

# HOT SPRING

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No. 11

Brigadier Lakshman Wijeratne, Officer Commanding the Armed Forces in the Trincomalee District and Richard Wijeyasekera, Superintendent of Police, Trincomalee District were both killed on 17th December when a landmine exploded. These officers were travelling from the Army Camp at Veppankulam to the Army Camp at Pankulam. The incident took place at Pan Madawachchi. Two other officers of the Army and a soldier too were killed in the explosion.

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## HEALTH DEPT. DILEMMA

### RS. 4 MILLION WORTH DRUGS NOT SUPPLIED TO JAFFNA

**Drug supplies to the Jaffna Regional Health Services for the year 1990 have fallen by over rupees 4 million in terms of monetary value.**

Information gathered from sources in the Department of the Regional Director of Health Services indicate the following:-

The Administrative Districts of Jaffna and Kilinochchi both come under the Regional Health Services, Jaffna

The Regional Health Department has one base Hospital at Point Pedro, six District Hospitals, ten Peripheral Units, four Rural Hospitals, twelve Central Dispensaries and Maternity Homes and twentyone Central Dispensaries spread throughout the two Districts.

In addition to the curative medical services rendered by the above institutions, the Department also undertakes preventive medical services. The Anti - Malaria campaign and the Anti T. B. campaign are two important preventive medical services undertaken by the Department.

There are seven Medical Officers of Health working in the field of preventive medical services with a team of para - medical staff such as public Health Inspectors etc. The Jaffna Hospital does not come under the Regional Director but is directly under the Ministry of Teaching Hospitals.

The outbreak of the current war has taxed the resources and energies of the Health Department more than those of any other Department of Government. The primary reason is that the wounded and injured persons have tremendously increased during this period and more often than not the injuries are of a serious and grievous nature. The difficulties of the Department are further enhanced by the dearth of qualified medical staff, lack of medicines, drugs and medical

appliances and the complete non-availability of petrol and diesel and electricity.

The influx of refugees into the District and the setting up of refugee camps in about 105 centres within the region also have added to the responsibilities of the Department.

In 1989 Rupees 8.7 million worth of drugs were supplied to the Regional Director of Health Services by the Director General of Health Services in Colombo. Ordinarily the requirement would be more in the succeeding year. However, the Head Office in Colombo had said that the Regional Office must limit

its requirements to the 1989 figure.

"With the financial allocation of Rupees 8.7 million, we cannot even have the same quantities of drugs we had in 1989 because of the increase in the prices of drugs this year", said an official of the Department. He said that the Department would require over rupees ten million to have the same quantities of drugs as in 1989. But the drug and medicine requirements for this year has increased especially because of the outbreak of the war and the refugee problem. However the Regional Department has not received even the full annual requirements for 1990.

The official also said that generally every year in December the Regional Office receives a buffer stock for the first two months of the following year because the

drug stores are closed for stock-taking and verification after the close of the financial year in December and advance stocks are made for use during this period. This year even the 1990 stock has not been received in full.

The official also said that up to now, drugs to the value of rupees 6.28 million have been received. This would mean that drugs to the value of over rupees 4 million has still to be received to meet the ordinary demands without taking into account the special situation that has been created by the war.

The official further said that UNICEF has donated 80 Set Packs (Containing various items of medical drugs etc.) each worth Rs. 5000/- for use in various Refugee Camps. Two other Non-Governmental Organizations viz. Save the Children

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### HEALTH DEPT. REQUIRES MORE KEROSENE

Kerosene oil is required by the Regional Director of Health Services to put into operation the refrigerators in the various medical care institutions in the Jaffna and Kilinochchi Districts and for lighting and other operations, as there is no supply of electricity.

The refrigerators have to be put to operation for purposes of storage of vaccines. Kerosene oil is also required for the operation of water pumps and generators at these medical care institutions. The average

monthly requirement of kerosene for the region is 1400 litres.

The Regional Director has requested the Director General of Health Services to authorize the issue of the above quantity of kerosene oil early.

In the meantime the Regional Director had earlier received 22 barrels of kerosene oil which have all been distributed amongst medical care institutions for purposes of putting the refrigerators into operation and lighting the hospitals. Further supplies are urgently needed.

Indian Army in the Vanni District.

Her brother Captain Vasu died at Kaithady in 1987 when a bomb taken for the attack of the Navatkuli Camp of the Sri Lankan Army exploded killing Captain Vasu and some other Tiger leaders.

Major James another brother of Captain Sunthari died at Atchvely on 9th August this year when the Sri Lankan Air Force bombed the Atchvely.

Captain Sunthari also functioned as the Assistant General Secretary of the People's Front of the Liberation Tigers. She undertook research studies in social and economic problems and helped a great deal in getting the people's participation in the Tiger civilian activities.

The LTTE salutes the dead heroines.

### LTTE SALUTES DEAD HEROINES

The reports state that the Army stationed at Kadduvan and Kurumbasiddy mini-camps made efforts to move forward and a battle ensued between the LTTE and the Sri Lankan Army on 19th December.

The LTTE reported the death of Captain Sunthari and seven other female cadres.

A statement issued by the LTTE Head Quarters states that Captain Sunthari joined the LTTE in 1984 and after completing her period of military training, was appointed to be in charge of the Women's Wing of the LTTE at Thenmaradchey in 1987. She actively participated in the battles against the



Captain Sunthari and seven other female LTTE cadres died in combat on the 19th December, at Valigamam North.

