

Hot Spring

Vol. 4

06th February 1994

No. 17

A Continuing Struggle

"... I wish to announce ... that I consider the verdict at this election as a mandate that the Tamil Nation should exercise sovereignty already vested in the Tamil people and become free ... I give you my solemn assurance that we will carry out the mandate".

S. J. V. Chelvanayakam in
February, 1975.

CANNON FIRE ON ICRC HARBOUR SAFETY ZONE

Heavy cannon fire attack was made by the Sri Lanka Navy on the Vadamardchy coast including the Point Pedro harbour area which is a Safety Zone under ICRC to enable the transport of essential goods and people.

On Thursday, January 27, about 9.15 p.m., a Sri Lanka Navy Dvora Speed boat fired cannon shells all over the Vadamardchy coast. Some shells fell and exploded within the Point Pedro harbour area which is a Safety Zone under ICRC control.

Kanapathipillai Chandran (32), a cleaner attached to a lorry belonging to the Chunakam MPCs, who had gone to the Point Pedro harbour to transport essential goods brought from Colombo was

injured in the leg, when a shell exploded there. He was admitted to the Point Pedro hospital. Others who were with him miraculously escaped injury.

One old man died of shock and two others were injured, when the same Naval boat shelled the Valvettiturai coast.

The man who died of shock was Rajathurai Soma-suntharam (65) of Kambarmalai in Valvettiturai. Vallipuram Kanthasamy (56) of Udupiddy who was sleeping

at his home, was injured, when sharpnels hit him. He was also admitted to the Point Pedro hospital.

Similarly a young girl Paramaguru Pamini (17) who was sleeping in her houses at Valvettiturai, was injured in the leg, when shells hit her house. She was admitted to the Valvettiturai Hospital.

The roof of Pamini's house was damaged. The roof of the Valvettiturai Sivan temple close to Pamini's house was also damaged.

At Munai area co-conut trees were felled and many boundary walls and walls of houses were damaged.

At Kambarmalai two houses were damaged,

any of these items since then.

Sugar is currently sold by private traders at Rs: 58/- per kilo. Par boiled country rice is very scarce and the limited quantity available with some private traders is being sold at Rs: 40/- per kilo. Wheat flour still remains an item out of the market.

(Continued to page 4)

Shortage of Essential Food Items Persists

Rice, Sugar and Wheat flour continue to be scarce in Jaffna for over a month now.

Hot Spring in its issue of 9.1.94 pointed out the bad situation in the matter of wheat flour and in its issue of 23.1.94 pointed out the scarcity of sugar and rice.

The situation has not eased since then. Co-operatives have not supplied

PORATIVU ROUNDED - UP

The villages of Kovil Porativu, Periya Porativu and Munaitivu in the Batticaloa District were suddenly rounded up by the Sinhala Army on January 30, Sunday early morning at 5.00 a.m.

A group of Tamil gangsters working with the Sinhala Army also accompanied the Sinhala soldiers.

The people in the villages were taken to Kali Kovil premises where individual check was made.

A man named Samithamby Paramanandam (37) of Periya Porativu who is the father of four children has been detained for no known reason. The others have been released.

Two Tamils Shot Dead

A report from Batticaloa said that on Tuesday, February 1, two Tamil civilians were killed, when the Sinhala Army opened fire.

The dead have been identified as Sivalingam Yogithan and S. Yoganathan.

Will The Present Local Elections Prove Any Different?

"By definition any normal electoral process must have a few unvarying aspects: The participation of contenders who matter, an open campaign and a decent voter turn-out. None of these parameters obtained in the IPKF controlled elections to the North-East Provincial Council"

'The bizarre situation' neatly summed up by Ram Mohan

All-Religious Body Trying to Bring Peace - Methodist Mission Team

A team of churchmen from the Methodist Church is in Jaffna. The team went round most areas of the peninsula and saw for themselves the damage caused to property and people. The team is also expected to meet LTTE leaders.

