

# Saturday Review

SRI LANKA

Vol. 2 No. 24

June 18, 1983

# PRO-EELAM MOVE IN BOSTON

The Tamil Eelam lobby in the United States of America scored another triumph this week.

The House of Representatives of the State of Massachusetts has passed a unanimous resolution urging "the divestment and withdrawal of public funds and pension revenues from businesses that are owned by U.S. organizations based in Sri Lanka" as a protest against the increasing violations of human rights in the Tamil areas in the north and east.

The resolution while noting the "discriminatory and intimidating policies of the security forces that went on a rampage in the north recently", characterises the Prevention of Terrorism Law and the government's invoking of special provisions of the Public Security Act as contrary to the accepted principles of the Rule of Law, criminal procedure and Sri Lanka's Constitution itself.

Copies of the resolution have been forwarded to the President of the United States, the Secretary of State, U. N. Ambassadors, the U.S. Congressmen as well as to President Jayawardene and Prime Minister Premadasa.

This makes it the second occasion that the Massachusetts State Legislature passed a resolution supporting the cause of the Sri Lankan Tamils. The previous occasion was on the 10th of May, 1979 when they called on the President of the United States of America and the Congress "to protest and utilise the powers of their offices to rectify the gross injustices which have been inhumane-

ly inflicted on the Tamils of Sri Lanka".

The Governor of Massachusetts, Mr. Edward J. King, went one further and declared May 22, 1979 as Eelam Tamils Day. Sri

Lanka at that time protested to the United States Government and this was accompanied by a chorus of protests reflected in the columns of the Colombo press. The United States Embassy in Sri Lanka as-

sured the Sri Lanka Government then that the Massachusetts resolution did not in any way represent the policies and views of the United States of America. It was also stated that the United States Govern-

ment had explained to the Massachusetts Legislators the "complexity of the issues and different points of view" in respect of the problems affecting Sri Lankan Tamils.

## Youth shot dead by Army: No inquest: Funeral conditions flouted

The conditions laid down by the Police when they handed over the body of Kanagasundaram Yogarajah—shot dead by an Army patrol at midnight on Wednesday (15 June)—to his relatives for cremation yesterday, were observed in the breach.

Hundreds of people participated in the funeral procession from the deceased's house on Navalar Road to the Kombayanmanal Crematorium, pamphlets bearing his photograph were distributed and photographs taken at the Crematorium.

Yogarajah was the first to be shot dead in Jaffna after new regulations governing the disposal of dead bodies came into force in

the North on 3rd June.

Under these regulations no inquest was held into his death. The Jaffna Police, after obtaining Defence Ministry clearance, handed over the body to his sister on Friday afternoon, stipulating that there should be no funeral procession, no funeral orations, no pamphlets about the deceased; taking photographs was taboo too.

Yogarajah (22) and three of his friends were returning on two motor cycles from Araly after decorating a friend's wedding-house when they ran into an Army patrol at Nallur. The Army claims that the patrol opened fire when the motor cycle on which Yogarajah and his friend

'Payilvan' were riding disregarded the order to halt. Yogarajah was shot dead on the spot but Payilvan managed to run away. Yogarajah had gaping head injuries; the motor cycle's head lights, signal light and mudguard were smashed by bullets. Nadarajah Rasatharan and Manivannan, the riders of the other

motor cycle, are now being held at the Gurunagar Army Camp.

TULF President and Nallur MP M. Sivasithamparam and Jaffna MP V. Yogeswaran have telegraphed Prime Minister R. Premadasa, the acting Defence Minister, urging a judicial inquiry into the shooting.

## Police Station drama : Gun aimed at Sergeant

Not only Tamil civilians, even Tamil servicemen have become the target of racist attacks.

A few days ago, a Tamil Sergeant was nearly shot dead by a Sinhala P.C. at a police station in the Jaffna District.

The constable had asked the sergeant for leave to go home. As the OIC

was away, the sergeant had said he was unable to grant leave. The infuriated cop had then levelled his gun at the sergeant. Fortunately for the Sergeant, another cop who was standing close by knocked the gun away; the shot went wild and struck the wall.

The trigger-happy cop is yet at his post.

## Trial on Thursday

The trial, under the Prevention of Terrorism Act, of Rev. Frs. A. Singarayar, A. Sinnarasa, T. Jayathilakarajah, Dr. T. Jeyakularajah, Mr. M. Nithiananthan and

Mrs. Nirmala Nithiananthan will begin next Thursday (23 June).

The case will be heard by Colombo High Court Judge Mr. Robert Silva.

**Saturday Review** SRI LANKA

# SLFP condemns Govt. failure to protect judges

No. 18  
4th Cross Street  
P. O. Box 122  
JAFFNA

Telegrams: SATVIEW  
EDITOR  
S. SIVANAYAGAM

Subscription Rates  
inclusive of local  
postage and foreign  
Air Mail rate

Sri Lanka  
Annual Rs. 170/-  
Half-year Rs. 85/-

Annual Rs. 200/-  
(Indian rupee)  
Singapore/Malaysia  
— U. S. \$ 30  
All other Countries  
Annual U. S. \$ 50  
or  
Rs. 1000/- in Sri Lanka  
currency

Cheques payable to  
New Era Publications Ltd

Advertising Rates

Contracts — Rs. 15/-  
per col. centimetre  
Casual — Rs. 20/-  
per col. centimetre

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS  
Subscribers who have  
not renewed their sub-  
scriptions are kindly re-  
quested to renew them  
early, quoting subscrip-  
tion number.  
Circulation Manager,  
SATURDAY REVIEW  
P. O. Box 122,  
JAFFNA.

**LEELA**

**Jewellery  
Palace**

Visit our  
air-conditioned  
showroom

No 117-119  
Sea Street  
Colombo 11  
Tel: 35639

"We were shocked and horrified that thugs in C.T.B. buses had demonstrated against Judges of the Supreme Court last Saturday with vulgar, obscene

and derogatory placards and slogans. The object of the demonstrators clearly was to intimidate the Judges concerned. The Sri Lanka Freedom Party condemns this attack on the three Judges of the Supreme Court", says the President of the party Mrs.

Sirima R. D. Bandaranaike in a statement issued to the Press.

The statement continues: "The Government has failed to protect the Judges from this kind of physical threats and it would appear that this may not be accidental since Government-controlled transport has been used by those who have committed this outrage.

"It is also significant that Police Emergency cars had arrived too late to protect the Judges or to arrest the offenders.

"The President, Mr. J.R. Jayawardene makes speeches calling for discipline in the Armed Forces and the Police and condemning terrorism. On one occasion he even admitted publicly that members of his own Party had been guilty of inciting communal violence, arson, murder, looting and rape and that he was ashamed to lead such a party.

"I am not surprised, for he has not up to date taken any legal action to prosecute those responsible. Instead those persons still remain in his party.

"When Police Officers violate fundamental human rights and Court decisions are given against them, awarding compensation to the victims, Mr. Jayawardene immediately rewards them with promotions. This is his way of showing the deep respect that he profes-

ses to have for the independence of the judiciary.

"The Courts are the ultimate protection that the people have against Government oppression....

"The breaking up of student demonstrations in the Universities and of strikes by thugs and hoodlums of the Government Party has become standard practice of this so-called just and righteous Government. Even Buddhist Priests and Nationalist leaders have suffered violence at their hands. The important thing is that no action has been taken against the offenders.

"If the Courts want to protect their independence there is no use in looking to the Government for help for they will not get it. The Courts will have to look after their own Judges, to protect themselves and their independence. They have ample powers for this purpose.

"The C.T.B. Chairman will have to explain to whom C.T.B. buses have been made available if they have been put to any improper use and it will not be a difficult thing for the Courts to ascertain who had been responsible for the attempt to intimidate and humiliate Judges.

"These incidents are reminiscent of Fascism in Hitler's Germany and foreshadows the kind of dictatorship that the people must be alert to resist."

## Judges decline offer to provide sentries

Following is the text of the Press Statement issued by the Supreme Court Judges after their meeting with the Chief Justice in connection with last Saturday's demonstrations outside the residences of some judges.

"Exposed as we are to the winds of criticism, nothing which is said (or done) by this person, or that, nothing which is writ-

ten by this pen or that, will deter us from doing what we believe is right, nor (we) would add, from saying (or acting) what the occasion requires of us, provided that it is pertinent to the matter in hand.

"Last Saturday, certain elements staged demonstrations opposite the houses of Mr. Justice Ratwatte,

(Continued on page 11)

**FOR JAFFNA RESIDENTS GIFTS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION**

Eversilver Ware  
T.V. Sets, Radios, Fans,  
Irons, Blenders, Glass Ware  
Plastic Goods, Electrical Goods  
Clocks & Watches  
Rice Cookers  
Flowers, Kitchenware Etc.

CHOICE OF TASTE AND DISCRETION

**BROWNSON TRADE CENTRE**  
CO-OP. COMPLEX  
K.K.S. ROAD, JAFFNA.

### DILKA Cream House

Opposite Bus Stand

404, HOSPITAL ROAD,

JAFFNA.

- ★ ICE CREAM (many varieties)
- ★ COOL DRINKS
- ★ SHORT EATS
- ★ SWEETS

Patronise our Super Milk White Soap. This locally manufactured Soap made from raw materials of our Country. Proceeds of the sale utilized for National Development.



Collect Wrappers and obtain valuable prizes

### Milk White Soap Works

525/2, K. K. S. ROAD,  
JAFFNA.

T'phone: 23233

T'grams: Milkwhite

FOR UTILITY, ELEGANT  
HARDY HOUSEHOLD PLASTICWARE,

YOU SHOULD CONTACT

## K.G. Plastics Ltd.

Manufacturers of Plastic Products

545, Sri Sangaraja Mawatha,  
Colombo 10.

Phone: 2166-9, 548447.

Not only Gamini Navaratne as a journalist but also the 'SATURDAY REVIEW' may not be there for long if some UNP politicians have their way. Before anything happens, I wish to get something off my chest and get it published in the only English publication in Sri Lanka now that has the guts to say what has to be said without hesitation, prevarication or trepidation.

I accuse the UNP of being directly responsible for the rapid deterioration of the law and order situation in Sri Lanka, beginning with the post-polls violence on an unprecedented scale in 1977 and including the continuing state terrorism in the North and last week's synchronised and dastardly attack on the residences of two Supreme Court judges and the former residence of another Supreme Court Judge.

