

HOT SPRING

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Married Women win
'Pottu' rights on T. V.

The 'Pottu' ban for Rupavahini news readers has been relaxed by State Minister A. J. Rana-singhe when it was stressed that Tamil married women have to wear Pottu unless widowed.

It shows that the Tamils have to fight like foreigners in their own country as the Sikhs fought in Britain to wear turbans.

New Sinhala Colonisation NAMED AFTER ARMY MAN

Sarvodaya Active in Trinco.

Rapid Sinhala colonisation of the Trincomalee District is being carried out with the active participation of the Sinhala Army and 'Sarvodaya' an NGO under the leadership of Dr A. T. Ariyaratne. The Government Agent of Trincomalee District, Mr. Godawela, also a Sinhalese, is extending all co-operation to these illegal and utterly communally motivated Sinhala settlements.

A completely new Sinhala colony is coming up between the ancient Tamil villages of Tampalakamam and Kanthalai named Lucky Wijeyaratnepura. The new Sinhala settlement has been named after the late Brigadier of the Sinhala Army, Lucky Wijeyaratne who functioned as the Chief Army Officer of the Trincomalee District.

WIJAYARATNEPURA

The late Brigadier Lucky Wijeyaratne was actively engaged in Sinhala colonization of the Trincomalee District and was working in close co-ordination with Sarvodaya's Dr. A. T. Ariyaratne in settling Sinhalese from the South in the Trincomalee District. Brig. Lucky Wijeyaratne was killed in the Trincomalee District when a land-mine exploded some months back. The Brigadier's body was taken to his native Southern Province and Sinhala politicians both Government and Opposition, joined in giving the late Brigadier a Sinhala hero's funeral.

Months after his demise a new Sinhala settlement bearing his name is being carried out between the ancient Tamil villages of Tampalakamam and Kanthalai on state land. The N. G. headed by Dr. A. T. Ariyaratne which receives foreign funds has undertaken the construction of permanent houses for these Sinhalese and is also providing food and drinking water to the Sinhala colonists.

ANDANKULAM COLONISATION

At the same time another new Sinhala settlement is coming up near Andankulam at the 4th mile post on the Trincomalee-Kandy Highway. This new Sinhala settlement

is being done in the teak plantation area between Andankulam and Tampalakamam. Here too Sarvodaya is providing all help including the supply of drinking water.

LOVE LANE COLONISATION

A Third Sinhala settlement that is being presently undertaken is within the Trincomalee town limits itself - almost at the entrance to the town at the place called Love Lane. The settlement which is close to the Uppuveli Police Station is also being carried out with the Sarvodaya providing water-supply free to the settlers and also providing free building materials.

These Schemes are being carried out under pretext of rehabilitation when in fact persons settled in these areas are Sinhalese from outside. Because the Governmental machinery and the armed forces are directly involved a legal clothing is being provided for the illegal settlements. Even foreign donations are being spent on these land grabbing activities through the funds of the Rehabilitation Ministry and the NGO Sarvodaya.

In the meantime another news from Trincomalee states that some of the Tamil repatriates from India who

Musings of

WE NEEDLE



Punniya Boomy Camp, the former hide out of Tiger leader Pirabakaran during IPKF operations was heavily bombed by air and artillery but we didn't want to risk unnecessary casualties by trying to capture it.

Col. Sarah Munasinghe, S. L. Army Spokesman

When will they come to know his present whereabouts and start bombing it?

returned to Trincomalee are housed in refugee camps because their houses at Thirukadaloor in Trincomalee have all been destroyed.

ARIYARATNE ACTIVE

Reports from Trincomalee state that Sinhala colonisation of Trincomalee is being done at an alarmingly great speed and scale. Dr. A. T. Ariyaratne, the leader of the Sarvodaya is reported to have visited Trincomalee several times during the last few months ostensibly for overseeing the work of his organisation in the District though some persons suspect that Dr. Ariyaratne is feeling the

pulse of the Sinhalese people in regard to his own chances of election in the next Presidential elections.

Civilian Tamil Shot Dead

Thevasakayam Santhiralingam, a civilian Tamil resident of Chettipalayam in the Batticaloa District was shot dead by a Sinhala soldier on Thursday, April 2.

According to reports from Batticaloa the incident occurred when the Sinhala Army rounded up the village of Chettipalayam.

SHELLS INJURE THREE

Three persons sustained injuries when shells launched from the Sri Lankan Army Camp at Palaly hit the villages of Tellippalai East and Erlalai on Monday, April 6. A young girl named Rajeswaran Arudchelvy, who was sleeping inside her house

sustained injuries at Tellippalai East when a shell exploded in her compound. Two other civilians from Erlalai are reported to have been injured. Reports also say that Vadamarachy area also was shelled at the same time from the Palaly Sri Lankan Army Camp.

Six killed at Kirankulam

Six civilian Tamils were shot dead by the Sinhala Army at Kirankulam in the Batticaloa District on Monday April 6.

Reports from Batticaloa state that Sinhala soldiers who were proceeding along the mainroad in Kiran-

kulam suddenly started firing at random killing six civilian Tamils on the spot.

The Sinhala soldiers are also reported to have recovered the identity cards of the deceased and later boastfully claimed that they had killed L. T. T. E. However Batticaloa reports say that all persons killed were non-combatant civilians.

BOMB EXPLOSION

25 persons including a Police and an officer of the Sri Lankan Army died at Amparai, when a bomb exploded in a private bus which had been parked at the Amparai Bus Stand.

35 persons were reported to have sustained injuries and the condition of 10 people is reported to be serious. The injured have been

admitted to the Amparai hospital.

Several buildings in and around the bus stand were reported to have been damaged and five buses were reported to have been burnt down as a result of the explosion. It is reported that the bus in which the bomb exploded came from Pottuvil. This incident occurred on the morning of April 10th.