Rev. Dulip Fernando, Secretary of the Mission, told reporters that their moves to bring about a situation conducive to goodwill, understanding and peace, did not receive positive response from the Sri

Lankan Government. In the circumstances, he said the Mission was trying to approach the Government through a body composed of all religions. Already the Mission was in contact with the Buddhist Sangha also. He hoped that moves by such an all-religious body might help to bring pressure on the Government.

Rev. Dulip Fernando also said that when people are denied rights, then they rise in rebellion. That is the

(Continued to page 4)

Most Sinhalese Against War

Rt. Rev. Kenneth Fernando, the Anglican Bishop of Colombo told pressmen at Kilinochchi that the majority of the Sinhalese people do not want war.

He said that the island faced deep ethnic problem and it is this that caused the LTTE to take to arms and today it is the spoke-

(Continued to page 4)

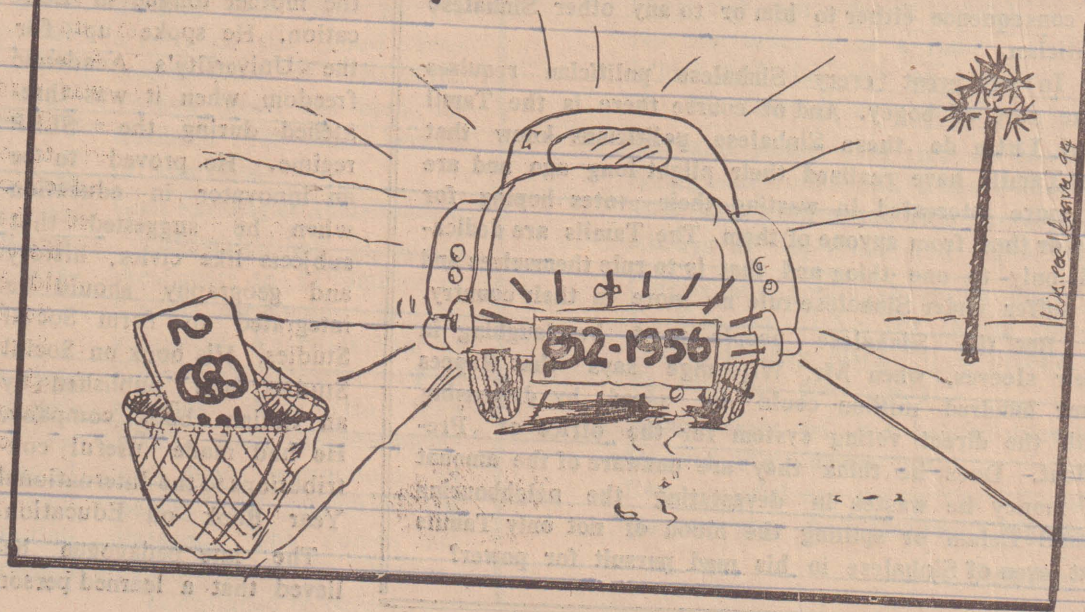
SECURITY FORCES PLAY DUCKS AND DRAKES WITH MAILS

Many recipients of foreign mails by post in the North have found to their disgust and surprise that their mails have not only been torn but wrong mails inserted in covers with the result that the addressee of the letter inside was different from the addressee on the envelope.

This may be a pleasant diversion for the Navy from their hazardous duties in the high seas but not to the recipients who find this service pastime mere tom-foolery in the name of security.

The question now arises as to who is responsible for what in Sri Lanka!

Another Step Towards SELF-RULE!





VOL: 4 Sunday 06th February 1994 ISSUE: 17

NO SURPRISE

The announcement by President D. B. Wijetunge at Anuradhapura that steps would be taken to bring in constitutional amendments enabling the election of the Executive President through Parliament and not by direct vote from the people should surprise no one. Easily the weakest man to hold the post of Presidentship is D. B. Wijetunge which however does not mean that he is less villainous.