### In the footsteps of Captain Miller



### Black Tiger Lt. Col. Borg

(M. Arasarathinam of Chemamadu)

The photograph of yet another Black Tiger who led the Tigers to the final resounding victory at Mankulam.

(Story on Page 5)



# When is Tamil Eelam Achievable?

My role is neither that of a prophet nor an astrologer. An answer could be arrived at only through a reasoned, logical analysis. Various factors, Geography, History, Geopolitics, have made the life of the Eelam Tamils inextricably linked with developments in two polities—the Sri Lankan, because we have shared the island with the Sinhalese for several centuries and we are still part of it, the Indian, because the country has been our 'emotional Motherland' for an equal span of history and also it is no longer possible to delink our problems from India's strategic concerns in the region. Irrespective of the stakes we have, we do not have a share of power in the determination of policies in the two countries, and hence to a large extent the determination of our own future depends on the behaviour patterns of the rulers or ruling classes of the two countries. But even those who wield power in Colombo or New Delhi, despite the accepted claims to their sovereignty, are not free agents to pursue policies as they like. They are governed by various constraints—domestic opinion, international opinion, the interaction between other countries in the region, the pressures or otherwise of these facts, and not by skirting this truth that my belief in "the inevita-

bility of Tamil Eelam" rests. As to when Tamil Eelam is achievable, in five, ten or fifty years as my friend cynically asks, that depends not only on the above factors, but on the degree of commitment to the Eelam objective by the many Tamil groups now jostling for power, by the strength of conviction of all of us, our own determination, our staying power and our political and diplomatic skill

actions determine his nature rather than the other way round"

If our nature were to decide our actions, let us ask ourselves a question and give ourselves the honest answer: "What has been the nature of our people?" Under the British, we were good quill-drivers, hard-working and obedient servants of the Crown, and a meek and timid people. Our whole

the more frequently the Sinhala mobs set upon us because they knew our nature. But today, what does a distinguished foreign observer think of our "nature"? Ex-Indian Foreign Secretary A. P. Venkateswaran writing in THE WEEK (June, 18, 1989) makes his observations:

"... the fighting capacity shown by LTTE may be expected to act as sufficient deterrent to any temptation on the part of the Sri Lankan security forces to attempt once again what they had failed to do earlier. Even without the help or sympathy of their brethren in Tamil Nadu, and certainly in the face of the punishing attacks by the IPKF which have continued to this day, the Sri Lankan Tamils have established a reputation for fighting that places them squarely in the category of a martial race, if indeed there is such a category".

Well, haven't we got ourselves a brand new image, we who have been a timid, compromising, escapist people? How did that happen? It happened because our actions over the past several years (at least the actions of some of our people) have endowed ourselves with a new nature. What were these actions?

1. The proclamation of the "Adanga Thamilan" (Tamils won't be put down) "War Cry" by the late C. Suntharalingam in the 60's. (a prophet who was mocked by several fellow Tamils during his life time).
2. The one-man revolt within the Federal Party by the then party theoretician and M.P. for Kayts, Mr. V. Navaratnam who held that an independent Tamil homeland was the answer, not Federalism (a man who was unfortunately ahead of his time and was effectively silenced by the late A. Amirthalingam with party support).
3. The Tamil Eelam Resolution of 1976 that served notice on the Sri Lanka Government that we are no longer prepared to be under its heel.
4. The Tamil Eelam mandate that we gave the TULF leadership at the 1977 elections.
5. Consequent to its failure or unwillingness to carry forward that mandate, the emergence of armed youth militancy.
6. The subsequent failure of sections of Tamil militants

themselves in carrying forward the struggle, and the emergence of the LTTE under the inspiring leadership of Pirabakaran as the only force to remain committed to the goal of Tamil Eelam.

It is these actions, at all times by a minority of men, which have now brought us the image of a "Martial race" which frankly many of us who belong to that "race" do not deserve. My friend who wants to know whether we can achieve Tamil Eelam in 50 years must analyse the above pattern of events carefully. First, we mocked at the man who first brought the very word "Tamil Eelam" into our political vocabulary. Then we drove into the political wilderness the other man who said that was the only solution. Then we clung on to the very men who weakened the cause of Tamil Eelam by talking of viable alternatives that never came. And today many of us (including several expatriates in the West) are doing our damndest to weaken and intrigue against the only force that remains committed to this goal. May I therefore first invite my friend to try to find an answer to this question, about 5 years or 50 years, in the light of the above behaviour patterns of our own people? I have my own answer, based on the strong belief and on historical truth, that the real achievers in the world are always in the minority, and that they win through, as long as there is a dominant mass of opinion that supports them. Talking of his own people, the American Negro, Martin Luther King once said:

"Like all people, they (the blacks) have differing personalities, diverse financial interests and varied aspirations. There are Negroes who will never fight for freedom. There are Negroes who will seek profit for themselves alone from the struggle. There are even some Negroes who will co-operate with the oppressors. These facts should distress no one. Every minority and every people has its share of opportunists, profiteers, freeloaders and escapists..... No one can pretend that because a people may be oppressed, every individual member is virtuous and worthy. The real issue is whether in the great mass the dominant characteristics are decency, honour and courage."

