

## HOT SPRING

Vol. 3

28th February 1993

No. 20

## Not Dark Days but Great Days

Do not let us speak of darker days; let us rather speak of sterner days. These are not dark days; these are great days - the greatest days our Country has ever lived, and we must all thank God that we have been allowed, each of us according to our stations to play a part in making these days memorable in the history of our race.

Sir Winston Churchill  
(Harrow School, 1941)

# SEVEN HOUR BATTLE IN VALIKAMAM WEST

## Sri Lankan Army Retreats to Camp

Fierce battle raged between the LTTE and the combined armed forces of the Sri Lankan Government for seven hours in Valikamam West Division at the end of which the Sri Lankan Army retreated to its camp at Mathagal.

On the early morning of Tuesday at 5.30 a.m. Sri Lankan Army at Mathagal moved on the beach road there towards Thiruvadinilai, a distance of about 2 kilometres from its Mathagal Camp. Sri Lankan Air Force bombers, helicopters and Naval ships pounded the area in support of the ground troops.

At Thiruvadinilai the LTTE gave battle. The battle lasted till 12.30 p.m. Sri Lankan troops which had advanced, retreated at 12.30 p.m. to the Mathagal camp. Sri Lankan casualties were not known.

While the fight was going on between the LTTE and the Sri Lankan army - Sri Lankan Navy sent volleys of cannon fire directed towards Thiruvadinilai, Chulipuram, Paralai, Kattupulam and other coastal areas. The Naval attack lasted for three hours.

Sri Lankan Air Force bombers which hovered Moolai, Sithankerny, Chulipuram, Tholpuram, and Pandatarippu from 5.30 a.m. bombed Thiruvadinilai area heavily. Air Force bombers also bombed Kattupulam and Ponnalai areas. Over ten bombs were dropped by the bombers at three spells.

While the battle was on and the Navy and Air Force were pounding the Valikamam West area, over 15 artillery shells were launched by the Sri Lankan Army from its Palaly camp.

Ten people were injured and many houses were damaged. One house was completely burnt down.

J. Annammah (72) and her two grand-children Kalyani (11) and Kanchana (10) were among the injured. The others injured are A Sivathasan (11) K. Saheesan (6) P. Nages (40) S. Seevaratnam (40) and S. Manorarjini (19). They were all admitted to the Jaffna Hospital.

The army's military action in Valikamam West came suddenly when people were still in their beds. A curfew had been announced from 6.00 am on Tuesday but was not known to anybody and

even Government Departments and Bank workers went to work as usual on Tuesday. It was only on Wednesday that people came to know about the curfew.

Military action however started before curfew. The people of Valikamam West were awoken by the sounds of bombs, guns, cannon and artillery shells near their homes and ran away from their homes to places of safety.

Reports say that over 5000 people from the affected villages in Valikamam West are displaced. Red Cross Society Branches at Sandilipay and Caankanai gave first aid to injured persons.

## LTTE SEA MINE BLASTS NAVY PATROL BOAT

News Agency reports quoting Sri Lankan Defence sources said that a Sri Lankan speed - patrol boat was blasted by a Tiger - laid sea mine in the seas of Kilali.

According to the same report two Sri Lankan Navy personnel died and three more were injured. The

blasted boat had fixed to it heavy machine-guns and many other equipment required for the Navy.

The news also quoted a Navy officer as saying that the Sea - mine explosion poses great threat to Sri Lankan Naval activities in the Kilali sea.

## War goes beyond NE boundaries LTTE Destroys Mini S. L. Army Camp in Polonnaruwa District

The LTTE attacked and destroyed a Sri Lankan mini-Army Camp at a place called Damminna in the Polonnaruwa District. This mini camp was established to provide security for the Maduru Oya Reservoir and as ancillary to the Army Camp established at Maduru Oya for training purposes.