How can there be respect for law and order when hooliganism directed against opponents is not only condoned but also encouraged? For instance, after the Mafia-style attack on the Sinhala Bala Mandalaya meeting in July last year President Jayawardene himself justified it by referring to the 'Attanagalla doctrine' — ex-Prime Minister Mrs. Bandaranaike's defence in Parliament of the break-up of the UNP demonstration in Attanagalla constituency in 1976—but there was no condemnation nor have the hoodlums been brought to book yet though their identities are known!

**Silencing all opposition**

In fact, from the time the UNP came to power there appears to have been a well-directed and deliberate campaign to silence all opposition to it, be it from other political parties, trade unions, student bodies, the Buddhist clergy, Tamil youth, the Press or the Judiciary.

The Judiciary, the last bastion of democracy in Sri Lanka, is now under siege, with the Government going to the extent of deciding to probe the conduct of certain judges whose decisions have displeased some persons.

**Attack on**

**Judges' homes**

On top of it came last week's attacks on the Judges' residences, again because the Supreme Court judgment in the Vivienne Goonewardene case upset some persons.

This was the second significant instance where the Supreme Court was able to grant relief to a citizen under the much-vaunted fundamental rights provisions of the 1978 Constitution. The first was the Pavidil Handa case. But in both instances, the

Government promptly promoted the police officers involved!

There appears to be a method in this madness: Do something that should not be done and one gets a position or a promotion! This is the Dharmista way!

As I wrote two weeks ago, it has now become a crime in Sri Lanka to say "No" or ask "Why?" Anyone who

also determined and incorruptible men and women who can make these plans work honestly and fairly.

festos of 1977 (which was incorporated in the first policy statement of the Government) to burn them. This statement, read out in the National State Assembly on August 4, 1977, said among other things.

also determined and incorruptible men and women who can make these plans work honestly and fairly.

"The Government has therefore, to set a New Goal—the creation of a New Society, based on human and moral values...."

"It is necessary that the Prime Minister, Ministers and MPs, as well as members of elected local bodies, should set an example of exemplary

# POLITICAL CAUSERIE

by Gamini Navaratne

## At this rate, I am emigrating to S. Africa, where things are better!

dares challenge The Establishment in any manner better double his life insurance cover!

Not only respected members of the clergy and intellectuals but even Supreme Court Judges are now not safe.

And some people talk of a Dharmista society!

UNP leaders vociferously criticised the 1972 Constitution because the fundamental rights contained in it were not inalienable; they could be restricted on a variety of grounds and were indeed restricted on a number of occasions between 1970-1977.

But there is nothing fundamental in the fundamental rights enshrined in the UNP Constitution, too: these can be usurped and have been usurped on a number of occasions in the past five years.

I may be hauled up if I suggest that the Constitution be cast aside; as far as I can see, it now has only bottleman's value.

But I urge all those who have copies of the UNP mani-

to have had the desired impact on the people. On the contrary, human and moral values have degenerated. My Government is of the view that nothing could be achieved or sustained without solving the moral crisis that has overtaken the country.

"To get rid of poverty in Sri Lanka not only are development plans necessary but

moral behaviour. High standards of conduct, particularly freedom from bribery and other forms of corruption, must commence here. Then only will the people seek to follow the individual political leader and his ideals.

"While these efforts are made to change man's environment from a purely industrial

and possessive one where man exploits man for his private gain to one where man does not control his fellow citizens through the ownership of the means of production, so must ways be found to help man to change his nature to take his place in a society which is not acquisitive but where each works for all.

**Democracy or Hypocrisy?**

"Examples must, therefore, be set by those at the top and no one is better suited to do this than a member of the Government and their colleagues in Parliament. My Government will prepare a code of conduct for MPs and members of the Government and will see that members adhere to it. My Government

of course, that given the type of political leadership, MPs of all parties can be associated through Parliamentary standing committees in shaping the destinies of our common Motherland irrespective of party politics.

"The proposed new (1978) Constitution will guarantee to people their Fundamental Rights, Privileges and Freedoms, re-establish the independence of the Press and the Judiciary and free them from political control and interference...."

What lofty ideals! But how far have we fallen away from these ideals in the past six years! Hypocrisy has now replaced Democracy!

The UNP has aided and abetted the evil genie to get out of the bottle. This genie may eventually and ultimately turn against the UNP itself!

Personally, I am thinking of migrating to South Africa, despite Apartheid and all that! At least, in that country Supreme Court Judges are not insulted and humiliated in the manner it is happening in Dharmista Lanka.

### Amnesty International, Sri Lanka

#### pleads for Greek prisoner

A group in Sri Lanka has appealed to the Greek government authorities to release a Jehovah's witness serving a four year prison sentence.

The prisoner, Evangelos Giakoumatos, refused on religious grounds to perform military service. Greece, unlike most European countries, does not provide an alternative service outside the military service for conscientious objectors. Even after serving their term, these "offenders" are subject to surprisingly harsh disabilities. For five years they cannot vote, be elected or own a business, and they are debarred for life from state employment which includes state economic enterprises such as banks etc. and also state and church educational institutions.

Amnesty International has adopted Giakoumatos as a prisoner of conscience jailed on account of the non violent practice of his religious beliefs, and has allocated his case to its Sri Lanka Group No 5 (Colombo). The group has written to President Constantinos Karamanlis, Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu, and others about his case.

The group currently also works for a Pakistan student jailed under Martial Law. Earlier, it was concerned with USSR and Zambian prisoners. Both have since been released.

It is with great sorrow that we note that state atrocities against the Tamil people in Sri Lanka have risen to unprecedented heights in the history of the country with the State itself shamelessly referring to a "WAR DECLARED IN THE NORTH", according to one of their mouthpieces the (racist) 'SUN'.

The way the State treats the innocent Tamil civilians in the country reminds us of the Sinhala proverb which reads in translation: "Beating the deer skin at home because the chena is ruined by deer". When the State is incapable of bringing to book those responsible for the attacks on state troops and state henchmen, they cover up their leaguacies and take revenge on innocent civilians.

The State troops armed to the teeth to fight the militant Tamil youth and yet frightened to death of them turn their vicious sadism on unarmed and innocent Tamil people.

It is high time that the Sinhalese down south realized that Tamil youths have taken up arms as a last resort against the brutality of the State and para-state (party leaders and thugs) terrorist activities indulged in by capitalist governments during the past three decades. It is both meaningless and insensitive to ask Tamil people what their problems are and offer to try and solve them for Tamil Eelam has already become a mental state among them today.

Furthermore, their bitter experience of a reality filled with the incapacitating fear of

## Beating the deer skin at home, because the deer is ruining the crop in the chena!

the unknown of insult, injury, torture, rape and death at any given instant in the course of their lives has resulted in a far greater maturity and political awareness in them than in any of their counterpart in the south.

What we are reaping today is the harvest of what our capitalist leaders, both of

not wish to make any concrete steps towards solving the Tamil issue, since it is this issue that has been instrumental in their gaining Sinhala votes in the South. The last by-election fraud is the most recent example.

The UNP ruling party requested the people to vote them into power in order that

nothing to do next six years(?) to come these so-called Marxist have started demanding "a political solution" in order to woo Tamil people again.

Better ways of expressing solidarity with the cause of Tamils and working towards a concrete solution of the issue, should be thought of and implemented by those

by **Tharaka Godawata**

right and left, sowed during the last three decades. Neither can the traditional so-called marxist parties wash their hands of the blood of the Tamil people considering the fact that they so blithely forgot their principles on National Question when a few morsels in the way of minister, deputy minister posts and other posts were thrown at them by the capitalist government. Was it by accident that veteran Marxist Leader, Dr. Colvin R De Silva master-minded (?) a Constitution which didn't accept the inalienable rights of Tamils in Sri Lanka?

It is quite obvious why Sinhala capitalist leaders whatever their party affiliation do

they might wipe out terrorism? Most of the SLFP candidates demanded that they be voted to power as there should be a SINHALA (SINHALA but neither a progressive nor a working class) opposition leader in the Parliament.

Except for the Nawa Lanka Sama Samaja Party whose leader was one of the opposition by-election candidates almost all the so-called left parties were VERY CAUTIOUS to avoid mentioning the Tamil issue both on their election platforms as well as in their publications because they too were afraid of losing Sinhala votes.

Now, being totally rejected by the Sinhala people with

who are really concerned Those Sinhalese in the South concerned about their brethren in the North and human enough to treat other human beings on an equal basis, should all join together to form a national organization to protest against atrocities in the North and to raise consciousness among the Sinhalese about the Tamil people's right to self-determination. They should demand an immediate withdrawal of the armed forces, the repealing of emergency laws which give a blank cheque to State troops to kill according to inclination; the abolition of the Prevention of Terrorism Act and the release of those detained with/fair trials under

normal law for all those who are charged at the moment. A conference of representatives of all the national political parties and other bodies and organizations concerned should be demanded as the initial step towards finding a concrete solution to the problem.

New forms of protest and consciousness raising marking a departure from petition writing and sending telegrams to the President should be adopted by the above proposed national organization to fight communalism among Sinhalese and State terrorism. Some of the tactics which can be suggested are to do picketing in all the major cities and working places, convene national level seminars of trade unions, hold public meetings, seminars and exhibitions to highlight the grave situation, hold fasts and satyagrahas in temples and churches of all denominations so as to focus international attention on the issue.

Here is a chance in a life-time for all the genuine progressive, leftist and Marxist-Leninist forces in Sri Lanka to show their true colours by organizing an active and effective solidarity campaign to support the Tamil people's cause. I am sure that there are many progressive Sinhala people ready to join such a cause if the parties and organizations take the lead.

### Memorandum on Peradeniya campus incidents

## 'Communalism of the majority is worse because it takes the form of nationalism'

Mr. T. Thurairatnam of No. 14, St. Lucias Street, Colombo. 13, has submitted the following memorandum to the Committee inquiring into the student disturbances at Peradeniya:

I do not yet know the root causes for the recent communal disturbances at the University. It is a pity and a shame that at the highest seat of learning students could yet think of caste, creed and community. This may be due to the following causes:-

(a) The political climate for the last two decades has instilled a sense of superiority in the Sinhala race and the major community expects total subservience from the minorities. Any agitation anywhere by the minority community for their rights is immediately looked down as a

revolt to suppress and usurp the rights of the majority!! This is a result of the race hatred which has seeped into the minds of both communities for different reasons and objectives.