TO THE QUESTION "WHEN IS TAMIL EELAM ACHIEVABLE?" — KURUSHETARAN, writing in his series of articles entitled "The inevitability of Tamil Eelam" published in the Tamil Voice International London October 1989 wrote as follows:

We are reproducing it here by courtesy of Tamil Voice International, London.

(an area where our expat activists have a crucial role to play) in seeing to it that the interests of the various governments converge, or are made to converge, into a position where our goal of Tamil Eelam becomes realisable. In short, while, 'the inevitability of Tamil Eelam' is an existentialist fact now, the time frame in translating the inevitability into accomplishment is largely in our hands. By 'existentialist', one means the modern belief and teaching of philosophers like Kierkegaard and Satre that "man is alone in a meaningless world, that he is completely free to choose his actions, and that his

concern in life could have been expressed in one word—security. What has been the nature of our people after independence when for the first time our sense of security was threatened? Every time goondas and ruffians attacked us, our first and last impulse was to run, either to Jaffna or Batticaloa or Trincomalee or to the nearest refugee camp. That has been the pattern of behaviour since 1956: except in a few instances in Batticaloa during the 1958 riots when some Tamils there fought back. We never had the mettle in us even to defend ourselves. It was not surprising therefore that the more we ran,

## PROVINCIAL COUNCIL AND LAND POLICY

Land Policy pertaining to a Provincial Council is spelt out in Appendix II of the 13th Amendment to the Constitution.

As far as the Tamils are concerned, land is the most important aspect of their problems, even more important than their Language. Even if the Tamil Language is overshadowed, by the Sinhala Language the Tamils will be able to assert their rights one day for their Language as the Provincial Government of Quebec in Canada had done in banning English on Commercial Signs (News week - July 2nd, 1990, page 16). It would be appropriate to point out here that in respect of Tamil the 13th Amendment to the Constitution states:

- (2) Tamil shall also be an official language;
- (3) English shall be the link language;
- (4) Parliament shall by law provide for the implementation of the provisions of this Chapter.

Parliament has still not acted on (4) above and therefore even today Sinhala remains the sole official language.

In Appendix II Article 2.5 and 2.7 are vital to the Tamils and as such these two Articles are reproduced in full below:

### A. Chelliah

- 2.5. The distribution of all allotments of such land in such projects will be on the basis of National ethnic ratio. In the distribution of allotments according to such ratios, priority will be given to persons who are displaced by the project, landless of the District in which the project is situated and thereafter the landless of the Province.
- 2.7. The distribution of allotments in such projects on the basis of the aforesaid principles would be done as far as possible so as not to disturb very significantly the demographic pattern of the pro-

vince and in accordance with the principle of ensuring community cohesiveness in human settlements.

The words "as far as possible" permits anything and everything. If the demographic pattern of a province has to remain undisturbed, two principles have to be adhered to. One, distribution of allotments should be carried out on the basis of the ethnic ratio of the province; and two when settlers are brought from outside, the outsiders must conform to the ethnic ratio of the province. Unless these two principles are strictly adhered to "so as not to disturb very significantly the demographic pattern of the province" will be a mockery. Article 2.5 spells out priority to displaced persons, landless of the District and thereafter landless of the province. When this priority is over, it will be the landless of the other provinces which means Sinhalese.

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The Mallakam Rural Development Society has sent a letter to His Excellency R. Premadasa, President of Sri Lanka. Copies of this letter have also been sent to all Heads of Foreign States, Heads of Foreign Missions in Colombo, Ministers and Members of Parliament of Sri Lanka and to the media. The letter has been signed by the President of the Society Mr. S. Sribaskaran. We reproduce excerpts from the letter for the benefit of our readers.

It is very necessary that a distinction should be drawn between the J. V. P and the L. T. T. E. though the use of arms by both these organisations may give rise to the misconception that their objectives are identical.

The J. V. P's aim was to uproot the Government and capture power.

But quite differently, the L. T. T. E. consisting of Tamil youth including large numbers of flowering females felt that Freedom for the Tamils could be realized only by fighting the oppressors and chose to take up arms.

This spontaneous eruption in the minds of the Tamil youth was caused by a sense of long and continuous frustration as a result of the Government scheming State-craft in introducing the Sinhala Only Act in 1956, the state aided colonization of Vavuniya South and throughout the Eastern Province which governmental action gradually deprived the Tamil youth of opportunities for employment. Another scheme in the sly was the media-wise standardisation for admissions to the Universities. Preceding these artful designs was the disfranchisement of the Tamils in the Estates.

Coming to the point at issue, we regret to state that a military offensive has been let loose in the North Eastern Province maddened by racial prejudices. This hysterical attack has taken a hitherto unheard of war strategy in which a giant Air Force, aided by gun boats and cannon artilleries, conduct an immoral war on an unarmed civilian population, in the guise of fighting the L. T. T. E. though fully conscious of the fact that the L. T. T. E., is a guerrilla force without bombers, gun-boats or cannon

artilleries, and as such elusive to be identified as targets.

It is an open secret that except for a few frontal attacks, the L. T. T. E. could not be had on the hip by the Armed Forces.

