

HOT SPRING

Vol. 1

16th December 1990

No. 10

76 Tamils burnt to death in Batticaloa

All the local daily papers published the news of the burning alive of seventy six persons including students at Thurainilavanai.

The news in this connection state that on the 6th and 7th of December Sri Lankan soldiers together with some Tamil gangsters arrested seventy six civilians including students at Thurainilavanai.

All the arrested persons were taken to the Army Camp where they were subjected to torture and later burnt alive with tyres heaped on them.

IN JAFFNA

CHARITY MONEY NOT PAID

GOVERNMENT RETAINS OVER Rs. 10 MILLION

VICTIMS — SEVENTEEN THOUSAND SICK AND POOR

SOCIAL SERVICES DEPT. HELPLESS

Over rupees ten million payable to poor and needy persons in Jaffna has not been paid to these persons from July 1990. The Government retains this money with it. Local Officials in Jaffna say that liquid cash is not available to make the payments.

The Department of Social Services was constituted by Government with the main objective of providing relief to persons in destitute circumstances and to those who have suffered damages by natural calamities. The main function of the Department is the payment of Public Assistance Monthly Allowance Leprosy Allowance, Cancer Allowance and T.B. Assistance.

Public Assistance is paid as a matter of charity to very poor persons who have no means of their own or

who have no earning capacity. In fact this allowance is known as 'Pitchai Sambalam' in Tamil (Beggar Payment). There are about 16,000 recipients of this Charity Allowance in the Jaffna District. An average of Rupees 1.85 million is paid to these poor persons monthly as Charity Allowance.

No Charity Allowance had been paid to anyone of these persons from July, 1990 in the Jaffna District. A total sum of rupees 9.25 millions is outstanding to be paid up to December, 1990.

Similarly another assistance called Tuberculosis Assistance is paid monthly to T. B. patients certified as such by Medical Authorities. There are about 400 T. B. patients in the Jaffna District. An average of Rs. 85000/- per month is

paid as T. B. assistance to these patients. T. B. assistance payments have not been made from August, 1990 and a sum of Rupees 425,000/- is remaining with the Department of Social Services still unpaid including December, 1990 payments.

Cancer patients are also entitled to similar monthly assistance payments. There are about 400 cancer patients in the Jaffna District and an average sum of Rupees

100,000/- is paid monthly to these patients by the Department of Social Services. This payment has also not been made to the patients after July, 1990. A sum of Rs. 500,000/- which should have been paid to these patients remain unpaid up to December, 1990.

Still a fourth payment made by the Department of Social Services is the monthly assistance to Leprosy patients. There are about 60 Leprosy patients in the Jaffna District and an average of Rs. 18,000/- per month is paid to these patients. This

(Continued on page 4)

Plundering is part of military operations
Stickers transfer ownership of property

Sri Lankan soldiers who entered Mannar town had been liberally enriching themselves by loot at the expense of those civilians who had fled their houses at the approach of the army.

From reports gathered from civilians who had come to Jaffna fleeing from Mannar town, it is understood that a large number of residents of Mannar town fled their houses empty-handed, leaving behind their belongings leaving only the old and sickly people. A few Government officers also remained.

The army who entered the town began their campaign of destruction immediately. All unoccupied houses were broken into. All things left by the occupants were taken over by the soldiers. The soldiers brought with them distinctive stickers and each soldier put his own sticker on the particular thing he desired most. Once one soldier puts a sticker on to some item that was there, it became his property. The other soldiers would not meddle with it.

Later on Army trucks went around these houses, collected and removed all these goods. The goods so transported were later sent to Colombo by naval vessels. Those goods that had a private sticker became the property of the individual whose distinctive sticker mark was found on it. This pattern of looting was carried out in almost every household where the occupants had run away on hearing the information that the Army was advancing towards the town.

Nor was this loot confined only to private houses. Even Government quarters and offices were subjected to this type of loot. The looted goods included a variety of items

like furniture and fittings, electrical goods, typewriters, bicycles, motor-cycles and almost any article of any description for which the looters had taste. Even a Government vehicle was taken away.