Report of another bomb explosion has been received on the evening of the same day. According to this report, the bomb exploded in a car that was parked at Maharama Junction. Seven people were reported killed and many have been admitted to the Colombo hospital with injuries. Many vehicles and buildings were reported damaged in the explosion.

Naval Boat Damaged

An Israeli made naval gun boat belonging to The Sri Lankan Navy sustained heavy damages when a sea-mine laid by the LTTE exploded on the night of Friday, April 3.

The incident took place at the Sea off Mathagal.

UN Now Under U. S. Control

New York: If 1990 was a year when the West rediscovered the United Nations and used it to forge a global consensus against Iraq, 1991 marked the conquest of the world organisation by the United States and its allies.

As the Soviet Union splintered, the world witnessed not only the death of a superpower, but the end of multilateralism at the UN as well.

The only major triumph developing countries could claim was the selection by the Security Council of Egyptian deputy prime minister Boutros Ghali to succeed Javier Pérez de Cuellar as the next Secretary General. Seven Non-Aligned members blocked Western moves to disregard Africa's claims to the post.

Indian UN envoy Chinmaya Gharekhan says, "It demonstrated that NAM can unitedly obtain a satisfactory result, one which is of doubtful satisfaction to some of the major powers."

But after tightening its grip on the Security Council through a flurry of resolutions shackling Iraq at the end of the Gulf war, the US

moved to dominate the political arena. In a symbolic show of strength, Washington in December 1991 capped a campaign for its 'new world order' by organising the repeal by the Assembly of the 1975 denunciation of Zionism.

After the historic vote, Arab and Third world delegates sullenly blamed each other for the outcome. But an ecstatic American diplomat was overheard saying it was clear the US can now get what it wants from the world body.

This was apparent even on non-political issues such as resolutions banning driftnet fishing. On this, the Japanese buckled to US pressure on the last day of the 46th session.

Revived Western support for the UN has been matched by uneasiness among Third World envoys about the organisation's future role. They say the 1990s promise to reverse earlier trends when developing states saw the UN as a useful policy instrument which the West did its best to blunt.

Gharekhan says, 'We've had to conduct damage-limitation exercises in response

Rajiv. Tiwari

to Western initiatives. The Assembly is being used by powerful countries in the new scheme of things.'

Without the support of the Soviet Union which eliminated itself as a force during the General Assembly, the Third World engaged in rear guard actions to prevent Western onslaughts on its autonomy.

In his farewell address as Chairman of the 128-member

Group of 77, Ghana's UN Representative Kofi Awoonor said, 'We will defend our rights in a word which sees more and more every day, excessive dependence on might, bully-tactics and abuse against the poor and the weak.'

But he admitted, 'Our task has been made more difficult by the dramatic changes.' He noted that 'the majority enjoyed by us in the UN is being whittled down by the appearance of new states on the Eastern European horizon'.

Complex negotiations marked the Assembly's creation of a humanitarian aid coordinator and an arms register to record the trade in conventional weapons.

Third World delegates say the proposals by industrialised countries are loaded with political intent aimed at eroding the sovereignty in their states. According to Gharekhan, though there

are protective provisions in both resolutions, much will depend on how they are interpreted in future situation. 'The arms register will generate its own pressures, and transparency in weapons transfers can lead to a reduction of tensions in particular regions', he says.

One of the changes observed during the Assembly session was the dwindling number of resolutions adopted on issues like disarmament which used to be hotly contested on the floor.

For the West, it was a welcome end to decades of sharp debates which usually ended with the US and its allies being outgunned by a brute majority on all major questions. But the taming of the Assembly also foretold a reduced Third World role.

And Ghana's Awoonor warned that 'no effort is being seriously made to correct the inequities of the international economic system which breed poverty... there can be no lasting peace if these inequities are not addressed.'

Courtesy: Third World Network Feature

Will the Government give us Eelam - If it Can't give the Cows?

It has been reported in our esteemed 'Hot Spring' of 15th ultimo (which is the only mass medium at our disposal to voice our views and air our grievances to the outside world) that an Australian NGO Human

Rights was prepared to donate some 200 dairy heifers of good breed to the Rural Development Society Mallakam. The strangest and painful aspect about this is that the Hon. Prime Minister and the Honourable

Minister of Agriculture, it seems, had nicely, 'piously' suggested to the Australian humanists not to do so, and the cows be donated to the Government farms in the South. This truth has transpired from the letter written to the President of the Rural D. S. Mallakam by the Australian Representative himself.

Simple small thing:-

What could be deduced from this heinous suggestion is that the government does not have the heart to give us even such simple, small things as the heifers. If that is so, can we expect it to

S. Sabasubramaniam

give us anything big, anything worthy, anything substantial? If the government is unwilling to give us such a *small-simple* thing - what else can we expect it to give us, and what more can we expect it to give us? Can it give us 'Eelam'? Can we expect it to give us our fundamental rights?

Not Own Property

Leave alone, if the cows are of its own. Unwillingness to give us something out of its own pocket or coffer is excusable to a certain extent. After all, those cows are not of its own - they are not the government's property - they belong to a foreign country. If the government is unwilling to give us

something that is donated by a foreign country, how can we expect the government to give us anything of its own? Just see - the type of mentality to prevent it from being given to Jaffna. It's really unbelievable and unbearable to see such a mean act - a dishonourable act from such an honourable minister. If a person has a magnanimous heart, he will always encourage others to help those who are suffering.

Big Man

The suggestion - not to give the cows to Jaffna has been made by such a high ranking personality like the Honourable Prime Minister and Hon. Minister of Agriculture. If the suggestion is made by a person of lower rank it may be excusable. If such a heinous suggestion is made by a 'big man' what can we expect from people of lower ranks? this is not in keeping with his dignity of higher office.