## FIRST ACCEPT RIGHT OF SELF - DETERMINATION OF TAMILS THEN INVITE LTTE FOR TALKS

### Mallakam Rural Development Society appeals to President Premadasa

The veracity of this statement can be understood if a correct analysis of the killings in the attacks is studied. True it is that the chivalrous Tigers had so far lost a few top-ranking fighters. But that number is but a decimal of that of the Armed Forces.

Who then have been killed and wounded in the continuing offensive - the raving raids from above the clouds and blind folded bombing and artillery shelling? And our unmistakable answer is that a very large number consist of civilians - mostly invalids and the handicapped old, the women at work in the kitchens, the children clinging on to their mothers.

The North East today presents a ghastly spectacle of long stretches of debris with storeyed buildings, fashionable flats, recently built residential bungalows, educational institutions, medical centres, homes for the aged and destitutes, welfare centres for the deaf and the blind, nursing establishments for orphans and of all, places of worship inclusive of some very ancient Hindu Shrines and Churches.

And this has happened with a Government, priding in a text book tradition of Pancha Cheela, looking on amusingly but approvingly.

Here is a war, undeclared as far as records go, but really with the declared determination to destroy the Tamil Race or in the alternative to egg them out of the country.

Your Excellency also seem to have sanctioned sanctions against the indigenous population of the North East by strangling them with economic opp-

ression. Necessaries of life are beyond the reach of Tamil people. —Rice, Flour, Sugar, Milk foods, Fuel, Electricity and even candles. Liquid cash is totally non-existent. Those in the service of Government and pensioners, most of them grown grey with old age and enfeebled by lack of nutrition are unable to realize whatever is due to them.

The unkindest cut of all is the enforced darkness manoeuvred by the destruction of Power Stations. Adding fuel to the fire, the Armed Forces hamper all attempts at restoring these plants.

The North East had been there from times earlier than the period of history recording as the Home-land of the Tamil people. Hence it is not mere tradition, nor even hereditary right but an irrefutable fact that it must continue to be Tamilakam-Home-land of the Tamils.

Nationhood has been constitutionally well-defined and by that guiding clarification which has international recognition, the successive generations of Tamils who have been exclusively living in the North East possessing it as it were, do become a Nation.

And as such, the Tamils of the North East become entitled to all rights inherently indicated by Nation-hood, including Self-determination.

It is crystal clear that there is only one group of Tamils who, by dedicated devotion, for nearly two decades, to the idea of emancipation, have climbed up to the summit as a FORCE to be reckoned with. The L. T. T. E., as they are known by these attractive abbreviations the world over,

are not mere desperados. Theirs is martyrdom. Indomitable courage has enabled them to keep at bay the Government's Armed Forces notwithstanding the senseless and surreptitious attacks by air and by sea. This L. T. T. E. have now, within the all too short space of nearly six months, humbled the Armed Forces and made them learn that they had not been missing targets but have been unable to spot the L. T. T. E. at all and that they have been spraying the bombs at random. The achievement of the

Hence the loss of faith in the U. N. P. and the S. L. F. P and the mandate given to the Tamil Leadership (T. U. L. F) in the 1977 General Election as EYLOM.

The abrogation of the Bandaranaike — Chelvanayakam Pact in 1957 and Dudley — Chelvanayakam Pact in 1965 is a glaring instance of the brazen-faced disregard by the ruling parties of governmental commitments to the solving of the problem of the Minorities. The Thimbu talks were again a copying of the earlier strategems employed by the Ruling Parties to hood-wink the Tamil spokesmen. And quite recently the tell-tale talks with the L. T. T. E. for about fifteen long months. This abject scorn for moral obligations has a touch of the fox and crane design to deceive each other by Hitler and Stalin in 1939 immediately preceding the second world war.

We, however, regret that in stating plain facts we may have detailed unpleasant aspects, however disagreeable they may be to Your Excellency at first glance, and we are confident that Your Excellency would be only too willing to call for a cease-fire and invite the L. T. T. E. to the negotiating table. Such a courageous move would not merely redound credit to you, but would also enable you to be a working partner in a mission of peace.

### Provincial...

(Continuation of Page 2)

Already the former Eastern province is full of Sinhalese Colonists (1946-8.4% 1981-4.9%) This in the face of strong opposition from the Tamil speaking people of the Northern and Eastern Provinces. Now after the 13th Amendment everything can be done constitutionally and if any Member of Parliament raises any objection "well, well you have taken an oath to uphold the Constitution" will shut his mouth.

The result will be that before the turn of the century the entire North Eastern province except perhaps Little Jaffna Peninsula will without any doubt whatever, be Sinhalese majority areas. The irony of it is, there are still a few who believe in the daily Bana preachings of the President and think we should have trusted him and gone along with him.

Therefore it is either AYBOWAN now for Tamils in this Island or DO OR DIE. There is no other choice.

### The Drowned Tamil Refugees

Once more a bad civil war has broke out.  
Hence more powers are vested to forces.  
Opposing Tamils have changed their courses  
Imposing bombers are seen above throughout.  
Bombers, shells and shots have killed all without  
Somber mood, and broke houses to pieces.  
For safety and security causes,  
More folk have fled to India without  
Fear in fishing boats braving high sea.  
Nearly one hundred and twenty thousand  
Refugees have crossed the turbulent sea  
A few refugees drowned and died on sand  
Alas! many may die to live as free  
Class of people, in this tiny island.

