

# Hot Spring

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No. 50

## Govt. Employee Arrested

Veerasingham Ravichandran of Kattaparichchan, Mutur, Trincomalee District was arrested by the Sri Lankan Army encamped at Navalady, in Mutur.

Ravichandran is 34 years old, married and with two children.

He was arrested on Monday, September 20. Ravichandran is an employee of the Postal Department.

## Malnutrition Among Infants On the Increase in Jaffna

### Report Says: Major Cause-Food Scarcity

"The main cause of the present state of undernutrition is the lack of sufficient food due to loss of employment, decreased production and imports, loss of earning capacity, decrease in purchasing power and high price of food." - so states a Report on the Nutritional Survey of Children in the Jaffna District.

The Report has been authored by Dr. N. Sivarajah, Senior Lecturer in Community Medicine, at the Faculty of Medicine, University of Jaffna. Preliminary

### MUSINGS OF MR. MEDDLE



"There is no ethnic problem but only a terrorist problem"

- D. B. Wijetunge.  
True! True!! A problem of STATE-SPONSORED TERRORISM!

survey and other work connected with the preparation of the Report was carried out by 7 final year medical students, 22 Family Health workers and thirteen volunteers working under the leadership of Dr. N. Sivarajah.

The seventeen page report gave detailed results of the survey and presents a com-

prehensive position of the nutritional status of children in the Jaffna District.

A comparison table shows that while in 1975/76 the whole island's nutritional status by weight for age (chronic malnutrition) was 42% Jaffna District's remained at 32%. In 1993 the Jaffna District shows an increase to 40%.

The all island figure for 1975/76 in respect of Height for Age or Stunting was 34.7% that of Jaffna District was only 28.4%. In 1993 the Jaffna District figure has risen to 31.4%.

While weight for height (acute malnutrition) figure for the whole island was 6.6% Jaffna District figure was only 3.7% in 1975/76. In 1993 the Jaffna District figure has risen to a steep 18.9%.

In Jaffna a five-fold rise in acute malnutrition (assessed by weight/height) has taken place between 1975/76 and 1993 while in the rest of the island it has only doubled during the said period. Chronic malnutrition (assessed by Weight/Age and Weight/Height) has shown a decrease between 1975/76 and 1987 in other parts of the island, while it has increased in the Jaffna District.

The incidence of vitamin A deficiency has also shown a marked increase in the Jaffna District.

The Report further said that there was a slightly higher prevalence of under-nutrition among children in refugee camps. The children in the villages, whether displaced or not, showed the same degree of prevalence of chronic under-nutrition. The percentage suffering from acute under-nutrition was slightly higher in the displaced children than in the villages.

The survey was carried out among 2045 children between 0-36 months old of whom 413 were in refugee camps and 1632 in villages, either in their own houses or as displaced from their own homes but living in houses of friends or relations.

Among the children examined 24.5% were first births and in the case of 49.6% of the children the previous birth had been four years and over. In only 2.3% of the children the birth interval was less than 2 years. In the case of almost half the number of children (49.6%) the elder child was 4 years or over.

The Report further said that percentage of chronic under-nutrition is higher in the lower income groups. However, a higher percentage of acute malnutrition is prevalent among all children except in case of children whose parents are earning Rs.4500/- and over monthly. This indicates that a major contributory factor in child malnutrition is scarcity of food in Jaffna, the Report added.

WE YEARN

NEITHER TO RULE

NOR EVEN TO LIVE BUT

TO SEE

TAMIL EELAM  
BLOSSOM'

-THILEEPAN.



Martyr Lt. Col. Thileepan's 6th Annual Commemoration final day celebrations take place all over liberated Tamil Eelam territory today. In 1987 addressing a public meeting opposite the Dutch Fort in Jaffna he said: "It is on the day that our flag flutters over the Fort over there that we will have gained our freedom." After three years on Thileepan Day-September 26, 1990 - the Sinhala flag was hurled down from the Dutch Fort and the Tiger flag was hoisted there by Bhanu, the then Military Head of the Jaffna District.

Thileepan's wishes come true slowly but certainly and achievement of his objects will be the greatest tribute to him.

## Cholera Epidemic in Jaffna

Thirty two cases of cholera have been detected in the Jaffna District, according to Health Authorities in Jaffna. So far, two patients have succumbed to the disease while others have been admitted to the Jaffna hospital where they have been segregated in a special ward and are being treated.