Mortal thing

If the Hon. Minister is not dignified enough, magnanimous enough to give us something *mortal*, can he give us something permanent, immortal, everlasting as Eelam or freedom, or our fundamental right or an inch of land, as we call it our 'TRADITIONAL HOME-LAND'.

OUR READERS SAY

PEACE

The Editor,
Hot Spring.

We came across a magazine which has carried in it two review articles two books. These two books were written by two most senior men in the Indian Peace Keeping Force - high ranking officers.

"The review stated that at some point after the fall of Jaffna, the Indian Peace Keeping Force should have ensured a permanent solution". After reading this, a simple citizen will no doubt feel the Indian intervention was a total failure. Anyone can come forward to make peace. The Peace-makers' heart and soul must be pure. How much this intervention has been a terrible blow to all of us, any sincere seeker of truth can visualise.

Even now it is not too late to find a solution. We

have also noticed among our Tamil brothers, some are self-seekers - interested in their own betterment. Some of our brothers have sent their children spending enormous sums to foreign countries for higher education. The poor people and their children will have to be satisfied with the situation here. Those who have decided to stay here under all circumstances, the number is decreasing day by day.

May the New Year usher Peace to all of us who are here.

Yours in the Lord,

Swami Chidrupananda

Sri Sarada Sevashram,
Point Pedro.

Selvi Jayalalitha

Dear Sir

Let me congratulate you for your editorial comment

under the caption Jayalalitha's dilemma in your issue of 22nd March 1992. It is very appropriate and timely. Now the chief minister of Tamil Nadu knows which way the wind is blowing. She is getting excited too much. As you said in your editorial comment "She thinks that the best way to win popular sympathy is to picture herself as a persecuted person." She has come to power on the popular sympathy wave after the assassination of Rajiv Gandhi and not on the performance of her political deeds. Nobody is persecuting her. It is she who is persecuting the Eelam Tamils who are stranded in Tamil Nadu and the National minded Tamils of Tamil Nadu, under the terrorism act of India. She has joined hands with the anti-Tamil forces such as the Congress and the North Indian Brahmins to oppress the Tamils in their own land.

It is an irony of fate that the greatest enemy of the Eelam Tamils today is

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Sinhalese Colonization in Tamil Land - A PERSPECTIVE

Introduction

Every nation ultimately has two resources. They are its lands and its people. Land is a natural resource. Wherever it may be, land is very valuable but it is a very limited resource. For a long time, land is very closely associated with human society's life and progress. It is because of this that policies and problems relating to land acquired a prominent place in human society. Past history has shown to us several instances that it is the correct handling of the problems relating to land that determined the success or failure of rulers, Government and socio-economic systems.

British land policy

With the signing of the Kandyan Convention in 1815, the entire Island of Ceylon came under the rule of Britain. British Colonial Government introduced the Trespass on Crown Lands Ordinance in 1840. This gave legal recognition to the land policy of the Government. The actual intention of the Act was to destroy the village economy of the liberation fighters of Kandy and Wellassa provinces. The insurrection of 1818 and the rising of the people created a feeling of insecurity in the minds of the rulers. Therefore, the British Government decided to annex the Central Hill country, which was the refuge of the liberation fighters who were well-versed in guerilla warfare and with the rest of the country. It is in this background the colonial land policy was determined. By the Act of 1840, all lands uninhabited were vested in the Crown. Apart from this, in order to convert the lands belonging to the people too, the Crown Property Land Regulation Act No. 1 of 1897 was promulgated. Section 24 of this Act says thus: "If anyone occupied one or more pieces of land other than that which he actually occupied, then those other lands will not belong to him." These sections of this Act strangled and disintegrated the traditional holdings. Lands traditionally belonging to the people were snatched away from them. Because of this Colonial Land Policy, landlessness and poverty spread among the peasants. It was only after a century that Britain realised the adverse

effects of its land policy. Ceylonese leaders began to agitate asking for changes in the land policy of the Government. Accordingly the First Land Commission was appointed in 1927. In pursuance of the recommendations of this Commission, the Land Development Ordinance of 1935 was enacted. This Ordinance paved the way to an era of rapid colonization. This policy is still in force without any basic changes.

New Land Policies

After Independence, two Land Commissions were appointed by the Ceylon Government.

1. Land Commission of 1959
2. Land Commission of 1987

Ceylon's entire territory is 6,570,134 hectares (16,228,230 acres). Out of this 5,403,899 hectares (13,347,630 acres) of land belong to the State. The balance 1,166,235 hectares (2,880,600 acres) is privately owned. Therefore, it would be noted that out of Ceylon's

Schemes in the North and East with the purported idea of granting land for the landless. By effecting this re-distribution of land, it purported to set off the imbalance in the inequitable distribution of land with the objective of increasing production of paddy and subsidiary food crops to eradicate unemployment at village level, alleviate poverty by increasing the incomes of the people and bring about regional development.

Achievement?

During the period 1936 to 1988 the State distributed 813,495 hectares of land in Ceylon. This land was given to 1,439,407 allottees. From the time these Schemes were inaugurated, the question was posed whether the development objectives of these schemes were achieved. The undermentioned positions prevailing in the village sector in Ceylon will give the answer to this important question.

1. 27% families are without land.

S. Varatharajah B. A. Spec. Econ.

entire land, 82.3% of land is owned by State. Therefore, the land policy of the Government which has a monopolistic ownership of land, is instrumental in creating social and economic problems in the country. From 1935 onwards, the Government began a re-distribution of land by means of various Colonization Schemes in different names.

1. Major Colonization Schemes
2. Highland Colonization Schemes
3. Village Extension Schemes
4. Youth Settlement Schemes
5. Land Grants (Special Provisions)
6. Regularisation of Trespassed Land and or Encroachments
7. Middle Class Irrigation Schemes
8. Rain water Irrigation and Farm Development Schemes

Under the above named categories, various Acts were passed and the Government alienated land and effected colonizations. From 1935 onwards, the State set about a series of Colonization

2. 42.4% of land ownership is in respect of less than 2 acres of land.
3. The monthly income of 82% village families is less than Rs. 400/-
4. The monthly income of 44% families is less than Rs. 200/-
5. Among the unemployed 70% represent peasants.