Chundikuli K. Yogarajah



# "WORK HALF DONE IS NO WORK DONE"

— Jaffna Citizens' Committee

## MEMORANDUM TO PRESIDENT

The Jaffna Citizens' Committee in a letter addressed to His Excellency R. Premadasa states that at a conference held by the Director of the Jaffna Teaching Hospital with the ICRC representatives, the medical staff and the representatives of the Citizens' Committee, it transpired that-

(a) Supplies of medicines for the 3rd and 4th quarter have been only partially sent. But the drugs received so far in respect of dressing, surgical materials, anti-biotics and life-saving drugs are not adequate enough to meet the pressing demand.

(b) Adequate supplies of diesel necessary for the Generator have not been received. Normal requirements of diesel for the Generator have to be doubled now as there is no electricity available.

(c) Fuel required for (i) ambulances to transport patients from peripheral hospital and (ii) transporting staff who stay in distant places and who cannot cycle.

(d) the peripheral hospitals are not protected and not supplied with adequate medicines.

(e) No ambulance-boats under ICRC protection are available to transport patients in serious condition from the islands off the Jaffna peninsula.

(f) ICRC representatives are in contact with the Joint Operation Command for the transport of adequate supplies of drugs and diesel as transport of the full quantities authorised are not allowed.

The Citizens' Committee has appealed to the President to take immediate action to supply drugs, dressings and surgical materials. The Committee further stresses that it has come to understand that drugs issued are not being allowed to be transported even under ICRC banner. The Citizens' Committee has also asked for adequate diesel for hospital generators and fuel for hospital ambulances and vehicles for the transport of patients and staff. The Citizens Committee

has also suggested that the C.T.B. be supplied fuel to operate services for the transport of patients and those accompanying them. They have also suggested the filling of vacancies of specialist grade medical officers nursing and other technical staff and action to initiate training of para-medical and technical grade personnel if the vacancies cannot be filled immediately. The Committee has also asked that the incomplete hospital building be completed soon as a number of buildings are damaged by bombing and shelling and are beyond repairs.

The Citizens' Committee has thanked the President for allowing the Jaffna Hospital to function but regrets that the benefits of the hospital are not available as yet. Any work half done is no work done, says the Committee and requests immediate action to make available the requirements listed by the Committee.

It has also regretted that there is no material improve-

ment in the supply of essential food items and cash for the Banks in the Jaffna District.

In regard to food, for the last six months, four weeks' dry rations have only been received in Jaffna - the fourth week supply is just being unloaded, the delay being caused by the imposition of indefinite curfew and bombing of the Point Pedro harbour area. In regard to Cash for Banks, the Committee says that Rs. 163 million per month is required for government salaries and pensions alone and another Rs 100 million per month for public transactions. But only Rs. 50 million has been allowed last month. Even all salary cheques and pension vouchers could not be cashed with this amount.

Following the battle at Mankulam, indiscriminate bombing, artillery shellings and helicopter strafings have been intensified almost daily on civilian targets.

The Citizens' Committee reiterates its appeals that immediate action be taken to resolve the disastrous conflict and crisis peacefully so that the Tamil Speaking people also can enjoy their due rights and long sought for freedom.

The letter is dated 1st. December, 1990.

## THIS AND THAT

— by Rambler —

### Foreign Media & Others

We have in this country the representatives of All India Radio, BBC and the International Red Cross as well as other agencies but for the purpose of this commentary let us confine ourselves to All India Radio, the BBC.

### All India Radio -

This media has an individual called variously Kurupuswamy and Karupuswamy by All India Radio itself but what actually this Swamy is we do not know. Even though his name sounds Tamil, he could be an anti-Tamil somebody. But the sad fact is that this individual is either not doing his job properly or he has been instructed to ignore the actual events and only put out the official hand-outs of information granted by the Sri Lankan Government. If that is so, then it would be of interest to find out the source from where such instructions emanated - was it from New Delhi or Colombo? It is needless to emphasise that this media has fallen flat on its face in reporting the events in Sri Lanka since June 1990.

### BBC -

This, the premier news establishment in the world, too has followed in the footsteps of All India Radio and chosen to black out news about the events in this country. In June when Tamils were being slaughtered like rats in large numbers - the BBC in London was giving great prominence to the fact that anti government demonstration in Rumania's University Square was suppressed by the ruling group, with the assistance of baton wielding miners. When private homes quite away from the Jaffna Fort were being flattened by the heroes of the Sri Lanka air force, we had this premier news media giving a belated report and that too merely stating buildings around the fort were also bombed, thus giving the impression to the listener that they were nondescript building and not residential homes. It is true that the previous representative of the BBC here was given the rough heave-ho by the local gestapo but if that has frightened the present BBC man, then it would be far better if he packed his bags and quit the country voluntarily, because then the people in Britain and the world at large will know that this premier news media is not represented here in Sri Lanka.

## You, can't have your own money!

### A desperate pensioner demands it of Bank Boss

Mr. K. C. Adiathan of "Advocate's Lodge", Valvettiturai, a Government pensioner, is desperate because he is not able to draw cash from his own account at his Bank for over 3 months.