(b) There is no doubt that the two communities have gone far apart due to political and other reasons. Bridging the gap is almost impossible. The minorities have a sense of grievance and the majority community thinks that the former have had more than their due share. This is reflected in the thinking of the students themselves who form a part of the nation at large.

(c) The Sinhala only Act of 1956 has caused a lack of communication among not only the students but also in Government Offices and Corporations. Students from the

Sinhala and Tamil areas have no way of mixing together and developing a spirit of camaraderie due to language difficulties. They therefore group themselves among their own communities and look at each other with suspicion. They have no common objectives.

(d) Communalism of the minority community is bad enough but the communalism of the majority is worse because it takes the form of nationalism. If the Sinhala students assault the Tamil students for some terrorist activity at some far away place, this is applauded by the Sinhala masses as an exhibition of a sense of patriotism.

(e) The erasure of the Sinhala and English letterings on the University

name Boards and the pasting of "Eelam" posters may be due to two reasons:-

(i) There may be one or two "Eelam" activists or so called Liberation fighters who might have done this to create disturbances so that the Tamil students will flee to their respective home-lands. If they do not return then the goal of "Eelam" will be reached in double quick time. The displaced students may be a fertile ground for recruitment of guerilla fighters.

(ii) Some Sinhala Students could also have done this to cause disturbances with some ulterior political motives or to embarrass the Government.

(iii) It is possible that some Sinhala or Tamil extremist from outside the Campus area could have done this mischief.

(f) With the introduction of the Sinhala only Act, the majority community mistakenly thought that the Tamils will be placed at a disadvantage and that their economic and employment problems will be automatically solved. Unfortunately the economic crisis has worsened during the last two decades. The backlash has affected the Sinhala students who see no future even after graduating. This frustration has only been left off by harassing and suppressing the Tamil speaking students are looked upon as the cause for the malaise and the non achievement of the objectives of the Sinhala only Act.

(ii) There is very little that can be done to erase the frustration and grievances of both communities except to (Continued on page 10)

# Totally untrue, says Mrs. B.

The full text of a letter by Mrs. Bandaranaike published by the HINDU, in its issue of June, 7, 1983.

My attention has been drawn to an interview given to THE HINDU by the President of Sri Lanka, Mr. J. R. Jayawardene. What purports to be a reproduction of the interview appeared in Sri Lankan newspapers notably the Government-controlled Daily News of May 10, 1983. These publications appeared during my absence from the Island (in Yugoslavia for medical treatment): hence the delay in issuing this statement.

Under the sub-heading 'Trincomalee Storage Tanks'. Mr. Jayawardene says in his interview: (I quote) .... "What did Mrs. Bandaranaike do? During the Pakistan — India war. Pakistan planes landed in Sri Lanka to refuel on the way to Bangladesh. She allowed it. India was very much annoyed about it. So Mrs. Bandaranaike even thought India might invade! Mrs. Gandhi was the Prime Minister, her friend. Mrs. Bandaranaike went to America, had a secret conference with Mr. Nixon. She was staying in our Embassy. Mr. Nixon gave her lunch, a red carpet lunch, called his military officials. They talked it over — in case there is trouble America would help her. Then there was the American fleet there in the Bay of Bengal. Before that she said, "Don't come here". (Now) she invited the Admiral to come, gave him a dinner".

## 'Mrs. Gandhi is my friend

These are Mr. Jayawardene's words. They do not tell the truth. It is true that we allowed Pakistan planes from West Pakistan to East Pakistan and vice-versa to refuel in Sri Lanka, but on the strict understanding that no military personnel or military equipment was to be carried on these planes. It is a diabolical falsehood to say that I thought "India might invade us". Such a thought never occurred to me, not even in my wildest dreams. Therefore it is another diabolical lie to say that I asked Mr. Nixon for help. How could I ask for help for something I never thought of — an invasion imagined only by Mr. Jayawardene. Mrs. Gandhi is my friend and was my friend long before she or I became Prime Minister. In this attempt by Mr. Jayawardene I can see only an intent to create mischief, to drive a wedge between friends a known Machiavellian tactic. From this baseless allegation onwards the rest too is equally false.

I did go to the U.S. in October 1971 to attend the United Nations General Assembly session in New York. After addressing the U.N. Assembly I went to Washington for a few days. I made a courtesy call on Mr. Nixon. I went to the White house in the company of our Ambassador to the U.S. Mr. Neville Kanake-



Mrs. Bandaranaike

ratne. Mr. Strauss Hope the American Ambassador in Colombo at that time, was also present at the White House. The appointment was some time in the morning: we discussed bilateral relations, and spent about half to three quarters of an hour there. I did not have lunch or dinner, with Mr. Nixon. Mr. Jayawardene's words. "Mr. Nixon gave her a red carpet lunch, called his military officials. They talked it over — in case there is trouble ....", are totally untrue. It is a figment of a fevered imagination. It is pathetic that the President of a country should be reduced to uttering such falsehoods in the hope of scoring over a political rival.

## No dinner to any Admiral

The main subject of my conversation with Mr. Nixon was the food drive we had embarked upon then. He inquired in what way he could help us in that field and offered to send his Secretary for Agriculture to meet me the next day. He did send the Secretary for Agriculture to meet me at the Sri Lanka Ambassador's residence on the next day. That was all that happened at our meeting with Mr. Nixon. There were no military officials present, nor did I meet any. It is a far cry from matters agricultural to matters military.

The chronological sequence of events alone proves the falsity of Mr. Jayawardene's allegations. India intervened in the East Pakistan war only in December 1971. My meet-

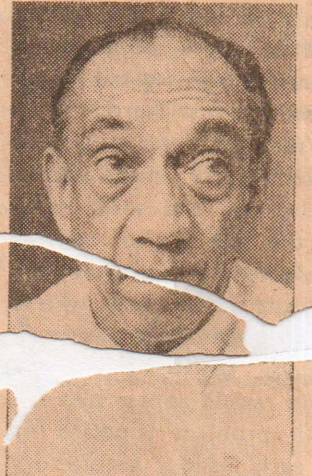
ing with Mr. Nixon was in the second half of October. So how could I have entertained fears of an "invasion" during an intervention which had not even occurred at the time of my call on Mr. Nixon? As for his allegation that I invited an American Admiral and gave him dinner, this too is one of Mr. Jayawardene's totally unscrupulous concoctions. An American Admiral did pay me a courtesy call as did a Russian Admiral who was visiting Sri Lanka.

## "It never occurred to me even in my wildest dreams that India might invade Sri Lanka"

It is totally untrue to say that I gave the American Admiral a dinner. I did not. Nor did I ask the American fleet to come here. It is sad that Mr. Jayawardene has to resort to this sort of falsehood. But it is not surprising in one who recently claimed that he stoned the Italian Consulate in Colombo when he was a

schooiboy when Italy invaded Abyssinia (now Ethiopia). Mr. Anura Bandaranaike, M.P. exposed the ludicrousness of this claim when he pointed out in Parliament that there was no Italian Consulate in Colombo at that time.

Not content with his fabrications about my alleged "fears" about an invasion from India, Mr. Jayawardene goes on in his HINDU interview to repeat the lie, which people in Sri Lanka are now tired of, that I asked for the Special Presidential Commission which led to Mr. Jayawardene's Government depriving me of my civic rights. This is one of Mr. Jayawardene's most repeated untruths. Under cover of Parliamentary privilege, one of Mr. Jayawardene's Ministers made a vile and totally false allegation against me. I challenged him in Court to come there and prove it, but he avoided the issue by pleading privilege through his lawyers. I asked for a Parliamentary Committee to inquire into it. They did not appoint one. Instead, later Mr. Jayawardene appointed three Judges to a Special Presidential Commission, which was really in fulfilment of a



His interview to the HINDU—contested

The alleged abuse of power was that I advised the Governor-General, later President, to extend the state of Emergency declared during the insurgency of April 1971. Extensions of the state of Emergency were done on the advice of the Police and the Security Council and with the approval of Parliament, perfectly constitutionally and according to the law. For this I was found guilty of the undefined offence of "abuse of power" and Mr. Jayawardene's steamroller majority in Parliament passed a Bill depriving me of my civic rights followed by another Bill prohibiting me from campaigning during subsequent elections, a move which clearly exposes the exercise as solely motivated by Mr. Jayawardene's need to remove his chief opponent from the political scene by fair means or foul. In this case, it was absolutely foul. Mr. Jayawardene's Special Presidential Commission did not and indeed could not find me guilty of corruption. As for the despicable allegation made by his Minister in Parliament no evidence was presented before the Presidential Commission.

The propaganda strategy of Mr. Jayawardene's Government has been amply demonstrated to be totally unprincipled. The strategy is to repeat a lie as often and as widely as possible in the expectation that people will eventually believe the lies. Most people in Sri Lanka no longer believe the lies, but readers of THE HINDU might in good faith do so. I shall be grateful therefore, if you would grant me the courtesy of your columns to set the record straight.

**Sirima R. D. Bandaranaike**

promise he gave in 1977 when campaigning at the elections that he would appoint a Commission to inquire into alleged misdeeds of the Ministers and M.Ps of the previous Government. The Commission proceeded ex-parte to find me guilty of "abuse of power", an offence which was and is unknown to the law of the land.

HINDU reader A. ANANDESWARAN writing from Ooty, says: (Hindu: June 3, 1983.)

# Appearances are dangerously deceptive in Sri Lanka

Sir—Mr. K. K. Katyal's coverage of the Sri Lankan scene in the recent issues of THE HINDU is objective revealing as it does, a political atmosphere in the island as murky as anywhere else in the developing countries of the world today. Our attention however, will be primarily focused on the recent developments in the north and north east of the island as these are certainly of more immediate and direct concern to us here. With the success of the United National Party in the recent by-elections and civic polls and the attitude of swiftness and reasonableness adopted by President Jayawardene who is the most seasoned politician the island has ever known, it would appear that the 'Tamil problem' is poised for an early and satisfactory solution.

But appearances are deceptive and at the moment, dangerously so in Sri Lanka. There are 'wheels within wheels' not only in the politics of the ruling party but also in the parties and splinter groups in the Tamil areas as well. As one who was in the island for almost a decade following independence. I was then in a position to observe the ominously developing situation. It is in this context that both Mr. Amirthalingam's account of the genesis of the 'Tamil problem' and Mr. Katyal's spotlight on it may be said to gloss over and even totally ignore a glaring lacuna.

