clumps of stunted *madan*, *divul* and *aralu* dot these grassy plains that gave sparse covering of the *Aristida*, *Chrysopogon* and *Dactyloctenium* grasses. Thorny scrub of *eraminiya*, *karamba*, *hatavariya* and *kukuruman* line of the plains.

The banks of the Mahaveli and its tributaries in this area are completely denuded of its natural vegetation. Everywhere the majestic gallery forests had been replaced by an endless expanse of bare plains. At regular intervals the high banks had been cut vertically so as to accommodate a bullock driven lift irrigation system for the purpose of supplying water to the tobacco fields. Large hand-sewn leather bags are lowered into the river and raised up, full of water. The wide open upper lip of the bag was then tilted over such that the water it contained emptied into a trough and was led into, and through the fields. The cultivation and curing of

**The Land Acquisition Act (Cap 460) as amended
by the Land Acquisition (Amendment) Act No.
28 of 1964**

NOTICE UNDER SECTION 33

tobacco, done along the banks of the Mahaweli during the dry season here at *Kompanachchi*, is an old and occupation that has been going on for the past six decades. People of *Eravur*, from the eastern coast were the first to cultivate tobacco on the fertile banks of the river. Year in and year out they come back to the very same plot and cultivate it at the end of the Maha rains. However, in recent years with more and more migrant tobacco farmers moving in, on the river, new land had to be cleared and today an almost uninterrupted chain of farms extend downstream from Manampitiya.

ACROSS THE RIVER on the left bank was the *Somawathiya Chaitiya* an ancient stupa built by King Valagamba 43-17 B. C. It was engulfed by the jungle tide for several centuries until rediscovered a few decades ago. The stupa has recently been restored and stands high amidst a sea of wilderness, overlooking the wide expanse of *Meen villu* Peace and tranquility prevails at all times in its verdant surrounding *Meen Villu* and the environs of *Somawathiya* abound with large numbers of elephants. The lower reaches of the river are in fact the home of about one-sixth of the island's total elephant population which stands at between 2,500 - 3,000 animals. These large animals undertake seasonal migrations between river and the high forests that stretch on either side and away from the river, travelling almost as far east as the coast and west to the *Hurulu Forest Reserve*. In the dryseason, large herds congregate near the river and villu marshes, as the surrounding forested areas become unproductive.

Three months earlier, we encountered a very large aggregation of over hundred elephants at *Velvette Villu*, on the right bank of the river, north of *Kandakadu*. This area was one of favourite feeding grounds for the *Somawathiya* elephant. The improved pasture grass *Brachiaria brizantha* had spilled over to the *villu* from the neighbouring farm and now forms the main component of the *villu* vegetation. It is much loved by the elephant. Our first real encounter with wild elephants on the trip, came on the second night out at *Kandakadu*. We had located our camp exactly across one of those wide elephant trails that led down to the river not the best section of sites however and we were soon faced with the dilemma of keeping a whole herd of thirsty wild elephants from stampeding across our camp. We hastily set up fires around the camp in an attempt to keep the animals away. The next morning we found that a very large elephant had crossed the sand spit barely twenty feet from where we slept. This more or less confirmed our belief that even the biggest of beasts could be the most gentle of creatures. It is man who invariably turns them into the so called 'killers'

To Be Concluded.

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I, Dharma Hewamedduma, District Land Officer and Acquiring Officer, Matale District, in terms of Section 33 of the Land Acquisition Act (Chapter 460) as amended by the Land Acquisition (Amendment) Act No. 28 of 1964, do hereby give notice to the general public that Rs. 6182/20 (Rupees Six thousand one hundred and eighty two and cents twenty) as compensation and Rs. 836/21 (Rupees eight hundred and thirty Six and cents twenty one) as interest, amounting to Rs. 7018/41 (Rupees Seven thousand and eighteen and cents forty one) payable for the Land described in the Schedule hereto which has been taken over by the State for alienation under Village Expansion, has been deposited in the Matale District Court under Case No. LA. 2631, to enable claimants to prove their title and draw the said amount.

SCHEDULE

Situation of Land : Ukuwela Assistant Government Agent's Division, Matale Medasiya Pattuwa. Balakaduwa Village

Name of Land : Balakaduwa Estate

Extent : 6 acres 2 roods 25 perches

Reference to plan & lot number : Surveyor General's plan No. P.P. Ma/ 440, Lot No. 1

Whose share has been deposited : Half share owned by the Late Mr. J. W. A. Aiyadurai

Dharma Hewamedduma
District Land Officer and
Acquiring Officer | Matale District

The Kachcheri, Matale,
30. 06. 1983

FILM FOCUS

Entebbe

A Carlo Ponnampalam release, and a film by Menahem Golan the Israel cabinet too had collaborated fully to portray to the world, their unflinching heroism against the heavy odds they faced, for universal wonder and admiration. It was a quick moving film that kept very close to the facts, from the moment flight No. 139 was 'chilled' in space by the hijackers. The terrorist leader in the film is named Kubaishi, with a face filled with hatred, chiselled aptly for the infamous role. Commencing

without much ado from take off, to touch down at Entebbe, the highlights of the film were very credibly as follows. A momentary blackout planned at the Airport to take the weapons past the electro-magnetic defector, the lightning hold up in mid air, the terror stricken hostages the wires humming towards the 'Knesset' in session, the momentarily laboured decision not to succumb to the demands and strike back, the blind to the nervous terrorists, the metronomic planning and practices, and to the final assault on a low flight to the target, dodging radar rail so well photographed to embrace audience attention from moment to moment of which there never was an idle one. There were veiled references to Gaddafi and the clearly implied connivance of Idi Amin. There was idiocy and a supine method in the madness of the latter who at one brave moment held out to the captives, "Believe me, I am your Saviour" and then addressed the hijackers, "Take care, when the Jews are in trouble, the world goes mad". And then Big Daddy gloated over his medals, dames and Daimler when tension reached high point — giving the necessary breathing space for the commandos back home, playing for time, fast running out, for hostage executions were to commence at dawn. And then came the planes towards midnight, like thunderbolts to cut the ground under the fogged out hijackers and spirit their citizens away to "freedom".

ARTHUR (English): A Warner Brothers release and a double Oscar winner for the best supporting actor (John Gieguld) and the best song, the story centered around a gawdy and garrulous playboy, Arthur (Dudley Moore) and a perpetual alcoholic at that who inherits his family millions, in spite of his martial choice (Liza Minelli — daughter of Judy Garland) amidst a melee of common chrous girls, and against a parental fiat. Directed by Steve Gordon, Arthaus's antics bordered an slasplick of a colouress character that was overdone, in kindergarten style. Actor John Gieguld compensated however with his stiff upper lip and lordly delivery in a man servant role. The finale was tame, but could have been livelier if Liza Minelli had stepped out her light fantastic toes and voice to better purpose.

BREAKING AWAY (English): Yet another Oscar winner for the best original screenplay, this 20th Century Fox release and a Peter Yates production in catchy photography was aimed at surfacing the exuberance of youth, their team-work and tame fueds on the field and off, to pull off their little victories. Neatly knit into the story is the slow bridging of a communication gap between a father and his son, who were both straining to strike a common chord, but did not know how. A "Bicycle" International rounds off the story to a rousing climax. Heartily recommended for parents and the youth of the day when down their way. Special school screenings are advised.

James N. Benedict

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July 11-17

**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*—Dinakara; *EN*—Eelanadu; *IS*—Island; *DI*—Divaina; *IDPR*—Information Dept. Press Release.

MONDAY, JULY 11: Political observers expect the July 23 annual conference of the TULF to see a confrontation between party radicals and moderates on the issue of the resignation of TULF MPs. Tea traders hope that attractive prices realised at last week's Colombo tea sale will be maintained with the price gains off-setting production losses. The Israeli Cabinet convenes today amid calls from Jewish settlers in the occupied West Bank for tougher measures against Arab violence highlighted by the murder of a Jewish seminary student in Hebron. The Soviet Union is satisfied with the outcome of the latest round of indirect Afghan-Pakistan negotiations in Geneva under the auspices of the United Nations, the officials TASS news agency said—*DN*. The Thai-Geuda connection in Sri Lanka has not only shifted Asia's gem centre from Colombo to Bangkok but has now compelled these in the gem business to rely on the heat-treated geudas to put the business back on its feet—*CDM*. The government will next week revise fuel prices; the Ceylon Petroleum Corporation is working out the amounts by which the increase in the price of petrol, kerosene, diesel and other petroleum products should be effected; they will be put up for government approval and implementation next week, informed sources said yesterday. The United National Party will decide on the course of action against several party MPs and other leading members who allegedly helped the opposition parties to score at the last Parliamentary by elections when its disciplinary body meets on July 18 at Siri Kotha—*SU*. Met Chief J. C. Kariyawasam, said this morning that the brief showers experienced during the weekend are not likely to continue and the Chairman of the Water and Electricity Boards, N. D. Peiris and Prof. K.K.Y.W. Perera appealed to consumers to use water and electricity for minimum requirements only to stave off a possible water and power cut—*EO*. Nallur M. P. Mr. M. Sivasaitamparam and Kankasanturai MP Mr. A. Amirthalingam were re-elected as the President and Secretary General respectively of the TULF at the General Council meeting of the

TRIBUNE, JULY 20, 1983

party, held on Saturday at Tirunelvely—*IS*. The Constitution is to be amended to prevent new Members of Parliament demanding separation of the country—*DP*.