The news in this connection states that on Tuesday, February 23, about 12.40

a.m. the LTTE attacked the Sri Lankan mini-Army Camp at Damminna in the Polonnaruwa District. The attack lasted for about 12 minutes at the end of which the camp was entirely destroyed. The Tigers recovered a haul heavy arms and ammunitions also.

At least nine Sri Lankan soldiers were believed killed apart from a larger number wounded. Two LTTE fighters died in this attack.

The Damminna S. L. mini camp was situated outside the Northeast territory and within the Polonnaruwa District.

## Lightning Attack by LTTE in Mannar Seven Sri Lankan Sentry posts and House Destroyed

The LTTE carried out a lightning attack on a chain of Sri Lankan Army sentry points between Nanattan Sri Lankan Army Camp and Kuttaikadu in Mannar District and destroyed completely seven sentry points and a house under Army occupation.

The news in this connection states that on 24th February, early morning LTTE attacked the Army positions between Nanattan and Kuttaikadu. The attack lasted for ten minutes.

Seven Sri Lankan Army sentry posts and a house occupied by the Sri Lankan

Army there, were completely destroyed. The LTTE said that a number of soldiers were killed and many others wounded. The numbers could not be assessed. LTTE lost eleven of its fighters.

The LTTE also recovered a haul of weapons and

ammunitions including sophisticated AKLMGs, shell launchers, shells and R.P.Gs.

## Bomber Attack at Thondamannaru

Sri Lankan bombers dropped three bombs in two spells near the Pillayar Kovil at Thondamannaru on Tuesday, February 23.

According to reports two of the bombs did not explode;

## PUBLIC PROTEST AT ECONOMIC BLOCKADE

Public protest campaigns against the economic embargo placed by Government on Jaffna peninsula was carried out in front of various AGA's offices in the peninsula. Large numbers of people participated in these protest demonstrations which affected the working of the AGA's offices.

Demonstrations were carried out in front of Palai

AGA's office and Karaveddy AGA's office by the people in those areas on Monday, February 22.

A Similar demonstration was held opposite the Nullar AGA's Division on Thursday, February 25.

The demonstrators also handed over memoranda to the Asst. Govt. Agents concerned.



## OUR READERS SAY

## Anomalies within Anomalies in Payment of Pensions

Already lot of heat had been generated regarding the vexed question of payment of pensions and a series of anomalies that exist in the whole structure. The first anomaly that was created was in 1985-1988 when the pension scale was changed from 50% of the basic salary last drawn to 85% of the basic for purpose of pension payment. In addition to this enhanced percentage, an enhanced salary scale was also introduced and hence this resulted eventually in a situation where a pensioner who retired after 1988 drew double the pension of his predecessor who retired prior to 1988 with only 50% of his basic salary which was also considerably

lower than the scale of salary after 1988.

The the Govt. decided to pay an additional allowance of Rs: 300/- and then Rs: 100/- thus a total of Rs: 400/- and those pensioners who drew more than Rs: 260/- per month were denied this increase.

Now again the Govt. has decided to pay Rs: 300/- additional allowance to all Govt. pensioners irrespective of their scale or amount of pension drawn monthly. Of course this increase is minimal compared to the 30% increase given to Govt. servants.

It is obvious that a great injustice had been done to

those officers who drew Rs: 260/- and above by denying them the legitimate additional allowance of Rs: 300/- and then Rs: 100/- simply because their pension was above Rs. 260/-. This is a discrimination and an arbitrary decision.

In passing I wish to complain the Rs: 260/- which was paid to Govt. servants has not been paid to pensioners up to date.

I appeal to the Govt. on behalf of these officers of this particular category who drew Rs: 260/- and above be paid this additional allowance irrespective of the scale.