Health Authorities have alerted the general public to take precautionary measures to prevent the spread of the disease reaching epidemic proportions.

The Jaffna's Director of Health Services has sent an S.O.S. to Colombo for drugs to combat Cholera.

## Shell Attack at Mannar

A mother and daughter of Vidaththaliuvu in the Mannar District were injured by Sri Lankan Army shell attack.

According to reports from Mannar Maria Geetha (52) and her daughter Tarzina

Ammah (27) both of Vidaththaliuvu were hit by Sri Lankan Army shell fired from Thallady Sri Lankan Army Camp at Mannar. The injured were first treated at Madhu and later transferred to Vavunia hospital for treatment.

## Firing from Puccaro Plane

Two Puccaro planes belonging to the Sri Lankan Air Force fired 50 calibre, gun shots at boats moored ashore at Kilali and Allippalai.

On Monday, September 25, two Sri Lankan Air Force Puccaro Planes hovered over Palai, Eluthumadduval, Kilali and Allippalai areas in the Thenmaradchy Division at about 8.45 p. m. Later they fired 50 Calibre gun shots

at boats moored ashore at Allippalai and Kilali. A number of boats were damaged. A few houses in the vicinity also were slightly damaged.

At about 3.30 a. m. the following morning, Tuesday, a Naval Gun Boat belonging to the Sri Lankan Navy sent volleys of cannon fire towards the Allippalai and Kilali coasts.





MR. THAMILSELVAN:

# Tamils want to live as a Free People

## S. L. Govt.'s atrocities have led to intensification of Liberation Struggle

Mr. Thamilselvan, Head of the Political Wing of the LTTE, gave an interview to the BBC on 24.8.93. Here are the excerpts from the interview:-

Q. The Government has accused the Tigers of laying down several conditions for the release of the POWs. What have you to say?

A. The LTTE has not laid down any new conditions for the release of the POWs. We put forward only one request to Brigadier Weerasekera who negotiated

with us on the POWs issue. That request was the lifting of the economic embargo imposed on the people of North and the despatch of certain essential items to the North. At first the Government agreed to this. We have with us the Gazette notification issued by the Government to this effect and connected documents. But suddenly the Government did an about - turn and refused to lift the economic ban. It is the Government which reneged on its promise. The Government is spreading

malicious and false propaganda that the LTTE has laid down new conditions, to cover up its about - turn.

At the same time our Leader Mr. Pirabakaran released seven POWs on humanitarian grounds. This testifies to our goodwill. I wish to point out however that on the Government side there has been no such gesture of goodwill.

Q. Are talks continuing on this issue?

A. As far as is known, no such negotiations are going on.

Q. There have been accusations against your movement on the Pooneryn

causeway issue. The Government says that it has made several concessions but the Tigers are only interested in the collection of money from the people. What have you to say?

A. We discussed the Pooneryn causeway issue with UNHCR representatives. We made our position very clear. We agreed to allow the transport of goods and patients who were critically ill; we made our stand very clear. The UNHCR representatives said they would discuss the matter with the Government and let us know the outcome. When they met us again, they informed us about the new conditions the Government had laid down and submitted the Government's proposals to us for perusal.

(Continued on Page 4)

### The Self - Sacrificer Lt. Col. Thileepan

This is the month of September.  
That everyone can remember,  
The name of our devout warrior  
Beloved Thileepan, the superior.

A period of six years ago,  
He lay beside at Nallur temple,  
Fasting throughout for the days twelve,  
And sacrificed himself for our future.

On this twenty sixth day of September,  
The day of his departure,  
Our minds are filled with his memories,  
Which is the only tribute we can pay.

— Malarannai —

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### September 10 - Friday

In an unexpected confrontation which took place between the LTTE and the Sri Lankan Army at 11.45 p.m. in the Poonakari area, one LTTE militant was killed.

#### September 11 - Saturday

Sri Lankan Army stationed at Poonakari and Kaimunai fired intermittently on fishermen engaged in their normal occupation in the areas of Colombuthurai, Maniamthottam and Poompuhar in Ariyalai from 7.20 a.m. onwards. Due to this attack, most of the fishermen abandoned their work and returned ashore. Some left all their equipment and jumped into the sea and escaped injury by swimming ashore.