(Continued on Page 3)

Diamond Jubilee Celebrations

The Diamond Jubilee Celebrations of Rev. Father S.S. Villavarasingham, O.M.I. is on 21st. December, 1990. The Thanks Giving Concelebrated High Mass will be presided over by His Lordship, the Bishop of Jaffna, Rt. Rev. Dr. B. Deogupillai, D.D. on the 22nd at 11.00 a.m. at the Fr. Mathews Memorial Home, Colombogam, Jaffna.

The Rev. Fr. Villavarasingham was born at Illavalai

on the 20th of July, 1904 and was ordained a priest of God on the 21st. of December, 1930.

The Rev. Fr. served for nearly 20 years as Master of Ceremonies at the Madhu Church during the Main Feasts at the Church. He last served as Parish Priest at the Church of Our Lady of Refuge, Jaffna Town and is presently in retirement at the Fr. Mathews Memorial House.

PRICES CONTINUE TO SKY - ROCKET
VAVUNIYA BOTTLENECK - THE CAUSE

In Jaffna the cost of essential consumer commodities continue to sky rocket, while some commodities are completely out of the market.

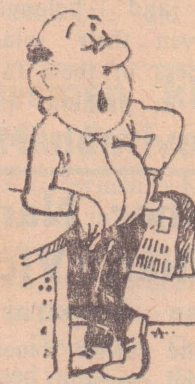
Wheat flour is completely out of the market with the result that even bread has gone up in price. Bread weighing 300 grams is sold at Rs. 12/- Even curry salt is difficult to buy and in a few shops where curry salt is available, one kilo is sold at Rs. 6/50. A bottle of kerosene oil costs Rs. 50/- and Coconut oil is priced at Rs. 55/- a bottle. A

coconut costs Rs. 15/- and Sugar Rs. 50/- a kilo. A cake of Sunlight soap is Rs 12/- and Dry chillies is sold at Rs. 120/- a kilo.

The scarcity and high cost of consumer commodities is the direct result of the curfew that was imposed North of Vavuniya (since lifted) and also the detention of lorries and other transport from Colombo to Jaffna by the Army under various pretexts. Lorries carrying goods have not come into Jaffna after the 19th of November.

Reports received in Jaffna indicate that out of the lorry drivers and cleaners who were compelled to stay at Vavuniya about 8 persons are missing. Reports further indicate that the dead body of one lorry driver was found with knife injuries. It is feared that the missing men may also have been killed.

Since information cannot be obtained as to what is happening in Vavuniya Town and South Vavuniya, it is not known why these lorries are not permitted to travel North, though the curfew has been lifted.

Musings of
Mr. Meddle

A non political organization known as the "Eastern Progressive Front" has been formed with the speaker, Mr. M. H. Mohamed as President, Minister A.R. Mansoor, Deputy President, Minister Mr. Dayaratne and M. P. Thiviyanathan Vice Presidents:

S.L.B.C. News

How averse have these gentlemen grown to politics to form a non-political organization. Can the people hopefully await to see the retirement of these gentlemen from politics?

Stop prating about majority Rights and Unity

Try to achieve true reconciliation

Friendly warning worth heeding by Rajaji

Rajaji Day was celebrated all over Tamil Nadu on the 10th of this month.

Chakravarthi Rajagopalachari, affectionately and reverently called Rajaji all over India, was one of the great leaders of the Indian Independence Movement and ranked amongst the top leaders along with Mahatma Gandhi, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Sardar Vallabhai Patel and a host of others.

The top posts he held in Independent India, including the post of the first Indian Governor-General, do not add lustre to his personality. He added lustre to the posts he held by the sheer force of his personality.

One cannot but feel aggrieved at the contrast only the present day successors of the great Indian leaders are able to make in the present political scenario of that country.

Recently we have heard a lot of 'news' about the 'Tiger scare' let loose all over India. We all know that this is a political gimmick. Certainly the great leaders of India would have spurned any attempts to make capital political gains out of the political miseries of the Tamil Nation in Eelam.

Lest the present day leaders of India forget, we give the English version of an article written by Rajaji in the 'Kalki' of 15-6-1958 which is very appropriate in the present context.