A tired, Mr. Adiathan addresses the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Bank of Ceylon, Colombo as follows hoping something to turn up:-

I wish to bring to your notice that for more than 3 months, I have not been able to cash a cheque at your Point Pedro Branch. I am maintaining a Current Account for the last 30 years and my monthly pension is credited to this account.

My pensions for July and August 90 were credited to my account on 20.8 & 11.10 respectively, I have so far not been able to withdraw any cash from the account.

On 11.10 I spoke to the Manager about this matter. He told me that the Head Office in Colombo had informed him that no cash would be sent to enable constituents to withdraw cash from their accounts. He also told me

that he had been instructed not to cash cheques. Is this true?

Although the Sri Lankan Government is at war with the LTTE, the S. L. Government has still not abdicated its right to govern the North and East. As such it is the bounden duty of the Bank to provide normal business including cash transactions. It is also the bounden duty of the Government to provide the necessary security to the Bank to transport cash to the North and East.

If the Government is not able to do this, then it must say so and abdicate its right to govern the North and East and permit the people of the North and East to form their own Government and govern themselves.

I have been undergoing financial difficulties as a result of not being able to withdraw cash from my account for the last 3 months or so and I hold the Government and the Bank responsible for this. My pensions for September and October would be credited

to my account in the next few days and I would request you to make the necessary arrangements to enable me to withdraw at least Rs. 5000/- in the form of cash from my Account No. P. 559.

I regret very much for sending this hand written

OUR READERS SAY

## DISCRIMINATION

The Editor, "Hot Spring"

May I bring to your notice a discrimination perpetrated by the Department of Immigration and Emigration in the matter of Pass Port Applications made by the Tamils.

They are being required to submit an English Translation for all Tamil documents submitted. This requirement is against the spirit of the Constitution for the Tamil citizens have been permitted to make their applications in TAMIL.

Further an applicant is required to submit a Certifi-

letter. I am unable to use my electric typewriter due to the barbaric and atrocious behaviour of the Security Forces who have deliberately sabotaged the power supply to the Jaffna Peninsula by damaging the high tension power lines.

Thanking you,  
K. C. Adiathan

cate of Character from the Grama Sevaka in form General - G. A. M. 3 which has to be countersigned by the AGA of the area. In Column 3 (a) of the said certificate, it may be noted that the Sinhala and English versions are at variance with the Tamil translation. The query in Tamil is: 'whether the applicant has been CHARGED in a Court of Law.' In English it is whether the applicant has been CONVICTED. Moreover the said certificate should be counter signed by the AGA within 3 days of the certificate being received by him.

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# MANKULAM BATTLE SCENERIO

## 110 Sri Lankan Soldiers and 62 Tigers Die L.T.T.E. Recovers Ten Million Worth Arms and Ammunitions

110 soldiers of the Sri Lankan Army died and over 153 arms and other ammunitions were recovered from the Army. The value of these arms and ammunitions recovered from the Army Camp at Mankulam is estimated to value Rs 10 million. So states a report published by the LTTE on the occasion of the completion of the first month after the successful attack

carried out by the LTTE on the Army Camp at Mankulam

The report further states that 62 LTTE cadres including 17 female cadres and Black Tiger Lt. Col. Borg (M. Arasarathinam of Chemamadu) also died on the is side.

The successful attack on the Army Camp at Mankulam started at 7.00 p.m. on 2nd November and continued for

32 hours before the LTTE captured the camp. at 3.15 a.m. on 24th November.

The arms and ammunitions recovered include one 50 Calibre ant-aircraft gun, 22 L.M.G. and a number of other firearms valued at Rs. 10 million.

The Mankulam Army Camp had over 300 men of the Sri Lankan Army. 110 of these were killed. The rest

abandoned the Camp and ran into the jungles nearby.

The Mankulam Army Camp had been one of the largest in the north. On the 16th June, 30 LTTE cadres died in their first attempt to capture this Camp. There after a further 16 LTTE cadres died in combat at sporadic intervals before the final attack began on 22nd November.

Thus a total of 108 LTTE cadres died in the battle for the capture of the Mankulam Army Camp, during a period of six months.

The LTTE claims that its successful assault on the Army Camp demonstrates the evolution of the group from a guerrilla force into a conventional army representing the Tamil National Liberation Army.

## The Mankulam Sri Lankan Army Camp

### Strategic importance

Mankulam is strategically situated. The road from Thunukkai in West Vanni, the road from Mullaitivu in the East, the road from Jaffna in the North and the main road from Vavuniya in the South, all meet at Mankulam. Mankulam, as it is, can be described as the heart of the Vanni District.

An Army Camp was first set up at Mankulam in 1971. It was then really put up to assist the Army at Akkarayankulam where JVP suspects were held under detention. It was later abandoned.

The Camp was again set up in 1978 to protect the Mankulam Police Station from possible attacks by Tamil militants. It was then a small camp but grew in size with the growth of militancy amongst Tamil youths.

The Camp was so strategically situated that it could control all the main roads to the various towns in the North. In fact the Sinhala Army controlled the entire transport services to all parts of the North from this strategically advantageous position. When the current war broke out in June this year, the Mankulam Police surrendered to LTTE on 13th June without a shot being fired. Mankulam Army Camp remained.