A. Perinpanayagam

## EELANATHAM

## On its Fourth Year

*'Eelanatham' entered its Fourth Year of Publication on 19th February, 1993.*

*A comparative novice in this highly competitive field of Tamil journalism, its achievement lies in the fact that it has been keeping abreast with its sister dailies.*

*In keeping with its ideal of establishing a closer rapport with its workers, the Management treated them to a sumptuous lunch and expressed the hope that the co-operation of its employees would be forthcoming in full measure especially in these difficult times where shortages have been the order of the day.*

*The digestive process of the invitees was helped to a great extent by an item of light-hearted mimicry which kept them in good humour.*

*Standing on the threshold of its Fourth year, it is hoped that this New Year will spell a happy augury for its future progress in this Peninsular world of Tamil journalism.*

## HOUSE TO HOUSE SEARCH IN VAVUNIA

The Sri Lankan Army and Police made a joint house to house search in the villages of Kovilkulam and Poonthottam. Both villages are within Sri Lankan army occupied areas in the Vavunia District.

The search took place on Saturday - February 20 in Kovilkulam and the following

day Sunday, February 21 at Poonthottam.

Many persons, including some who did not hold a Police permit for residence, are reported to have been arrested and taken for inquiry.

No further news has been received in respect of those who were so taken.

## I C R C Brings Back Children Separated from Parents

Kueanthini Sivapalan, a girl aged 10, and her infant sister aged 2, who were separated from their parents for over seven months at Mahagal were brought back to Jaffna to be united to their parents on Wednesday, February 24.

The two children were brought to the Point Pedro harbour by ship by ICRC officials.

The elder girl, Kueanthini, said that on a certain day her father had taken her mother to Jaffna hospital for delivery of a child. They had left her and her sister at home with her grand-mother.

Some time after their parents left, the Army had suddenly surrounded their house and they were detained.

The younger girl cried every day in search of her parents and the elder girl complained to the army men

about their plight many times. Only now after seven months they are getting an opportunity to meet their parents. The girls seemed tired and

grief-stricken according to reports.

The grand-mother of the children also came with the children.

## CAUGHT BY ARMY RELEASED BY ICRC

A man and a boy who went to collect firewood in Chulipuram where captured by Sri Lankan soldiers who were in hiding. This happened on Sunday, February 21. The man and the boy were brought to Point Pedro by the ICRC officials on Wednesday, February 24.

The boy on arrival said that he was staying with his parents as refugees in Chulipuram. On Sunday, February 21, he went along with another man Sinnavan Iyan to collect firewood for cooking. As they were collecting firewood in Paralai area Sri Lankan Army who were in hiding there, opened fire and caught them. They were completely taken unaware.

The boy further said that on catching them, the Sri Lankan soldiers hit them and kicked them severely. The soldiers also abused them in filthy language. That day they were detained in the Army Camp at Mathagal.

The following day they were blind-folded and transported to Palaly Army Camp in a vehicle. At Palay Camp they were kept blind-folded

the whole-day and questioned.

The boy told the Army men that he and the older man were both refugees from Karainagar and that he was a student at Victoria College in Chulipuram.

They were released later to ICRC officials and have now gained their liberty.

The man is Sinnavan Iyan (58) and the boy is Sinnakili Ariyaputhiran, both refugees from Karainagar who lived at Chulipuram.

## INDIA ADMITS

India has admitted that its Navy intercepted the vessel Kittu was travelling in, 440 nautical miles away from India.

This is clear evidence in admission that the Indian Navy was engaged in bullying activities in international waters where all ships are free to travel.

"The claim made by the Government of India that it is entitled to inspect other vessels in international waters is spurious", commented lawyers in Jaffna.

## FLOWERS AND THORNS

Let me neither linger to gather flowers to keep them  
Nor to walk on anticipating for flowers to bloom  
all my way

For what is important  
Is to be on my way to my eternal home  
through the path that life has designed  
Never grudging but always appreciating  
The flowers that bloom and thorns that prick  
For they are nothing but a providence, a grace  
From heaven for my incubation and fruition

Henry Victor.

## CANNON-FIRE EXPLODED IN SECURITY ZONE

Some cannon fire aimed at fishermen's boats fell in the harbour security zone at Point Pedro under care of the ICRC.