#### September 12 - Sunday

In an encounter that took place between the Sri Lankan Army and the LTTE about 7.30 p.m. in the Nilaveli area in Trincomalee, two LTTE militants died.

#### September 13 - Monday

Sri Lankan Army stationed at Panthalady area in Poonakari, opened fire from their sentry points towards fishermen engaged in their normal occupation in the Gulf waters about 6 a.m. The fishermen who had ventured out in their boats, jumped into the sea, taking cover behind their boats and escaped injury.

#### September 15 - Wednesday

From the Sri Lankan Army camp at Palaly, Sri

Lankan Forces fired several artillery shells towards Vadammaradchy area about 12 noon. The shells fell on the opposite side of the Thondamanaru lagoon and exploded. There were no reports of damages caused by the explosion.

#### September 17 - Friday

Sri Lankan Army stationed at Mandativu, opened fire about 2.30 p.m. Nagalingam Anton Raj was injured in the hand and was admitted to the Jaffna Teaching Hospital for treatment. Anton Raj was injured, while he was going along Hospital Road within the Security Zone under ICRC control.

Artillery shells and gun fire were directed towards Jaffna Town area from the Sri Lankan Army Camp at Mandativu, from 3 p.m. for about an hour. One civilian was injured. People residing in areas of Koddady and Konanthottam, ran for safety towards the Security Zone in the vicinity of the Jaffna Hospital.

#### September 18 - Saturday

Sri Lankan Army stationed in the areas of Casurina Beach and Thoombilpiddy in Karainagar, opened fire with cannons and 50 calibre guns from their sentry points towards fishermen engaged in their normal occupation in the waters of Chulipuram, Chavukkakdythurai and Thiruvadinilai about 6.45 a.m. The fishermen were forced to abandon their work and come ashore due to this attack.

### Headless bodies in Siththandy

A report from Batticaloa towards the end of August said that headless bodies of persons were found at Siththandy in Batticaloa District off and on for sometime.

According to the same report the people of the area suspect the Armed forces group of the Govt. of Sri Lanka encamped at Siththandy as the perpetrators of the crime.

A group from this Army camp often undertakes patrol duty on motor-cycles and persons arrested by this group are believed to be the victims whose heads have been cut off. This group of Sri Lanka's Armed Forces is being referred to as the 'Motor-Cycle Party' by the scared villagers.

### Boost for Handloom-Weavers by TEEDOR

Weavers engaged in the Handloom Industry are undergoing tremendous difficulties because of the shortage in the supply of yarn due to the prevailing war.

Meaningful measures are being undertaken by the Industrial Development Organisation of TEEDOR with

the object of easing the situation to obtain the required yarn and other implements. Those desiring to receive such assistance are requested to contact the Institute for the Upliftment of Industries, in accordance with a Press Note issued by TEEDOR.

### Krishnan Temple attacked on Krishna Jayanthi Celebrations

Krishna Jayanthi (Birth of Lord Krishna) celebrations are conducted in all Hindu temples dedicated to Lord Krishna. This year Krishna Jayanthi day was on Wednesday, September 8. All Hindu temples in Jaffna dedicated to Lord Krishna had special worship programmes taking place throughout the night.

The Ponnalai Varatharaja Perumal temple is one of the biggest temples dedicated to Lord Krishna in Jaffna peninsula. Religious festival or otherwise the Sri Lankan Army cannot be restrained from pursuing its indiscriminate attack on Tamils.

A shell launched from the Sri Lankan Army Camp at Karainagar exploded about 8.00 p.m. within the temple premises when the celebrations were in progress and large crowds were present.

The shell exploded in the outer court yard and damag-

ed the image of Lord Vinayagar consecrated there. The worshippers ran in all directions for safety.

The conduct of the celebrations had been notified earlier to the Government of Sri Lanka through the ICRC.

### Third Tamil Eelam Court at Vadammaradchy

The Third Tamil Eelam District Court was opened at Point Pedro for the Vadammaradchy Division, on Thursday September 9.

The opening ceremony was presided over by Mr. Para,

the Head of the Division for Administration of Justice.

Large numbers of people participated at the ceremony.

The first case taken up for trial was one relating to theft of bicycle.