Ministers of India, Ceylon and Pakistan should pay more intense attention to world history and give heed to the triumphs and failures of historic figures. They should not forget that

political factors in Asia differ from those in Europe. Proclaiming empty shibboleths about unity and harmony but pursuing policies that destroy all unity is a futile undertaking.

Instead of trying to reconcile through emergency regulations and armed force irreconcilable attitudes the Government should take into account the differing aspirations of different communities and seek to satisfy these aspirations. Thus alone can unity be forged.

Neglecting this obvious path, to cling to one single language or to any single political arrangement is foolish. To try to force into a mould what is obviously more than the mould could hold is not to forge unity but to destroy the mould and the material.

A free democracy cannot afford to indulge in the kind of repressions practised by a foreign bureaucracy. Free Ceylon should adopt different methods from those adopted by the British to create and maintain unity.

Repression cannot succeed. Through repression unity

ry rations is a great blow particularly to the Public Officers and Pensioners who are solely depending on their monthly salary/pension. Many others whose income is much more than Rs. 1500/-, per month are enjoying Free Ration. Because it cannot be easily determined like that of the public officers.

The Government Agent should define Refugees as one set of group of people, irrespective of their income, and reconsider his decision sympathetically to issue free dry ration without any discrimination.

A. Natkunanathan

Uduvil Road,
Maruthanamadam.

Valuable Weekly

The Editor,
Hot Spring.

Dear Sir,

I never missed to purchase, 'Hot Spring'. It is really a valuable weekly. After reading same, I give it to other persons for publicity.

Your weekly of 25.11.90 is furnishing reasons to understand our sufferings to the World.

May I, therefore, suggest that you post a copy each to all High Commissions in Colombo to give wide publicity in the respective countries concerned.

R. Thamilasasa

Annaikoddai

cannot be achieved. The Ceylon Tamils have been in Ceylon from ancient days. They have played a large and distinguished role in the country's development. In learning, in culture, in devotion to their motherland their contribution has been outstanding. What is good of trying to coerce them without making any effort to meet their lawful demands? If the present policies are continued the farce of independence will end in international humiliation. England and America will laugh and hasten to share the spoils.

Instead of prating about majority rights and unity effort should be made to achieve true reconciliation. The Ceylon Tamils should enjoy regional autonomy while national defence and International commerce may be reserved for central administration. Chasing the Will - O' - the - Wisp of Ceylon for the Sinhalese may be the sure means of exposing Ceylon to foreign intervention and exploitation. This is a friendly warning from the Tamils of India - A Warning Worth Heeding.

THIS AND THAT

— by Rambler —

Birds - Beasts & Bats

Many of us may know that fable by Aesop about the Beasts and Birds and how the Beasts waged an incessant and utterly meaningless battle against the peaceful birds, merely to show their imaginary might.

Whilst this pointless battle raged on, the birds who took it lying at first, decided enough was enough and decided to resist and resist they did with the very limited resources at their disposal.

They sought the assistance of the Bats as did the Beasts but the treacherous Bats told both Birds and Beasts that they were neither Beasts nor Birds and kept hovering in the middle between the Beasts and Birds. When the Bats smelt that they may stand to loose at the end, they began to hover more to the winning side. At first the Beasts and then the Birds but the battle raged on in ding dong fashion with Birds ahead at times but the brutal beasts coming on top often and finally when the battle ended in a stalemate and the Beasts and Birds went their own separate ways, they both discarded the Bats, who became creatures of the night.

May be there is a parallel to this fable in the national arena and when the Sinhala Beasts and the Tamil Birds go their own separate ways as they must, then may be the Tamil speaking Moors may become nocturnal creatures like the Bats.