### First Attack

The LTTE launched its first attack on the Army Camp on the 16th June and did capture two sentry points of the Sri Lankan Army and some arms but could not capture the Army Camp. The LTTE lost 30 of its cadres but continued to keep vigil on the Camp. The LTTE was able to prevent

helicopters landing inside the Camp at that time. But on 17.7.90 the Army landed troops by helicopters elsewhere in the forests and after some initial encounters the Army landed in the forests succeeded in joining Forces with the Army stationed in the Camp.

Thereafter the Sri Lankan Air Force started heavy aerial bombing to clear the LTTE from the area and extend the area of the Camp. In the process the Army was able to extend the limits of the Camp.

### Army Camp Extended and Strengthened

The Army Camp which covered an area of only 200 yards long and 100 yards wide was extended to an area 1500 yards long and 1000 yards wide and containing about 200 acres of land area after the aerial attacks. Also many buildings - a Convent, a Church, 2 Hindu Temples, Bank, Post Office, Milk Board, Paddy Marketing Board, Hospital and some private buildings came within the extended Camp area. After the extension of the Camp area, the helicopters were able to land and take off from within the Camp area. The Army had put up four mini-camps and 72 sentry points to protect the main Mankulam Army Camp from LTTE attacks. Thus the Mankulam Army Camp appeared impregnable but the LTTE continued to keep vigil on the Army Camp from retreated positions but the Camp itself was not under complete siege as such from the LTTE.

### Second Attack

The LTTE announced the commencement of the Heroes' Day week from 22nd

November and on that day at midnight, the LTTE cadres started attacking all the 72 sentry points around the Sri Lankan Army Camps simultaneously. The battle continued throughout the night during which time the LTTE captured many arms & sentry points. At the same time the LTTE was also losing its fighters.

On the early morning of the 23rd November, the Sri Lankan Air Force started attacking the advancing LTTE. The LTTE was compelled to vacate a few sentry points it had captured but was determined to hold on to some more important points and hold on they did. Not only that, the LTTE continued fire on the Army that had re-taken up positions captured by the LTTE and abandoned as a result of heavy aerial bombing.

The LTTE offensive took place simultaneously with the air attack on the LTTE. The fight went on for the whole day - the Army beginning to reel towards evening, though supported from the air all the time.

Around 8.00 p.m. on 23rd, the LTTE again took the major offensive, firing shells from their positions towards the Main Camp. The offensive continued till 1.00 a.m. on the 24th.

### Final assault

Sharpe at 1.00 a.m. Black Tiger Lt Col Borg drove a vehicle laden with high explosives direct into the Main Camp. At 1.03 a.m. the main Army Camp was no more and so was Lt. Col. Borg. The Main Camp was a heap of debris and the LTTE later recovered the dead body of their Field Leader Lt. Col. Borg a few feet away from where the vehicle exploded.

The LTTE successfully entered the Camp and the remaining Sinhala soldiers escaped to the forests. They had earlier dumped weapons they could not carry along with them into a well which indicates they had prepared for the abandonment of the Camp before the final assault.

The LTTE started to round up the soldiers who had run into the forests. They were able to hunt down some and recover their arms. The people rendered help to the LTTE cadres in the search for the running soldiers.

### Health Dept....

(Continuation of Page 1)

Fund (U. K.) and the ICRC also have donated small quantities of drugs for use of the refugees.

The private sector has not received any drugs ever since the war broke out - the reason being that they are not allowed to bring any drugs North of Vavuniya by the Army. This has resulted in even ordinarily available Panadol, Aspirin & Vitamins too completely going out of the market, not to speak of other urgent and important drugs.

Asked about the Staff requirement, the official confirmed that the full requirement of staff are not available. He referred specially to the lack of Doctors and Paramedical Personnel such as Public Health Inspectors.

It is to be noted that there is no Orthopaedic Surgeon or Neuro-Surgeon in the Region whose services at the moment are

Some running Sri Lankan soldiers were able to establish contact with the Army and twice helicopters picked up some wandering soldiers in the forests first on the 26th and again on the 28th. But an attempt by the Sri Lankan Army at Vavuniya to come to the aid of their counterparts through the forests was repulsed by the LTTE.

Thus ended the Mankulam battle begun on the 22nd with 108 LTTE men laying their lives for Tamil Eelam and complete victory for the LTTE.

(From an official report published by the LTTE)

required more than at any time. There is no eye surgeon either under the Regional Director of Health Services.

### Brig....

(Continuation of Page 1)

Brigadier Lakshman Wijeratne and Richard Wijeyasekera S.P. have been posthumously awarded the Ranks of Major General and Deputy Inspector General of Police respectively by the Government.

### HOT SPRING

Weekly Paper from Jaffna

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# HOT SPRING

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## Genocide - the Indirect Way

Reports published in the columns of this paper as well as in other Tamil dailies published from Jaffna indicate -

- (a) that the people in Jaffna are fast moving towards facing a famine;
- (b) that people would soon succumb to ill - health for want of medical supplies.

Killing people by starvation and by the denial of medical supplies is another form of genocide, when it is directed against a particular people.

We know the Armed Forces of the Government had killed thousands of Tamils and are continuing to do so in what is called its war efforts. This is, of course, direct killing.

The Government also seems to achieve the same results - genocide by indirect methods.

We today publish the report of the death of 32 expectant mothers whose lives could have been saved if they had been transported to hospitals in time.