### 'Hot Spring' Quoted in Sweden

'Lanka' Magazine is a journal containing research papers on Sri Lankan Culture published periodically by the Arts Faculty of the University of Upsala in Sweden. The latest issue of this magazine has been banned in Sri Lanka by the Customs, states a news report from Sweden.

The banned publication contains besides other articles, a collection of poems which had earlier appeared in the 'Hot Spring' under the pen name of Amos Rajaratnam and reveals the identity of the author as Dr. Henry Victor. Peter Schalk, the Editor of the magazine,

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# Epidemics, Arrests, Detention and Malnutrition

Diseases like Malaria and Cholera have reached epidemic proportions in the Jaffna District. Latest report says that several people have been afflicted with Cholera and two have succumbed to it. The embargo imposed by the Sri Lankan government on Medicines and lack of disinfectants used for keeping the city clean, are some of the causes for the rapid spread of these diseases apart from malnutrition among the people which too is a result of the economic blockade placed on the Jaffna Peninsula by the Sri Lankan government. People being displaced due to military operations and the consequent concentration of refugees in Jaffna under insanitary conditions is another reason.

## Tamil migration

People from Jaffna migrated to Colombo and its outskirts to secure their children and invalids safe from diseases and be away from heart-rending noises of shells and bombs which in turn cause heart, mental and nervous diseases. They thought that in Colombo they could have better food, medicines and peace, if they had the means. But did these people succeed in their object? No doubt, with means they could get food. But did they get the peace, they desired? No - is the answer. News is that it is estimated that 15,000 Tamils irrespective of age or sex, have been arrested in the city of Colombo. In Pettah area itself, after cordon and search, several hundreds of Tamils have been taken into custody. Galle Face area where people go for walk, exercise or even relaxation, have also not been spared. It is only the affluent who go to Galle Face for 'walks' and exercise. They do not go by bus or walking. They go in their cars. They park their cars and do their walks or exercise. Most of these people even though they are Tamils, hold high offices. Among them business magnates, doctors, engineers, accountants and lawyers are prominent. Last Monday Morning the Police swept into the Galle Face and cordoned the area and separated the Tamils from the Sinhalese and took them into custody, irrespective of their rank, profession or office, they held. The mere fact that they were Tamils was the only reason for their arrest.

## Harassed Tamils

These Tamils who are not worried about what is happening in the North-East, mind their own selfish interests. They were compla-

cent about the life they led in Colombo, forgetting the fact that it is the LTTE weapon that acts as deterrent against Tamil pogroms we regularly witnessed in Sinhala areas before 1983. Some of them ran away to Colombo, thinking that Sinhala area is safe. Some of them also thought that Sinhala politicians would give them security because of their votes. But they have not understood that the Sinhala politicians have realised that they could not

## S. Thiagarajah

get the votes of the Tamils anymore. As such Tamils even voters are not the concern of the Sinhala politician. Sinhala politician is not a fool to believe that any Tamil will vote for him in future elections. The Government party as well as the opposition are for a military solution to the ethnic problem. They are now pawns in the hands of the military. They cannot antagonise the Security forces. So the Government has allowed the army and police to do whatever they want with the Tamils. The Army and the Police on the pretext of saying that the Tigers have infiltrated into the Sinhala areas, are arresting the Tamils indiscriminately. They are released on payment of big sums of money. The Tamils too, without protesting and taking the matter to Courts, pay up and the matter is hushed. To what extent a Sinhala-dominated judiciary can be trusted, is another matter? But why should these Tamils face such discrimination, indignity, physical and mental torture? It is high time that the Tamils in Colombo and in other Sinhala areas, realise that there is no place other than Tamil Eelam which is safe for them. They should also know that no politician would come to their aid in this instance. Tamil groups operating from Colombo tried their utmost to stop these incidents of arrests of Tamils. But the Government did not even give them a hearing. In spite of Mr. Sellasamy speaking to President Wijetunge, the arrests are on the increase. The Government or the armed forces do not care a straw for these protests.