When the UNP government, one of whose prominent pillars even then was Mr.

Jayawardene, started tightening the screws, in 1949, on 'non-Ceylonese' especially the Tamils who were of Indian origin, the Ceylon Tamil Congress led by the redoubtable G. G. Ponnambalam, apart from mouthing some inane platitudes and making some feeble noises, preferred to look the other way. Not only the Ceylon Tamil leadership, barring a few notable exceptions like the late S. J. V. Chelvanayagam, but the Ceylon Tamils as a whole, unfortunately, chose to treat it as an issue or, rather as a non-issue which did not concern them in the least for there was peace in the island and the economy was booming. The fact that it was Ramasamy and Meenatchi, Tamils of Indian origin but born, bred and sweating on Sri Lankan soil for generat-

ions in the remote tea and rubber plantations, who bore the brunt of that expanding economy on their bare, often branded backs was not only sought to be ignored; they were made the scapegoats for many of the island's ills and the butt of ridicule and contempt with such endearing terms as 'sackbacks' and 'kallathonis' (illegal immigrants).

The Sinhalese politicians saw to it that the gap between the 'Ceylon' and 'Indian' Tamils was kept as wide as possible so that their policy of 'divide et impera' could be implemented without hindrance. Over the last few years the problem of Indian Tamils has been thrust into the background and the policy of decimation of the Sri Lankan Tamils has assumed greater importance as witness

the mounting violence on the part of the 'Liberation Tigers' in the Tamil areas and the counter violence unleashed by the State. The picture could have been vastly and refreshingly different had a solid, joint front been forged between the Tamils right at the beginning.

What is at stake is the identity of the Tamils as a separate ethnic, cultural and linguistic minority and their right to live on in the land of their birth with dignity and self-respect as equal citizens with the Sinhalese. It is this right that is attacked by the chauvinist philosophy which informs and guides the Enoch Powells' of the Sinhalese ruling clique. With the elevation of Buddhism as the state religion Hinduism, which is the predominant religion of the Tamil

minorities, is being steadily, slowly and silently strangled. The national flag agreed upon by the Select Committee of Parliament in 1948 has been tampered with, with the provision for the inclusion of 4 bo-leaves to emphasise Buddhist domination. The non-Buddhist tax-payers' contributions are being utilised to propagate Buddhism and Sinhalese.

The prospect of de-nationalisation of the Tamils in general and Tamil Hindus, in particular, is very real. Tamil students and youth are grievously and blatantly discriminated against in higher education, employment opportunities and even in social welfare schemes. Even the famous Muruga at Katargama has been quietly converted into a Sinhalese deity and is being referred to as "Katargama Deivyo". A sinister and calculated move is on to make the Tamils lose their soul by depriving them of their language, denying them their fundamental rights and destroying their culture.

The situation is highly explosive with the possibility of disastrous fall-outs affecting the stability of most of the countries in the region. It may yet be redeemed if only Mr. Jayawardene and other saner elements in the ruling party seen the writing on the wall and unreservedly grant the Tamils their due.

A. Anandeswaran

## Cultural Racism in Vavuniya

The new Archaeological Museum in Vavuniya behind the enigmatic Buddha statue built from a substantial donation from the President's personal fund is now ready for the opening ceremony. The disgraceful background to the statue and building is now well known to all and sundry. In spite of protests by the people of Vavuniya and several cultural and social organisations the statue still stands facing the ravages of sun and storm.

The Vavuniya District Development Council and the Vavuniya Urban Council even suggested that the architecture of the Museum in some way should reflect the culture of the predominant race and religion in Vavuniya. The Minister of Cultural Affairs at the ceremony of the laying of the foundation stone stated that the building would serve the multi-cultural communities of Vavuniya and their religious past. This issue raises im-

portant questions. Even after the District Development Councils, have the voice and the will of the people of the district been respected? What is the cultural ideology of the Government? Multi-racialism or Sinhala-Buddhist hegemony? What does the architecture of the Vavuniya Cultural Museum

Vanni found on a bund of a tank in Kovilkadu a Siva-lingam, and Vishnu and Buddha statues (JCBRAS VolXIII No: 45) pointing to the co-existence of both religions.

In Periya puliyankulam even before Christ Tamil traders had donated caves to Buddhist monks. The Archaeological De-

partment is out to propagate a Sinhala-Buddhist only ideology. It is this precious ideology which is behind the Buddha statue and Cultural Museum in Vavuniya. The Archaeological Department men and some ministers like Mr. Cyril Matthew are strong pedlers of this ideology while the Prime Minister and others blow the trumpet of a plural and united Sri Lanka.

awakening gradually to be sensitive to their cultural oppression. Their statues are demolished, Libraries are burnt, temples set on fire, Buddha statues erected and cultural museums built in their homelands. What do they all signify?

The MIRJE report on Vavuniya aptly comments: "After careful inquiries the Delegation is convinced that the erection of the statue is not to recall and give honour to the tolerance, kind-

ness and compassion of the Buddha but is an act deliberately intended to provoke and threaten, is racially motivated and is a positive and constant danger to inter-communal peace in the area. It is also an altogether unworthy use of

by

Vanninesan

symbolize? Sinhala-Buddhist arrogance and oppression? Or Buddhist tolerance and Maitriya?

Hinduism and Buddhism have co-existed in this country and there is a very long history to this co-existence. The Tamils of the Vanni and the Trincomalee Districts have been Hindu and Buddhist. There have been Tamil Buddhist temples and monasteries in the district proving this. H. Neville in the early 19th century on a tour of the

the Buddhist religion to humiliate the Tamil Hindus and Christians in the area. It is a gross abuse of a religious symbol which does dishonour to the noble person symbolized".

The Tamil people should continue to show their protest by not participating in any opening ceremonies as the voice, will and self-respect of the people the area have been disregarded and dishonoured.

# Freedom's Journey

The history of peoples is full of journeys. The history of the Greeks starts with the Journey of Odysseus. The Roman civilisation was established after the wandering of Aeneas and his band. Moses led the Hebrews on their journey to the promised land and founded a nation called Israel.

In between these journeys, these leaders and their people did undergo untold miseries, trials and tribulations.

God in His wisdom did cause these nations and their civilisations to be founded, only to establish His justice and Freedom in the world, for He found injustice, oppression, chaos and confusion among the people whom He created with freedom enshrined in their hearts. To use a much used or misused phrase, nowadays in our land, "A free and just society" is God's goal too.

## Freedom to every citizen

To attain this, God raises up leaders among peoples and nations from time to time to suit the times. Such leaders may prove to be worthy of the call or may fall by the way side due to their own frailties. Yet God is able to raise another and yet another until His purpose is fulfilled, which is Freedom. Freedom may mean, political, social, economical or moral. Of these, political freedom stands uppermost in our minds today. It is through this freedom that the Tamil people can work out the other freedoms.

Ceylon or to be more exact the Ceylonese, attained freedom in 1948 from the British. In good faith the British granted freedom to every citizen of Ceylon and in good faith did everyone opt for a united Lanka.

## Moses and the promised land

But what happened? Citizenship laws were passed only to still the voice of the Tamils and Muslims in Parliament. People who represented a section of the Tamils in the up-country were immorally debarred with legal insulation. This section of the people who had hitherto enjoyed citizenship (political freedom) under a so-called 'foreign yoke' found themselves enslaved overnight, under inland masters. These people who were created FREE even to rebel against their own Creator lost their political freedom—hitherto enjoyed—and had to depend on the mercy of the majority community for representation in Parliament, as appointed M. Ps.

Such a breach of faith should be called immoral if not amoral. It is amoral, for, it tantamounts to "SUCKING THEIR BLOOD AND THROWING THEIR BODY ACROSS THE PALK STRAIT." Would a moral God condone it?

So God raised up a leader in THANTHAI CHELVA to uphold morality in politics too. The leader who came to the helm in 1956 led the freedom journey in the Gandhian style. PHARAOHS rose and fell, trying their best to thwart the freedom journey, but the Moses of the Tamils did march with his people, changing strategies but always confining them to Gandhian principles. This act of God in the history of the Tamils was duly recognised by the theologian, the BISHOP of Kurunegala and he at the funeral oration of the late revered leader likened him to Moses who led his people but could not enter the promised land.

After the Moses of the Tamils the mantle of leadership fell on the present leader of the TULF, in that he is looked upon as Joshua of the Tamils. Either he would prove his hilt or fall by the way, for Gandhian style of leadership seems to have taken a back seat—especially proved during Local Government elections—and Subhas Chandra Boses and Baghat Singhs have emerged to the fore.

## The Tamil mood has changed

The mood of the Tamil people too seems to have changed with the times. For the past 30 years or so Gandhian style leadership has not moved the hearts of the Pharaohs but has only hardened them, like of old, and "ahimsa" and Satyagraha have had enough from those that profess Buddha's teachings. Perhaps the Tamil Nation has lost its faith in Gandhian politics particularly when the FORCES OF EVIL stationed in Tamil areas have not even spared "Gandhiyam" itself, which is only a social service organization.

Pharaohs may believe that pressure and persecution could intimidate the freedom loving to their knees but history has proved that persecution only promotes faith and determination on a set course.

## Degradation of armed forces

Persecution and intimidation may be unleashed in universities, towns, villages and in farms and estates, yet a determined people will survive all these and more and finally emerge victors, for God will raise up leaders, to suit the time, and righteousness

of their cause shall clothe them with the courage to continue their freedom journey.

Why are the forces deployed in such numbers in the Tamil areas? Surely not to protect the people of the area from the freedom fighters called by some as terrorists. The forces are there to commit evil on the innocent people of the area. Armed with guns and clothed with impunity of the obnoxious Anti-Terrorism law, they have 'imported' hell to the citizens of the area. While the Government consi-

on the detainees at police stations and army camps speak for the calibre of our forces. They have constantly exhibited a craze to see the 'person' of every detainee and what more, even the 'PERSON OF CELEBRATE CHRISTIAN PRIESTS'. What more degradation can there be among a so called disciplined force? Are these not a bunch of 'peeping Toms' or homosexuals that breed in camps? (There is evidence to show that this degradation has crept into the highest seat of Education (devoid of

"The first thing we do, let's kill all the lawyers". When the lawyers failed to respond to this urgent appeal, the Government came to their rescue, framing regulations to by-pass the lawyers and the Courts of Justice. The forces have been given the licence to kill and go scot free and this I fear would necessitate some one to pose the question, "How far are the Tamil areas safe for the Tamil Youth?"