Racial or Criminal

The present Government which has dominated the political scene without a break since 1977 has been dubbed RACIAL and all its evil sins have been attributed to its so called racialism. Whilst this may be so on the surface, a closer look may show it to be more Criminal than

racial and its racialism as being part of its criminality. Or how else would one reconcile its criminal and evil mass slaughter of Sinhala youths under the guise of eliminating the JVP. We know for a fact that close on forty thousand young Sinhala males were killed by the agents of this government. We also know that there are individual members of this government who have been charged and indicted of murder, whilst some have been credited with numerous murders, though not indicted. May be greater publicity ought to be given to this aspect of the matter, so that the world may know that the Tamils are not merely victims of a racist mob but a racist mob that is more criminal than racist. How else could one reconcile the killings of innocent Tamil civilians by aerial bombardment of strictly civilian areas—the rounding up of refugees from official refugee camps, who are then taken to the nearest army camp and brutally killed, often burnt alive with the aid of petrol and tyres and many other brutal acts too numerous to mention. May be as part of this criminal nation, we Tamils do not now have the recourse to international justice but when we establish the separate state that we all long for, not because we want to force the Tamil Language down the throats of other races or the Hindu religion upon others, then we must take our case to the Court of International Justice for due redress. And then none of the present political personalities can escape by pleading ignorance of the various atrocities, because at the outset of the present conflagration, a leading member of the government is reported to have stated 'It is all out war in the North East and a fight to the finish. And the respective individual area commanders have been fully authorised to do as they please and think fit' which means kill and kill indiscriminately.

OUR READERS SAY

Freedry rations ot all Refugees Irrespective of Income

The Editor,
'Hot Spring'.

The decision of the Government Agent Jaffna for Free Issue of Dry Ration to the Refugees is superb and highly commendable - in the light of the facts that the refugees had lost their houses and belongings. A few even their relatives or members of their family and are in pathetic plight undergoing untold sufferings.

The Government Agent, Jaffna is well aware of the shortage of money circulation in the peninsula and most of the Public officers and Pensioners who are deprived of their monthly payments since June, 90 due to abnormal functioning of the Banks and certain paying offices. In these circumstances, the G. A's decision that people drawing more than Rs. 1500/- and above do pay for their

Further Names of Identified Civilian Victims of Murder In the Amparai & Batticaloa Districts

In the earlier issues of 'Hot Spring', we published names and places of identified civilian victims of murder in the Amparai and Batticaloa Districts at the hands of the Sri Lankan Army or the Muslim Home Guards or both.

A further list of such victims is given below:-

1. Seenithamby Prabakaran (35) male - Palukamam
 2. Kanapathipillai Sumangali (22) female - Kalmunai
 3. Kathiramuthu Kanagaratnam (40) male - Munaitivu
 4. Nagamany Nadesan (35) male - Munaitivu
 5. Veerakumar Pathmarajah (32) male - Munaitivu
 6. Seenithamby Krishnapillai (35) male - Munaitivu
 7. Somanathan Sivanesarasa (27) male - Munaitivu
 8. Arumguam Panchadcharam (40) male - Poraitivu
 9. Gopalapillai Kumar (29) male - Poraitivu
 10. Nagaratnam Suntharalingam (30) male Poraitivu
 11. Seenithamby Selvarajah (26) male - Poraitivu
 12. Kandiah Mathanajeevan (16) male - Mandur
 13. Velmurugu Sathiyandanan male - Mandur
 14. Samithamby (30) male - Kalmunai
- All the above persons were murdered on 18th July, 1990.

HOT SPRING

VOL: 1 SUNDAY 16th DEC. 1990 ISSUE 10

'Saviour' of Country and Democracy

Mr. J. R. Jayawardene, former President, has called upon the Youth to come forward to save the country and democracy.

Mr. Jayawardene held the top post for a period longer than any of his predecessors. He reigned supreme for over ten years from 1977 to 1988, first as Prime Minister and later as President.

After the promulgation of the 1978 Constitution he proclaimed: "Parliament has made me king".

Soon after the UNP came to power in 1977 with a massive majority, Mr. Jayawardene proceeded to do away with the 1972 Constitution and promulgated the 1978 Constitution which was his brain-child.

With the promulgation of the 1978 Constitution, the Westminster style of Government came to an end and a style of Government based on the American pattern with an Executive President came into being but with the Parliament elected under the 1972 still continuing. Before Mr. Jayawardene relinquished his office in 1988, his Constitution of 1978 saw sixteen amendments. The U.S. Constitution remains unchanged for hundreds of years. So much for the wise-old man who would tease all his contestants for the post of President - barring only one - as not even being his equals to aspire for the high office of the President, when he faced the Presidential polls.