## Tamil Detenus

In this connection, it is pertinent to analyse the statement given by Mr. D.G. Jayalath, the Chairman of the Commission appointed to inquire into the cases of detention of Tamil youths in camps. He has said that

there were one thousand and eight (1008) Tamil youths detained in camps in the South of Sri Lanka. He is unable to take any decision regarding them because particulars pertaining to them have not been supplied from the North and East. Can anyone hope that the Sinhala army very busy in Tamil genocide, will have the mind and time to furnish details about these detenus languishing in prison camps. Their cause should be taken up by the International Committee of the Red Cross. These youths are not Tigers. Tigers will see to it that they do not get captured. But innocent young boys and girls are arrested on the pretext that they are Tigers. There must be some way found to get these persons freed. When everyone is much interested in the Sinhala prisoners - of-war, no one seems worried about Tamil youths held in detention. It is also a human problem. The Sinhala prisoners - of-war were policemen and army personnel captured, when they were actively engaged in the fight against Tamils.

## Mulnutrition

Another problem that is facing Jaffna, is malnutrition. A research conducted by the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Jaffna states that 93.5% of children under the age of three, are suffering from malnutrition. In the Jaffna District, in areas that are not under army control, there are about sixty thousand children under the age of three. The research reveals that of these children, four thousand two hundred and fifty must be given immediate intensive treatment and proper care. Of this lot, about four thousand children are displaced and living in refugee camps. The rest are living with relatives and friends of their parents.

Almost all the children whose parents have an income of less than Rs. 4,500/- per month are suffering from malnutrition. The research goes on to say that it is the lack of enough food in Jaffna, the main cause of this malnutrition. Dr. N. Sivaraja, Senior Lecturer of the Faculty of Medicine, headed this research on Malnutrition. The research further points out that it is often the child reaching its first year, who becomes affected more by malnutrition and that this affliction is due to malnutrition increase in proportion to the period the child has to spend in refugee camps due to displacement following military operations.

## Western help

Compare the above phenomenon with the latest statistics that an average Western child consumes nourishing food which could feed an average of sixteen children in Eastern countries. Why cannot the West which is enjoying all the material benefits, consider helping Tamil Eelam direct? Any help through the Sri Lankan Government will not reach Tamil Eelam. Britain donated

very urgent technical equipments necessary for the Jaffna General Hospital. But the Government has placed obstacles on the transport of these essential articles to Jaffna. West has also a moral obligation to help the East because it is the resources of the Eastern, African and Latin American countries that enriched it so that it could lead the life, it is leading now.

## OH...! OUR THILEEPA!!

Oh...! our Thileepa!

Oh...! dear Thileepa!!

You loved our Mother-land!

You dared to win-back her!!

You loved our Mother-Thamil!

You dared to Crown her back!!

Oh...! our Thileepa!

Oh...! dear Thileepa!!

You sacrificed all your future

For our brightful future!

You sacrificed your worthy life

For our rightful life!!

Oh...! our Thileepa!

Oh...! dear Thileepa!!

You will live with us for ever!

We will carry-on your Holy-deed!!

We will praise you every moment!

You will grace us in every event!!

Oh...! our Thileepa!

Oh...! dear Thileepa!!

"SARAVANAS"

## TEEDOR NEWS

### Competition on Palmyrah fruit juice uses

The Tamil Eelam Economic Development Organisation (TEEDOR) has announced the holding of a competition in the Jaffna and Vanni Districts on the uses of palmyrah fruit juice.

The competition will be on two aspects of the use of palmyrah juice - viz(i) the production of some form of meal from palmyrah juice

which - can be consumed for a daily meal with appetite (2) some form of meal which can be produced without break for export purposes.

Three prizes will be awarded in each of the Districts. The first prize will be a gold sovereign. The second and third prizes shall be cash prizes of Rs. 3000/- and Rs. 2000/- respectively.

### Training in bee-keeping

The TEEDOR provided training in bee-keeping to 25 youths at Paranthan in the Vanni District and to another batch of youths at Tirunelvely in Jaffna.

The TEEDOR in a press note says that it has observed a keen interest among people in bee-keeping and is therefore implementing plans for the development of bee-keeping.

### Water Management

A meeting on water management was held at Kilinochchi by the TEEDOR where it was decided that people must be educated on the economic use of water. It was also decided to enlist

the support of farmers to clear distribution channels of weeds shrubs and sand collection. It was also decided to request the Irrigation Department to clear the main channels on a priority basis.

### Milk Jaggery

Jaggery made of cows milk is being produced now in Kanagapuram, Ambal Nagar, and Vinayagapuram under the guidance, training and supervision of the TEEDOR. The TEEDOR in a

press note says that 300,000 jaggery pieces are being now produced in these areas which has provided employment for persons belonging to 25 families. The trade name given to this jaggery is "Sinthupaal Vellam."