The first task of the T.U. L.F. would be to make the

by

S. D. A. Ariadura

ders looting, arson, assault and murder by their forces as mere "excesses" the people feel the surfeit of suffering and look upon the freedom fighters to save them from the EVIL FORCES.

A FUNNY SITUATION IN WHICH THE THAMIL MAN FINDS HIMSELF IS THAT, HE IS COMPELLED TO LODGE HIS COMPLAINT TO THE VERY PEOPLE WHO PERPETRATE THE CRIME OR EVIL AND YET EXPECTS JUSTICE AND FAIRPLAY!

One should not speak for the sufferer lest he or she is taken to task, accused of being a 'SEPARATIST or TERRORIST' or at least as having connection with them. The Christian clergy, the doctors teachers and many others who command respect in the society have had a taste of the 'fruits' of the anti-terrorist law which has gained universal notoriety. The torture inflicted

civilization) Peradeniya Camp (us).

One reading on the 'heroics' of these heroes in the News Media, one is reminded of Captain Astiy, one of Argentina's most cruel torturers. The French referred to this maniac as "CAPTAIN DEATH — one of the most sadistic interrogators". He was accountable for two missing French NUNS and a maimed Swedish girl and the British after the Falkland war justly captured this 'gentleman' and handed him to the French. (The Falkland conflict by Christopher Dobson — J Miller — R. Payne, page 137).

One is also reminded, of an appeal from a top brass from one of the forces to the lawyers of the land to help them stamp out terrorism, (in other words, "don't appear"). Luckily he did not, like DICK the Shakespearean character in Henry VI say,

Tamil areas safe for the Tamil people, especially for the youth. They should have no talks with the Government until the EVIL FORCES are removed from the North and East, for the Government forces portend evil in the light of happenings since 1977.

In conclusion I quote Mahatma Gandhi for the edification of the powers that be and their Tamil henchmen. In relation to the Indian Muslim minority problem the Mahatma said "No Cabinet worthy of being representative of a large mass of mankind, can afford to take any step merely because it is likely to win the hasty applause of an unthinking public. In the midst of insanity should not our best representatives retain sanity and bravely prevent a wreck of the ship of State under their care?"

## Facts about Free Trade Zones

A freeport is an enclave where goods can be manufactured, processed and stored without payment of customs duties, and subsequently exported. Customs duty and other internal taxes are paid only if goods pass from the freeport zone into the home market.

The idea is simple. You take a port, or in the 20th century version, an Airport, cordon it off and all economic and industrial activity inside is carried out completely free of tariffs, duties or tiresome local regulations.

is no loss to the Treasury because anything manufactured inside the freeport moves through the gates on to home territory and the usual duties are payable.

The advantages for freeport tenants are considerable. Form filling on goods transit is eli-

has resulted in some useful job creation. A study of the subject compiled by Felixstowe Dock and Railway and Trinity College Cambridge (U.K) estimated that freeports in Taiwan, Malaysia, Mexico and Korea had jointly created an extra 282, 000 jobs.

## by P. Varothayasingham

Advocate of these freeport system argue that having created this magical environment it is only necessary to sit back and watch the foreign companies fall over themselves to set up shop.

In theory the host country cannot lose. New jobs are created, skills developed and service industries (banking, insurance, brokerage, freight and international finance consultancy) strengthened. There

minated; all goods are in a high security area. The burden of duty on goods that have not been sold is reduced; no duty is payable on waste, shrinkage, or damaged goods and products, can be positioned close to the market in expectation of future orders but without the extra cost of financing duty.

There are now more than 350 freeports around the world, most of them in the third world where the concept

There are five main freeports in Europe: Hamburg, Shannon, Copenhagen, Rotterdam, and Stockholm. The impact on employment in developed countries is much smaller. The Free Trade Zones of the U.S.A. — often criticised for being sluggish in its support — produced only 11,000 jobs. The Shannon Development in Ireland — started in 1947 — is reckoned to have provided employment

(Continued Overleaf)

(Continued from page 7) for 9000 (while attracting £,130m. in foreign exchange) Hamburg's freeport employs 20,000 people and handles an annual trade of more than £. 15, 000 million.

In the third-world countries the advantages provided by freeports are not available through their existing warehousing facilities and through inward processing relief which permits the manufacture of goods using imported components. Hence freeports in third world countries would create much more jobs and attract greater investment than in advanced countries, more so because of the availability of cheap labour in abundance.

In the United Kingdom very recently a report from a Treas-

ury Committee chaired by the Economic Secretary has given backing for setting up freeports. Their report said that amending legislation should be introduced forthwith to make this possible so that freeports could be operating before the end of year. A lot of enthusiasm generated by freeports came from local authorities who wanted freeports set up in their own areas. The supporters of freeports believe there is considerable interest; but they say, that even if there is not, local authorities should have the right to set up freeports if they wish.

Eelam is a typical developing country which stands to gain much more than U.K. by the establishment of freeports. The District Councils should be empowered to set up freeports to help to solve their unemployment problem locally.

There is a clear historic evidence to prove that Eelam had freeport facilities since medieval times (5th century A.D.) These facilities became defunct when the Europeans conquered Eelam and began to monopolise the trade routes. It is interesting to note here that the city of Hamburg (In Germany) was officially allowed to continue as a freeport in

1888, what had been its custom since the 12th century. If not for the foreign invaders we could be having the most advanced freeports in the world today.

#### Conclusions & Recommendations.

The freeport system attracts and stimulates export trade and capital investment from overseas, and thus increases employment and prosperity by the introduction of new work.

Developing countries stand to gain much more than advanced countries because the former has:

1. Cheap and abundant labour;
2. Existing warehouse

3. facilities are inadequate;
4. Restriction on using imported components;
5. Too much existing red tape.

Eelam has a historic tradition in providing freeport facilities. The District Councils should have the right to set up freeports if they wish. Historic precedents elsewhere reinforce this view.

(Next week:  
P. Varothayasingham  
writes on Trade Unionism)

## LETTERS

### 'Let us awaken to this destruction of Democracy

No. 1 Station Road,  
Katugastota.  
12-6-83.

The Editor,  
Saturday Review,  
Jaffna.  
Sir,

We Sri Lankans had been described as a set of Lotus Eaters. This description fitted us admirably. Evidence of this, is that, as a nation, progress-wise, we have achieved no significant point.

The 1973 food shortage however, woke up the people from their lethargic slumber and all over the country—cultivation of various food crops were indulged in—which averted large scale starvation. The Lotus Eaters had risen to the occasion.

Then, the era of plenty was ushered in, and the poorer people were only able to enjoy the sight of these food items and also other luxuries, and taste their fruit, very rarely, if at all. The people returned to their slumber again, to be woken up by the noise emanating from loud tamashas, blaring of motor vehicle horns and a host of other extravagant fanfare. This could well be called the era of Imports. Not only did we import luxuries, but even doctors and agriculturists.

If we are now described as a nation of noisy people—fond of extravagance, this too would be an apt description.

We are told that "Small is beautiful". This is confined only to posters. In reality however, we resort to the largest, loudest and costliest

possible events—both at personal and political levels. Examples? Just take a look at the new stamps in circulation—the fixing of which would cover a part of the address on an envelope. Then, the loud political tamashas the costly photographic posters of our top politicians.

Where do, we go from here?

Judging by the increased rate of crime, we could still come up to a top place, in this aspect too.

When judges are not free to deliver judgements without fear of reprisals, as reported in the Sunday papers, what more can we expect from this society.

Are we effectively considering as to how we should overcome these hazards, and what effective role does the govt. and the press contemplate?

Let us awake to this destruction of democracy, and not let things slide. Let these evils not take a cancerous growth.

Yours faithfully  
T. G. Edirimanna

### Do the Sinhala masses want separation?

Kirula Road,  
Colombo 5,  
10-6-83.

The Editor,  
Saturday Review.

With country wide disturbances arising out of the shooting of two Air Force Officers at Vavuniya, the Sinhala masses in almost every part of the country have assaulted Tamils, burnt their houses and looted their shops.

Their cry was "Don't stay here, go back to your homes". Tamils elsewhere are also being told to quit Sinhalese dominated areas. Isn't this a clear indication that whatever the Government and the Sinhalese Politician might say, the Sinhalese masses have accepted transference of population, separation of the two major communities & therefore division of the

country i.e "Eelam"?

The Sinhalese cannot have it both ways i.e, refusal to concede "Eelam" & at the same time Not provide protection to the Tamils and not assure them that they are free to live and earn a livelihood in Sinhalese areas. The Tamils will also have to decide whether they want to live outside the North & East in fear and devoid of

all self-respect and be beaten up and looted at every turn or go back & live with honour and self-respect even if they have to wallow in poverty in the Tamil areas which may ultimately constitute Eelam.

In fact Tamils living in areas other than North and East are leaving their residences in large numbers, [Continued next page]

### State Terrorism & TULF opportunism

Tokyo  
3rd June 1983  
Editor,  
Saturday Review,  
Jaffna, Sri Lanka.

On the 18th of May the flames of Jaffna touched the skies for the third time since the "dharmista raj" came into existence. The armed forces carried out their operations under the safety of 'emergency', as usual. The occupation army of a "Buddhist" state, headed by a "practicing buddhist" has shown the world once again that it is not second to any other of its kind in the display of savagery and barbarism. The horrors of American occupation of Vietnam and Pakistani occupation of Bangladesh are not remote imaginations any more to the children of Jaffna. Thanks to state terrorism it has exposed once again the true character of J. R. Jayawardene's "democracy" and irreversibly furthered the alienation of his government from the Tamil people of the North and East.

I bow in deference and admiration before the brave youths of Jaffna for their magnificent role in rebuilding the village burnt down by the army. They have accepted the challenge thrown by the state. This is symbolic of a great future.

If the army attack on Kantharmadam was meant to be the reply of the racist state to the "tigers" who exchan-

ged fire with the armed forces on the same day, the people of Jaffna have taken it upon themselves to reply to the state by rallying to help the victims of Kantharmadam. State terrorism as a most blatant manifestation of national oppression has produced its inevitable dialectical opposite—i.e. resistance from the oppressed.