The news in this connection says:-

The Point Pedro harbour area is declared a security zone and comes under ICRC control to enable goods brought into Jaffna from Colombo by ships to be unloaded. Harbour and dock workers are

engaged under ICRC supervision in unloading and handling these goods.

On Friday, February 26, about 9-00 a.m. the Sri Lankan Navy ship 'Veeraya Sooraya' which was proceeding towards Kattakadu - Vetrilakerni suddenly directed cannon fire and gun-shots at fishermen fishing in the coastal waters of Point Pedro. Some cannon fire and bullets exploded in the harbour area, declared security zone and under ICRC control.

Harbour and dock workers who were at the harbour engaged in work abandoned work and ran in disarray.

Some fishermen's boats were slightly damaged. Many fishing nets were cut off. It was a Friday and only a few fishermen were fishing because generally non-vegetables are avoided from food on Fridays by the population. Therefore no casualty occurred among the fishermen.



The word 'democracy' in the English Language has acquired the characteristics of a prostitute owing to its use by politicians of all calibre. Even though it has its ancient definition and meaning, it is spoken and written to convey what the speaker or writer had understood by it. Abraham Lincoln advocated democracy and said that it was the 'government of the people, for the people and by the people.' The people, he referred to, in actual fact, are the white men and not the American blacks whom he was supposed to have freed. He did not bring in legislation to free the blacks from slavery for the sake that slavery is degrading or bad but to safeguard the United States of America from continuing to be a third grade nation as an agricultural one and make it an industrialized nation. He provided the necessary labour power not fettered with any shackles. That is the meaning. Abraham Lincoln gave to democracy.

### Press Freedom

Everyone knows how democracy is practised in Sri Lanka. Starting from the District Councils election in Jaffna, the J. R. 's Presidential election, the undemocratic way in which the Referendum was held, the Presidential and General Elections held at the height of the Second J. V. P. Insurgency, we had witnessed sordid details of how democracy was callously practised in Sri Lanka. Leaving aside, how a section of the citizens of Ceylon living in the North and East are treated by the government as its enemies and deprived of all the basic necessities of life, it is even depriv-

ing the Sinhalese of their democratic rights. Freedom of the press is strangled. Publishers, editors and journalists are arrested and physically attacked indiscriminately and presses which the government think are against it, are closed and sealed.

### Distortion

Writers, columnists and journalists too have their own version of democracy. They want 'democratic' freedom to write and expound their theories as they want, irrespective of the fact that

passengers and by other means he has learnt that it is the Tigers who are safeguarding the public by acting as their shields. In fact, they have engaged in fight with the Navy and enabled the passengers during that time to travel to and fro. This is the democratic freedom as regards newspapers and other media operating from Colombo are concerned.

### N. E. Elections

The Sri Lankan government has now without much ado, brought in provisions to enable persons who have

contesting the elections in Batticaloa or Jaffna. This means that Members of Parliament and other Councils for the North and East, could be easily elected from Colombo itself. A clear indication of this position, is the statement issued by the EPDP which is fighting the Sinhalese war against the Tamils, that it is going to contest the forthcoming Provincial Council Elections in the North and East. Even according to government reports in all the islands

know how this can be done. We have not forgotten how even the Indian Peace Keeping Force rigged our elections. This means that there will be members elected from the North and East representing the views of the government without actual elections being held in these areas. EPDP can also come out with another lie. They can say that consequent to the appeal by its member, one Ramesh, that the government of Sri Lanka had recalled the 50,000 refugees from European countries and that those who returned too, had voted for them. The

### S. Thiagarajah

EPDP has appealed to the government to recall these 50,000 Ceylon Tamils because they are engaged in those countries in anti-social activities like collecting funds and forwarding them to the disruptive elements in Sri Lanka who are engaged in destroying its unity and integrity. This is how the democratic right to elect people's representatives are being practised in Sri Lanka.

# Democracy Distorted

what they write about, is factually correct or not, and even false.