### World Environment

The TEEDOR repaired where plants were dead and protective cages for trees watered the plants all over planted along roadsides, Jaffna through its various cleared shrubs around such branches and agencies on plants, replanted seedlings World Environment on June 5.





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## Our Homage

Today the Tamil Eelam nation celebrates the final day commemoration programmes of the sixth annual commemoration of Martyr Thileepan.

Thileepan - though young and belonged to that category of people whom the Tamil Eelam people identified in the first person as part of themselves by lovingly referring to them as "OUR BOYS" - was a great man who finds a place among the great men of the world.

Thileepan started a fast on 15th September, 1987 which continued for 12 days and ended on 26th September, 1987 with Thileepan passing on to the world of the immortals. But he left indelible impressions and continues to inspire the Tamil Eelam nation which will gratefully remember this great fighter for all time.

Ironically Thileepan undertook the fast making certain demands from the Indian Government - not from the Sinhala government. For over half a century the Tamils have tried their best to secure their rights from the Sinhalese in a peaceful way but found themselves oppressed by the Sinhala - state sponsored terrorism which has left the Tamils with no alternative but to resort to the use of defensive force which is admittedly a legal right vested in any people. Thileepan placed five demands which were as follows:-

1. The release of all Tamil political dentenus under the Terrorism Act.
2. Stoppage forthwith of all Sinhala colonisation in the Tamil Northeast.
3. Disarming Home Guards and other Government sponsored para - military forces.
4. Stopping the opening of Sinhala Police stations in the Northeast.
5. Setting up the Interim Administration Council envisaged in the Accord.

Thileepan made these demands of the Indian Government, only seeking its assurance that the above five demands envisaged in the Accord which Rajiv Gandhi entered into with Jayawardhene, were implemented. Of course, the Rajiv Government first chose to ignore Thileepan but finding that the Tamil people as a whole were behind Thileepan, belatedly gave the assurance but not before the invaluable life of the great son of Tamil Eelam was lost.

The Rajiv Gandhi government made a complete miscalculation. It sought to judge the liberation struggle of Tamil Eelam by its own standards of duplicity, bribery and corruption and learnt a bitter lesson soon, which has been the subject of criticism by honourable Indians - not excluding even military commanders of the Indian Army who had the misfortune to battle in Tamil Eelam where they were sent purportedly to protect the Tamil people and territory.

Even as the Tamil Eelam nation celebrates the sixth annual commemoration of Martyr Thileepan, we recognise the fact that Thileepan's demands have not been met yet. In fact, many problems have aggravated but still the Tamil people have succeeded in many respects in gaining victories in their path of freedom.

Though dead and no more amongst us, Thileepan's ideals remain in the heart of every Tamil and he continues to inspire the Tamils in the path of freedom. This is best evidenced by the ready and spontaneous manner in which the Tamil nation is paying its respects and love to a martyr who gave his life for them and for their cause.

We join the Tamil Eelam nation in paying our homage to a great leader.

## 15 KILLED - 41 INJURED

# Puccaro Havoc at Mullaitivu

Thirteen people were killed on the spot and two others died after admission to hospital, when Sri Lankan Puccaro Air Force planes bombed and fired rockets at a public meeting held at Maththalan in the Mullaitivu District. Forty one others were severely injured.

A well-attended public meeting was in progress on Saturday, September 18, at the village of Maththalan in the Mullaitivu District. As the programme included art and cultural items small children and housewives were also present at the meeting in large numbers.

As the programmes were proceeding a Sri Lankan Air Force Puccaro plane suddenly came to the place and immediately fired seven rockets. The people who were all absorbed in witnessing the programmes did not notice the plane or its sounds, the plane sound being lost in the sound of loud-speakers and the working of generators. The incident took place at night time.

The reports also said that earlier in the day, about 5.30 p.m., three bombs were dropped by a Sri Lankan Air Force Puccaro plane at the same place but the reports did not mention any damage.

Thirteen civilians, men, women and children, who were witnessing the programmes, died on the spot as

the Puccaro plane fired rockets at the crowds collected at the meeting. Forty one others were injured and have been admitted to the Jaffna, Kilinochchi and Vavunia hospitals.