TUESDAY, JULY 12: The Peradeniya University was closed indefinitely following unrest among the students, the Registrar of the University Mr. M. E. J. Mendis said. The Treasury has agreed to subsidise the CTB which has projected a Rs. 596 million loss for 1983, Transport Minister M. H. Mohamed said yesterday. The Soviet Union has launched a diplomatic offensive in a bid to set itself up as mediator in the crisis within the Palestine Liberation Organisation and increase its influence in the Palestinian camp—*DN*. The Northern Region Transport Board will not operate any buses in Jaffna Peninsula after 4 p.m.; this will be with immediate effect—*CDM*. The Inland Revenue Department is a swing away from usual role of chasing after artful tax dodgers is running after several thousand people for just the opposite reason; the Department has 44.3 million rupees for which it is searching for claimants to refund with interest. President J. R. Jayewardene has said that he would summon a round table conference of all party leaders to adopt intensified measures to eliminate terrorism the SLBC announced last night—*SU*. Prime Minister R. Premadasa has recommended to President J. R. Jayewardene that Sri Lanka appoint honorary consuls in each of the states of the US if Sri Lanka is to capitalise on the great interest that exists about trade, tourism and investment here—*EO*. Nearly 50,000 coconut palms in the Puttalam electorate had been destroyed by the prolonged drought, Mr. M. H. M. Naina Marikar MP for Puttalam and Deputy Minister of Finance told the monthly meeting of the Puttalam District Agricultural and Fisheries Committees held recently at the Puttalam Kachcheri; he proposed that some relief should be granted to the owners of the trees—*IS*. It is reliably understood that the Gandhian Vavuniya Movement will be proscribed in the next few days—*DP*.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 13: The National Housing Development Authority proposes to execute deeds transferring the ownership of houses in the Raddolurgama housing scheme to their current occupiers to facilitate them to raise loans from banks and lending institutions and pay off the balance due on the houses they have bought to the NHDA. Poland has given increasing signs that a lifting of martial law will be announced in time for the country's National Day on July 22. Israeli Deputy Premier David Levy said that Israel will not seek US or Lebanese endorsement for the redeployment of its troops in Lebanon—*DN*. The fuel bill for generating is expected to exceed two thousand million rupees this year — five hundred million more than the amount estimated earlier—*CDM*.

Leaders of all major political parties are to meet President J. R. Jayewardene and senior government Ministers to discuss the national problem of terrorism at an all-party conference on July 20; letters informing the respective parties including those not represented in Parliament of this move, have already been sent out from the Presidential Secretariat. The United States government in an official statement issued through its embassy in Colombo yesterday underlined that the resolution on Eelam passed by the Massachusetts House of Representatives does not reflect US policy in any way and that it is based upon incorrect and incomplete information—*SU*. Labugama and Kalatuwawa reservoirs have only 20 days of water left; the catchment areas had only a slight drizzle, National water supply and Drainage Board Chairman. N. D. Peiries said—*EO*. The army camp at Webber esplanade in Batticolla has been shifted to Kalladi two miles away; informed sources said that a Tamil politico had been instrumental in getting this done despite strong objections from the police and service authorities. The Tamil United Liberation Front will not create a situation where elections would be held in any of the constituencies represented by it outside the Jaffna peninsula, it is learnt reliably. The Mahaweli Development Board will be wound up shortly according to a decision made by Mr. Gamini Dissanayake, Minister of Lands, Land Development and Mahaweli Development—*IS*. The Government Agent of Jaffna, Mr. Devanesan Nesiiah, in a press statement expressed sorrow over the closure of government institutions which has resulted in poor people having suffer for want of food stamps etc., the issue of which have been hampered by terrorist activities.—*VK*.

THURSDAY, JULY 14: While the Met Chief yesterday held out little hopes of rain in the catchment area, the water and power situation in the country continued to be critical; Kalatuwawa and Labugama have hit rock bottom with five feet and 10 feet of drawable water respectively. Soviet Communist leader Yuri Andropov and French party chief George Marchais disagreed over intermediate range nuclear missiles in Europe. Youths manned blazing barricades, troops took up positions and police used teargas and water cannon to clear the streets just before a curfew ordered by Chile's military government went into effect last night—*DN*. Sri Lanka will not purchase the entire quantity of rice contracted for this year with China under the Rubber-Rice Pact between the two countries as it has been found that Sri Lanka had produced 86 million bushels of paddy during the Maha cultivation and as a result it was not necessary to import more rice—*CDM*. President J. R. Jayewardene yesterday briefed Cabinet Ministers on his proposal to hold a round table conference of leaders of political parties represented in Parliament to discuss the increasing incidence of terrorism in the

North and connected matters. Government will tomorrow resume assistance to drought victims in 16 districts; some 367,562 families will receive half the relief payment in cash and the balance in the form of special food stamps (to draw rice or wheat flour, Social Services Ministry Secretary W. M. A. Wijeratne Banda told a news conference yesterday—*SU*. The Colombo Municipal Council fears an outbreak of water-borne diseases in the city and its suburbs if the water scarcity continues much longer—*EO*. The entire administration of the Peradeniya University came to a standstill yesterday with the closing down of all departmental offices including the Administration Department by the University Authorities. Confusion prevails in the government health sector as a result of the functions of the two ministries — the Colombo Group of Hospital Ministry and the Health Ministry being not clearly demarcated—*IS*. It is being considered to place under house arrest in some place in Colombo the President of the TELF Dr. S. A. Dharmalingam and Secretary Kovai Mahesan who are now detained at the Welikada Prison—*DP*. It is reliably understood that two Tamil leaders who recently met President J. R. Jayewardene have promised to find out the demands of the Terrorist youth and inform the President—*VK*.

FRIDAY, JULY 15: Mr. Daham Wimalasena, Chairman of the Ceylon Petroleum Corporation, yesterday said that the consumer can expect drastic price increases in oil and oil products on account of the depreciation of the value of the rupee and the price of crude oil in the world market. The Sri Lanka Communist Party has declined an invitation from President for a meeting on July 20 to discuss rooting out terrorism. China has proposed to Britain that Hong Kong retain its capitalist life style for 50 years after 1997 when London's lease on most of the colony expires, a local television station in Hong Kong reported on Thursday—*DN*. The Ceylon Petroleum Corporation has decided to purchase 157,000 metric tons (1.2 million barrels) of crude oil from the official OPEC suppliers instead of on the spot market; this is because the price quoted by the bidders on the spot market were higher than the OPEC price which was US dollars 28 per barrel—*CDM*. A University sub-committee is to be appointed to study the situation at the Peradeniya University, Vice Chancellor B. L. Panditharatne said yesterday. President J. R. Jayewardene appealed to all Sri Lankans yesterday to conserve energy since the country was facing major energy shortages. The National Water Supply and Drainage Board yesterday decided immediately to reduce the daily supply of water from Labugama and Kalatuwawa reservoirs by 30 million gallons—*SU*. "Resign your seats in Parliament or face death at our hands", this is the threat held out to members of the Tamil

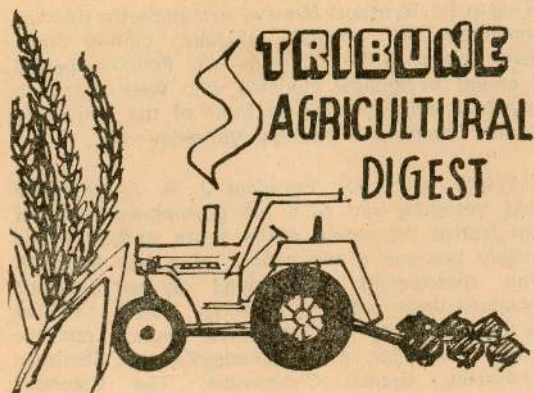
United Liberation Front by the extremist terrorist faction demanding a separate state in the North—EO. SLFP leader Sirimavo Bandaranaike has rejected the allegations made against the party leadership by deputy leader T. B. Illangaratne and four others who resigned recently from their party posts and described them as "baseless and untrue". The SLFP has brought forward the party's Central Committee meeting from July 20 to July 18 to discuss a letter sent by President Jayewardene to discuss the Northern situation. The TULF may not attend the proposed All-Party Conference if it is restricted to discussions on terrorism alone; a TULF spokesman said that the party had not made a decision on the issue as it had not received any invitation for a conference so far—IS. Government vehicles in the North and East will be provided maximum security; the vehicles will be parked in the night at certain specified places and the security of the vehicles will be left with the Armed forces—DP.