Colombo-based news papers and the other media in order to justify or to negative the recent horrendous incidents committed by the Sri Lankan Navy in brutally killing innocent travellers plying between Kilaly and Alankerny by boat, portrayed that this incident happened, while Tigers were operating in this sea using the Tamil people as human shields. Not only these papers know that the Tigers are the last people to make such a use of the people and that it is only the army which normally engages in such low tactics, nevertheless carried on this line of propaganda. The BBC reporter however, has given his own observation. Through interviews with

left their own places to vote at elections in places where they are now resident. A voter from Batticaloa or Jaffna who had been displaced owing to army activities in those areas and now residing, say in Colombo, with the collaboration of the Department of Elections, could vote for a candidate who is

and other 'captured' territories, there are not more than 1,500 people.

Even among this number, only a few would be entitled to vote. But elections can be held according to Voters' Lists and Members returned to Provincial Councils. We

## Admission Commendable - Arrogance Condemnable

★ "Influential Sinhalese seem to be unwilling to accept even the Parliamentary Select Committee consensus, which itself falls far short of the minimum even the most moderate Tamil parties are willing to settle for! In other words the Sinhalese (at least the self-declared champions of the Sinhala race) are opposed to whatever reforms that have been won by the Tamils so far (the 13th Amendment) as well as to granting any more concessions. To put it more bluntly, not only do they not want to give the Tamils anything more than they have already got; they also want to take back whatever little that has been given".

### Second Emphasis Ours.

★ "According to this consensus, the temporarily merged North Eastern province will be demerged unconditionally, but the Tamils won't get a fully and frankly federal structure in return..... In other words the Sinhalese are getting two for the price of half - unconditional demerger and a federal set up, in exchange for quasi-federalism (but without any mention of the term and without changing the unitary form of the constitution."

Quoted from Anuruddha Tilakasiri - writing in the Govt. controlled Sunday Observer - 3-1-1993.

The frank admission by the Sinhala writer that while the PSC decision divides Northeast does not grant federalism is commendable but when he says it is the PSC consensus he exposes Sinhala arrogance. There are Sinhalese and Tamil members in the PSC and no Tamil member has agreed to the so-called 'consensus'. Tamil members have opposed it and Mr. Tambimuttu has resigned from the PSC in protest. If the Sinhalese in the PSC agree amongst themselves to foist something on the Tamils who are there and opposed it, do you still call it the PSC consensus - or is it truly Sinhala consensus?

## SHELL KILLS YOUNG WOMAN

### Old Woman Injured

A young woman was killed and another injured when shells launched by the Sri Lankan Army exploded at Mallakam on Tuesday, February 23.

The news in this connection states that on Tuesday, February 23, at 8.30 p.m. Sri Lankan Army launched over 15 shells directed towards Mallakam. When these shells began to explode the residents in the area began to run for safety elsewhere.

A fleeing young woman named M. Vimalaswary (23) died on the spot when a shell hit her and another woman, also fleeing, named I. Ananthi (53) was severely injured.

Over 500 families in the area left their homes as the shells began to explode in the night. They have taken refuge at Chinnikan, Muthumariam and Iruvil.

### Always on Principles!

There is nothing so bad or so good that you will not find Englishmen doing it, but you will never find an Englishman in the wrong. He does everything on principle. He fights you on patriotic principles; he robs you on business principles; he enslaves you on imperial principles; he supports his king or royal principles and cuts off his king's head on republican principles.

-George Bernard Shaw

## 14,000 Tamils Displaced in Anpara

Fourteen thousand Tamils from the Anpara District have been driven out of their dwellings by the Sri Lankan Government's military operations there and by the atrocities committed on Tamils by armed Sinhala and Muslim gangsters called Home-Guards.

This news is published in Elnathan, a local Tamil

daily, quoting Mr. Karikalan, the Head of the Political wing of the LTTE in the Batticaloa-Anpara Districts.