But, unlike in many other comparable situations, resistance in Jaffna grows and consolidates itself at an admirable pace. The escalation of oppression and the political impotence of the TULF—the agent through which the Tamil nation expressed its will to be free—have created self-activating, self-organizing processes at the level of the Tamil masses. Is this not an eloquent display of a growing political consciousness?

Is it not logical to believe that the growth of this consciousness will generate, among others, the negation of the TULF as an inimical anachronism? Tamil politics entered its historic transition from bourgeois liberalism and collaborationism to revolutionary nationalism in the early 1970's. This march has accelerated with time. And, is Amir not a tragic figure of this historic transition who has failed to transcend the class limits of TULF which was fathered by liberals and nurtured in parliamentary opportunism?

If the "tigers" meant their "Kantharmadam project" to be a political trap for the wily old man J. R. they have achieved an impressive success. Terrorists are invariably isolated from their society and their isolation grows with their terrorism but if there is really a breed called "tigers" they are certainly not terrorists. They seem to be like fish in water in their own society. This is a basic fact which not only our rulers but even the TULF leaders have refused to see or believe. When the President told his Sinhala audience recently during his election campaign that he would root out "tigerism" he spoke with confidence of a man who had the "final solution" in his pocket. The behaviour of the army in the north is the practical side of the President's announcement in the south.

But the whole episode of May 18th, has left behind a major casualty—the TULF. It would seem that the north does not consider the TULF led by Amir fit enough to run even its village councils, let alone a separate state. The boycott was a double blow, one to the government and the other to the TULF. The TULF leadership stands disgraced. Will it accept the verdict of the people?

Samudran.



# LETTERS

[Continued from Page 8] because of these threats. Most of the conservative and moderate Tamils are beginning to feel that there is no safety to their life limb & property hereafter in the Sinhalese areas and that protection will not be given either by the Sinhalese dominated armed forces or the Sinhalese masses and that willy-nilly Eelam seems to be the only other alternative and solution. At the rate things are happening, Eelam does not seem to be a far cry.

Yours faithfully,  
S. ARUMUGAM.

## Youths pushed into violence because of TULF failure

Siyanco-Socp,  
P. O, Box 3452,  
Riyadh 11471,  
Saudi Arabia,  
9th June 1983.

The Editor,  
Saturday Review,  
Jaffna.  
Sir,

I feel that there is no need to describe or evaluate the situation or the crises of the Tamils in Eelam. This had been time and again succinctly stated by multitude of persons through some of the media including that of yours.

The recent article by Gaman Navaratne was another enlightening piece, mostly to the chauvinist Sinhala politicians. He is one of the very few of the Sinhalese courageous enough to express his views openly. I am quite certain there are many like him who for various reasons do not wish to speak out loud. I wish they too could be as courageous.

It is not secret that the Tamils have been undergoing untold hardships and sufferings since independence, and worse since 1956. From the year 1956 up to now whatever happened regarding the Tamils is a sad part of history.

The Tamil today, are in no better position what the Jews were in under the Nazi Government. The blood and tears shed by the innocent Tamils on the aftermath of Police and Army atrocities, will not

go unanswered by those who were responsible for such actions.

Verbal agreements, written pacts and discussions etc., had never produced any tangible results or solutions to the everpresent problems of the Tamils. There does not seem to be any sincere approach taken by the Sinhala politicians towards settling the issue once and for all—which today, has boiled down to nothing less than Free Tamil Eelam. Sinhala intransigence and arrogance have forced the Tamils to settle for nothing less than that, for history of the past had proved beyond doubt that the Sinhala politicians can never ever be trusted anymore by the Tamils.

The TULF, was elected en bloc by the Tamils to fight for Eelam in 1977. To this day, they have not even lifted a straw towards the objective which they were elected for. I am surprised and even have doubts as to whether is the same "Thalapathy" Amirthalingham of the former days, that we are seeing today! He who was at the forefront of every non-violent movement and campaign under the leadership of our reserved late leader SJV., is today vacillating. Why? Has the ageing process eroded his daring and daunting courage he showed at one time?

He as well as his colleagues have repeatedly stated that the so-called secret talks with the Government have yielded nothing so far—even after a very long period of almost seven years. It was too much a time wasted for nothing. The question now is, what next? Why waste anymore precious time in useless talks? The more they prevaricate the more mess the situation is going to be. If are lacking the courage to lead the Tamils in their liberation struggle, they should say so and step aside to let those who will lead the struggle to do so.

There is no doubt of the fact that some of the youths have been pushed into violence by the very sections of the TULF., and the arrogant attitude of the Sinhala politicians. Though this is very unfortunate, it was they who did precipitate such a situation. Even now it is not too late for the TULF., to renounce the purposeless Parliament seats and lead the Tamils towards liberation, in the way enunciated by our late leader Mr. S. J. V. Chelvanayagam. Will they do so?

Those Tamil-hating Sinhala politicians and those cowards who write anonymous rude letters to you should note, that even the most powerful Adolf Hitler could not destory the Jews. Today's Isreal was the result of his maniacal approach towards the Jews. Whatever happened to the people of Germany itself at the end of the war is history. Some, still have to learn history.

Yours truly,  
S. Nadarajah.

## Gift from Badulla to Kantharmadam refugees

Mr. Marshall Perera, Attorney-at-Law of No. 3, King's Street, Badulla in enclosing a Money order for Rs. 300/- writes to the Editor. "Saturday Review": "Please take Rs. 170/- as annual subscription for Saturday Review and remit the balance Rs. 130/- to the organization for the rehabilitation of Kantharmadam"

## A way out - by accepting basic realities

Hendala,  
12th June.

Editor,  
Saturday Review.  
Dear Sir,

For many years we have debated the Tamil—Sinhala problem and the language problem too. May I, with some reluctance, offer a way out. I would like to suggest that we accept the basic realities of the Sri Lanka situation. There are three language groups, the English speaking with Colombo as capital, now dominates the island; the Sinhala-speaking group, very much second class citizens what the Sinhala might say, and the Tamils.

We need to devise an imaginative response to a situation which has fast deteriorated. Constitutional change will not do. Reconciliation Committees will not do either. We have gotten ourselves into a position where three language groups no longer seriously listen to the other two groups; the feeble cry of

the English speaking elite that they are the true link people hardly receives attention.

I would like to suggest that on the way to resolve the tragedy, we first accept the basic fact of our separate existence and provide for this by making Jaffna the capital of the North, Anuradhapura the capital for the Sinhala-speaking folks who feel distinctly uncomfortable in Colombo, the latter the capital for the English speaking folks even to the extent of allowing all who reside there to learn in English and Sri Jayawardenapura for the Tamils.

Details would need to be worked out, but such separation within a larger unity may provide both for veiled communal or racial affirmations, whilst at the same time, providing within the island complete basic unity. A rich cultural mosaic may emerge.

Bryan de Kretser.

## Eelam Tamils in Norway write to President Jayawardene

The EELAM TAMILS ASSOCIATION of 4400 FLEKKEFJORD NORWAY, has sent the following letter to President Jayawardene, signed by the President of the Association, T. V. Kumar:-

Your Excellency, members of the above association want me to send this letter of appeal to you.

Innocent Tamils are subjected to enormous difficulties by uncivilized acts of arson, looting, thuggery and assault by personnels of the armed services who are acting without discipline or control in the Tamil areas of the island.

Tamil intellectuals, religious leaders, refugee rehabilitation workers and youths are arrested and detained in army camps, tortured and even murdered in the process of extracting a confession by your armed forces under the provision of the Prevention of Terrorism Act.

We wish to bring to your attention the incidents of 18th of May at Kantharmadam, that of 19th May on the Jaffna—Colombo train and of 11th May at the Peradeniya University hostel, which clearly shows that terrorists are being created not only within the armed forces but also among the Sinhalese public due to the fact that no action is taken on anyone who acts unlawfully towards the Tamils.

Hence we appeal to you in the name of God to:

1. Withdraw completely the army from the north and east.
2. Repeal the Prevention of Terrorism, Act.
3. Treat humanely those who were arrested under the provisions of the Prevention

of Terrorism act, and try them under normal law.

4. Bring to book those involved in the Kantharmadam incidents, Jaffna — Colombo train incidents and the University hostel incidents.

A copy of the letter has been sent to the Minister of Foreign Affairs Stortngshuset OSLO 1.

## S.L.C.P. (left) appeal

The Sri Lanka Communist Party (Left) (National Preparatory Committee) of 15/1, Power House Road, Jaffna, in a letter dated 8th June, 1983, has told the President:-

Introduction of regulations under the Public Security Ordinance giving the armed forces to use their fire power without being subjected to legal consequences and the powers given to the police to dispose dead bodies at their discretion have added fears to the Tamils who are already under constant fear and discriminated since the coming into force the Anti Terrorism Act. The new regulations have added further worries and problems to them.

Experience of the past clearly show that regulations of this nature, military actions aimed against a section of the people will not anyway solve the problems that are political in nature. Instead people's basic problems should be studied very care-

fully and a political solution found. This would help ease tension to a great extent.

Sri Lanka Communist Party (Left) feels that as first step towards this, as our Party urged the government during recent elections, that an all party conference should be convened to discuss this problem. It can be noted that no tangible results emerged from the talks between the government and the TULF.

Hence, we would request you to withdraw all military actions and the recent regulations and invite all political parties, patriotic personages and mass organisations for a conference with a view to arrive at a political solution to the problems faced by the Tamils.

S. L. C. P. (Left) hopes that you would consider this request very seriously and take steps that are in the best interests of this country.

The letter is signed by the Secretary K. A. Subramaniam.

# NEWS BRIEFS

## Colombo:

Two Trotskyites were elected to Parliament at the recent British elections. They are Terry Fields of Liverpool (Broad Green) and Dave Mellist of Coventry South.

The Secretary of the Nava Sama Samajist Party, Dr. Wickremabahu Karunaratne says in a statement; "After the heyday of old Sama Samajism in Sri Lanka, this is the only place here Trotskyites are

lected to Parliament in the world."

Terry Fields and Dave Mellist will use the British Parliament he says to support workers' struggles, National liberation struggle (including that of Tamil speaking people of Sri Lanka) and the fight for socialism.

## LONDON:

British newspapers triggered new speculation that Princess Diana may be pregnant citing her absence from a polo match in which Prince Charles was playing.

Both the Sun and the Daily Mail said that when Prince Charles' personal detective was asked why Diana was not at the match, he replied: "This morning sickness does terrible things to you."