These data point out that in spite of the fact in the Development Schemes of all the Governments, land played an important part, problems like landlessness, village poverty and unemployment have deteriorated. These data and information indicate to us that the colonization schemes inaugurated under various names failed to achieve their desired objectives of development. Why is it then from 1935 to date all successive Governments have followed the same policy and the same methods as far as colonization is concerned? Is that the Government through its Colonization Schemes has succeeded in achieving what it did not want to reveal openly or what it cannot reveal? The Land Commission of 1959 indicated that

the Government spent 340 million rupees (up to 1956) on major colonization schemes. But the income received was only 25 million rupees. Thus these colonization schemes were a great loss economically. Therefore, what is it that has been achieved from 1935 during the half century in the North and East through the various Colonization Schemes from Gal Oya Scheme to the Rapid Mahaveli Development Scheme? The objective of this article is to find an answer to this valuable question.

North East Territories - an introduction

The North East territories that have been chosen for this research are situated in the Northern and Eastern parts of the Island. The land in the North East territories consists of 18,323 square kilometres. The bigger inland water area in the North East territories is 553 square kilometres. Thus the total area in the North Eastern territories is 18,881 sq. kms. This is 28.8% of the territories in the entire Island. These territories are considered as Dry Zone. These North East territories are divided into eight Administrative Districts.

1. Northern Province:

- (a) Jaffna, (b) Kilinochchi, (c) Vavuniya, (d) Mannar, (e) Mullaitivu.

2. Eastern Province:

- (a) Batticaloa (b) Amparai (c) Trincomalee

According to the Census of 1881 the population of the North East territories was 4,30,055 persons. As per Census of 1981 the population 2,084,655 persons. The ethnic distribution of population in the North East territories is as follows:-

Race	1881 Total	1881 Percentage	1981 Total	1981 Percentage
Ceylon Tamils	364,889	84.9	1,356,546	65
Muslims	53,417	12.4	366,267	17.6
Indian Tamils	—	—	74,616	3.6
Sinhalese	7326	1.7	278,829	13.4
Others	4423	1.0	8397	0.3
North East Districts	430,055	100.0	2,084,655	100.0

In 1881 Census the Indian were included along with Ceylon Tamils.

Gal Oya Scheme

As far as the North East territories are concerned, it was in the Eastern Province

that large scale colonization schemes were effected. The Gal Oya River Valley Development Scheme was the first major colonization scheme that was inaugurated in Ceylon in 1949. Pattipalai which was the traditional Tamil name, was changed to Gal Oya in 1949 and the Gal Oya River Valley Development Scheme was inaugurated. The objectives of the Scheme were as follows:-

1. There will be a territory of 855 sq kilometres (330 sq. mile.) that would come under the Irrigation Scheme of this project.
2. 48,600 hectares (1,20,000 acres) will receive irrigation facilities.
3. 9000 kilowatts electric power will be generated.
4. 30,000 people will get drinking water.
5. 200,000 will be settled.

With these great expectations, the then Prime Minister, of Ceylon, Mr. D. S. Senanayake inaugurated the Gal Oya Scheme on the 28th August, 1949 at Inginiyagala. But the working of this Scheme did not achieve its objectives of development. There was no proper planning of irrigation in the Gal Oya Development Scheme. Further, the land granted under this Scheme was too small for extensive agriculture. At the same time this extent of land was too big for intensive cultivation (Ceylon Economist Vol. 2 No. 1, Sept. 1951 pages 69 - 76).

Further the report released by the Evaluation Committee of the Gal Oya Scheme in 1970 stated that the great expenditures incurred under this Scheme did not bring about any benefits. Rupees 40 million was expended on buildings and houses under this Scheme and at the

same time not more than 40 million was spent on building the dam itself. For

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SINHALESE COLONIZATION...

(Continuation from page 3)

construction work within the Gal Oya area alone Rs. 3.0 million was spent (1960-66). Thus great care was taken by the Government in the settlement of persons in the area and it expended a large sum for this purpose. The Government, however, did not interest itself much in the economic sphere, increased production and agricultural development. On the basis of such heavy expenditure incurred, why did the Government not develop already existing schemes and concentrate on the strengthening of such schemes and instead divert its scarce resources on the Scheme like the Gal Oya? This was the question posed by the Evaluation Committee.

As a matter of fact, the Government launched the Gal Oya River Valley Development Scheme as a Sinhalese Colonization Scheme. As a first step, the traditional Tamil Partipallai was renamed as Gal Oya territory. Under this Colonization Scheme, 44 colonization villages were created. Out of this 38 were Sinhala villages and the balance given to Tamils. These Tamil villages were devoid of water facilities or were dependent on water which was irrigated through Sinhala villages. In the communal troubles which erupted in Inginiyagala on 5th June 1956 and May 1958, Tamils who were living in the Tamil villages were either killed or chased away. Consequently Sinhala families occupied these villages and thereafter they became a fully Sinhala Colonization Scheme.

How Sinhala chauvinism motivated the initial work in the Gal Oya River Valley Development Scheme can be assessed from an incident which took place during this period. In the early part of 1958, a Sinhala bulldozer driver working near a tank near Amparai found a pillar. A Tamil supervisor who was on duty there directed the driver to throw the pillar into the pond close by. Later this pillar was kept in the Office of the Gal Oya Development Board for public view. A Tamil member of the Board lodged an objection to this exposition. This pillar had an inscription pertaining to the rules in regard to the distribution of irrigation water. Later, however, it was interpreted that this inscription also contained that the Sinhalese were occupying Gal Oya territory for over a century. This incident serves to prove that the Government and the Sinhalese people had

started building a canard that the Gal Oya area was the traditional territory of the Sinhalese. This illustration went further to add that the Tamils were trying to object to the traditional land of the Sinhalese by falsely painting a picture that the Tamils had a higher ethnic ratio than the Sinhalese in the early days.