Mr. Jayawardene, now not so much in retirement, speaks up for the 'country' and 'democracy'.

Wasn't Mr. Jayawardene responsible for the loss of political rights of the Leader of the Opposition, Mrs. Sirimavo Bandaranaike? One has still to learn of any democracy in the world, where the Leader of the Opposition to the governing party was deprived of his or her political rights, for a period of years.

And didn't Mr. Jayawardene proclaim to the Tamils: "If you want war, you will have war". And did he not soon thereafter say: "I don't care for the Tamil people"? And did he not say all these while falsely and fraudulently assuming the Tamil people as part of one polity?

Who is the President who carried undated letters of resignations from the Parliamentarians of his party in his pockets? Did he not do this to muffle any murmur from his side? Did he not do this to continue in power himself with a steam-roller majority and an obedient Parliament, whose ruling party members had the Sword of Damocles hanging over their heads in the form of undated letters of resignations from Parliament in his pockets? Did not Mr. Jayawardene treat his members as school boys and regard himself as a royal Principal?

Wasn't it Mr. Jayawardene who was elected in 1977 to head the UNP government for five years ultimately go on for eleven years as head of the Government? Wasn't it Mr. Jayawardene who was responsible for the extension of the life of Parliament for eleven years, though that Parliament was elected by the voters for a period of only five years from 1977?

Wasn't it Mr. Jayawardene who denied the people's prerogative of electing their parliamentary representatives themselves and introduce the system of chit members of Parliament. Wasn't it Mr. Jayawardene who introduced the new system of voting under which the electors do not know their representatives and even persons who get a few hundred votes are elected to Parliament by the device of the so-called Proportional Representation? And did he not do this to perpetuate his system of Government even after his time?

Wasn't Mr. Jayawardene responsible for the loss of even the Parliamentary representation of the Tamils by the device of the 6th Amendment to his Constitution? Do we not know how his democracy worked especially in Jaffna during the District Development Council Elections?

And again, wasn't the spontaneous revolt by the Sinhala youths in the South that made him go from the seat of power, saddling his successor with all the sins of his own creation?

It is most tantalizing to see a man who made a mockery of democracy in an extremely cunning way speak up for democracy.

His appeal to patriotism on the part of the youth to save the country, is again a farce. Isn't Mr. Jayawardene the man who brought in all sorts of foreign elements into the Island in the form of multi-national business concerns that control the economy - the Mossad, British mercenaries, Pakistan soldiers and last but not the least - the Indian Army?

Mr. Jayawardene divided the country as early as 1944 with his Sinhala Language resolution in the State Council and his infamous march to Kandy in 1957. During the period of his Government from 1977 to 1988 he drove the last nail on the coffin of the country. How can such a person speak up for the country and democracy?

ICRC CAN RELEASE FACTS RELATING TO CIVILIAN SUFFERINGS

The ICRC is nearly 130 years old. It was a response to the carnage of the 19th century battlefields of Europe. The ICRC acts in the first instance to help wounded, sick, affected members of armed forces and prisoners - of-war whose conditions it endeavours to improve from their capture to release.

Except on rare occasions, the ICRC does not go public with its findings on human rights violations. Its aim is the relief to the victims. Since 1958 Sri Lanka is involved in an internal conflict, which is continuing. Commentary to the 4th Geneva Convention says.

"The Red Cross has long been trying to aid the victims of Internal conflicts, the horrors of which are sometimes even more terrible than those of International wars because of the fratricidal hatred they engender." (All emphasis mine.)

As recently as 1985, among other activities, the ICRC was involved actively in more than 80 countries, visited over 30,000 prisoners-of-war, so-called security detainees and processed over 27,000 requests to trace missing persons and ascertained the fate of over 7000.

In Sri Lanka, during 1986, the CRM reports that "Two introductory courses in international humanitarian law, each one week long, were held in Colombo in November, in which 34 Navy, Air Force, Army and Police Officers in all participated. Three delegates from Geneva were sent to conduct this course. Delegates of the ICRC also had contacts with Tamil opposition movements with the aim of informing of the principles of humanitarian law".