D. B. Wijetunge is no fool. He knows his weaknesses and his strength too!

His weakness is that he cannot win the Sinhalese voter. His strength is the current post of Presidentship which he holds. Like Charles Dickens's famous character Uriah Heep wriggling himself to power pretending humility all the time, Wijetunge has wriggled himself to power and realizing the enormous power at his disposal, has cajoled the power-hungry politicians within the UNP to support his continuation as President.

Nobody should be surprised about this sort purely personal power - wrangling politics in Sri Lanka. This has happened before and will happen again there. But, what still prompts us to write this editorial is some of the reasons D. B. Wijetunge has advanced to further his pure selfish ends.

He has said that the change he contemplates is necessary for the reason that the system of direct election of President is leading to 'the dangerous situation of division amongst the majority Sinhalese' and also to 'a situation where the minorities are able to enjoy greater rights than their numbers warrant.' In other words Mr. Wijetunge openly says that the President of Sri Lanka should be a Sinhalese elected by the Sinhalese voters. Sinhalese (Language) Only inevitably leads to Sinhalese (people) only!

What D. B. Wijetunge tries to hide from the Sinhalese people is that the Sinhalese have been having the right not only to decide their own rulers but also the rulers of Tamil Eelam and its people from the time of the so-called independence in 1948. He has necessarily to hide this fact and cater to Sinhalese chauvinism, if he has to retain power personally in him. For, he knows that whatever the papers may call him as Dearly Beloved of this man and of that, for the Sinhalese people he is neither dear nor beloved. He is scared of the Sinhalese voter. The Tamil voter is of no consequence either to him or to any other Sinhalese politician.

In any event every Sinhalese politician requires some sort of bogey. And of course there is the Tamil man! Little do these Sinhalese politicians know that the Tamils have realised their plight long ago and are no more interested in wasting their votes hoping for this or that from anyone of them. The Tamils are dedicated only to one thing and that is to rule themselves and to suffer under Sinhalese rule no more in their country.

But the Sinhalese people must be laughing in their sleeves, when Mr. Wijetunge says that Rupees Four hundred million could be saved by dispensing with the direct voting system for the office of President. Does he think they are unaware of the amount of money he wastes in devastating the neighbouring Tamil Eelam or spilling the blood of not only Tamils but even of Sinhalese in his mad pursuit for power?

Private Lands Appropriated for Air Port

Batticaloa Tamils Concerned

The Government of Sri Lanka is actively engaged in extending and consolidating its military bases permanently in Tamil Eelam territory

A report from Batticaloa says that since the Air Base was established at Putur in Batticaloa, the Government has taken steps to make a big permanent base here.

In 1982 the Government compulsorily acquired a large extent of private lands belonging to the indigenous Tamil population under the provisions of the Land Development Ordinance for extension of the base. Three hundred and thirty owners of private lands had their lands thus compulsorily acquired by Government. Though the Land Development Ordinance makes it mandatory for the State to pay compensation to the owners whose lands are thus

acquired by Government, the Batticaloa report says that no compensation has been paid yet to the owners whose lands were appropriated by the Sri Lankan Government in 1982. Apart from these private lands, 56 buildings belonging to other Departments of Government were also acquired for the extension of the Air Base.

The Batticaloa report also says that a Gazette notification has been published afresh giving proposals for further compulsory acquisition of private lands for purposes of extension of the Air Base Complex.

Our report says that the people of the area are deeply concerned over the Sri Lankan Government's move to

appropriate further land because under the proposal many Hindu temples, Puthunagar Mahavidyalayam, Puliyantivu Cemetery, the entirety of Valaiyiravu village and a part of Puthunagar will also be wiped out. It would be a tragedy, if historical habitats of Tamils are to be thus wiped out to build military bases of the Sinhala Government in Tamil Eelam territory.