Uneconomical but Communal

Dr. S. A. Wickremasinghe in criticising the Gal Oya Scheme says thus: "When the history of the Gal Oya Scheme is finally written, it will be found that not the people of Ceylon but the American experts and the contractors benefitted by it." Then what has the Government achieved by the Gal Oya Scheme? According to the Census of 1946, the Sinhalese population in the Batticaloa District (inclusive of Amparai District) was 11,850. This, out of the entire population of the District, constitute 5.8%. After the introduction of the Gal Oya Scheme, in the Census of 1953, there were 31,174 Sinhalese. This, out of the entire population of the District, was 11.5%. In the period between 1946 and 1953, the entire increase of the population in this District was only 33%. But in the same period, the percentage increase of the Sinhalese was 163%. Further on the recommendation of the De-limitation Commission in 1959, a new Constituency called Amparai, was created in the South of the District. In the General Election of 1960, a Sinhalese was returned to parliament. This paved the way for a Sinhalese to be sent to Parliament from the Eastern Province for the first time. Consequent to this, on the 10th of April, 1961, Amparai District was created. Thus in a decade after the introduction of the Gal Oya Scheme, in the attempt to make the Tamils minority in the Eastern Province, a new District called Amparai was created enabling a Sinhalese to be returned to Parliament.

In 1963 in the Amparai District there were four Tamil divisions - Panamapattu, Akarapattu, Karavagu-Nintavur pattu, Samanthurai pattu and a Sinhalese division called Wegama pattu, totalling five AGA divisions. In 1981 in the Amparai District, there were 7 Tamil AGA divisions and 5 Sinhalese AGA divisions. According to this, out of the total area of 4318 sq.kms., 3391 sq.kms. belonged to Sinhala AGA divisions. Therefore out of the

entire extent of the Amparai District, 78.3% have become Sinhala majority areas. These are the achievements of the Gal Oya colonization scheme and the other schemes inaugurated in the Amparai District.

Trincomalee

Trincomalee District is the other district in the Eastern Province where various colonization schemes were also introduced. Agricultural Irrigation Colonization schemes, Fishermen colonization schemes, Sacred area colonization schemes, colonization scheme of the armed forces and several other schemes were continuously effected in this District.

Of these Kantalai and Padaviya colonization schemes are important. These colonization schemes greatly changed the ethnic percentage of the population in the Trincomalee District.

According to the Census of 1881 out of the entire population 22,197 in the Trincomalee, district 14,394 were Tamils and only 935 were Sinhalese. But according to the Census of 1981, out of 255,948 persons, 87,760 were Tamils and 85,503 were Sinhalese. Therefore in Trincomalee District in the period 1881-1981, the increase in the Tamil population was only 510% whereas the Sinhalese population was 904.5%. As a result of this the Tamil population which was 65% out of the whole population in 1881 got reduced to 34% in 1981. But at the same time, the Sinhalese population which was only 4% out of the whole population in 1881, had increased to 33% in 1981. Thus the ratio of Tamils to Sinhalese which in 1881 was 15:1 was changed in 1981 to approximately 1:1. Not only that, a new electoral constituency called Seruvila was created and a Sinhalese returned to Parliament.

Therefore in the Eastern Province from the time of the introduction of colonization schemes, in the first ten years through the Amparai electoral constituency, a Sinhala representative and in the next fifteen years, another Sinhalese member through the Seruvila constituency, were able to be returned to Parliament for the first time.

Vavuniya

As far as the Northern Province was concerned, it was in the Vavuniya District that the colonization Schemes

were first launched. The Pavatkulam Colonization Scheme introduced in 1956, is a notable one. At the start of this scheme, 595 Tamil families and 463 Sinhalese families were settled. Later the Tamil families who were there, were chased out. Now it is a Sinhalese colony. Colonization was launched in various ways like Major Colonization Schemes, Middle Class Irrigation Schemes, Village Expansion Schemes etc. A special feature in this District is that there is a separate AGA division created for the Sinhalese. Vavuniya South was divided into two and an AGA division created - a Vavuniya South Sinhalese division. In this Vavuniya South (Sinhalese) AGA division, there is a village called Ambalangodalla. It is to be noticed that people from the village of Ambalangodalla in the Southern Province of Ceylon have come and settled here and established a village called Ambalangodalla. Due to the continued colonization of this district, the ethnic proportion has marked changes. In 1981 there were 1157 Sinhalese and 13,164 Tamils in the Vavuniya District. In 1981 according to the Census, there were 54,179 Tamils and 15,794 Sinhalese. Thus in the Vavuniya District during the period 1881-1981 the increase in the Tamil population was 312%, while that of the Sinhalese, was 1265%. It may therefore be seen that the Sinhalese who were 7.4% out of the whole population in 1881 have multiplied to 16.6% in 1981. On the other hand, the Tamils who were 84.6% in 1881 were reduced to 56.8% in 1981.

Rapid Mahaveli Development Scheme

In recent times, i.e. in the eighties, the major colonization scheme that was launched in the North East, was the Mahaveli Development Scheme. In the Master Plan that was prepared between 1965 and 1968, it was proposed to use 43 lakhs sq. feet of Mahaveli water in 900,000 acres (364,500 hectares) in the Dry Zone. It was earlier proposed to launch 15 Multi-purpose Schemes, 6 Irrigation cross-canals, several power stations capable of producing a total of 500 megawatts of electricity and to settle more than five lakhs of people. As part of this major scheme in order to irrigate the North Central and Northern Provinces and to establish power stations capable of producing 300 megawatts of electricity, it was proposed to build reservoirs at Kotmale, Randeniya, and

Uma Oya, Lokai Oya and in the tributaries of the Amban ganga.