The time is ripe for a repeat performance by the ICRC.

According to the Daily News of 8.10.90, Her Majesty's Government has donated "£350,000/- to the ICRC (emphasis mine) and other NGO's for emergency relief work" owing to the British Government's concern "about the impact of the fighting on the civilian communities in the North and East of the country." Local papers report similar donations.

In 1983 the ICRC air lifted 119,950 Swiss Francs worth of relief to Sri Lanka. In Kampala the ICRC has maintained reception and treatment centres and handed over relief supplies like clothing and blankets. The ICRC also concentrated on promoting the idea of

"humanizing the conflict" in discussions with the highest authorities in El Salvador, including the President and members of "Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front." ICRC doctors and nurses too help civilians.

The ICRC principles are HUMANITY, IMPARTIALITY, NEUTRALITY, INDEPENDENCE, VOLUNTARY SERVICE, UNITY AND UNIVERSALITY. In Sri Lanka there is a Red Cross Society in the South, another in the North and then of course the ICRC.

Siva

From 1977 the Tamils of this Island, particularly in the North East, have suffered deaths, tortures, mutilation, loss of livelihood, severe damage to properties and wealth. The majority of the victims are civilians. The brutalities and inhuman acts (choppings, tyre necklace treatment) have been going on far too long with the Indian Army too contributing its mite!

We are grateful to the ICRC for helping in the opening of the Jaffna Hospital. But there are lakhs of Tamils without homes, without jobs and living at starvation level. How many refugee camps are under ICRC control? Perhaps the ICRC could "go public" with these facts. Or are we to wait for their 1990 annual report by which

time many of us would have gone to dust.

Let me stray away from the subject and quote a moving passage from the book "From Beirut to Jerusalem" by Dr. Swee Chai Ang who worked for the charity MAP (Medical Aid for Palestinians).

"They have a dream. And I share this dream; the dream of a world just visible through the smouldering ruins of the refugee camps and the tear gas - a world where an eleven-year-old boy need not learn to use a Kalashnikov or rocket-launcher to defend his family - a world of peace, justice and security, where I will never have to tell a child, 'Go to school', only to learn that the school has been bombed or tell a girl, 'Go help your mother get the dinner ready', only to have her return to tell me her mother and family have been murdered - a world where we do not have to fear being buried alive in collapsing rubble. where I will have to patch up broken bodies only to see them being blown up again, or hold the broken body of a child in my arms and ask 'Why?' or hear people ask, 'How much longer?' - a world where there are no prisons, no torture, no pain, no hunger and no refugee identity cards, where I can put my head down in my own home and listen to my mother's songs as I close my eyes at the end of the day. That place is our dream, our Jerusalem".

U. S. Congress Deeply Concerned

Stephen J. Solarsz, U. S. Leading Congress member and Chairman of the House Asia-Pacific Affairs Committee and Congress member and Chairman of the House Sub-Committee on Human Rights, Gus Yatron have expressed the deep concern of the U. S. Congress over the deterioration of the Human Rights situation in Sri Lanka.

They have referred to killings and other abuses against non-combatants and the failure to ensure equitable distribution of humanitarian relief supplies in Sri Lanka.

They have asked the Bush Administration to convey to the World Bank's Aid Relief Consortium the deep concern

of the U. S. Congress over Human Rights Violations in Sri Lanka when considering fresh economic aid to the latter.

Fishermen killed at Mandativu

Two fishermen who were out fishing in the sea off Mandativu died as a result of naval gun-boats of Sri Lanka opening fire on these fishermen on 1st. December. One man sustained injuries. The dead are Vaithiyan Rajendram (60) and Rayappu Francis (45). Their bodies were recovered in the fibre glass boats in which they had set out fishing. The boat was also damaged. The injured Saverian Mariadas was rescued by other fishermen.

Plundering...

(Continuation of Page 1)

After the "capture" of Mannar town was over, some who had still been left, met the Army officers on the following day. When one of these persons complained to an officer in the Army about the looting of the goods,

the latter casually replied that plundering was part of military operations.

Naval vessels have carried the stolen goods to Colombo where they will reach the ultimate destination determined by the sticker placed on them. Is this the manner by which military operations are to be carried out?