## Peradeniya...

(Continued from page 4) find an immediate political solution to the prevailing problems. In the meantime, the Universities can include and develop a sense of camaraderie and thinking on a higher plan so that the students can be devoid of feelings of caste, creed and community. Students and their lecturers can get together and think of solution to the national problems, so that the students can work for and campaign for realizing their objectives when they got out to their respective villages after graduating.

(iii) As far as immediate safety and security for the Tamil speaking students, these students should all be lodged to from a majority in three or four adjoining Halls of residence eg Hilda Obeyasekera Hall J.P. Hall etc. About 50 to 60% in each of the three or four adjoining the Halls should be Tamil speaking students. Numbers may given them a sense of security and courage. The students of the two communities should not be separated in wings of the same Hall but should be

interspersed with each other so that every other room will be occupied by a student of a different community.

(iv) A Police Guard Room should be established near these Halls so that in the case of a disturbance the Tamil speaking students could go there for protection.

(v) The Tamil speaking students should themselves organise safety measures for their security eg. by signalling each other to assemble at once decide which route to take to go where how to contact student leaders of other communities for intervention etc. In extreme emergency they could even assemble and go en-bloc to the Vice Chancellor's Office or residence and park themselves there so that the Vice Chancellor will be forced to take action.

(vi) The students who took part in the assaults should be identified and punished. Students should be made to realize that these types of crimes against Society and the Nation will be tolerated and would not go unpunished.

## Colombo:

Five high ranking officers of the Rajarata Rifles, the Anuradhapura based regiment of the Sri Lanka Army, have been dismissed, following the earlier mass desertions from this regiment. Several of the deserters have now been taken into custody and charges will be framed against them.

## Polonnaruwa:

Two Buddhist monks were shot dead at Dinnulagalle Polonnaruwa. It was reported that armed men had tried to force their way into the meditation centre where the monks resided and later broken into a shop.

There was no immediate comment from Buckingham Palace on the latest reports, although the palace had earlier denied Diana was pregnant.

## EAST BERLIN:

Former Nazi SS officer Heinz Barth on trial for war crimes, wept in court as he admitted helping to kill some of the 642 French villagers massacred at Oradour-sur-

## SINGAPORE:

Burma has again declined to be a member of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) despite recent efforts made by some of its members, a reliable diplomatic source said here.

The ASEAN invitation to Burma is timely because next year the membership will be enlarged for the first time to include the Sultanate of Brunei, after it becomes independent. While Burma is still holding out of ASEAN, Sri Lanka, belonging to the South Asian region, has till recently unsuccessfully tried to become a member of ASEAN. Some years ago. Bangladesh also thought of joining ASEAN.

## NEW YORK:

A State court has awarded \$1 million (Rs. 1 crore) to compensate a man who spent 27 years in prison for murder he did not commit.

Isidore Zimmeman (66) of New York, was convicted of murder in 1938 for alleged supply of a gun used in a hold-up in which a policeman was killed. He was sentenced to die in the electric chair.

Glance during World War II

Barth who showed little emotion during the first three days of the trial last week broke down as he told presiding judge Heinz Hugot how he led a firing squad that shot 20 of the villagers in western France in 1944.

He is charged with his part in the massacre and with helping to kill 92 Czechs in 1942.

## DAMASCUS:

Yasser Arafat's top deputy has threatened to resign his post in the Palestine Liberation Organisation's largest guerilla group unless a

But the sentence was commuted to life imprisonment and, in 1962, he was released from prison after the State Court of Appeals threw out his conviction on grounds of misconduct by prosecutors.

## COCHIN:

Pope John Paul II will visit India next year, according to Kerala Catholic Bishops' Conference sources here.

The Pope had accepted an invitation of the Catholic Bishops Conference of India to visit the country the sources said.

The invitation was formally extended to the Pope by the Bishops' Conference of India president, Dr. Simon Pimenta-Archbishop of Bombay, they said.

## THANJAVUR:

Nadeswara Maestro Sheikh Chinnamoulana has been made an 'arasu kalaigal' (Government artiste) by the Tamil Nadu Government, Chief Minister M. G. Ramachandran announced at Thiruvavur near here.

revolt against the PLO chief is not stopped.

Abu Iyad, the nom de guerre of Salah Khalaf. Issued his threat before leaving from Kuwait for Moscow for a visit today aimed at "refreshing relations and securing more assistance for the coming battle" with Israel.

Arafat stayed behind to battle the revolt inside his Fatah guerilla group. PLO officials said. Abu Iyad is Arafat's No. 2 man in Fatah, the largest PLO guerilla group with some 25,000 members.

## If judges are not safe, who else is safe in the country?

"The members of our Organisation were perturbed to read in the 'Week end' and 'The Island' of 12th June, 1983 that a gang of goons has surrounded the houses of three Judges of the Supreme Court and agitated against them, regarding the judgement they gave in relation to the recent case involving Mrs. Vivienne Gunawardene. Our members are dismayed to find that though these judges have informed the Police about the presence of these hooligan elements around their houses that the Police was either unwilling or unable to take any steps to provide necessary protection for them.

"Further, the State cent-

rolled mass media has given wide publicity to the promotion of a sub inspector involved in this incident where the Supreme Court found the Police guilty of violating the fundamental rights of a citizen. This promotion clearly indicates that the Government of this Country has no respect for law and the judiciary and is ready to trample underfoot any dissenting judicial decision however legal it may be.

"The independence of the judiciary is the one of the most sacred principles of democratic Government. With the goon squads encouraged by certain dark forces within the Government surrounding the houses of Supreme Court

## ISLAMABAD:

Pakistani newspapers will publish fewer women's photographs under a new morality code agreed with the military Government.

The code, announced in a Government statement, says newspapers should stop publishing women's photographs for promotional purposes.

A meeting between representatives of the Information Ministry and newspaper proprietors agreed that "photographs of women having no news value should not be published," the statement said.

## LONDON:

Queen Elizabeth marked the 30th anniversary of her coronation on June 2 at a peak of popularity and with no plans to make way for her son Prince Charles.

Although it was business as usual for the highly professional monarch, her subjects took a trip down memory lane through television and newspaper accounts of the glittering day in 1953 when Elizabeth Windsor was crowned at the age of 27.

## Neither feast nor famine

In the article under the above headline (Perspectives by Nagamuttu) a sentence in column 3 reads: "Marga Institute in one of its studies to determine the poverty line for Sri Lanka and to examine the distribution of poverty in the Island, reported in May 1978—49% of the households were subject to absolute poverty in 1973."

It should have read as, "19%" and not "49%". We regret the error.

Judges and intimidating them, the judiciary will not be able to function as an independent institution. Our Organization appeals to all democratically minded organizations and Citizens to take note of this grave situation and register their protest in the most vehement manner against this cowardly act.

"If the Judges of the Supreme Court cannot be safe in their houses, how could the average Citizen expect any safety under this regime? Therefore, our Organization condemn in the strongest possible manner, these acts of hooliganism and the Government's attempts to undermine the independence of the judiciary."

Chaucer's **Canterbury Tales** a one-man dramatization by Rob Inglis at the Chundikuli Girls' College, Jaffna on Wednesday, June 15, 1983 at 2 p.m.

# Rob's Chaucer—more vigour than depth

Twenty-nine pilgrims on one of their annual summer pilgrimages to Canterbury, decide to tell two tales each to while away their journey. Using this as the framework Chaucer tells as many folk stories as possible through the mouths of the pilgrims, and at the same time characterises them with deep psychological insight to portray vividly the 14th century English society.

Rob Inglis began his performance with the 'General Prologue' where Chaucer introduces the pilgrims who represent a cross section of their society and reflect the socio-economic changes that were going on at that time. It was a time when the medieval hierarchy was being burst asunder by the up and coming commercial classes; a time when the noble, chivalrous knight and the Squire were being superseded by the pragmatic cunning Merchant and Franklin; a time when even the Prioress, Monk and Summoner of the Church had capitulated to materialism and worldliness. With subtle irony and sharp observations Chaucer brilliantly satirises the deviations from the medieval moral code.

### Comfortable with broad externals

To people the stage with such diverse characters and yet to distinguish them sharply and make them come 'alive' as individuals demands tremendous imagination and flexibility of voice and gestures from the "one-man" dramatist. Rob Inglis failed to meet the challenge. It seemed as if he was 'reciting' the prologue rather than 'dramatizing' it. Even the nuances of Chaucer's irony were lost: the characterization of the Prioress in which the poet's irony is at its

subtlest could have been dramatised better. It was in the Summoner that Inglis became alive—but then he had to take freedom from Chaucer's original text and make references to "Jaffna Mangoes" and "top of the charts" to earn a few 'laughs' from the audience!

Then Rob Inglis moved on to the Prologue and Tale of the Wife of Bath. Her Prologue is a radical piece in which the indefatigable lady who had been married to five husbands—all of whom had 'mysteriously' died one after the other!—proposes a reform in the institution of mar-

riage that it is the wife who should be the dominant partner, and makes a passionate argument for freedom for women in sexual life. She is the earliest "women's liberation activist" English literature knows. But Rob Inglis' dramatization lacked the gusto she deserves; it was the lascivious side of her character that he portrayed with some very suggestive gestures.

It was a pity that Inglis had indiscriminately 'chopped' off a lot from Chaucer's original text in his dramatization of the "Pardoner's Tale". The well-known tale in which three dull-heads seek to kill "Death" get directed to a tree under which they find gold coins, and finally scheme jealously and kill each other, unintentionally fulfilling their original intention, gets its significance from the Prologue and conclusion of the Pardoner which Inglis chopped off. The Pardoner earlier takes the pilgrims

into his confidence by confessing the tricks he uses to get money from the laity and gives a model sermon on 'Money is the root of all Evil' in which the above tale appears. But through the tale he manages to manipulate the emotions of the pilgrims themselves and attempts to extricate some money from them. But he overreaches, spoils the effect, and get insulted by the Host. So, in a sense, the Pardoner's sermon boomerangs as he too meets his 'death' through 'Money'.

What perhaps is more significant about this section is the superb characterization of the cunning Pardoner. This is one of

which Chaucer wrote it was done justice by Inglis' dramatization. He strutted across the stage like the proud fowl, crawled around the ground like the wily fox and with acrobatic agility he evoked the world of the animals. With superb modulation of voice and supple gestures he distinguished the animals and evoked the farmyard atmosphere.

attempting to enact an animal, making the fox to rescue the fowl he ran wildly through the audience, which degenerated into farce lacking dramatic decorum. Rob Inglis is obviously more at

plot to its hilarious conclusion.