At the end of 1977, when the Government decided to execute the proposed plans under the Master Plan within a limited period of six years, it undertook only the important schemes of the Master Plan for rapid implementation. I; K; L; M areas which were in the South of the Northern Province were not included in the Rapid Mahaveli Development Scheme. A North Central Province canal could provide irrigation facilities to 94,268 hectares (23,790 acres) of land in these areas. In spite of the fact that the Dutch Engineering Consultants (Nedco) said that such a canal was technically possible, the Government did not include this project and these areas in the Rapid Mahaveli Development Scheme. These discarded territories were proclaimed and included in 1988 as Special Areas in the Rapid Mahaveli Development Scheme. By the notification in the Government Gazette of 16th April, 1988, the Maral Aru territory in the Mullaitivu District was re-named Weli Oya and proclaimed as the 26th District of Ceylon. It was declared that Weli Oya Land area had been included for immediate development under the Rapid Mahaveli Development Scheme. As a sequel to this proclamation, Sinhalese colonization which was placed on a war footing, began to take place rapidly. In 1988 and 1989, 3364 Sinhalese families were settled.

People who were displaced from Teldeniya in the Victoria Dam project, were given lands and were quickly settled under the Rapid Mahaveli Development Scheme. Accordingly 35,000 people comprising 5925 families were settled. Percentage-wise 85% were Sinhalese, 6.1% Muslims and 5.1% Tamils. A noteworthy point is that all the displaced Sinhalese have been settled under the Maduru Oya Scheme in the Eastern Province. Further, all these settlements were effected in the Eastern Province where the Tamil people lived. But the evacuated Tamils and Muslims were settled in the Kandy District itself.

The Government does not want to integrate the Tamil villages and towns in the Eastern Province. On the contrary, the Government proposes to join the colonised territories with the Sinhalese territories. In pursuance of this objective, there is a proposed plan in the Rapid Mahaveli Development Scheme to construct a railway to join the Sinhalese Districts with the colonised territories under the Mahaveli Scheme in the Eastern Province. However at the same time, no railway has been planned to join the coastal areas of the Eastern Province.

(To be Continued Next Week)

Distortion of Facts

TULF & FEDERALISM

According to a news item in the Lanka Guardian of March 1, 1992, the TULF MP Mr. P. Joseph is reported to have told the Sunday Times that the TULF had been advocating a federal set up for a long time. The MP is further reported to have said that the TULF has decided to back Minister S. Thondaman's proposal for a federal form of Government as a solution to the ethnic issue.

Federalism

We in Jaffna are not sure whether Mr. Thondaman has proposed a federal solution. May be Mr. Thondaman who is not able - or to be more precise who is being prevented - to visit the north has told the exile chit MP that he is proposing federalism. We do not really know what form of government Mr. Thondaman envisages but we may say that Mr. Thondaman's proposals do contain matters, worth serious consideration without hastily running to the conclusion that he envisages a federal form of Government.

Mr. Joseph however seems to have concluded that Mr. Thondaman has proposed federalism and in the process has exhibited his own lack of knowledge of federalism and knowledge about the Party (TULF) of which he is today a representative in parliament.

TULF and Federalism

Mr. Joseph has said that the TULF had been advocating a federal set up for a long time! It is this statement of Mr. Joseph that betrays his utter lack of knowledge of his own party and its policies or his treachery or both.

The TULF was formed in 1976 with the Federal Party, Tamil Congress and even Mr. Thondaman's CWC. The TULF at its first convention held at Vaddukoddai in 1976 resolved to recreate and reconstitute Tamil Eelam, the Federal Party abandoning its federalism and the Tamil Congress abandoning its adherence to a unitary form of Government. The pronounced and only objective of the TULF as evidenced by the resolution passed at the first, last and inaugural sessions of the TULF at it Vaddukoddai sessions - was the restoration and reconstitution

of an independent and sovereign Tamil state of Eelam.

People's Mandate

The TULF sought itself to be registered as a separate political party to face 1977 hustings and placed before the Tamil voters its programme for establishing a separate independent and sovereign Tamil Eelam state. In fact the TULF sought a mandate from the Tamils and said that votes for the TULF would be regarded as plebiscite taken from the Tamils on the Tamil Eelam issue.

The members of the Federal Party and the Tamil Congress shed their separate identities and contested various electorates on the TULF ticket under the election symbol of the Rising Sun.

In Batticaloa town electorate which happened to be a multi-member constituency the TULF decided to field two candidates. They accordingly nominated C. Rajadurai and Kasi Ananthan - Rajadurai was allotted the TULF symbol of Rising Sun and Kasi Anandan, House, which was the symbol of the Federal Party which by now had abandoned federalism and which was now in the forefront of the Tamil Eelam demand. The need to give Kasi Ananthan a different symbol was for the obvious reason that two candidates in the same constituency could not be given the same symbol.

Likewise in Jaffna, Mr. Kumar Ponnambalam who had been trying to get TULF nomination for the Jaffna seat could not obtain TULF nomination there. So he decided to go it alone under the Tamil Congress name-board but he too said that his policy was the restoration of Tamil Eelam.

In any event we need not bother much about these because while Kumar Ponnambalam lost to his TULF rival V. Yogeswaran at Jaffna, Rajadurai won the Batticaloa seat for the TULF. The second seat went to a Muslim. Batticaloa was made a double-member constituency to give representation to Muslim minority interests.

It is necessary here to say that the third constituent of the TULF disassociated the up-country Tamils from the

Tamil Eelam demand but continued to remain in the TULF admitting the right of the Tamils in the Northeast to work for and achieve Tamil Eelam. Mr. Thondaman of course did not face the 1977 hustings as a TULF candidate but contested on behalf of the Ceylon Workers' Congress under its symbol - the cock.