Boy Injured by Shell Explosion

A small boy named Yogarajah Vasekaran (Age 09) was injured, when shells launched from the Mandaitivu Sri Lankan Army Camp exploded at Gurunagar in the Jaffna town area.

Altogether 5 shells were launched by the Sri Lankan Army about 6.00 p. m. on Monday, January 17, when the boy sustained injuries.

The Late Kunasekaram Nesiah- Educationist with a Vision

Kunasekaram Nesiah who passed away peacefully on the 30th of December 1993 at the age of 92 was an educationist with exceptional ability and commitment. Having served as a teacher at St. John's College, Jaffna and at St. Thomas' College, Mount Lavinia, he was appointed as Lecturer in Education by Sir Ivor Jennings to help Prof. T. L. Green to organise the Post-Graduate Dip.in-Education Programme. More over, he played an active role in organising Teacher's Unions, having represented Ceylon in International Forums. He was also elected to the University Court. His contributions as a writer on education were tremendous. He was for a long time the editor of the Ceylon Teacher. He kept a keen interest in the educational problems of his times. He championed the cause of the mother tongue in Education. He spoke up for the University's Academic freedom, when it was threatened during the SLFP regime. He proved to be an innovator in education when he suggested that subjects like civics, history and geography should be integrated to form Social Studies. His book on Social Studies was published by an Indian book company. He had made useful contributions to the International Year Book on Education.

The late pedagogue believed that a learned person

should cultivate a civic sense. His celebrations of the Municipal Civic Week in Jaffna was emulated by the local bodies in the South. He always spoke up for human rights both at home and abroad. He gave evidence in the Kodeeswaran Case. He believed in the

J. J. Atputharajah,
Lecturer,
G.T.C, Kopay.

co-operative movement and helped to form Co-operative Societies in the North. He laboured to restore the Jaffna Public Library after it was burnt down by the Sri Lankan Police in 1981. He also suggested the plan to activate branch libraries in the Jaffna Municipal area. He was later appointed as the Chairman of the Thanthai Chelva Memorial Trust which built the Thanthai Chelva Memorial Column in the heart of the town. He expressed the opinion that the Jaffna Town should be re-built on the model of London City with a Thanthai Chelva Square on the model of Trafalgar Square. He diverted part of the Thanthai Chelva Trust Fund to the Jaffna Municipality to be used when such a building program becomes feasible. He also channelled a sizeable part of the funds to the Jaffna University to support the needy students in the form of bursaries.

The late Mr. Nesiah was attracted by the Gandhian way of life.

He embraced simple life wearing only handloom clothes. He did not believe in saving money for any future needs. He preferred to help the needy and the suffering. He shunned casteism and helped the people to enjoy equal rights and opportunities. He laboured for the education of the handicapped children and served as the manager of the Deaf and Blind School at Kaitadi for several years.

He blossomed as the philosopher-guide of the Tamil United Liberation Front, which sought to restore and reconstitute the lost state of Tamil Eelam for the Tamils. At the Vaddukoddai Conference he declared that Tamils should agitate for self-rule within the State of Sri Lanka if possible and if it fails, they should not hesitate to set-up a separate State of Eelam.

The late don was an enlightened educationist with a vision of the future. In his own characteristic way, he provided the mental and emotional background for the Tamil renaissance in the North. He raised the status of pedagogy to greater heights-that a teacher should not just be an imparter of knowledge but be a social leader as well.

I pay this tribute to the late Mr. Nesiah for whom a Memorial Service of Thanksgiving will be conducted on Monday, February 7th at St. John's (Anglican) Church, Chundikuli at 4.00 p. m. by family members.

May his soul rest in peace.

Batticaloa : Villagers Around

Air Port Arrested

Sinhala Armed Forces rounded up all the villages around the Batticaloa Air Port and arrested many civilians.

According to news from Batticaloa in this connection, on Friday, January 28, Sinhala Armed Forces rounded-up all villages surrounding

the Air Port. Villages such as Putur, Sethan Kudah and Thimilativu were all rounded-up.