On the whole, Rob Inglis brilliantly dramatized Chaucer the vigorous bawdy Comedian; but Chaucer the subtly ironic Satirist and Chaucer the intuitive Psychologist were not adequately represented. While skilfully acting out a variety of characters and interesting situations, the feelings and experiences he evoked were limited, leaning heavily towards the funny and the physically vigorous, he did not plumb the depths of despair or the dark recesses of the psyche.

Rob Inglis' performance raised a number of questions regarding One man Theatre as an art-form. Are we to infer that One-man Theatre is a fitting medium to convey only the farcical or physically active Fabliau and the Fable, but not the subtlety of irony or the complexities of the mind? Are we also to infer that it is only humour that can be conveyed but not pathos or brooding evil? If the answer is in the affirmative, then it is a sad comment on One man Theatre as an art-form. It might imply that One-man Theatre is an immature, undeveloped form of art that cannot convey complex human experiences.

But the Jaffna audience has a good comparison in Brian Barnes another British solo dramatist who performed here a few months back. Brian Barnes proved that One man Theatre is in no way inferior to any other form of art in communicating deeper experiences of human life. So, either Rob Inglis failed to summon enough imagination and talent to dramatize a wider range of experiences, or he has thoroughly underestimated the Jaffna audience.

Reviewed by Staff Writer SURESH

the most challenging and psychologically complex scenes in the whole of 'Canterbury Tales', a character-portrait which an other one-man dramatist might have grabbed to show off his talents of in-depth individual characterization. But Rob Inglis chose to ignore it. Is it because he is more comfortable in dramatizing broad external physical situations rather than subtle psychological aspects? Or is it because he underestimated the Jaffna audience as being too remote to catch the nuances of Chaucer's irony?

It was in the next tale, that of the Nun's Priest, which is an action-packed fable, that Rob Inglis became really alive. The story is of the pompous fowl proud of its voice, which falls into the trap laid by a cunning fox which flatters it, but ultimately manages to outwit the fox and escape from its jaws. The most epic spirit in

home in the world of lively animals than in that of complex men; while no one can possibly blame him for it knowing how complex humans can be, it also explained why he won the 1981 Edinburgh Festival Prize for 'Hobbit' filled with elves and dragons.

The drunken Miller's tale also lent itself easily to One-man Theatre as it is a 'fabliau' which genre is usually bawdy, vigorous, down to earth and features the lower classes. This story is about an ignorant carpenter who is cuckolded by his pretty young wife Alison, who in collaboration with her lover Nicholas a boarder in their house—also insults another admirer. Absalom. The foolish old husband, frivolous wife self-confident lover and sentimental admirer, were well characterized as Rob Inglis effectively depersonalized himself to enter into the mood of these different characters. With just a table and four chairs he skilfully manipulated the stage, excited the imagination of the audience and developed the action packed

## Judges decline offer....

(Continued from page 2)

Mr. Justice Colin-Thome, and the former residence of Mr. Justice Soza. "This was a sequel to a judgement of the Supreme Court delivered by these three judges. The demonstration appeared to be planned and co-ordinated. State-owned buses appeared to have been used to transport the demonstrators. Slogans and obscenities were shout-

ed at the judges. Attempts by two of the judges to obtain Police protection proved futile.

"It has been reported in the Press that the acting IGP has offered sentries to those judges who do not have such protection at the moment. "These judges do not feel encouraged to accept the offer. The judges, however, note the

assurance given by the Prime Minister and await the outcome of his action.

"The Judges feel that certain actions taken in recent times have been an incentive to the events of last Saturday." "We need hardly add that such events in no way deter us from being independent in discharging our duties."

## Jaffna welcome to Bishop of Trinco

The recently installed Bishop of Trincomalee-Batticaloa The Most Reverend Dr. J. Kingsley Swampillai will be welcomed by the diocese of Jaffna tomorrow Sunday 19th June, 1983. At

4.30 p.m. he will be welcomed in front of St. Martin's Seminary, Main Street and at 5 p.m. there will be a Concelebrated Mass at the Cathedral. This will be followed by a Public Reception.

# Saturday Review

SRI LANKA

## Pt. Pedro's 1<sup>o</sup> Council meets tentatively

The Point Pedro Urban Council—where voter boycott peaked (99 per cent) at the May elections—became the odd man out on Thursday (16 June) when it held its first meeting, with just a bare quorum. None of the other three local bodies in the Jaffna District—Valvettiturai U.C., Chavakachcheri U.C. and the Jaffna Municipal Council—met that day, and it was for the first meeting of local bodies throughout the island.

Though the Secretaries (Govt. officials) of the 3 Urban Councils had sent out letters summoning the first meeting, neither at Chavakachcheri nor Valvettiturai did the members turn up on Thursday. No notice of meeting was sent out to the members of the Jaffna Municipal Council as it's the Mayor—not the Commissioner—who has to sign the notice: the Mayor has so far not assumed office.

The three TULF members—K. Arulanandam (Vice-Chairman), S. Rajakulasingham and S. Sabanathan—who turned up at the Pt. Pedro Town Hall on Thursday morning for the meeting, discussed the distribution of diesel oil by the Pt. Pedro MPCS and electricity distribution by the Ceylon Electricity Board but took no decisions. They adjourned without fixing a date for the next meeting. The other four TULF members, including Chairman Velum Mylum, and the 2 UNP members kept away from Thursday's meeting.

## C. R. M. urges action by Attorney General

"This is the most grievous instance of contempt of Court in the history of our country", says the Civil Rights Movement of Sri Lanka in a statement signed by Secretary Desmond Fernando, referring to the mob intimidation of Supreme Court Judges on 11th June.

The TULF received 82 votes and the UNP 27 at Pt. Pedro in last month's election: the registered voters number over 10,000.

The Pt. Pedro meeting came as a complete surprise to political observers who had expected the Chavakachcheri UC to be the TULF's trial balloon. As it happened, this hundred per cent TULF Council did not meet. At the end of the meeting a bomb was flung at the house of the Chavakachcheri UC's Vice-Chairman, V. S. Thurairajah, round about 6 p.m. (Wednesday, 15 June). The roof and the floor of a bedroom were damaged. No one was at home at the time.

SATURDAY REVIEW learns the TULF has left it to the members who were elected to local bodies in the Jaffna District last month to decide whether they will brave the opposition of militant youths and take up office.

Political observers think discretion will continue to keep the members away, as it did on Thursday. Under the law, if they keep away from three consecutive meetings without a valid excuse they cease to be members.

Some observers forecast that the Government will be forced to step in to break a stalemate that threatens to bring local administration to a grinding halt. Perhaps dissolution and the appointment of Special Commissioners are on the cards, they say.

The statement says: "The Constitution recognises that such contempt is an offence which the due administration of justice requires to be suitably punished. The primary duty to have those responsible dealt with by the Supreme Court lies with the Attorney General."

Printed at St. Joseph's Catholic Press, 360, Main Street, Jaffna, for the publishers New Era Publications Ltd., 118, 4th Cross Street, Jaffna on June 18th, 1983. Registered as a newspaper at the General Post Office, Sri Lanka under QJ/101

# Big Tamil protest march in Sydney: Bill Hayden briefed

A vast protest march organized by the Sydney Tamil Association took to the busy main streets of Sydney on Saturday 11th June, protesting the violation of Human Rights of Tamils in Sri Lanka. Tamils hailing from Tamil Nadu, Malaysia, Singapore and South Africa also joined in the protest, along with

a large number of Australians from various Church Groups and Members of the Amnesty International, Sydney. A main focal area of the protest was outside the Town Hall of Sydney inside where the governing Labour Party was holding its Annual Committee Sessions.

Marchers carried a coffin carrying the label "DEMOCRACY WHICH WAS AILING IN SRI LANKA SINCE 1948 FINALLY DIED ON 3RD JUNE, 1983".

The following day, 12th of June, the President and Committee Members of the Eelam Tamil Association of Australasia had a personal discussion with the Australian Foreign Affairs Minister, Mr. Bill Hayden, concerning the problems of the Tamils in Sri Lanka.

## THE WEEK THAT WAS

Violence continued to prevail over the rule of law. Public opinion was visibly stirred following the mob demonstration outside the Supreme Court Judges' residences on Saturday. Mystery however persists on how the Police Emergency telephone lines went dead, at the crucial times when these ugly demonstrations took place.

Tamils in Trincomalee continue to be targets of attacks on the one hand while the Colombo papers kept on talking of "Northern Terrorists" behind the violence in the east. On Thursday there was a series of bomb blasts. The Police keep declaring unofficial curfews and normal life is paralysed.

At the Peradeniya University Tamil students continue to move about in fear. They appear to have lost faith with the bonafides of the University administration.

At Anuradhapura faced with virtual mutiny among the ranks of the Rajarata Rifles Government stirred itself into action by sacking five officers and refus-

ing to take back nearly 100 deserters.

In the North human life continues to go cheap. At Nallur a man died by Army fire and at Mankulam three bodies were discovered on the rail track apparently killed before they were thrown on the track. Their identities have yet to be established. Another body was found in a cemetery in Point Pedro, with bullet injuries. Mystery surrounds the identity of the victim who apparently is not a local nor a member of the armed forces.

Army and Navy Personnel continue to search

houses in various cordoned off areas; with Navy Men displaying more civilized behaviour. Random assaults by the Army Personnel on the public highways continue.

In Colombo on Wednesday an order on a bail application on behalf of Rev. Fr. Singarayar and Rev. Fr. Sinnarasa and four others was reserved for July 1st by a three-member Bench comprising Justices H. A. D. De Silva, B. G. De Silva, and Siva Selliah. The Crown objected to bail stating that there was no provision for bail to those charged under the Prevention of Terrorism Act.

## Tamil Surveyors beaten up

Five Tamil Surveyors were beaten up by racist hooligans at Anuradhapura recently.

The surveyors had visited some work sites in the Anuradhapura district to pay the workmen their salary advance when these thugs fell upon them and man-

handled them.

To add insult to injury, the hooligans have warned the owner of the eating-house where these surveyors used to have their meals, not to give them any meals hereafter. No Tamil should work in the area in future, they had added.