It would therefore be apparent that the TULF was born with the Tamil Eelam demand - i. e. a separate

KUMARAN

independent and Sovereign state in the Northeast. The TULF got a massive electoral victory in the 1977 election.

Sixth Amendment

Immediately after the pogrom in 1983 - J. R. Jayawardene brought in the sixth amendment to his constitution which took away the right of the Tamils to demand a separate state. A constitutional prohibition against any such demand was provided by this amendment. Further the amendment sought a new oath to be taken under this amendment.

Members of the TULF refused to take oath under the amendment as they said, they were elected to parliament to work for and achieve an independent and sovereign Tamil state. So the Tamils had no representation in Parliament.

TULF Somersault

The TULF again contested the elections in 1989 to serve

the interests of its Indian masters and to serve the personal gains of its renegade and treacherous leaders. But still the Tamil people rejected the traitors and elected EROS group of contestants.

J. R. Jayawardene's fraudulent electoral designs of course helped some of the renegades to find places in parliament Mr. Joseph who was defeated at the parliamentary elections has come into parliament with the help of the 'chit', a fraudulent device of Jayawardene to defeat the voters' voice and perpetuate a system of autocratic and tyrannical government.

Utter lie

Now this chit M. P. who is an exile from Batticaloa has said that the TULF had been advocating a federal form of government for a long time.

As pointed out in this article the TULF was born with this Tamil Eelam demand. We have so far had no information that the TULF had formally and authoritatively given up its Tamil Eelam demand. As a matter of fact the TULF had not been functioning as a party except for purposes of the last elections taking cover the bayonet of the Indian soldiers.

No Policy

Of course we know for certain that though the TULF had not officially abandoned or changed its policies, what is still left of the TULF - viz. a band of self-seekers of office, has no policy whatsoever!

The TULF traitors are in a very unfortunate position.

They have two masters to serve - one Indian and the other Sinhala. They try to pedal their cycles to their ultimate goal of personal gain falling on either side of the line - Indian or Sinhalese.

Perhaps Mr. Joseph knows that he cannot talk of federalism under the infamous 6th Amendment. Therefore he says that the TULF had been advocating federalism for a long time. This gives him a fine defence. He can always say that he is not advocating it now and thus escape the rigours of the 6th Amendment.

Chelvanayakam

Mr. S.J.V. Chelvanayakam was the originator of the federal form of government. But when the 1972 constitution was promulgated, he resigned from parliament and after a delay of nearly two years a bye-election was held in his Kankesanthurai constituency.

Mr. Chelvanayakam contested the bye-election on the Tamil Eelam demand. Soon after his election he categorically said that he and his party were abandoning their demand for federalism. He said he would be working to restore an independent and sovereign Tamil state. Perhaps for the benefit of his lieutenants' better understanding he also said that he knew it was difficult but that he would try and achieve it.

So this much is very recent history. Mr. Joseph cannot and should not distort it. Federalism was never a proposition of the TULF. Tamil Eelam was its pronounced goal. Mr. Joseph may try to forget it but Tamils who voted for the TULF shall not forget. Mr. Joseph is trying to complicate matters by talking of federalism when that band which calls itself the TULF has no policy of its own.

Our Readers...

(Continuation from Page 2)

JAYA - Lalith (a) and not the Sinhalese. The Sinhalese are our traditional enemies and we know where we stand. SELVI Jayalalitha has the strength of both Jayawardena and Lalith. One was the Sinhala President and the other was the Sinhala WAR minister. So she has nothing to fear. She is having all the protection. She is clamouring for more protection from the Central Government. We have learnt what has happened at Kumba - Konam. Her sacred bath has taken the lives of so many innocent people due to her protection.

What has happened to Kavery waters? What has happened to Katchathivu affair? what has happened

to the problem of Tamil Nadu fishermen being killed by the Sri Lankan Navy from time to time in spite of appeals by India to have mercy on the fishermen? Has the chief minister taken any concrete step to solve these problems, other than sending a letter to the Prime Minister and reading his reply in the State Assembly? Have you translated your boastful threats that you will take over Katchathivu etc into action? You have so many problems; Please try to find some solutions to your problems. Leave us alone. We will solve our problems. You can't afford to incur the wrath of New Delhi. So you have chosen to cooperate with Delhi in one area of common agreement that is to send away all the Tamil refugees much against their wish into - the

hands of the enemy - the Sinhalese. World opinion is against you and India in this matter. But you still persist in sending them.

You are consistent only in your inconsistency! Just before the elections you were all praise for the Tigers. Now you have turned against them; You don't even speak a word about the safety and security of the Eelam Tamils. You are not giving due respect to M. G. R. your political mentor. When he lived you said he was everything for you. Now you are singing a different song. Remember M. G. R. dead is more powerful than M. G. R. alive. Your Ministers and other yes men will worship you now; but remember the spectre of M. G. R. is haunting you. SELVI.

Rathai Ramachandran Alaveddi.

HOT SPRING

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LAND GRABBING

Sinhala colonisation of Tamil homeland is a long drawn out plan. In fact it started even before independence under the misleading title of Agriculture and Development.

The Tamils did not suspect the motives of the Sinhala leaders at the start. They were misled into thinking that the colonisation schemes were meant for the stated purpose of agriculture and development. The fact that D. S. Senanayake was inspired by the Jewish colonisation of Palestine even before the creation of Israel came to light later. The Tamils realized that colonisation was being made use of to convert traditional Tamil areas into Sinhala areas only after the Gal Oya Scheme was inaugurated.

The Tamils had been opposing colonisation of their homeland with Sinhalese ever since but the Governments of Sri Lanka persistently continued their policy. In fact they not only extended but expanded their Sinhalisation policy in every conceivable way.