The report further quotes Mr. Karikalan as saying that Tamils are now living only in two villages in the Anpara District. These two villages are Erukavil and Pannuluvil. Tamils in other villages have been displaced from

their homes and are living as refugees elsewhere.

Mr. Karikalan has also said that boundary villages have all been destroyed by the Sri Lankan Armed forces. Many Tamil villages under the Gal Oya Development Scheme and Pannuluvil village in the Batticaloa

(Continued on Page 4)



# HOT SPRING

VOL: 3 Sunday 28 h February 1993 ISSUE: 20

## Military Omnipotence - A danger to the Sinhalese too

According to a local Tamil daily Gen. Hamilton Wanasinghe, Head of the Joint Operations Command (J.O.C) has told a Sinhala paper 'Divayina' that the war in the Northeast will continue until the Tigers are defeated.

Judging from various statements made by various military officers at various times, it is not strange that the Head of the J.O.C. should come out with the statement attributed to him.

However, the statement of the military head brings in matters worthier of consideration by the Sinhalese than the Tamils.

Whenever President Premadasa opens his mouth, he speaks of peace and achieving it in the shortest possible time. Never has he been heard to say that he will restore 'peace' only after defeating the Tigers. So much so many people have been encouraged to advise the President to find a peaceful solution and no one, even by implication, suggested that he should achieve such peace only after defeating the Tigers.

But Hamilton Wanasinghe says that the war will continue in the Northeast until the Tigers are defeated. The statement made by the J.O.C. Chief is not in consonance with the various utterances made by the President from time to time.

The question of deciding on war or peace is too dangerous a matter to be left for decision in the hands of military men. But in Sri Lanka apparently the decision making in regard to war and peace, is being decided by the military.

Nor is it strange in the circumstances and situation prevailing in Sri Lanka. Ever since Mr. J. R. Jayawardene came to power in 1977 an Emergency was declared and barring a very short period his successor too is continuing to rule by resort to Emergency powers. In other words the Governments from 1977 are being retained in power by military help.

It is therefore that the small armed services of the Sri Lankan state have rapidly grown into a very large army and according to accounts 1,00,000 men are in one or other of the armed forces of Government today. Military expenditure has increased manifold that it takes a sizeable share of the budget expenditure that many comments, even from international bodies, had been made public.

In this situation it is not strange for the Armed Forces to feel their own importance in maintaining the fabric of the Sri Lankan state. It is this feeling of the importance of the armed forces and their ability to decide state policy that had made bold the JOC chief to say that the Northeast war will continue till the Tigers are defeated.

The people of Northeast are well aware of the hardships the war imposes and of the cruelties of the Sri Lankan Armed forces. Perhaps the Sinhalese are not aware of these. Sinhala politicians and media men pay glowing tributes to their army men fighting in the Northeast, because the war and military rule is confined to the Northeast and against the Tamil people. If it is their turn to suffer, they will then understand the dangers of allowing military men to decide policies. The Armed Forces of the Sri Lankan Government have acquired such high position in policy making. Hence the JOC Chief's statement.

It would eventually be the turn of the Sinhalese to take the beating for the folly of building a powerful military to suppress and rule the Tamils as the same military is bound to suppress their democratic liberties too, as had happened in other countries - especially in South East Asia.

## Tellippalai Durgai Amman Temple Under Attack Again

The Durgai Amman temple at Tellippalai which was subjected to aerial bombardment sometimes back came under artillery shell attack again.

The news in this connection states that on Saturday, February, 20, three artillery shells launched from the Palali Sri Lankan Army camp exploded within the Durgai Amman temple premises. The attack started at 10.10 p.m.

One shell exploded on the front portion of the temple between the Pongallal and the Temple office. The Pongallal was damaged. Another shell exploded on the steps to the Theertha Kerni or holy pond and damage was caused to the stepping stones. A third shell exploded on the public road in front of the temple.