SATURDAY, JULY 16: In a surprise move yesterday Mr. S. Nadarajah, Chairman of the Jaffna District Development Council, resigned office. The TULF Parliamentary group meets at 3 p.m. today at Nallur to consider the government's invitation for a meeting on July 20 on eliminating terrorism; informed sources said the group is divided on the issue; the hardliners want a boycott while the moderates are for participation. The Reagan administration yesterday proposed official talks with the Soviet Union on anti-ballistic missile (ABM) developments in both countries. President Francois Mitterrand after taking the salute in Paris on Bastille Day, strongly rejected communist calls to include France's nuclear weapons in the Geneva peace talks—DN. The Minister of Rural Industrial Development Mr. S. Thondaman has proposed to Government that all new entrants to the public service who are non-proficient in the official language and over 45 years of age should be exempted from the proficiency tests—CDM. Peradeniya undergraduates who held the Dean of the Faculty of Science, Professor D Dias hostage, released him after six hours last night when the university authorities agreed to meet their demands. As July 21 marks the completion of six years since the last general election in 1977, the TULF is split on the issue of whether its parliamentary members should resign en masse on that day; Eelam militants, it is learnt, are pressurising TULF leaders to resign their seats; these moves are being countered by the moderates, the so-called "doves" in the TULF—SU. Cabinet Secretary G. V. P. Samarasinghe is to be appointed Civilian Coordinating Commander in the North, according to highly placed government sources. Two terrorists were shot dead at Meesalai in the Chavakachcheri Police area in a gun battle that ensued around dusk between the terrorists and the Army personnel from Gurunagar Army Camp, Security sources said last night. The Government of Switzerland has donated Rs. 160 million

in aid to the Transport Ministry to improve the Railway communication network, thereby cutting down train delays to the minimum—IS. Police dispersed a crowd of Medical students who were trying to launch a demonstration in front of the University Grants Commission building yesterday—DP.

SUNDAY, JULY 17: President J. R. Jayewardene said yesterday that as a just government it could not deprive the people of the North of their needs merely because of the actions of a few terrorists. The Government is not bound by any demands obtained under extortion or under duress; neither is the University of Peradeniya Council nor the Vice Chancellor, said Dr. Stanley Kalpage, Chairman University Grants Commission. The Colombo District's 1.7 million population is facing an acute shortage of water; the deadline to crisis is two weeks—SO. The World Bank has given the green light to the SLTB to import 600 new buses; it has agreed to release US dollars 29 million to import these new buses. Vegetables grown in Jaffna and other areas of the peninsula have begun to rot causing heavy losses to the farmers; this is because of the disruption of the transport services by terrorists; a spokesman of the Trade Ministry said—ST. "Thai-land" in Ratnapura is now deserted; only barred doors and windows stand in an area which has been named after the hordes of men from old Siam who descended on the city of gems, took up residence, transacted millions of rupees worth of business and savoured the taste of "paradise". High level discussions are now on at the University of Peradeniya, regarding Saturday's incidents where the authorities were forced to give into student demands "unconditionally" after the Dean of the Science Faculty was taken hostage by striking students. President J. R. Jayewardene is prepared to discuss at the Round Table Conference any matters other than stamping out terrorism as long as it will bring about peace and harmony and the maintenance of law and order—WK. It is understood that the Government will not push through the proposed sixth amendment to the Constitution immediately; this amendment was proposed by President Jayewardene earlier as one of many drastic measures to stamp out terrorism in the north and east; under this amendment all candidates seeking nomination for elections will have to take an oath against promoting or advocating separatism. The TULF is divided over the all-party conference scheduled for July 20; while one section supports boycotting it as long as it is restricted to the problem of terrorism, the other is of the view that the party should attend the meeting and state its views—IS.





PROJECT IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Medium Term Investment Programme for State Owned Plantations

The Minister of Finance, Mr. Ronnie de Mel, recently made it known that the World Bank, IMF, ADB the Aid Consortium and other international aid agencies had agreed to back the Medium Term Investment Programme for the State-owned Plantations drawn up by the National Planning Division of the Ministry of Finance and Planning in collaboration with the State Plantations Corporation and the Janatha Estates Development Board. For the information of our readers we will publish in instalments excerpts on matters of wider and general public interest from what is called the Project Identification Report.

SUMMARY This report sets out in broad outline an overview of the investment requirements for the rehabilitation of the State-owned plantations in Sri Lanka. These plantations consists of three crops — tea, rubber and coconut. The package of economic reforms introduced by the Government since its assumption of office in 1977 has already propelled the economy to move forward. The growth rate of the Gross Domestic Product during the last six years has been an impressive 6% which is double the rate during the previous six years period. Rates of unemployment has been halved, a market economy has been created by the abolition of most controls, there has been a shift from subsidies to investment as well as a marked shift in the role of the State as the all pervasive producer of goods and services.

The country is critically dependent on her export earnings to arrest the deterioration in the terms of trade. The Government's development efforts in the coming years will have to be concentrated perforce on export development. In this endeavour, the rehabilitation of the plantation industries has assumed crucial importance in view of their overriding present and potential contribution to the export earnings. Nearly 80% of tea, production and 40% of rubber production of the country come from the plantations owned by the public sector. These plantations are managed by two public sector corporations, viz, Janatha Estates Development Board and the Sri Lanka State Plantation Corporation.

The investment programmes identified in this report cover the rehabilitation of the estates owned by these two Corporations. It is a package of programmes prepared in several stages — Estate level, Corporate level and National level. The programme covers all three crops — Tea Rubber and Coconut and outline the investment needs over a five year — programme period 1984 — 1988. A rolling plan concept will be for the formulation of a five-year programme for the future period in order to accommodate factors such as availability of finance, prices of exports, domestic taxes etc.

The total investment requirements by the rehabilitation of the State owned plantation over the programme period has been estimated at Rs. 7,801 million (US \$ 339 million) which includes Rs. 2,162 million (US \$ 94 million) as cost of fertilizer in 1983 constant Sri Lanka Rupees. The foreign cost component of this programme would be about Rs. 2,613 million (US \$ 114 million) Sri Lanka Government and the two Public Sector Corporations will jointly contribute 30% of the total investment outlay. The balance 70% amounting to Rs. 5,460 million (US \$ 237 million) is sought from international Lending Agencies and Donor Countries,

THE ECONOMIC SETTING.

The implementation of the programme will not result in any over supply situation in the international market for tea, rubber, or coconut. No extension of the area under tea, rubber or coconut is envisaged. The objective of the programme is to rehabilitate the state-owned plantations to their potential level which is essential to ensure their economic viability. The investment requirements outlined in the report are under further detailed study and scrutiny. Adjustments will be made as appropriate in the context of further evaluation and appraisal.

The policy reforms introduced by the Government during the last six years have resuscitated the economy and placed it on a firm footing towards self sustained growth. Economic management by

controls and market interventions have been replaced by a liberalised economy. These reforms and the investment programmes that were undertaken in the wake of these changes have propelled the economy to move forward. The growth rate of the Gross Domestic Product has been doubled during the last five years as compared with the preceding five years. Unemployment, as a proportion of the total labour force, has been halved. These achievements, particularly in the context of an adverse international economic environment, are significant indicators of Sri Lanka's upturn of the economy.

Despite the notable progress achieved in the last six years. Sri Lanka has interrelated areas of concern in the pursuit of her economic policies viz (a) deteriorating balance of payments situation and (b) continuing budgetary deficits. A steady decline in tree crops production and falling real prices of tea, rubber and coconuts in world markets, have been major contributory factors in these difficulties. Export growth has been constrained by the poor performance of the plantations sector, and declining production and profitability of the sector has depressed government revenues. *The Government's major efforts during the coming years will be directed towards reversing the adverse balance of payments and arresting the growing budgetary deficits. In the pursuit of these objectives, acceleration of exports growth is of crucial importance. This cannot be attained without revitalizing the plantations sector. Such a revitalization will also contribute substantially to a reduction in the budgetary deficits by reversing the declining contribution of plantations to budgetary revenues, and by enabling the plantations to eliminate their present dependence on the budget to meet recurrent and capital costs.*

PLANTATION INDUSTRIES IN THE NATIONAL ECONOMY.

Sri Lanka's Plantation Industries comprise of three crops - Tea, Rubber and Coconut. Together they constitute 41% of the cultivated areas, contribute 47% of the export earnings, and generate 14% of the budgetary revenue. The Plantation Industries also provide employment for 1,200,000 persons and account for 11% of the Gross Domestic Product. These statistics illustrate how the fortunes of Sri Lanka are inextricably linked with the progress and development of the Plantation sector.

The area under cultivation in Tea Rubber and Coconut are given below:

Table 1 — Area under cultivation
Hectarage under the Plantation crops

Tea	243,006
Rubber	226,420
Coconut	451,417
Total	920,843

TRIBUNE, JULY 30, 1983

The remaining agricultural land in Sri Lanka totalling 1,300,000 ha is utilised mainly for the cultivation of paddy food crops and minor export crops. Around 90% of Sri Lanka's output of Tea and Rubber and 20% of Coconut are produced for the export market. Paddy and food crops are grown solely for domestic consumption.

The dominant role of the Plantation Industries in the economy of the country has weakened during recent years as shown by the following economic

Table 2 — Contribution by Plantation Industries

	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982
Export Earnings	73%	65%	57%	51%	49%
Budgetary Revenue	40%	37%	26%	23%	14%
Gross Domestic Product	18.0%	15.4%	13.9%	12.7%	10.9%

Prior to 1965 the plantation crops contributed over 90% of the exports earnings of the country. This has now dropped to 47%. The main reason for the falling export earnings is the decline in output compounded by a fall in the international market prices of Tea Rubber and Coconut.