All people in the villages, irrespective of age or sex were ordered to assemble at the Vinayagar temple at

Futur. There they were subjected to examination and and paraded before masked informants of the Government.

People without identity cards and people identified as 'suspects' by the Tamil gangsters working with the government troops have been detained by the armed forces. They have not been released yet.

Buddhism Betrayed

Our Readers Say

Professor S. J. Thambiah should have punctuated the name of his book with a Full Stop than with a question mark.

The uproar in the Colombo Press against Prof. Thambiah is the same as that was against Bishop Kenneth Fernando, when he met our leader, Mr. V. Pirabakaran.

Almost all the Sinhala Buddhist politicians, be they be on the government side or on the opposition are definitely betraying their esteemed religion - Buddhism. So are the so-called intellectuals and the hierarchy of the Buddhist Clergy.

Day in and day out, all of them are crying hoarse for the blood of Tamils, be they be militants or innocent civilians. The killed and the injured are always innocent civilians including babes in their mothers' arms and women. The Sinhala

Baudha politicians, the Sinhala Baudha intellectuals and the hierarchy of the Sinhala Buddhist Clergy not only approve these dastardly acts but urge the government and the armed forces to go for it in a more intensive manner.

Look at the artillery shell attacks from army camps and navy vessels sent out in all directions and at all hours even at midnight! Those killed and wounded are again always innocent Tamils, babes and mothers, old and young men and women. When a Sinhala Buddhist does not condemn an act like this, surely he is betraying his religion-Buddhism.

One of the fault-finders says that the Sinhalese have no Khomeini, as such Prof. Thambiah need not be frightened for his life. What dastardly words! The author of Satanic Verses was condemned to death by a religious leader, as his writing was derogatory of their religion. Here, Prof. Thambiah is not Be-

traying Buddhism but is pointing out that this very Noble Religion is Betrayed in Sri Lanka.

Then again, look at the Economic Blockade which is now in its fourth year. Any Buddhist who condones this, is he not a betrayer of his religion Buddhism? I, therefore, urge, Prof. Thambiah not to be cowed down by these outbursts. Let me also hasten to add that the Tamil people are of the view that ninety percent of the ordinary Sinhalese man does not approve of these dastardly acts and are not betrayers of their great religion - Buddhism. There are also a sizeable number of well-educated and highly-placed in society who too do not approve of these heinous crimes. For example - Mrs. de Saram who subscribed Rupees one million to the Buddha Sasana Fund. We, Tamils, are sorry for such a lady and others who are true Buddhists.

S. Alagaratnam.
Urumpirai.

COMINGS AND GOINGS

Media View

His Grace Nicholas Marcus Fernando, the Roman Catholic Archbishop was on a visit to the Jaffna Peninsula.

The important objective of his visit was to find out the great hardships experienced by the people of Jaffna and their grievances. His Grace, the Archbishop himself stated that the purpose of his visit was to see for himself the bombed churches and homes and share with the people the grief they were experiencing.

It has also been the intention of the Archbishop to make use of his present visit to find out as to what should be done to bring about peace.

Even before, several very important personalities have visited Jaffna from the South with the aforesaid objectives. Christian clergy in particular have paid many visits. Not only Christian clergy but even Buddhists clergy too have visited Jaffna.

All those who came here earlier expressed shock over the prevailing conditions in the Peninsula on their arrival. The reason for their shock was due to the vast difference that existed in what they personally saw in the Peninsula and what they thought Jaffna to be through the government propaganda media in the South. On seeing the devastation in the Peninsula and the affliction caused to the people by the atrocities perpetrated by the government forces, they were sorrowful and grief-stricken. They expressed their grief at the hardships experienced by the people living here by the economic embargo imposed by the government and attendant restrictions on transport and the applications of other pressures. They were

not able to do anything else otherwise. Some amongst them explained to the people in the South, the hardships, difficulties and the havoc-the real situation prevailing here. They urged the necessity to bring about peace and harmony. As far as the Sinhala racists were concerned these appeals were like water falling on the ducks back!