SLAS Examination for North East

Curfew prevents candidates

Competitive examinations for recruitment of officers to the Sri Lanka Administrative Service to man Departments of Government in the Tamil North Eastern Province were held in Colombo at a time when candidates for these Examinations from the North could not travel to Colombo because of the curfew in force at that time.

Officers are recruited to the Sri Lanka Administrative Service by means of competitive examinations. There are two separate examinations held for recruitment of such officers.

One is called the open competitive examination to which all candidates satisfying stipulated age and educational qualifications may apply. The final appointees are selected on the basis of the results of this examinations and a viva voce test. Generally University Graduates get selected for appointment.

The other is called the Limited Competitive examination. A certain number of vacancies in the Sri Lanka Administrative Service are reserved for those already in Government service and examinations are held, limiting the candidates for this examination

to those already in the service of Government. Generally the maximum age limit and minimum educational qualifications limits stipulated for candidates for the open competitive examinations are relaxed in the case of candidates for the limited competitive examinations but they also have to go through the viva voce test.

A limited competitive Examination for recruitment of officers to the SLAS to man the Departments of Government in the Tamil North Eastern province was held at Colombo on the 25th of November. Many Tamil officers eligible to sit for this examination had applied from the North Eastern province.

Jaffna District has the largest number of officers amongst the various Districts

in the North Eastern province and so naturally the largest number of applicants for this Examination were from amongst officers in Jaffna. All candidates, however, had to travel to Colombo to sit for the Examination there on the 25th of November. But the Government announced an indefinite curfew in the Jaffna District from midnight of 19th November and the curfew was extended to other Northern Districts of the Kilinochchi, Vavuniya and Mullaitivu for an indefinite period from 22nd November. As a result of the imposition of this curfew a large number of candidates from these

Northern Districts could not travel to Colombo to sit for this Examination. They have thus missed their chances for selection to the highest Administrative Grade in the service of the Government.

It is understood that there were sixty applicants for this Examination from amongst the officers in Jaffna Kachcheri (Secretariat) and only 6 were able to present themselves for the Examination. Ninety four percent of the applicants could not sit for the examination because they were unable to travel to Colombo on account of the curfew. The examination, however, was held as scheduled.

An officer who had sat for the examination and returned to Jaffna stated that in his estimation less than 30% of the applicants alone sat for the examination on the whole. These were officers who had travelled to Colombo long before the scheduled date of the examination so that they could attend to their other matters as well in Colombo.

Similarly the open Competitive Examination for recruitment to the SLAS (North Eastern Province) was held in Colombo on the previous day-i.e. the 24th of November - and a large number of candidates from the North for this Examination too could not travel to Colombo because of the curfew.

Tamils Stabbed to Death in Vavuniya

Reports received here state that on the 24th. November, at the Kandasamykovil surroundings within the Vavuniya town limits ten ordinary Tamil civilians were forcibly arrested from inside their houses and taken away by the Sinhalese Homeguards. These civilians were ordered to lie down on the road, face downwards, and they were all knited to death by these Homeguards. Later their bodies were reported to have been left at the Vavuniya Hospital by the Sri Lankan Police. Nearly twenty shops and houses

were looted and valuables taken away by the Sri Lankan Army at Poonthoddam in Vavuniya.

Young Girl Dies

A young girl named Kandiah Srikantharubi (age 19) of Kaithadi succumbed to the injuries she sustained on the 1st. December when Sri Lankan Helicopters started firing from the air at Chavakachcheri. The death occurred at the Jaffna Teaching Hospital.

Widespread Bomber Attacks

Sri Lankan Air Force Planes carried out widespread bomber attacks in three

A. G. As Divisions in the Jaffna District on 4th. December. At Point Pedro in Vadamaradchey A G A Division, bombs were dropped near the Puloly Velautham College. Five persons including a woman died on the spot. A private medical Dispensary, a Tutor and a private dwelling house together with three shop buildings were damaged. The dead persons are George

T. Rajakumar (20) of Thumpalai West were admitted to the Manthikai Hospital.

In the Thenmaradchy AGA's Division, the bomber attack took place four times. At Sarasalai South, an elderly woman named S. Thirumanchanam (60) died on the spot. Velupplai Karthigesu (65) was admitted to Jaffna Hospital with serious injuries. Also the Varivisuvanathar Sivan Temple at

were admitted to the hospital. Vitharsan died subsequently. At Kopay, a woman named Selvaranjitham (56) sustained injuries.