However since the beginning of 1970s the output of all three crops began to drop. This decline has had a devastating effect on Sri Lanka's balance of payment situation. Had the Plantation Industries remained buoyant and dynamic as had been in the era prior to 1970, Sri Lanka's economy would be now in a very healthy state with less need for external assistance.

The recovery and rehabilitation of the Plantation Industries have therefore become an imperative need, for Sri Lanka. The economic returns of and potential for this sector far outweighs that of any other export oriented industry in the country. *Despite efforts to diversify export into non-traditional items, Tea, Rubber, and Coconut will continue to remain the mainstay of Sri Lanka's economy. The Government's development strategy for the Plantation Sector will therefore be directed towards arresting the decline in production and increasing the output. Careful investment planning, adequate funds for investment outlay and efficient management are essential for the restoration of the industry to its potential position.*

To be continued..

RAIN MAKING

In Madras

EXPERTS CONDUCT TEST FLIGHT

Madras July 14: The American team of rain-making experts on Thursday evening conducted the first test flight of its cloud-seeding aircraft with imported silver iodide candlesticks fitted to the wings. The flight which lasted about 35 minutes from 6. 40 p.m. covered the catchment areas of the main water sources of the city. Capt. Michael Holehouse, pilot of the Poier Astec, Mr. K. Chockalingam, Chief Secretary, Tamil Nadu, Government, Mr. R. K. Kapoor if the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, Pune, and an Air Force officer from Tambaram were on board. The cloud seeding material, silver iodide, had arrived here in the afternoon from Bombay by an Air India Cargo flight. Mr. S. Parthasarathy, Additional Secretary, Rural Development and Local Administration Department, who was coordinating the project of "Operation Seeding the Cloud" with the various agencies and the State Government said that though there has been some delay in airlifting the chemical from New York to Bombay, the consignment was expeditiously off loaded in Madras shifted to the Madras Flying Club and fixed to the wings of the aircraft within 45 minutes of the plane's arrival, thanks to the cooperation by Customs and local officials of the airline.

While Mr. Thomas Henderson, president of atmospherics Inc. California, flagged off the aircraft, Mr. Will Scott, rader divison manager, and Mr. Walter Snell, meteorologist, were busy monitoring the cloud pattern in the target area on the radar scope.

The target area for the cloud-seeding operation will lie between the Courtalaiyar river in the north and the Coom river in the south, a distance of about 71 nautical miles to the west of the airport. Capt. Holehouse said he had flown over Sholavaram and Red Hills and gone up to the border of the Poondi reservoir. crusing at an altitude of 3,000 feet. But he could see no seedable clouds in the target area, However, he electrically ignited a Silver candlestick to see whether it was in good condition. The candlestick burned well.

Mr. Chockalingam said he was impressed with the flight though it was a little bumpy. Twelve Silver iodide candlesticks, each 40 cm. long and containing 20 gm. of the chemical and capable of burning for

eight minutes, were fitted to the trailing edge of the right wing. While six bruning candlesticks and six ejectable flares were attached to the left wing. The ejectable flares would be dropped in an updraft and carried upward and downward mingling the seeding chemical at various levels of the rain-bearing cloud, ranging in altitude between 18,000 and 20,000 feet where the temperature was between minus 10° C and minus 4° C. At lower altitudes, the burning candlesticks could be ignited, he said—*Hindu*.

RAIN FROM A SILVER CANDLE

Madras, July 14: The U. S. team of rain makers burnt one silver iodide candle in its maiden, 45 minute cloud-seeding operation over water-starved Madras this evening, bringing rain that was visible on radar. The Tamil Nadu Chief Secretary, K. Chokkalingam who accompanied the team on the flight, told *PT* later that on landing, they could see the rain on the team's special radar installed at the Meenambakkam airport. There having been no rian before or during the operation it was clear the rain was the result of the seeding he said. The amount and intensity of the rain could not be immediately ascertained

—*PT/EO*

SOME RAIN IN NILGIRIS AFTER CLOUD SEEDING :

Madras, July 16: The air borne US rain making team seeded clouds with two flares over the hydroelectric reservoir and the hills in the Nilgriris this afternoon. There was some rain. Mr. Thomas Henderson, leader of the team told newsmen after his return here that the clouds were very marginal in the Nilgiris and the conditions not quite suitable for seeding. Still they flew at 20,000 feet and seeded some clouds. The team consisted of Capt. Mike Holehouse Mr. Henderson Mr. S. Parthasarathy Additional Secretary Rural Development and Local Administration Department and an Air Force officer took off from here for Coimbatore at 8. 30 a. m. and landed there after one hour and 45 minutes. As the conditions were not quite good the seeding was conducted only in the afternoon. While returning they seeded a big cloud about 15 nautical miles north of Madras on the edge of the catchment area of Sholavaram. It was the right kind of cloud with the base at 6,000 feet and the highest point at an altitude of 25,000 feet. according to Mr. Henderson. The plane penetrated part of the cloud at 20 000 feet where the temperature was minus 7° 0C and released four ejectable flares. There was rain after seeding but it was difficult to assess as to how much of it fell within the ctachment area of Sholavaram Mr. Henderson said. The plane returned here at 5.55 p.m.—*Hindu*.

Its Water Resources

Tel Aviv. Israelis who use 95 per cent of their water resources have had to develop novel systems for increasing the amounts of usable water. The first challenge water management experts at "Tahal" Israel's water planning and research authority - had to face when statehood was declared in 1948 was the incongruity of a wet north where the Sea of Galilee and Jordan River are located at 210 metres below sea level and a dry south, where water users are situated at 150 metres above sea level. They immediately mobilised modern technology to transport large quantities of water from the Sea of Galilee to the Negev Desert through a national water carrier. This system consists of huge pumping stations, 40 km of open concrete canals, 8 km of tunnels and 80 km of 274-cm wide pipe which today winds along a path connecting with thousands of boreholes and wells on the way.

ONCE THE MATTER of transporting water to the arid south was solved Israel's technologists had more time to deal with the pressing problem of keeping pace with the country's growing water needs. One of the solutions has been the replenishment of underground water supplies by "catching the run-off of heavy winter rainfall. Among several refilling methods in use is a series of large catch-basins at Skikma Hadera and Nahal Dalia. These basins divert winter rainwater before it flows to the Mediterranean and water pumped from the Sea of Galilee before it flows to the Dead Sea and literally pump it into the aquifers to replace what was removed during the summer. In this way the Israelis hope to avoid alarming situations. Refilling underground reservoirs also prevents land collapse; in Florida for example, drained underground reservoirs have caved in swallowing up homes and leaving craters 300 feet across. *The sewage produced by a population of more than three million people is found to be another major water resource.* Israel is building a large sewage treatment plant not far from Tel Aviv. Several modules will treat the waste water in stages — almost like a refining process — until it is of a quality that meets drinking water standards although the reclaimed sewage water will be used only in agriculture.

AN EVEN RICHER SOURCE of water than sewage are the seas which bathe the shores of Israel. *Desalination* technology is progressing and within the next two decades, reclaimed seawater will be the main means of closing the expected gap in Israel's water budget. Israel is developing two types of desalination. These are : (1) the zarash (Hebrew initials for "multi-stage flash process") in which seawater is used to cool electric generating

stations — the resulting hot water evaporates and is condensed as distilled water. (2) The use of high-technology process, such as the reverse-osmosis filter already in use at the Red Sea port of Eilat.

Incidentally, slightly salty water has proved to be beneficial for Israeli agriculture: many crops — from tomatoes to cotton — have been developed by Israeli agronomists to thrive on it. This discovery means less cost and time for desalination of sea-water for irrigation and opens the way for agricultural use of brackish groundwater, particularly that beneath the Negev Desert.

Some of Israel's water conservation programmes combine several approaches. For example, the Kishon project near Haifa merges the city's reclaimed sewage water with winter rainwater running down the Jezreel Valley and stores it for dry season irrigation.

THE ISRAELIS HAVE BEEN SEEDING CLOUDS for many years in efforts to increase rainfall, and they are the only ones who can point to proven increases in annual precipitation in seeded areas. Now they are working on a major weather manipulation which, according to Yitzhak Moda'i, Israel's Minister of Energy and Infrastructure, will increase rainfall by 25 percent. Scientists involved in the project have learned that there is a direct correlation between warm water temperatures in the Mediterranean Sea in October and the amount of rainfall in Israel in the winter months that follow. The prevailing westerly winds carry water vapour over the country, where cooler land temperatures cause condensation and precipitation. The researchers are studying the possibility of using giant pumps, for example, to bring colder water to the surface so that more of the ocean could be warmed — and thus, increase rainfall. What sort of technology could be used to "stir" the ocean is undecided, however, since scientists are still studying mathematical models to learn more about the relationship between ocean warmth and winter rainfall. — *Farm Features from Israel.*

FOCUS ON THE VILLAGE

FOR THE RECORD

Gam Udawa

US SURETY FOR \$ 100 m LOANS

The United States will provide Sri Lanka with a guarantee to raise loans from leading institutions in the US for housing up to a maximum of 100

million US dollars over a four to five year period states Prime Minister R. Premadasa in a report to President J. R. Jayewardene. Mr. Premadasa also states that both President Regan and Vice President Bush were impressed with the economic recovery Sri Lanka has been making and a positive response from the United States Government could be expected. The Chairman of the US Senate Foreign Relations Committee Senator. Charles Percy said on the floor of the Chamber that Sri Lanka are recipients of Foreign assistance from the United States but I can really think of no other country where the return on investment — an investment in people an investment in a great country an investment in the future — has been more richly rewarded than by the wise way that Sri Lanka has used that economic assistance. It is a relatively modest amount but it has been extremely well used.