Sakayanayaki, a young woman who was admitted to the Jaffna Hospital, told press reporters that she was at the meeting watching the programmes. She could not hear the sounds of the plane as it was lost in the sounds made by loud-speakers and working generators. Suddenly, she felt hit by something and sank to the ground. The lights went off and there was screaming and groaning. As she lay on the

ground she could feel people running in disarray trample her or fall stumbling over her body.

Dead and injured people were lying here and there. Soon LTTE people came to the spot and had the dead and injured removed first to the Puthukudiyiruppu Hospital. She was despatched to Jaffna after being given some first aid treatment at Puthukudiyiruppu hospital.

Two of the severely injured admitted to Jaffna hospital, later succumbed to their injuries. The two included the young woman Sakayanayaki.

Forty one other civilians were injured in this rocket all of whom are ward in hospitals.

The LTTE in a press release said that three of its members who were present at the ill-fated meeting also died.

## Round-up By Sri Lankan Army

The S. L. Army rounded up two villages in the Batticaloa district, fired indiscriminately assaulted the people and later arrested and took along with them five villagers.

News from Batticaloa said that on Thursday, September 9, S. L. Army personnel encamped at Palayadiveddai rounded up the villages of Kaakachiveddai, Palacholai about 1.30 p.m.

The Sri Lankan soldiers fired indiscriminately, rounded up the villagers and took

them all to the school at Kaakkachiveddai. There the people were subjected to assault by the S. L. Army.

Thereafter the S. L. Army arrested five of the persons and took them along with them. The arrested persons are Nadarajah, Sinnathamby Rajah, S. Satchithanandam, S. Iyathurai and S. Akilan.

## Tamils...

(Continued from Page 2)

According to these proposals the military camp would remain, the passengers would be checked by the Army and the Army would have the right to arrest and interrogate any passenger. Accepting these conditions would tantamount to sanctioning the Government's aggression and their offensive measures. Hence we made our standpoint very clear vis-a-vis the Government's proposals.

Q. The Government states that its Air Force is bombing the Tiger's Military locations in the Jaffna peninsula. The Government also says that the Tigers have set up their offices and camps in civilian residential areas. What do you have to say?

A. Our camps and offices are there for all to see. But what the Government is actually doing is bombing civilian areas under the pretext of hitting LTTE Military installations. You can visit the bombed areas and verify things for yourself.

We have not set up any Military installations in civilian residential areas. What we have set up in civilian residential areas are offices which cater administratively to the needs of the

people. Besides, the Jaffna peninsula is densely populated; there are only a few jungles, and very few unpopulated areas.

Q. After Kobbekaduwa's death, no large scale Military offensives have been launched in Jaffna. But now there is talk about a massive military operation. What have you to say?

A. When Kobbekaduwa died, we did not think that we had achieved a big victory. Whoever the General or whatever the nature of the offensive launched, we are confident that we can successfully overcome the challenge. Moreover we are always on the alert to meet any situation that crops up militarily. The guidance of our leader and the resoluteness of our fighters will ensure victory for us.

Q. Already half the population of the peninsula has been made refugees. Do you think that another military offensive would swell the number of refugees?

A. Yes, we will have to temporarily face a refugee problem. However, even at present our people are facing severe problems... owing to the various bans imposed by the Government.

Q. Mr. Thamilchelvyan, the Tamil people desire peace. Do you think that the people have got fed-up

with the Tigers and the Liberation struggle?

A. Yes, our people desire peace but not a temporary peace or Interim solutions.

Our people want a permanent peace, which will ensure that we can live here with honour and dignity. Our people desire to live as a free people. But the Sri Lankan Government has made a miscalculation. It thought that massacres, aerial bombardments and bans will make the people fed-up with the Tigers and make them hostile to the Tigers and the Liberation struggle. But what has really happened is that all these actions of the Government have made our people more keenly conscious of the need for freedom and led to an intensification of the Liberation struggle.

## Hot Spring....

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claims he has the written permission of the author to reveal his real identity.

In addition to the above poems, the banned magazine contains a special article by the Editor, Peter Schalk, on the contributions being made by Women Tigers- Suthanthira Paravaikal - in the on-going liberation struggle to win Tamil Eelam.

New Era Publications, Luckshmi building, Dutch Rd, Kalviyankadu, Jaffna.