Under these circumstances, the question is whether it will be possible for the Roman Catholic Archbishop to bring about a change of heart in the minds of the government leaders and the Buddhist racists?

This is all the more so now because the elections are approaching in the South. It was the Buddhist racists who raised the hue and cry a quarter century ago that 'Catholic Action' was spreading its tentacles all over Ceylon and that it was going to swallow Buddhism itself!

The Sinhala racists intoxicated with the heady wine of racism will close their eyes to the suggestion put forward by the Christian clergy or the efforts made by them. The President who leans towards these racists and dance to their tune, will take the same path.

Therefore anyone coming from the South, if they wish to assist the Tamils, they must then expose to the outside world the oppression and hardships the Tamils are being subjected to. By doing so, they must counter the false propaganda that is being carried out by the government in the international arena. They must adopt tactics to apply pressure through foreign countries to force the government to seek peace.

Editorial: Uthayan of
29.01.94

Flame of Communalism

Colombo - based newspapers are partly responsible to fan the flame of communalism. I happened to read a Sunday Paper and was surprised to read the editorial under the heading 'Naked Terrorism'.

Has the government a right

to kill patients in hospitals and the people who have taken shelter in churches? The task of the government is to give what is due to the Tamils without delay. If they are determined to kill and not to grant our basic rights, the Tamils have no

alternative but to sacrifice their lives for a

cause. Holy Mother, Sri noble Sarada Devi in her life time gave protection for freedom fighters. No self-respecting Tamil will sell his birth-right to anyone.

Swami Chidrupananda
Point Pedro.

Teedor News

Tree Planting

According to a Press Note issued by the Tamil Eelam Economic Development Organisation (TEEDOR) more than 250,000 trees have been planted in the Jaffna District during the year 1993. The trees so planted include Co-conut, Tamarind, Margosa, Casuarina, Cadju and Teak. This large scale planting was done by the TEEDOR directly by itself and in association with other organisations.

Similarly in the Mullaitivu District 50,000 trees were planted during 1993.

Palmyrah Plants.

652,000 Palmyrah seedlings were planted during 1991/93 in the Districts of Jaffna, Kilinochchi, Mannar, Mullaitivu and Vavunia. This campaign is being organised and implemented by TEEDOR through other people's organisations. The break up for the three years are: 1991 - 150,000 plants, 1992 - 157,000 plants, 1993 - 345,000 plants.

Buffalo Rearing

Under a scheme to rear buffaloes TEEDOR has gifted 20 buffaloes at 2 per family to 10 families selected from the villages of Kalmadhunagar and Puthumurippu in the Kilinochchi District.

Bread from Varagu

Bread from the grain called Varagu is in production now due to the efforts of the Food Processing Unit of TEEDOR. Varagu bread has been introduced for the benefit of diabetics.

Goat Farming at Anaivilunthan

TEEDOR has gifted 60 she-goats to 12 families at 5 goats per family in the village of Anaivilunthan in Kilinochchi District. Five he-goats have also been gifted. Also the recipients were given instructions on rearing and prevention of diseases. The donees are refugees from the hill-county (Continued to page 4)

ODE TO THE BICYCLE

Bicycle is the only transport
Available in our mother-land!
Bicycle is the only comfort
Available in our war-torn land!

Hard to buy the needed spares
Due to Lanka's terrible ban!
Hard to do the urgent repairs
Due to Lanka's horrible ban!

Poor and rich ride on bicycle!
No one takes it as a risk!
Brides and sick ride on bicycle!
No one takes it as a task!

Old and young ones ride on bicycle
Along our roads and narrow lanes!
Men and women too ride on bicycle
Always at day-time and nights lonely!

Carries any goods above its limits
To help our fights for lawful rights?
Crawls to any place till it breaks
To ease our weary way!