Mr. Premadasa in his report states that he has asked the United States Government for additional support to meet the financial gaps in System B of the Mahaveli project. This will be in addition to the 95 million US dollars for the development of System B and the 50 million US dollars to meet shortfalls in local currency costs of down stream development.

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INDIA

Size and Importance of Rural market

This is the second instalment of the speech made by the Chairman of Hindustan Lever, Mr. A. S. Ganguly on "The Growing Rural Market in India." The first instalment appeared last week. What Mr. Ganguly has to say about the rural market in India has great relevance in Sri Lanka where the future prosperity of the rural community depends a great deal on developing and servicing the market outside the urban areas—

THE RURAL MARKET is made up of two broad compartments: (a) the market for consumption goods including both fast moving consumer goods and durables; and (b) the market for agricultural inputs and other investment goods. Not surprisingly a survey carried out recently indicates that the entire demand potential for manufactured goods that exists in this country has been largely untapped. The truth however is that not even a fraction of the rural market has been serviced by the industries in

the organised sector. There are certain important factors which affect its growth. This will be evident from the following.

1. The Market for Consumer Goods : An analysis of the National Sample Survey (NSS) data shows that of the total expenditure on manufactured consumer goods, 75 percent is spent in rural India. This percentage has remained almost unchanged since 1960-61. Though per capita consumption and expenditure on manufactured consumer items is low in rural areas, the market is approximately three times larger. On the assumption that all persons or families above the poverty line from the market for some branded consumer goods, this market has a size of 42 million households. If we just take Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, Gujarat and Andhra, the target market of 72 million people is larger numerically than France, UK or West Germany. I however hasten add that this is in no way related to how the market should develop, because rural economy in India must take into account the realities of the environment

2. Rural market size in value terms : For non-food consumption items the size of the market (estimated by applying NSS proportions to Central Statistical Organisation data) in current prices was Rs. 5,500 crores in 1970-71 Rs. 9,500 crores in 1974-75 and Rs. 13,500 crores in 1979-80. Assuming these items are mainly consumed by the rural population above the poverty line, it represents an annual expenditure of Rs. 516 per head per annum. In real terms, however the growth has been very modest at 2.5 percent per annum due to a number of factors such as (a) lack of concerted effort by the organized sector to penetrate the rural market; (b) averages are misleading in this type of analysis as peak opportunities which occur in certain pockets may not be fully realised; (c) if the market for consumer products is considered as a whole it overshadows the opportunities that exist for selected products which may be growing at a much faster rate.

3. Rural target population : Wealth distribution in rural India is uneven and the top 13 percent of the farmers, land holdings account for 57 percent of the cultivated area. Further, NSS data show that the top 10 percent of the rural population accounts for about 37 percent of the expenditure on consumer goods. Not surprisingly the potential market is at the top end of the spectrum. However with the increasing spread of rural income consumer goods are expected to make substantial penetration into the lower income strata by the normal "percolation effect." Then there is the increasing crossflow of population between urban and project town centres which act as conduits for crossflow of products and ideas thus supplementing the demand for such products.

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4. The market for agricultural inputs : The increasing demand for manufactured consumer goods in rural areas is also complemented by burgeoning demand for agricultural inputs. This is borne out by the compound rate of growth in the offtake of agricultural inputs and equipment between 1970-71 and 1980-81: fertilisers 10 percent, pesticides 12 percent, area under high yielding varieties 11 percent, tractors 15 percent, pumps and tube wells 11 percent. However, these percentages by themselves do not explain the emerging progressive change in attitudes. Recently, the Marketing Research Department of HLL carried out a survey of farm practices in Andhra and Punjab/Haryana. Over 90 percent of farmers interviewed felt that "they should adopt more and more new farm practices." Between 65 and 70 percent agreed that "they should take greater risks in adopting new practices". The study in summary established that in these areas the farmers are eager to use newer agricultural technology for improving profits and are prepared to take calculated risks.

5. Sources of rural purchasing capacity : The factors that contribute to purchasing capacity in rural areas are (a) *Marketable agricultural surplus and rural urban terms of trade.* So far as manufactured consumer goods are concerned regression analysis indicates that there is a 0.7 percent rise in consumption for every one percent increase in marketable surplus of foodgrains. The consumption of agricultural inputs like fertiliser is governed mainly by two variables: (i) ratio of the foodgrain price of the previous period to the fertiliser price of the current period and (ii) irrigated area as a percentage of gross sown area. To prevent stagnation of agricultural output there is a need for a consistent policy so as to maintain a favourable balance between agricultural input prices and foodgrain output prices. As the irrigated area goes up the cropping pattern/intensity changes thus changing the consumption of fertiliser per hectare. There is also a strong correlation between the consumption of fertiliser per hectare and the value of output. This increase in per hectare value (income) ultimately reflects itself in a demand for consumer goods.

(b) *Remittances:* Districtwise data on remittances from outside is not available. It is however well known that a large number of families in some pockets in Kerala Punjab Saurashtra and Kutch receive remittances from relatives from abroad. In 1978 the total inward remittances in the state of Kerala alone were estimated at Rs. 400 crores. Therefore traditional remittances from within the country are being supplemented in several states by remittances from overseas thus creating new consumptions and purchasing patterns.

(c) *Government expenditure:* The Sixth Plan outlay on agriculture and allied programmes will be about Rs. 5,700 crores. investment in flood control

irrigation facilities will be around Rs. 12,000 crores in 1983-85 and the Central Sector outlay for rural development and associated programmes will be Rs.2,300 crores. These will generate income and the increased purchasing power of rural areas can be expected to support consumption of manufactured items. Further, these investments are expected to augment the income generation process from land in future years, which in turn will accelerate the growth of rural markets. The investment proposed during the Sixth Plan for developing Village and Khadi Industries is of the order of Rs. 1,780 crores. This too will encourage the income generation process.

(d) *Dispersal of industry:* Lastly, the policies governing industrial licencing have made it almost imperative for the private sector to seek investment opportunities in backward areas. If this is not impeded by regulatory agencies, it will generally speed up the spread effect.

To be continued.

* * *

CANADA

BRINGING INNOVATIVE HOUSING IDEAS TO THE MARKET

Innovative and practical ideas to improve the utility and performance of housing have been researched and, in some cases, are being brought to market with support from a *Canada Mortgage and Housing (CMHCH) Program*. The *Housing Technology Incentives Program (HTIP)* provides funds of up to \$ 15,000 to Canadian companies or individuals for the development of original products or building methods that improve housing and living conditions in Canada. A proposal is most likely to qualify for such funding if it suggests a new idea, products or methods that: (1) has the potential to improve the choice, the quality and the costs of housing; (2) provide an economical solution to an existing technical associated with housing; (3) appears to be of general benefit to housing builders or residential and (4) is likely to meet the provisions of applicable national provincial or municipal codes and standards. The program was initiated as a pilot project by CNHC in September 1980, and as a result of the enthusiastic response to it was established as a regular program in 1981.

For CMHC, the incentives program represents a shift away from the funding of major demonstration projects to support of small research projects by a relatively large cross-section of the housing and building product industries. The program allows many innovations covering a wide range of applications in the housing industry to be evaluated in a relatively short time. HTIP supports proposals from the doers and planners in the housing field who are aware of what

is available and what is required and therefore are most likely to generate new practical products and methods. For small companies without research and development funds, HTIP often means the difference between testing an improvement or a new idea or making do with the existing product. Once a project is approved for funding the applicant signs a contract with CMHC agreeing to the amount and the stages in the development when HTIP payments are to be made. Most HTIP contributions cover at least one half of the projects cost up to the maximum of \$ 15,000. New products or methods developed as a result of projects supported by HTIP are publicized by CMHC to the housing and building industries.

SINCE ITS INCEPTION, the housing technology incentives program has funded approximately 100 projects across Canada. Most applications are received from Ontario, British Columbia and Quebec. Currently there are about 70 projects supported by HTIP which include the following: (1) the development and testing of a gas condensing furnace installed outside the home to eliminate the need of a chimney and to increase efficiency by operating with direct cold air; (2) design development and construction of a prototype house of mould fibre glass believed to be low cost and energy efficient; (3) demonstration and testing of practical factors related to the installation of exterior insulation in basement walls in various climatic regions. The project attempts to clarify the effects of installation technique and timing on the durability and performance of the product; (4) design, installation and testing of an insulation system for flat roofs in existing housing using surface applied insulation which is potentially cheaper than blowing insulation into the attic; (5) development and testing of a concrete wall system which can be quickly assembled without mortar by using interlocking concrete blocks and (6) testing and demonstration of improved efficiency in log housing achieved by the use of a specially formulated sealant compound between logs which functions as both vapour barrier and air seal.