How much the Tamils regard this matter as vital can be seen from the provisions of the Bandaranayake - Chelvanayakam Pact and the Dudley Senanayake - Chelvanayakam Pact. Even the haphazardly drawn Rajiv Gandhi - Jeyawardhene Accord had to take cognisance of Tamil concern in regard to Sinhala colonisation.

But the Sinhala chauvinists and Government seem to think they can carry on with colonisation programmes under various pretexts and cheat the Tamils. If they persist in their mad pursuit they will have to be forewarned that the Tamils will not accept the Sinhala colonies in their homeland as a *fait accompli*. The Tamils will not and cannot leave any stone unturned in dismantling Sinhala settlements in their homeland. It is not going to be like grabbing the Puttalam area from the Tamils. The Tamils will resist to the last. Let there be no mistake about it.

Sinhala settlements in Tamil areas is now taking place with Sinhala Army protection. It would be a costly exercise to retain these settlements with Sinhala Army protection all the time.

Baudha - Sinhala chauvinists and politically ambitious individuals amongst the Sinhalese are equally involved in this land grabbing exercise. It should be apparent to anyone that the Government is able to settle Sinhala colonists in the Tamil homeland against the wishes of the Tamils because the Governmental machinery including the armed forces is entirely in the hands of the Sinhalese.

We have at various times and in various articles appearing in the columns of this paper pointed out the vital interest we Tamils have in retaining our homeland as *ours*. Despite all persuasions ranging from the late forties and early fifties calling upon the Government to desist from this land grabbing activities all Sinhala governments have persistently followed this policy. Now they are doing it brazenly with army protection and under other pretexts too.

It is time that even the international community addresses its mind to this problem. Already a foreigner, Prof. Peter Schalk of the Uppsala University in Sweden, who came to the island and also visited Tamil Eelam territories had hinted at these colonisations. Recently even the U. S. had to warn Israel to dismantle Jewish settlements in Palestine.

The rate at which Sinhala settlements is being done will soon bring this out as a problem for consideration even by the international community. At that time the Baudha - Sinhala chauvinists and government will find that they have expended much wealth on a project which would not give them dividends.

Mad Pursuit of Murder

Valvettiturai Citizens tell President Premadasa

The Citizens of Valvettiturai in a protest letter addressed to President R. Premadasa have protested against the wanton damage done to civilian life, limb and property and called upon him to forthwith stop such acts of oppression and terrorisation against the Tamil people.

The citizens of Valvettiturai in their memorandum to Mr. R. Premadasa, the President have also said that ..

the Sri Lankan Air Force was engaged in a murder mission on March 16 this year when it indiscriminately bombed Valvettiturai without any prior warning to the public. While the Air Force bombed the Navy sent volleys of cannon fire and the Army carried out artillery shell attacks directed towards Vadammarachy.

Two civilian were killed, apart from a large number

being critically wounded. Several houses were damaged. Hundreds of people had a providential escape when the Valvettiturai market was bombed.

This is not the first time that we have to protest against the brutal inhuman acts against a people.

If the Sinhala people and their political leaders value moral and religious principles the sensible thing is to give up military mad pursuits and recognise the right of self-determination of the Tamil nation.

JAFFNA HOSPITAL

542 deaths in three months

Five hundred and forty two persons died within the first three months of this year at the Teaching Hospital in Jaffna after admission.

Jaffna's Tamil daily "Eelamadu" published the news giving the break on the basis of cause of death. According to the break up the figures are as follows:-

Cause of Death	Number of Deaths
1. From injuries sustained by Army Operations	10
2. Road accidents	15
3. Suicides	25
4. Accidental deaths caused by falling into wells or ponds	10
5. Diseases	482
Total	542

Diseases included such as malaria, brain fever, diarrhoea and jaundice.

SPORTS

Football

St. Mary's beat their neighbours St. Nicholas by four goals to nil in a Soccer League match played at St. Antony's grounds on 4.4.92. All the goals were scored in the first half.

Messrs. Kulendran and C. S. Arulpiragasam and Robert officiated.

Volleyball

St. Antony's emerged as the best spikers in Jaffna, when they beat K. K. S. by three matches to two in the best of five sets. on 5.4.92. Rajaratnam with Nagendram officiated.

— Vijayakumar

Jaffna Science Association Three Days Annual Sessions

The Jaffna Science Association will hold its annual sessions for 1992 for three days beginning from 23rd April and ending on April 25 at the Jaffna University premises states Prof. V. K. Ganeshalingam, the General Secretary of the Association.

The sessions will include a seminar on 'Food and Food Habits' on the first day followed by presentation of Review papers on selected subjects.

Research papers on the following amongst others are also scheduled to be presented:-

1. Species composition and some aspects of biology of penaeid prawns in the Jaffna lagoon.
2. A preliminary study on Curculionids of Jaffna peninsula.
3. Prevention of scale formation in water distilling. Some results with Jaffna well water.

4. Drawbacks in construction industry in the northern part of Sri Lanka and remedial measures to be adopted.

5. Effect of long distance cycling on lung function.
6. Cash crop farming in the Jaffna region.

Prof. A. Thurairajah, Vice-Chancellor of the Jaffna University and President of the Association will preside. On the last day of the sessions, the incoming President, Prof. N. Balakrishnan will deliver his address.

How Appropriate to our own Situation!

"We have before us an ordeal of the most grievous kind. We have before us many, many long months of struggle and of suffering. You ask what is our policy? I will say: It is to wage war, by sea, land and air, with all our might and with all the strength that God can give us: to wage war against a monstrous tyranny, never surpassed in the dark, lamentable catalogue of human crime. That is our policy you ask, what is our aim? I can answer in one word: Victory - Victory at all costs. Victory in spite of all terror. Victory, however long and hard the road may be; for without Victory, there is no Survival."

— Sir Winston Churchill

A Speech to the House of Commons, May 13, 1940