Never forget we, the helpful bicycle
On our life's cheery way!
Ever-grateful are we to the helping bicycle
On our care-knit freedom's highway.

— Saravanas —

Five Tamils Released From Ilavalai

Five Tamils were brought into Jaffna by the ICRC from Sri Lankan Army occupied Ilavalai on Tuesday, February 1. They immediately rejoined their separated families.

Some people who were unable to make their escape when the Sinhala Army marched into their villages are still in Army occupied territory without contact with the rest of the members of their families. In each of the villages occupied by the Sinhala Army there are a few of such persons who are unable to rejoin their families.

The ICRC has successfully negotiated with the Sinhala Army and obtained the release of five such Tamil civilians from the village of Ilavalai. They are Vallipuram

Kanapathipillai, (male-aged 68), Kandiah Sithamparapillai (male aged 68), Kannipillai Ponnambalam (male aged 72), his wife Muththachi (aged 70) and another woman. They were all brought to Point Pedro harbour by ship by ICRC on morning of February 1 and immediately rejoined their families. The people released and brought by ICRC were all old persons. They were in army occupied territory without contact with their families for over one and a half - years. One of them Kandiah Sithampara-

pillai told pressmen at Point Pedro that during the long period of incarceration he had lost his eye-sight and had also become diabetic.

He also said that while they were at Ilavalai they had difficulty in obtaining food. They had only one meal a day. The Army only distributed food items worth Rs. 40/- per week. They couldn't have a second meal and had only to drink water to relieve themselves of the pangs of hunger. They were all sick and unhealthy and desired only to be united to their families from whom they had to separate suddenly and unexpectedly under the most fearful and tense situation in their lives.

Shortage of—

(Continued from page 1)

The cost of kerosene is also steadily rising. At present a litre is being sold at Rs. 105/.

Navy Attacks- Fisherman Killed

A Fisherman is reported to have been killed when Sri Lankan Navy opened fire on fishermen fishing off the sea at Chulipuram.

The incident occurred on Saturday, January 29 early morning at 4.45. Some fishermen were out fishing in the sea when a Sri Lanka Navy Super Dvora boat started firing at the fishermen. The fishermen jumped into the sea and swam to safety abandoning their rafts and other implements.

Kavuripillai Jesudasan, one of the fishermen who swam back to safety said that one of his colleagues, Arumugam Somasuntharam aged

47, was also trying to swim with him but said he could not do so and went back to the raft. Later, after the Navy left they went back and found only the raft and other implements damaged.

There was also blood in the raft.

The Chulipuram Fishermen's Society in a report to the G. A. Jaffna confirmed that Somasundaram was killed in the sea.

Bomber Attack at Nedunkerni

Sri Lankan Air Force bomber planes bombed Nedunkerni on Monday, January 31.

The bombing took place about 12.00 noon. One man was injured. A house was completely destroyed. Many

trees were strewn to pieces.

The people in the area fled to safety. The Nedunkerni Mahavidyalayam (School) which was in session was abandoned and teachers and students ran for safety.

Farmer Arrested by Army

S. Vadivel, a farmer aged 38, father of five children, was arrested by the Sinhala Army on January 27, Thursday, while he was at his paddy field in Gandhi Nagar, Batticaloa. The farmer had gone to the field to keep watch over the crops.

The Sinhala Army from their camps at Pavatkodichennai and Kannakipuram rounded up Gandhi Nagar. They arrested Vadivelu and took him to their Camp.

Later, relations of the man went to the Camp to find

out what had happened but were shocked to be told by the Army that they did not arrest Vadivelu and knew nothing about him. The worried relations are trying to get some information about the arrested man.

Teedor News

(Continued from page 3)
try settled here after the communal pogroms in 1983 and earlier in Sri Lanka.