The products developed with HTIP support which are now available on the market are equally varied. They include: (a) Gemite exterior insulation panel system which is an energy saving product developed as a prototype with funding from HTIP. The system is designed to be applied by fasteners or adhesive bonding as outside insulation on exposed basement walls of new or existing housing and walls of industrial buildings. It consists of an assembly of panels fasteners and caulking. (b) Hilan Plan structures for handicapped children which integrate with conventional playground equipment were developed and tested with support from HTIP.

The innovative structures include sympathetic swings which are set in motion by the action of an adjoining conventional swing; playhouse with wheelchair accessibility rising saucers which respond to rolling and crawling and roller slides made of soft rubber. Hilan Playstructures are appealing to all children whether handicapped or not. They can be added to regular playground equipment in parks, schools and community centres to encourage the natural integration of disabled and able bodied children. The play equipment is produced and marketed by a firm located in Almonte, Ontario, near Ottawa. — *Canada Weekly*.

•Vol xi. No. 19 May 11, 1983



AYURVEDA

Cure for Malaria

Sir,

I read with unflinching interest the article: "Ayurveda" by K. M. Talgeri appearing in the *Tribune* of 25.6.83. in the *Focus on the Village Section*. It is revealing and is consistent in holding the view that *Allopathy* seeks to cure the disease by killing the germs that cause the disease and that *Ayurveda* helps build the body as "one-single-whole", and fortifies it against the invasion of disease germs. Whereas the one cures by killing the germs, the other achieves a better goal by building up immunity in the entire system; the one provided instant cure (with recurrent visitations), the other secures a slow yet lasting cure.

I testify to this. I was a malaria stricken case in the 1940s. Allopathic treatment was of no avail. I had swallowed bottles of the malaria stock mixture: quinine and epsom salt. For well over ten years I suffered. Then by a happy chance. I happened to pay a visit to a Buddhist monastery at Thalugaskanda Ambalangoda. The *gurunanse* there gave me this prescription — a malaria cure specific. It worked miracles so far as I was concerned I never got malaria ever since. This is the prescription: *Ingredients* 1. Inner soft bark of *Margosa*; 2 oz; 2. *Cyperus rotundus* — Tubers (*T. Mutha kachchi kilangu*) 2 oz; 3. *Tinospora malabarica* (*T. Pot Seenthi*) 2 oz; 4. *Pterocarpus santalinus* (*Senj Santhanam*); 5. Indian sarsaparilla *Hemidesmus indicus* (root) (*T. Nan Nari*); 6. Gall nut - *Terminalia chebula* (*T. Kadu kai*) 7. *Phy anthus emblica* (*T. Nelji kai*); 8. *Terminalia belerica* (*T. Thanri kai*); 9. *Piper longus* (*T. Thippili*); 10. Dried ginger; 11. Pepper; 12. Inner bark of *Acacia arabica* (*T. Karu vel*).

All dried specimens. Take 2 ounces of each; pound into a powder; boil in water till the decoction is boiled down to 1 - 8 th its original volume. Add equal part of honey to decoction; one table spoonful. Take in it in the morning for forty days.

Well then try it. I hope it will prove to be efficacious. In my case it was so. No side effects.

K. Kanapathipillai

52 Nalliah Road,
Batticloala
27. 6. 83.

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LEAVES

To Solve Protein Crisis?

A 105 000 test in which protein extracted from leaves and grasses is being fed in various forms to 300 schoolchildren is starting at Coimbatore, southern India. Initiated by the British relief agency, *Find your Feet*, based at Abingdon, Oxfordshire, English South Midlands, the test is being organised by Dr. Rajammal Devadas, Principal of the Sri Avinashilingham Home Science College at Coimbatore, and will last three years. If the result prove positive, leaf protein supplements, which approach milk in nutritional value, will be included in the diets of Indian Government Pre-school feeding and other official nutritional programmes. The test aims to establish the nutritive value of leaf protein concentrate as a supplement to the diet, to discover means of incorporating it palatably, and to determine the cost of producing it in a tropical environment.

The children are being divided into five groups of 60. One will be used as the control group. The others will get respectively a daily supplement of 500 calories; 15 grammes of leaf protein: horsegram, the cheapest local source of good protein; and skim milk. Each will be examined regularly by paediatricians for checks on such factors as weight, height and haemoglobin count. Although the largest, it is not the first trial of leaf protein on humans. In a six month experiment with 20 children at Mysore in 1968, leaf protein was compared with lysine and with sesame cake flour as a supplement to a control diet consisting largely of millet porridge. Leaf protein was shown to have a clear advantage on all counts over the other two additives.

The latest fully documented feeding trial with leaf protein was reported from Nigeria in 1972, when 26 children suffering from Kwashiorkor, were given a daily supplement of 10g leaf protein. They responded within ten days with a loss of acute symptoms and an increase in appetite and mental

alertness. One advantage of leaf protein extraction is that it is possible to produce material which is suitable both for human and animal consumption. By-products of the extraction process include fibrous residue, a liquor which can be concentrated to yield molasses, and a ranthophyll concentrate. Recent advantages in processing technology have eliminated previous objections of high cost, bad flavour and poor colour. Leaf protein can now be produced fairly simply as a flavourless and colourless product. *Find your Feet* believes that protein yield per acre farmed can be tripled by plant fractionation, providing both human grade and animal grade protein and an incentive for world wide support of research on this long-neglected natural resource.

Govt



Notice

The Land Acquisition Act (Cap. 460) As Amended by The Land Acquisition Amendment Act No. 28 of 1964:

Notice Under Section 7 (1)

Ref No. LD/D. 393

It is intended to acquire the land described in the Schedule below for a public purpose. For further particulars please see Gazette Extraordinary of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka No. 253/4 of 11. 7. 83

SCHEDULE

<i>Situation</i>	: Gonigoda village Kulugammana Siyapattuwa Harispattuwa D.R.O's Division Kardy District
<i>Name of Land</i>	: Oyapahalawtta
<i>Plan and Lot No.</i>	: Lot No. 1 in P. P. Maha/2409

K. B. Wijekoon

Assistant Government Agent,
Kandy District.

The Kachcheri, Kandy,
04. 07. 1983

FOOD VALUES OF LEAFY VEGETABLES

Name of Foodstuff	Moisture (g)	Energy (kcal)	Proteins (g)	Fats (g)	Carbohydrates (g)	Calcium (mg)	Phosphorus (mg)	Iron (mg)	Vitamin A (mcg)	Carotene (mcg)	Thiamine (mcg)	Riboflavin (mcg)	Niacin (mg)	Vitamin C (mg)
Curry leaves (<i>Murraya koenigii</i>)	63.8	108	6.1	1.0	18.7	830	57	7.0	7,560	80	210	23	4	
Drumstick leaves (<i>Moringa oleifera</i>)	75.9	92	6.7	1.7	2.5	440	70	7.0	6,780	60	50	0.8	220	
Genda-Kola (<i>Portulaca oleracea</i>)	90.5	27	2.4	0.6	2.9	111	45	14.8	2,292	100	220	0.7	29	
Gutukola (<i>Centella asiatica</i>)	84.5	37	2.1	0.5	6.0	224	32	68.8	—	—	—	—	—	
Kankun (Ipomoea <i>aquatica</i> , <i>l reptans</i>)	90.3	28	2.9	0.4	3.1	110	46	3.9	1,980	50	130	0.6	137	
Kirihenda (<i>Celosia argentea</i>)	88.0	38	2.0	0.7	5.8	323	38	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Kola Gova, Rape leaves (<i>Brassica napus</i>)	84.9	48	5.1	0.4	5.9	370	110	12.5	1,380	10	30	0.9	65	
Leek (<i>Allium porium</i>)	85.0	52	2.0	0.0	11.0	50	—	1.0	15	100	100	0.5	20	
Lettuce (<i>Lactuca sativa</i>)	93.4	21	2.1	0.3	2.5	50	28	2.4	990	90	130	0.5	10	
Manioc leaves (<i>Manihot esculenta</i>)	91.0	28	2.0	0.3	4.0	80	—	2.5	300	80	200	0.5	50	
Mint (<i>Mentha spicata</i>)	84.9	48	4.8	0.6	5.8	200	62	15.6	1,620	50	260	1.0	27	
Mukunuwenna (<i>Alternanthera sessilis</i>)	77.4	73	5.0	0.7	11.6	510	60	16.7	1,926	0	140	1.2	17	
Mustard leaves (<i>Brassica campestris</i> var. <i>sarson</i>)	89.8	34	4.0	0.6	3.2	155	26	16.3	2,622	30	—	—	33	

Source: Tables of Food Composition for use in Sri Lanka.
Out of Print



SPOTLIGHT

● Bradby Shield ● School Rugger ● MCC ● S. Africa ● Squash

THE PRESTIGIOUS INTER-SCHOOL CONTEST for the Bradby Shield between two of the oldest rugby playing schools in the country Trinity and Royal, played at home and away basis was won by Trinity who had an overall points tally of 20 to Royal's 16. The first round encounter was played at Bogambara where Trinity won 14 - 6. The return game was played at Longdon Place which was won by Royal by 10 points to 6. The chief guest at the final game was the illustrious donor of the trophy and former Principal of Royal College Mr. E. L. Bradby. Bradby was Royal's principal from 1939 to 1945. Also present at this game was Mr. J. C. A. Corea, the first Sri Lanka principal of Royal who took over from Mr. Bradby in 1946. He was Principal till 1952. This game was tagged as the 100th encounter between the two schools. But in some quarters it was thought to be the 101st encounter. According to attorney at law, Narendra Perera, the game between the two schools in 1925 was played. He says he has a newspaper cutting to prove this and adds that in that game Trinity trounced Royal by 46 points to nil. Perera says this is the 101st encounter. However, this claim is awaiting clarification and it is hoped that the authorities will put the record straight.