Most essential items of consumer goods are not available. Where limited quantities are available, the prices are beyond the reach of anybody. And nobody has money either.

What is the cause? The Government is entirely responsible for this situation.

Trade is centralized in Colombo. The Government sees to it that goods do not flow into the Tamil areas. This is done indirectly through the agency of the Armed Forces stationed in the border areas. The Army does not allow lorries laden with goods to pass North of avuniya. So goods cannot come into the Tamil territory. The Vavuniya bottle-neck has been deliberately created to starve the Tamil people.

Of course the Government is also concerned about international repercussions. So it pretends to provide food for the people of the North.

Four weeks dry rations have been sent to the North so far to cover a period of six and a half months. But strangely enough the fourth supply is styled 42nd supply. Surely a ruse to cheat the world. One is ashamed to find that one cannot buy even a Panadol tablet, if one is sick. Needless to speak of other important drugs and medicines.

After the outbreak of the war in June, 1990 not a single private dealer in medicines and drugs has been able to bring even a rupee worth of medicine into Jaffna from Colombo.

Does the Government think that these ordinary medicines and drugs can be converted into arms and ammunitions in the North-East by the LTTE?

The simple conclusion to which one can come is that the Government deliberately prevents the flow of drugs into the Tamil territory to ensure that people die for want of medical attention and necessary medicines.

Perhaps the Government thinks that starvation coupled with non-availability of medicines and drugs would ensure the slow demise of the Tamil people.

This is intentional murder. When it affects a people it is nothing short of genocide.

The irony of all is the Government has a Commissioner-General of Essential Services in Colombo

What essential service can there be except to provide food and medicines to a war torn area?

Time has come for countries of the World to ask what this Government has done to provide food and medicines to the Tamils.

After all this is a beggar Government - begging for all things - from food to fire - arms

The donor countries and the World at large have a right to know.

## 32 Pregnant Mothers Die

### Regional Health Office Has not a Drop of Fuel

The Regional Director of Health Services has in his charge eleven regular ambulances and three other vehicles are used as ambulances but at least 32 mothers have died up to the end of November 1990 because they could not be transported in time in the case of complicated deliveries.

There are eighteen vehicles, eleven of which are regular ambulances and three others which are used as ambulances for the transport of patients. These vehicles are stationed at different hospitals within the region but none of these are on the road because the Regional Director has not been supplied with fuel to run these vehicles since the North Eastern war broke out.

At least 32 mothers have died up to the end of November, 1990 because they could not be transported to hospitals in time in the case of complicated deliveries. By the general standards in this region this is a very high figure.

The average distances run by these vehicles during normal times were over 10,000 Kilometres per month. At the present state of war and its consequences, the average distances per month would be much higher.

The Regional Director of Health Services, Jaffna requires monthly the following quantities of fuel based on the monthly average distances done by these vehicles -

Diesel	- 1,355 litres
Petrol	- 470 litres
Engine Oil	- 28 litres

In addition, the Regional Director also has a lorry which is used for the transport of essential items of drugs, vaccines and 'Ibriposha' to the various institutions under him in such distant

places as Kilinochchi, Poonakari and Akkarayan-kulam.

The estimated diesel requirements for this lorry is 200 litres and 03 litres of Engine oil monthly.

After the outbreak of the current war and stoppage by Government of fuel oil supplies to Jaffna, the Regional Director of Health Services has not received even a drop of diesel or petrol though he has made fervent appeals to the Director-General of Health Services in Colombo for the supply of fuel oil.

The ambulance vehicles available with the Regional Director cannot be used to transport even urgent cases such as medical emergencies, injuries resulting from firing and explosion and pregnant mothers who require specialized care.

The death toll due to maternal causes resulting from pregnancy and delivery has reached the "very high figure" of 32 up to the end of November, 1990. "It has been found on analysis that the deaths were due to non-availability of transport facilities due to lack of fuel" said an official of the Department of the Regional Director of Health Services and concluded:

"As no public transport is available in the region, the necessity to have fuel in the hospitals for transport of patients in need of urgent

treatment is all the more important", said the same official. The 32 cases of death of pregnant mothers are those that came to light. There may be other cases which have not been reported and verified.

It is understood that appeals for fuel to hospital ambulances have also been sent to the Joint Operations Command in Colombo, The Commissioner-General of Essential Services, Colombo the Government Agent and the ICRC in Jaffna without any avail.

### Aerial Bombing at Nanattan

Sri Lankan bombers carried out attacks in the villages of Nanattan and Achchankulam in the Mannar District on 7th. December. At Nanattan four bombs were dropped. A school boy named Jeevan sustained severe injuries. An Amman Temple was also severely damaged. No reports have been received about personal injuries at Achchankulam.

### Discrim . . . .

(Continuation of Page 4)

There is also the added difficulty that all communications by the Department are in Sinhala. The Tamil applicant may not be conversant in Sinhala and may have to go a long way to obtain a translation.

Such difficulties which befall the applicant may be eased or ironed out if communication is made to the Applicant in Tamil. If the Government has the interests of the Tamil Citizens at heart, as it always purports to do, the hardships of the Tamils could be eased.

I trust you will give the desired publicity to this flagrant discrimination.

J. ARULANANDAM  
Palaly South, Vayavilan.

A Picture of the Arms captured by LTTE from the Mankulam Sri Lanka Army Camp.