Instruction Class in Potato Cultivation

About 40 cultivators of Vinayagapuram joined in the Instruction class for Potato cultivators organised by TEEDOR. The class was conducted by the Agricultural Instructor.

Call to cultivate Small Grains

TEEDOR has called upon farmers to cultivate small grains like sesame, green grams, cowpea and the like immediately after the harvesting of paddy, which is now on, is over. TEEDOR has also suggested that jute also be grown along with these seeds as it manures plants and helps to drive birds.

Coir Manufacturing Centre

A coir manufacturing

centre was opened on December 15, 1993 at Mallikaitivu in Puthukudiyiruppu by the TEEDOR.

Members of ten families with incomes below poverty line have been given employment at this Centre.

New Era Publications, Luckshmbuilding, Dutch Rd., Kalviyankadu, Jaffna.

Daha Sees Sense

Dr. W. Dahanayake, the veteran politician from Galle and one time Prime Minister, is reported to have told an interviewer of Colombo's Sinhala Daily Lankadipa that the on-going war should be stopped immediately and the causes for the war and the demands leading up to the war should be fully analysed and discussed. He had further said that the problem can never be solved by laying pre-conditions without getting into talks to solve the problem.

He is also reported to have told his interviewer that when President Wijetunge recently met him he stressed the same point. He did not believe that a solution could be found in any other way. The continuance of the problem would adversely affect all.

One of Jaffna's Dailies, Eelanatham, quoted Dr. Dahanayake from his interview with a correspondent of Lankadipa.

Mails Tampered Again

After more than three months, mail was received in Jaffna last week, brought down in ships from Colombo and the local Post Masters and addressees said that almost all letters had been tampered with. Even aerogrammes had been opened and re-pasted.

Postal Department officials in Jaffna said that in the course of re-pasting opened letters, gum had been so clumsily used that letters got pasted or stuck to one another and the sorters had to separate them carefully so that they may not be torn and

even the addressee becomes difficult to identify.

Jaffna people were awaiting anxiously for over three months to receive letters. Some people expressed anger at the fact that even local letters from Colombo and Batticaloa have been opened and re-pasted. Almost all foreign letters including aerogrammes had been opened and re-pasted.

'This sort of tampering with private letters is illegal both under the Post Office Ordinance and Covenants of the International Postal Union' - was the complaint of most people.

ANGLICAN BISHOP IN KILINOCHCHI

The Anglican Bishop of Colombo, Rt. Rev. Kenneth Fernando, came to Kilinochchi with his team on February 2, Wednesday.

Rt. Rev. Kenneth Fernando was accompanied by his wife, Chitra Fernando, Rev. Rienzie Perera, the Secretary of the East Asian Christian Union and Rev. Donald Kanagaratnam, Archdeacon of Jaffna.

Kilinochchi reports said that the Bishop and his team were taken in proces-

sion to 'Karuna Nilayam' from the Kilinochchi Bus stand.

The Bishop and his team are expected to visit Jaffna today.

The Anglican Bishop was in Jaffna last January too and on return to Colombo he tried to persuade the Government of Sri Lanka to pursue a peaceful approach but his efforts proved futile without his being able to obtain even an audience with the late President Premadasa to discuss peace moves. The so-called 'National Press' in Colombo played a big role in aborting the peace initiatives of the Bishop.

Most Sinhalese—

(Continued from page 1)
sman of the Tamils.

He said that his visit to the north last year helped to make a slight opening in the closed door of peace and the Sinhalese people were happy and there was a real change of heart amongst the Sinhalese.

Some newspapers in the South have commented about my visit. The views expressed by some Buddhist clergymen will not affect the thinking of the Sinhalese people. There are other Buddhist clergymen who express different views.

All Religious—

(Continued from page 1)

position now prevailing in Jaffna. This situation can never be brought to an end by war. There must be a political solution.

Rev. Dulip Fernando also said that the Government made out in the South that they did not kill or damage civilian targets but only LTTE targets. But the situation we see in Jaffna is the reverse.