Before this game Trinity had won 22 of the encounters while Royal had beaten Trinity only 16 times. With the conclusion with this year's fixtures the tally stands at Trinity 23 and Royal 17. Every year the Bradby clash between these two schools attracts tremendous interest among the school boys the players and the old boys so much so that the revelry goes on weeks before and after the game the winner or loser notwithstanding. This year's encounters were no exception. While Nittawela went gay for the first game Longdon Place was all dressed up to stage the second leg. Those thousands who were present at the two venues were not disappointed. They savoured and relished the finer points of game which was served up "piping hot" by the ruggerites of both institutions.

Trinity were expected to wrap up the second game too after their convincing 14 - 6 victory in the first game. But the Royalists who never let up a game till the final whistle is blown had other ideas and completely dominated the return to win 10 - 6. But the lead they conceded in the first game was too much and much to their disappointment the shield went back to be displayed on the trophy shelves of Trinity College. There was little to chose between the two teams. They were evenly matched and gave as much as they got. These two schools are renowned for playing rugby as an art. To see the ball being run about which is everyone's joy and this the lions and the Royalists did to a nicety. As I said earlier the two schools were evenly matched and the result each team winning a match was poetic justice.

The Bradby Shield encounters saw the Local A Division rugby tourney losing its glamour for some time. But the A Division competition has passed the halfway mark with indications that the holdres of the trophy CH & FC is likely to retain the trophy this year too. The Policemen who have won trophy on a few earlier occasions are breathing down the necks of the CH & FC. The CH & FC will have to maintain their winning streak if they hope to have a stranglehold on the trophy.

THE INTER-SCHOOL RUGBY ENCOUNTER between two of the leading Catholic schools between St. Peters and St. Joseph's played at Havelock Park for the Fr. Basil Weeraratne Challenge Shield was won by SJC who beat SPC by 6 points to 4. The Peterites were tipped to win this game without much effort. But they never bargained for the fighting spirit of the Josephians who ultimately turned tables. All scoring was one in the first half. It was the Peterites who scored a try first. But the Josephians got ahead firing over two penalties. In the battle between the two Buddhist schools for the William Gopallwa Challenge Shield Ananda College regained the Shield defeating Vidyartha by 7 points to nil at Maitland Crescent. This encounter which is also played on lines similar to the Bradby Shield saw Ananda win the first leg too by 12 points to six.

A TOUR WHICH, HAD IT MATERIALISED would have split established cricket into two was averted with the *Marleybourne Cricket Club* voting against sending a team to South Africa. The Commonwealth too can now breathe a sigh of relief. There were moves by some to coax a team of English cricketers to make a tour of apartheid South Africa. Those who toyed with the idea were seen wooing people who mattered. But the 18,000-member strong Marleybourne Cricket Club decided at a special general meeting in London not to allow a tour of South Africa in the face of fierce international opposition to South Africa's policy of apartheid

(racial segregation). The vote on this was taken at a special general meeting that was preceded by a postal ballot. 4,344 voted for the tour and 6,604 were against. Incidentally the MCC is 196 years old and is the guardian of cricket's rules.

Mrs. Margaret Thatcher British Prime Minister also spoke against the tour. She told Parliament that if the tour was to take place it would break the 1977 Gleneagles Agreement. The agreement to which Britain too is a signatory urges member states to do all they can to prevent any sporting contacts with South Africa. A strong advocate of the tour was John Carlise, a Conservative Member of Parliament. Mr. Carlise argued that South Africa had made substantial progress towards racial integration in cricket. Carlise said at the meeting that the proposal opposed vigorously by the MCC Committee, was the first positive action that has been taken by cricket players to recognize the progress that has been made so far by South African cricket towards full integration.

Singling out political leaders in India Sri Lanka, Guyana and Jamaica he denounced what he called hypocrisy humbug and political blackmail behind the international sporting boycott of South Africa. Mr. Carlise added: "We will help the black people by taking a team there by playing among them than by staying away." Had this tour by the MCC materialised it would have been the fourth rebel tour. A privately organised English tour took place first followed by a team from Sri Lanka and then a team from the West Indies. The English cricketers were banned for three years the Sri Lankans for 25 years and the West Indies for life. A vociferous opponent of the intended English tour was the Rev. David Sheppard a former English player who said that the blacks in South Africa wanted the boycott to continue. "I believe we must not sell short those black leaders who are committed to peaceful change. We feel sorry for white South African sportsmen denied international competition, but I hope we feel more sorry for the black sportsmen who are denied anything but the most rudimentary facilities" he added.

Those supporting the tour said they would fight on to bring South Africa back to the international cricketing fold after 13 years in isolation. Dennis Compton a former England cricketer and one of the supporters said. "This is only the beginning, we've lost this one but the fight goes on." Joe Pamensky, President of the South African Cricket Union said, "More than satisfied with the substantial support among the MCC members". He added that the 40 percent vote was more than satisfying. Mr. Pamensky said that efforts to promote rebel tours would continue because he had an obligation to satisfy the South African public's appetite for first class competition.

SQUASH, a game primarily indulged in by the elite is on the up and up thanks to the President of the Squash Federation of Sri Lanka, Wing Commander Noel Fernando. High on the Federation's list for the further development of game is a site to build two Squash Courts, obtain a coach from Singapore and send a team to Jordan for the Second Asian Championships next year. At a press conference recently the President Noel Fernando and the Secretary Milroy de Silva outlined the Federation's plans. Mr. Sirisena Cooray, Mayor of Colombo has provided land at the Municipal Grounds for two squash courts to be built. The Federation expects to complete the two courts in about six months. The Federation also hopes to popularise the sport in the outstations. S. Thomas, Gurutalawa have already taken to the game. Martin Webb a coach from Singapore is expected here on a coaching stint at no expense to the Federation. It has also been decided to hold the next nationals in November and December.

ALLROUNDER

SPORTS CHRONICLE

July 11-17

MONDAY JULY 11: In an even bigger batting debacle than in the first innings the Maharajas B team lost their remaining eight wickets for 46 runs in 42 minutes off just 13 overs; in the first innings Maharajas B flopped from 114 for 2 to 147 all out: Maharajas B 147 and 71 for 2 continued 117 and Maharajas A 328. Rainwashed off play on the third and final day and the Mercantile A Division cricket match between Browns A and Ceylon Tobacco A ended in a "no decision" at Bloomfield grounds yesterday: Browns A 320 and Ceylon Tobacco A 56 for 2. Police scored yet another comfortable 23 points (2 goals 2 tries 1 penalty) victory over Havelocks in their Second - Round Clifford Cup League Rugby match at Police Park yesterday. Renown Sports Club who toppled FA Cup champions Saunders in the semi-finals proved that win was "no flash in the pan" when they crushed Ratnam Sports Club by three goals to nil to win the V. A. Sugathadasa Memorial Trophy in the final of this soccer Tournament at the Sports Ministry grounds yesterday.

TUESDAY JULY 12: Wesley entered the semi-final of the All Island Schools' under 17 Division 11 cricket tournament on a faster run rate against Royal 5B at Campbell Park last Friday: Wesley 185 and Royal B 176 for 7. A blistering 82 in 75 minutes 7 sixes and 9 fours by opener Shafiq Rahim helped St. Peters trounce S. Thomas, Mount Lavinia A by 7 wickets at Mount Lavinia in a quarter final cricket match of the All Island Schools

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under 17 Division 1 tournament: S. Thomas A 126 and Ar. Peters A 128 for 3. Malik Alles (5 for 52 and 45) helped D. S. Senanayake MV into the Under 17 Division I semi finals; they beat Maliyadeva by 7 wickets in the quarter final match played at Kurunegala: Maliyadeva 146 and D. S. Senanayake 147 for 3 at stumps. A good double by R. A. William (2 for 3 in two overs and 65 not out) saw Police score an easy win over Water Supply in their State Services knock out (30 overs) cricket tournament match at Rifle Green yesterday; rain reduced the game to 20 overs a side: Water Supply 100 for 7 in 20 overs and Police 103 for 4 in 13.4 overs.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 13: D. S. Senanayake MV A only need another 59 runs with 7 wickets in hand in the remaining batting time of 173 minutes to play in 1983 Under 15 Division I Cricket Final when their semi final match against Ananda is continued at Ananda Mawatha today at 9. 30 a.m D. S. Senanayake were 54 for 3 in reply to Ananda's 112. De Mazenod College, Kandana retained the All Island Under 17 Schools Baseball Title when they beat St. Michael's Batticaloa 62 — 48 in the final played at the Royal College Court yesterday. Nineteen-year-old Royalist and Sri Lanka No. 1 Niroshan Wijekoon won the "Tripple Crown" at the YMCA's 31st Open Bandminton Championships at the Central YMCA Courts. CH & FC seem assured of the Clifford Cup for the second consecutive year - with a clear 8. 4 points lead over their closest rivals - Police CH won the League title last season after twenty years. Army are in third position, followed by CR and FC, Navy, Air Force, Kandy Sports Club and Havelocks.