This temple came in for direct aerial bombardment on 31-5-1992 when extensive damage to the temple and death to about 5 persons occurred. The wanton

attack on a famous Hindu temple provoked strong protests from all religious groups in the North. The Refugee camp that was run by the temple had to be abandoned

and the orphanage run by it had to be shifted to another place.

The same temple has now come in for shell attack. The shell attack now has caused damage to temple property but fortunately no one suffered physical injury.

## TEEDOR OFFERS HELP AND ADVICE

Tamil Eelam Economic Development Organisation (TEEDOR) has in a press release exhorted people to engage in the cultivation of green grams - a two month crop.

TEEDOR has said that T 77 and M I 4 varieties of this gram give better harvests than the local varieties and has requested people interested in this cultivation to contact the Agricultural

Division of the Organisation for further information.

The TEEDOR has also said that pests attack on mango flowers and leaves is noted to be on the increase and has suggested the spraying of appropriate insecticide. People who find their mango trees affected by these pests are requested to contact the Agricultural Environment Protection Division of TEEDOR.

## POSTAL MESS IN SRI LANKA

It is periodically reported that over thousand postal bags with foreign letters addressed to Jaffna, are lying at the G.P.O. Colombo for transmission to Jaffna. For nearly four months no foreign letters have been sent to Jaffna.

Recently there was a report that 87 bags of mails sent from Jaffna to Colombo and overseas are lying at the Colombo Port without clearance as handling charges are demanded by the port authorities. Some extraordinary intellect from the port authority has raised this queer demand for the first time since the North-East war broke out.

The following facts would be relevant to those who are concerned with this postal mess.

(1) All those letters sent from Great Britain, Germany, France, Norway and other countries have pre-paid valid postal stamps fixed. The revenue so derived go to fill the coffers of the respective countries.

### 14,000 Tamils...

(Continuation from Page 3) District have been destroyed by Government forces.

Most houses abandoned by Tamils in these villages have been demolished by the armed forces of the Sri Lankan Government and many Army and S.F camps have been put up in these villages.

(2) Similarly, the letters sent to foreign countries from here have Sri Lankan postal stamps fixed and the money so derived go to the coffers of the Sri Lankan Government.

(3) Hence, it is the bounden duty of these countries to see that the letters sent to and from these countries reach the addressees safe without damage or tampering.

(4) Likewise, Sri Lanka too should see that the letters sent from the North reach their destination speedily and safely.

(5) The money pre-paid is for air freight and not for ordinary transport by ships.

(6) It is an international postal obligation and an important fundamental right of the citizens to expect regular and speedy delivery of letters.

(7) If not, The Sri Lankan Govt. should inform the foreign countries not to send any letters addressed to Jaffna.

It is undoubtedly a flagrant violation of human rights of the people of the north.

The foreign embassies in Sri Lanka should urgently and immediately take up this serious violation of the international postal code with the Government of Sri Lanka.

The Government of Sri Lanka cannot continue to dishonour the Postal Ordinance section 23 (2).

This vital issue should be taken up wholeheartedly and the foreign embassies in Colombo apprised of this deplorable state of the postal services in the north.

The foreign embassies in Sri Lanka can easily represent matters to the Sri Lankan Govt. and their respective countries abroad as the reputation of their postal services is also at stake.

- E. Rasiah -

## SPORTS

### Cricket

St. John's College drew with Kokuvil Hindu College at the latter's grounds.

Scores:- Kokuvil Hindu- 266 all out.

St. John's - 277 and 160 for 3 at close.

St. Patrick's College drew with Canagaratnam M.V. at the former's grounds.

Scores: St. Patrick's - 201 for 8 declared.

Canagaratnam M.V. 87 & 95 for 7 at close. At a match played at Central College grounds, Jaffna Central College beat Manipay Hindu.

Scores:- Jaffna Central 245 for 5 declared with Manivannan scoring a century.

Manipay Hindu: 76 & 105

New Era Publications Ltd.  
267, Main Street, Jaffna.