Bomber Attack at Nainamadu

Sri Lankan Air Force planes carried out severe aerial bombing at Nainamadu, a village about 9 miles away from the Vavuniya town on the Puliyamkulam-Mullaitivu Road. The Nainamadu School buildings were damaged.

Army kills Two Tamils at Batticaloa.

Thangarajah Krishnapillai (36) of Thurainilavanai, a father of two children and Vairamuttu Sivalingam (25) of 30th Colony died as a result of shooting by the Sri Lankan Army. The deceased had gone out to chop wood at the time they were shot. Also Arunachalam Selvaratnam of Koilporaitivu was shot dead by the Sri Lankan Army in the village of Paththaralkaddai.

Sinhala Colonisation in Trincomalee Continues

It is learnt that the Government is taking action to colonise the Trincomalee sub urban areas with Sinhalese. The news indicate that the Government is taking action to settle 250 Sinhalese families in Mud Cove, Anuradhapura junction, Arndankulam and 4th. mile post in the suburbs of the Trincomalee town. It is further learnt that the Government scheme is to give one acre of land to each of these families under the Presidents' Janasavaya Scheme. and also construct houses and wells for each family.

NEWS ROUND UP

Arulpiragasam (57) an English Teacher at the Puloly Velautham College, N. Jeevarajah (32) of Kanpollai, P. Francis (35) a refugee from Myliddy, M. Kanapathipillai (56) of Mathanai and Mrs. Indrany Krishnalingam (55) of 2nd. Cross Road, Point Pedro, The injured Ravichandran (27) of Puloly East and

Chavakachcheri was severely damaged as well as the Railway Station at Chavakachcheri. Raman Mylan (36) and Kumarasamy Rasammah (73) sustained injuries when the bombers attacked the Sivan Temple and were admitted to the hospital. In the Vali-North AGA's Division, the bomber attacks resulted in damages to seven houses in Ampanai and Kollankaladdy areas.

Mother and Daughter Succumb to Shell Attack

The Sri Lankan Army stationed at Palaly started artillery shell attacks from their camp on the evening of 6th December directed towards the villages of Kopay, Urumpirai and Punnalaikkadduvan. At Urumpirai, a mother named Rasammah (60) and her daughter named Saraswathy (33) died on the spot. Thanabalasingam (41) and his two children Thileepan (5 years) and Vitharsan (2 years) sustained injuries and

cash, the payments will be made without delay. But the Government has not made available the cash and the poor and needy sick are denied their due payments.

It is to be noted that the recipients of these different types of payments are very poor people. Some are also victims of dangerous diseases. They have not received payments for five continuous months at a time when the whole of the District is suffering on account of scarcity of food and unparalleled high cost of living.

A total of over Rupees Ten million is just kept back without reaching the poorest segment of Jaffna society because the Government does not release cash.

Now the Post Offices in Jaffna have stated that they have no liquid cash and that the Director of Social Services must pay liquid cash to the Post Offices concerned to enable them to make payments. The P. M. G. has declined to accept cheques from the Department of Social Services in Jaffna as the Post Offices here have no liquid cash.

Local Social Services Department officials are in a quandary. Though they have monies voted by Parliament, they are unable to make payments because of the non-availability of liquid cash.

Some recipients of these allowances have been told by the Local officials that if Government makes available

Charity...

(Continuation of Page 1)
payment too has not been made after July, 1990 and a sum of Rs. 90,000/- is due to these patients up to December, 1990.

The money for these payments has been voted by Parliament under the Ministry of Social Services. Yet the payments have not been made. It is understood that these payments have not been made because of the non-availability of liquid cash.

All these payments are made through various Post Offices in areas where the recipients reside. A cheque for disbursement of the payments is made by the Director of Social Services to the Post Master General.