THURSDAY, JULY 14: Tea Small Holdings defeat General Treasury by 42 runs in a 30 over State Services knockout cricket tournament match played at the Railway grounds: Tea Small Holdings 145 for 9 in 30 overs and General Treasury 103 in 27 overs. Delmege Forsyth & Co. Ltd scored a thrilling win over Whittall Boustead in their Mercantile E Division Cricket match played at Health Grounds on Sunday on a faster furrate: Delmege Forsyth 124 6 or 5 in 29 overs and Whittall Boustead 77 for 8 in 20 overs. Peradeniya Campus scored their first win in three years when they defeated Dickoya by 26 points (6 tries) to 4 (1 try) in their upcountry league rugby tournament match played at Peradeniya. Trinity College, defeated St. Sylvesters College 2 — 0 in their Kandy schools under 17 hockey tournament match played at Campus grounds, Peradeniya recently. Two outstanding performances by skipper R. C. Ferdinands (8 for 49) and Upul Basnayake (101 not out) helped St. Sylvesters College Kandy score an easy first innings win over St. Mary's College Chilaw in their schools under 15 cricket tournament prequarter final match played at St. Mary's grounds recently.

FRIDAY, JULY 15: Ceylon Oxygen beat Lake House by 7 matches to 4 in their table tennis encounter played recently at the Ceylon Oxygen tables. Red Diamonds Sports Club Kandy held Black Square Sports Club Colombo to a thrilling one all draw in an exhibition soccer match played at the Bogambara Stadium recently. Kingswood College beat Maliyadeva College by 8 points (2 tries) to 4 (1 try) in their schools rugger match played at Maliyadeva grounds Kurunegala. Young Boy's Sports Club, Katugastota trounced Rangers Sports Club Wategama 5 - 0 in a soccer match played at Sri Rahuia College grounds Katugastota recently. Hornsey Estate Sports Club Dickoya scored a hard fought 2 - 1 win over Roogill Estate Sports Club, Bogowantalawa in their inter-estate soccer tournament match played at Kirkoswald grounds, Bogowantalawa recently.

SATURDAY JULY 16: Maharaja B struggled to a first day total of 103 for seven wickets off 63 overs in four hours after being put in to bat in their 3 - day Mercantile A cricket match against Ceylon Tobacco A at Reid Avenue; the match will be continued today at 10 15 a.m After a lapse of three years Isipatana beat S Thomas Mount Lavinia at rugby by 15 points (3 tries 1 drop goal) to 6 in their match at Police Park yesterday. Skipper and flanker Hisham Abdeen and No. 8 MPF Sally combined extremely well to help Havelocks beat Kandy by 18 points (2 goals and 2 penalties) to 10 (a goal and a try) after a 9 — 0 lead at half time in a second round Clifford Cup rugby match at Havelock Park yesterday. Dharmaraja scored a thrilling 10 points (1 try 1 penalty) win over Kings wood in their rugby match at Bogambara Stadium yesterday after leading 3 — 0 at half time.

SUNDAY JULY 17: A fine 151 run stand for the fifth wicket in only 101 minutes between Ishak Sahabdeen (83) and Gamini Gunasena (82) helped MCA Colts to beat the visiting Hyderabad Blues by 106 runs in a limited over game played on the NCC grounds yesterday: MCA Colts 280 for 8 in 48.5 overs Hyderabad Blues 174 for 9 in 50 overs. Ernest Whiney & Co. beat Mercantile Credit by 7 wickets in the Mercantile D Division Cricket Tournament match: played yesterday at the MCA grounds at Wijerama Mawatha: Mercantile Credit 109 in 47.4 overs and Earnest Whiney 110 for 3 wickets in 42.5 overs. Ceylon Tobacco took a first innings lead of 43 runs with six wickets intact in their Mercantile A division cricket tournament match against Maharajas B on the Bloomfield grounds at Reid Avenue yesterday: Maharajas B 120 for 9 in 70.3 overs and Ceylon Tobacco A 163 for 4 in 87 overs. Chamyika Nishantha toppled the bottom seed Dunira Dias to enter the third round of the women's singles event of the YMCA Open Novices Table Tennis tournament at the Colombo yesterday: Champika won 21 — 11 21 — 16.

CONFIDENTIALLY

Tax Evasion

IS IT NOT TRUE the very few people were surprised when Finance Minister, Ronnie de Mel, at the G. A.'s conference on July 19 said that there was massive tax evasion in the country and charged the Inland Revenue Department on falling down on the job ? That the *Daily News* of July 20 carried the report as its front-page lead story ? That the Minister pointed out that "(1) only 5,000 limited liability companies in the country paid income tax despite the business boom that followed the liberalisation of the economy; (2) There were only 180,000 personal tax payers on the Inland Revenue files — and this included the PAYE (pay as you earn) wage earners; (3) There were only 45,000 business countrywide paying BTT and half of them were in Colombo " That the report went on : "The Minister admitted that the situation was absurd: and asked the G.As. whether they would believe that the tax base was as narrow as it was. Anybody earning over Rs. 12,000 a year, other than from public sector emoluments is liable to personal income tax. But only a minute fraction paid their income tax. Mr. de Mel estimated that about a million people were liable and had to be roped in. On BTT he said that any business with a turnover of Rs. 25,000 a quarter — or about Rs. 400 a day — was liable. Most boutiques have a turnover of over Rs. 400 a day and are liable. I think about 200,000 businesses are liable for BTT', the minister said. He remarked that of all the eating houses in the country, ranging from plush restaurants to the *buth kades* doing brisk business only 1,500 had files in the Inland Revenue Department. 'There are far too many not paying tax' he said. The Commissioner of Motor Traffic had issued 13,000 permits to private bus operates but only 1,400 of them paid any BTT " That the report concluded. "The minister who sought the GA's assistance to tackle massive tax evasion suggested that the grama sevakas and special service officers who had time of their hands should be utilised in the effort to rope in tax dodgers. 'Tax avoidance and tax evasion is the chief pastime of the country's affluent. They live rich and die rich without paying any tax', the Minister said".

IS IT NOT A FACT that *Tribune* has repeatedly reminded the Government that tax evasion had become the order of the day especially after the economy was liberalised ? That in the *Editor's Notebook* of *Tribune* of April 23, 1983. We had drawn attention to the fact that "Overburdened with the task of balancing heavy Budget deficits, the Minister of Finance and Planning very often resorts to foreign aid, grants and other leading institutions elsewhere. So much so our Budgets in the recent

past have become outward looking rather than 'inward' looking. The liberalisation of the economy and the development projects of the government have helped the emergence of thousands of big and small business men. But it is a sad story when it comes to the question of trade. The burden of tax continues to fall heavily on the shoulders of 'traditional' tax payers and the mass of people. The Business Turnover Tax (BTT) which in its origin was supposed to be an indirect tax has become more direct than the Income Tax. Businessmen no longer absorb the Turnover Tax but pass it on to the consumer. As a result the BTT in certain cases has become a double tax. The recent Budget proposals saddled the businessman and consumer with fresh taxes. The reason behind the proposals was supposed to be administrative convenience. Could not the government have achieved the same objective by eliminating wasteful expenditure and tightening the loose ends in fiscal control ? *Is the government unaware of the number of businessmen who do not pay tax ? Has a census been taken of the number of businessmen in Sri Lanka ? Is there any coordination between the Inland Revenue and Business Registration Department and Motor Traffic Department ? Is there any proper coordination between the lending institutions and Inland Revenue ? A trickle may fall into the shallow ponds of the Inland Revenue but rivers and oceans of taxable income escape without any tax. Does the Inland Revenue keep a tab on the Foreign Employment Agencies ?*

IS IT ALSO NOT A FACT that *Tribune* had gone on to state: "A mere glance of the Administration Report of the Commissioner-General of Inland Revenue for the year 1981 will demonstrate the poor state of taxation structure in Sri Lanka. According to this report the number of taxpayers for whom files have been maintained in the department were as follows: Income Tax 95,265; Wealth Tax 21,030; Business Turnover Tax 39,129. Besides there were about 40,000 employees paying tax under PAYE. Of the above quoted 95,265 files only 19,959 have paid their income tax in 1981. This shows only one fifth have paid the taxes. The others have either been exempted or do not pay any tax at all. There were of course the benefit of hundred percent capital allowances in operation during the said period. But how much of it was really beneficials to the trade or industries concerned ? Are there only a lakh of people earning more than twelve thousand rupees out of a population of 14.8 million. Are there only about 40,000 traders in Sri Lanka liable to pay Turnover Tax on Rs. 25,000 per quarter ? Is it not a fact that an ordinary hawker at the World Market would be liable for this amount ? Are all the transport operators paying Turnover Tax, if not the Income Tax ?"

To Be Concluded

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